

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ARKANSAS 911 BOARD
April 18, 2024**

A regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas 911 Board was held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at the Fort Smith Police Department in Fort Smith, AR with a Zoom link and conference bridge provided.

Chairman A.J. Gary called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and presided over the meeting with a quorum declared. Chairman Gary thanked telecommunicators across the state through recognition of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

The following members were in attendance:

Board

A.J. Gary, Chairman

Director, Arkansas Division of Emergency Management

Shelby Johnson

Director, Arkansas GIS Office

TJ Fowler - Zoom

Designee, Auditor of State

Rusty McMillon - Zoom

County Judge, Greene County

Bo Robertson - Zoom

Director, Garland County Department of Emergency Management

Robert McGowen

Administrator of Public Safety, Benton County

Doug Sprouse

Mayor, City of Springdale

Kevin Molder - Zoom

Sheriff, Poinsett County

Danny Baker

Police Chief, City of Fort Smith

Tommy Sizemore

Fire Chief, City of Barling

Executive Director

C.J. Engel

Assistant Attorney General

Michael Bynum

The following members were absent:

Sally Pittser

911 Director, Union County

Jamie Pafford-Gresham

Pafford Emergency Medical Services

Motion by Robert McGowen and seconded by Danny Baker to approve the Minutes from the March 21, 2024 Arkansas 911 Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report – C.J. Engel provided the financial report reflecting the total assets and liabilities as of March 31, 2024, to be \$17,791,070.91 in which \$12,288,784.54 is in the State Treasury and \$5,502,286.37 is with U.S. Bank.

Expenses – Expenses for month ending March 31, 2024 totaling \$13,493,304.26 included:

- LEC Charges - \$260,159.49
- Arkansas GIS Office - \$19,680.69

- AT&T Mobility FirstNet - \$41.23
- Office Depot - \$649.76
- U.S. Bank - \$163.12
- Washington County - \$56,304.00
- Contract Labor - \$15,600.00
- 4Q23 PSAP Distributions - \$13,140,705.97

15% Allocation Reimbursement Requests – An updated report of the ETSB Carryover Allocation Fund was presented reflecting no new requests for reimbursement, leaving a remaining balance of \$322,666.80. No new consolidation expense reimbursement requests were received leaving a remaining balance of \$2,400,000.00.

Motion by Robert McGowen and seconded by Doug Sprouse to approve the financial report and expenses as reviewed. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

GIS Data Aggregation for NG911 Service – Shelby Johnson updated the board on progress with additional counties and spoke on the work being done with RapidDeploy to provide published data for PSAPs that may not have their own. Woodruff County is the first to utilize this data through RapidDeploy.

ESInet & NextGen Core Services – C.J. Engel shared that there were two new migrations since the previous meeting. 80 PSAPs and 5 Dispatch Centers are currently connected to the statewide ESInet. Of these, 54 are i3, 30 are RFAI and 1 CAMA with a population of 2,687,885 or 89.99% covered. Carroll County is next on the schedule.

PSAP Consolidation Updates

Sebastian County – Sebastian County Judge Steve Hotz and Fort Smith City Administrator Carl Geffken both present and updated the Board on the status of consolidation. An interlocal agreement is in the works and should be completed in the next two to three months while looking at an additional 21 months to completion of project due to facility and equipment. Motion made by Robert McGowen to provide an extension to Sebastian County for consolidation to January 2026 and seconded by Rusty McMillan. Motion failed with Danny Baker and Tommy Sizemore both abstaining.

White County – White County Judge Lisa Brown was present along with Searcy Mayor Mat Faulkner to provide a consolidation update. It is expected that White County, the City of Searcy, City of Bald Knob, and City of Beebe will all be part of the agreement with all technology expected to be functional by the end of April. Some city telecommunicators should be training and working with White County by June 1, 2024 and fully merged by end of year.

National 911 Office Status Map Review – The National 911 Office produces status maps on several projects and where different states stand across the nation. A link was provided to review these maps.

From the Floor

A.J. Gary opened the floor to questions/comments from the board and/or guests.

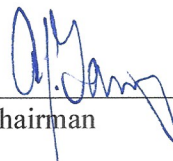
Robert McGowen addressed issues around smaller cities contributing towards the shortfall of 911 fees and stated these fees were not meant to cover all non-emergency costs that are added to job duties.

Shelby Johnson mentioned that the Board may need to be made aware of any departments that become active or inactive through CLEST based on the possible needs or impact to 911.

C.J. Engel asked the Board about moving the August meeting in alignment with the Arkansas Emergency Management Conference. Motion made by Robert McGowen to move the August 911 Board meeting to August 29, 2024 in Hot Springs, seconded by Doug Sprouse. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management 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 and seconded by Shelby Johnson to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.


Chairman