

# Legislative Agenda Subcommittee of the E-911 Services Board

## Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2013

2:00 PM – CESC

Members Present:      Danny Garrison                                      Chief Tony McDowell  
                                 Chief Doug Middleton                                      Sam Nixon

Members Remote:      Pokey Harris (Abingdon)

Staff Present:              Dorothy Spears-Dean, PSC Coordinator  
                                 Lewis Cassada, 9-1-1 Program Manager

Note: An audio conference bridge was provided to allow the public to listen to the proceedings if they were unable to attend in person. No roll call was taken of the bridge participants, but Ms. Harris did identify that she was participating remotely.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Nixon called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM. The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>**

Chairman Nixon asked for changes/additions to the April 17, 2013 Minutes, and there were none. Chief Middleton made a motion to approve the Minutes of their April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Garrison seconded the motion. Chairman Nixon called for the vote, and the vote passed unanimously; 5-0-0.

### **3. FINDINGS FROM ANALYSIS OF NG9-1-1 PILOTS**

Ms. Spears-Dean provided the Subcommittee with a brief overview of the accomplishments of the pilots, the desire to develop data analytics as further analysis of the pilots, and the need to establish policy direction regarding similar projects in the future. Mr. Nixon commented that up to this point there have been internal discussions on NG9-1-1, but it may now be necessary for the E-911 Services Board to be more deliberate and provide policy direction on NG9-1-1. If the members of the Subcommittee are in agreement, Mr. Nixon recommended that they focus on what role the Board should play and provide policy suggestions since the Board will be looking for input from outside leadership.

Chief Middleton began the discuss by stating that he thought the pilots should be expanded to include more urban areas since these areas would have a higher call volume than rural areas. Mr. Nixon commented that he thought there was consensus to move forward with a consolidated shared-services approach. The dye has already been cast with the FY 2015 grants, but the Board may want to recommend and/or require this approach in the future. Chief Middleton asked what is meant by “consolidation”. How

is this term currently defined? Mr. Nixon said there is a natural breaking point with consolidations, which is why he suggested a large and a small PSAP work together. Chief Middleton pointed out that consolidations have political ramifications if the consolidation of agencies, such as law enforcement and fire, are being considered. Mr. Nixon said he was looking at it from an IT perspective, sharing infrastructure costs and expertise. Chief McDowell suggested that radio systems are an example and that 9-1-1 projects need to focus on shared infrastructure, a governance structure that provides local autonomy, and cost savings.

Ms. Spears-Dean commented that the concept of PSAP consolidation being discussed by the group, to promote a shared service delivery for 9-1-1, is very different from the way it is currently defined in the PSAP Grant Guidelines. Addressing this gap and determining the right mix for statewide shared-services may need to be considered by the PSAP Grant Committee at their next meeting. In the meantime, looking at 9-1-1 analytics to address the current limitations of the 9-1-1 system may help everyone to understand the value of NG9-1-1. However, as Ms. Harris pointed out, the definition of NG9-1-1 is different for each region.

Mr. Nixon asked how definitive a statement does the Subcommittee want to adopt and recommend to the Board. Should there be a reduced status for single deployments by making them a lower priority? Ms. Harris suggested that you need to look inside these types of projects to understand what is possible given the political climate of the locality. Chief Middleton commented that to avoid having localities hamper statewide efforts, there needs to be broad understanding of the ideal future state that we are trying to achieve. Ms. Spears-Dean said that this understanding will be provided by the 9-1-1 Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Nixon commented that existing technology is expensive and hard to maintain, but the solution is initially equally expensive and more complex, but presents a benefit in removing barriers and enabling surge during extreme situations. Mr. Nixon said we are facing some big decisions. Mr. Garrison said there will need to be standards. Ms. Spears-Dean said this is particularly true with interconnections. There is also a need to educate elected officials as to cost. Where we can find efficiencies, we should take advantage of them, but anticipate that there will be detractors to this approach.

#### **4. NG9-1-1 FEASIBILITY INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY**

Ms. Spears-Dean provided the Subcommittee with reasons why the feasibility study is needed, the components of the proposed study, and the anticipated outcomes of the study. Chief Middleton made a motion to endorse staff's request to fund the study. Chief McDowell seconded the motion. Chairman Nixon called for the vote, and the vote passed unanimously; 5-0-0. In addition, Chief Middleton recommended clarifying the efforts of FirstNet and NG9-1-1 in relation to the study.

#### **5. OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Spears-Dean provided an update on staff's progress in developing a 9-1-1 baseline. With the exception of one, all PSAPs have responded. The information collected will be used in conjunction with the feasibility study. Mr. Garrison suggested that data collection from secondary PSAPs be considered in the future.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Spears-Dean reviewed two ISP work plan items that will support GIS data standards for NG9-1-1. Chairman Nixon recommended that the name of the Subcommittee be changed from “Legislative Agenda” to “Policy” since the purpose of the Subcommittee was not to be lobbyists for the Board. Chief McDowell made a motion to change the name of the Subcommittee to “Policy”. Mr. Garrison seconded the motion. Chairman Nixon called for the vote, and the vote passed unanimously; 5-0-0.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no additional public comment from those present at the meeting site or on the audio conference.

**8. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

Chairman Nixon adjourned the meeting of the Subcommittee at 3:20 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

---

Dorothy A. Spears-Dean

(Date)