# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ARKANSAS 911 BOARD January 20, 2022

A regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas 911 Board was held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management with a Zoom link and conference bridge provided.

The following members were in attendance:

### Board

A.J. Gary, Chair

Shelby Johnson Rusty McMillon - Zoom Brian Presley - Zoom Bo Robertson - Zoom

Robert McGowen

Doug Sprouse – Zoom Rodney Wright - Zoom Danny Baker - Zoom Jamie Pafford-Gresham Director, Arkansas Division of Emergency

Management

Director, Arkansas GIS Office County Judge, Greene County

911 Coordinator, Independence County Director, Garland County Department of

**Emergency Management** 

Administrator of Public Safety, Benton

County

Mayor, City of Springdale Sheriff, Saline County

Police Chief, City of Fort Smith Pafford Emergency Medical Services

## **Executive Director**

C.J. Engel

## Asst. Attorney General, Office of Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge Daniel Faulkner

Chairman Gary called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm and presided over the meeting with a quorum declared.

Upon a motion presented by Robert McGowen and a second by Rodney Wright, the minutes of the December 16, 2021 regular monthly meeting were approved unanimously.

**Financial Report** – Following a motion presented by Robert McGowen and a second by Jamie Pafford-Gresham, the financial report was approved unanimously as provided which reflected the total assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2021 to be \$14,435,494.71 in which \$2,046,604.39 is in the State Treasury account and \$12,388,890.32 is in the U.S. Bank account.

**Expense Report** – Monthly expenses of \$259,801.88 were approved for payment as submitted. Included in the approved expenses were:

- LEC Charges \$230,719.44
- AT&T Mobility FirstNet \$41.23
- Arkansas GIS Office \$16,503.58
- ADEM \$679.79

- NENA \$400.00
- U.S. Bank Visa \$932.38
- Executive Director Reimbursement \$110.46
- Contract Labor \$10,415.00

**15% Allocation Balance by County Report** – An updated report of the 15% Allocation Fund was presented reflecting a balance of \$544,421.15 with no new requests for approval.

#### **Old Business**

**GIS Data Aggregation for NG911 Service** – Shelby Johnson shared the following updates:

- All initial regional meetings have been completed across Arkansas
- Boundary edits have been sent out for review and approval
- Preparing an online map that shows all edits requested and will be meeting individually to review prior to uploading the data
- Participated in the process along with staff from Intrado to upload Benton County's GIS data into NGCS

NG911 GIS Data Validation Service – Mr. Johnson shared that they have reached out to colleagues in other states to review their metrics and requirements for Request for Proposals to get a better understanding of putting together

**ESInet & NextGen Core Services** – C.J. Engel shared the Operational Readiness Testing is scheduled to be performed in February and that the ESInet transition for Benton County PSAPs has been set for the first two weeks of March. This implementation is pending specific identified GIS data being corrected to match NENA standards.

Arkansas 911 Board – PSAP Consolidation Plan – Mr. Engel informed the Board that he has received requests from Washington County to present at the February meeting and for Benton County to present at the March meeting. He has asked all Board members to attempt to attend the next two meetings in person if possible as they are expected to focus primarily on additional PSAP funding proposals. The Arkansas 911 Board's PSAP Consolidation Plan was submitted to the Governor and Legislative Council in December, prior to the January 1, 2022 deadline. The plan has also been distributed to 911 Coordinators, AAC and AML, as well as the Sheriff's and Chief's of Police Association and posted to Board website.

### **New Business**

**Annual PSAP** Certification – C.J. sent Board members a copy of the Annual PSAP Certification documents. These documents have been updated and reformatted to be more user friendly and to request information that is more useful to the Board as well as required by legislation. Two webinars are being planned to help in completing these reports. Danny Baker made a motion to approve Certification documents as is, Bo Robertson with a second. Motion passed.

Arkansas 911 Board Annual Report – Legislation requires the Board to submit an Annual Report to the Governor and Legislative Council with information regarding the Board's activities. Mr. Engel has put together the report and sent within the Board member packets. Jamie Pafford-Gresham stated she felt the report was detailed and concise. Shelby

Johnson missed the Annual Report and did not get a chance to read it. Jamie made a motion to table the report until the next meeting, Danny Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed. Jamie asked for any updates or corrections needed, to let C.J. know in the next two weeks.

**Population Update for PSAP Distributions** – The new census data has been received from the Arkansas GIS Office including both counties and municipalities. The PSAP Distribution workbook used to distribute quarterly funding has been updated to reflect that data as required by legislation. Shelby Johnson has asked to include a note with the first distribution of 2022 that explains why the distribution amounts may have changed.

#### From the Floor

Danny Baker asked if we want to consider moving the time of the next Board meeting to mid-morning due to robust discussion with PSAP funding proposals. Rodney Wright asked if we received more than one PSAP proposal request for C.J. to let the Board know. A.J. confirmed that we will leave the meeting at 1:00 pm but will reevaluate if necessary a week before the meeting.

Robert McGowen reminded the Board members that they are supposed to have their financial disclosure statements to the Secretary of State before the end of the month.

Shelby received some feedback from a County Judge regarding the fact that the Board has not addressed any call taking standards yet, and that a Sheriff is wanting to have telecommunicators perform other administrative work associated with law enforcement. Robert McGowen asked if that was part of the legislation that the Board has not addressed. C.J. stated that there is not a specific timeline for standards but that there is a requirement on setting rules necessary to set standards if rules are necessary to set standards. There is a subcommittee already in place for Bylaws, Rules, and Guidelines. This committee has Shelby Johnson, Jamie Pafford-Gresham, and previously Chad Henson who has since been replaced by Danny Baker. Rodney Wright, Bo Robertson, and Robert McGowen all volunteered to help where needed. A.J. Gary stated he is good either way rather the Board wanted to start that process now or wait until after the consolidation proposal process.

A.J. Gary opened to questions or comments from guests. Shannon McCuin updated the Board that ALETA has updated its telecommunications website and plans to have a Basic Telecommunicator Course every other month this year. There is a free virtual conference from the Denise Amber Lee Foundation for telecommunicators to register for. She also offered to assist with the standards committee as well. No other comments from guests.

The next regular meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at ADEM with a virtual option. Information for all Arkansas 911 Board meetings will continue to be posted on the Arkansas Public Meetings calendar as well as the Arkansas 911 Board website.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion by Robert McGowen to adjourn and second by Rodney Wright. The motion carried.

Chairman