MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ARKANSAS 911 BOARD
July 16, 2026

A regular bi-monthly meeting of the Arkansas 911 Board was held at the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16, 2026, with a Zoom link and conference bridge provided.

Chairman A.J. Gary called the Arkansas 911 Board meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and presided over the meeting with a quorum declared with two vacant positions.

The following board members were in attendance:

A.J. Gary, Chairman	Director, Arkansas Division of Emergency Management
Shelby Johnson	Director, Arkansas GIS Office
T.J. Fowler	Designee, Auditor of State
Rusty McMillon - Zoom	County Judge, Greene County
Bo Robertson	Director, Garland County Department of Emergency Management
Doug Sprouse - Zoom	Mayor, City of Springdale
Kevin Molder - Zoom	Sheriff, Poinsett County
Danny Baker - Zoom	Police Chief, City of Fort Smith
Tommy Sizemore - Zoom	Fire Chief, City of Barling
Jamie Pafford-Gresham - Zoom	Pafford Emergency Medical Services

Executive Director
C.J. Engel

Assistant Attorney General
Luke Woolman

Meeting Minutes - Motion made by T.J. Fowler and seconded by Rusty McMillon to approve the Minutes from May 21, 2026, Arkansas 911 Board Meeting. Motion carried.

Financial Report – C.J. Engel provided the financial report reflecting the total assets and liabilities as of June 30, 2026, to be $15,201,529.06 in which $10,460,750.09 is in the State Treasury and $4,740,778.97 is with U.S. Bank.

Expenses – Expenses for months ending May 31 and June 30, 2026, totaling $12,083,192.11 included:

- U.S. Bank Service Fees - $114.20
- LEC Charges - $565,143.67
- Arkansas GIS Office - $33,878.21
- AT&T Mobility FirstNet - $83.46
- Contract Labor - $32,618.00
- Travel Reimbursement - $446.40
- U.S. Bank - $1,590.79
- AEMA - $340.00
- NASNA - $400.00
- Arkansas County - $35,000.00

- Pulaski County – Sherwood - $35,000.00
- St. Francis County - $235,000.00
- 1Q26 PSAP Distribution - $8,570,419.01
- Maintenance Reimbursements - $2,573,158.37

Motion by T.J. Fowler and seconded by Bo Robertson to approve the financial report and expenses as reviewed. Motion passed unanimously.

15% Allocation Reimbursement Requests – No new requests for reimbursement were received.

OLD BUSINESS

AR GIS – Data Aggregation for NG911 Service & Data Validation – Shelby Johnson provided an update to the Board including an updated status report with some progress made with Sharp County that didn't make the report. The status of each county can also be found on the Arkansas 911 Board website through the dashboard.

ESInet & NextGen Core Services – C.J. Engel informed the board that Madison County successfully transitioned to the ESInet & NGCS as well as AT&T's hosted CPE solution with Motorola VESTA on July 8th bringing all PSAPs within project scope onto the ESInet successfully. Independence County will be the only PSAP not served by the statewide ESInet until they choose to change providers. Discussions are taking place, but no decisions have been made at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

FCC Phase 1 Filing Process – Mr. Engel shared the next step in the ESInet implementation will be bringing originating service providers (OSPs) onto the network. In order to begin this process a Phase 1 request must be filed with the FCC. Michelle Hardy, program manager for OSP migrations with AT&T, discussed the full process with the Board and what will be expected by the OSPs and is expected to be around a 12-month timeline. AT&T will provide ongoing updates around this project.

A motion was made by Jamie Pafford-Gresham to initiate the FCC Phase 1 request, seconded by T.J. Fowler. Motion carried unanimously.

Prepaid 911 Fees – C.J. Engel has notified the County Treasurers' and County Judges' Associations of the decrease in 911 fees and set expectations of them remaining low at this time until a solution can be found. A number of discussions have occurred around this issue, including with DF&A who collects and remits these fees to the Arkansas Public Safety Trust Fund, but due to taxpayer confidentiality statutes that the agency is citing, no additional information is being shared or received on why these funds have decreased. The Board discussed potential legislation changes needed including prepaid definitions, with concern being the unknowns of the cause.

A motion was made by T.J. Fowler to work with the Attorney General's Office to modernize prepaid definitions and was seconded by Jamie Pafford-Gresham. Motion carried.

From the Floor
A.J. Gary opened the floor to the Board and to public comment.

Jamie Pafford-Gresham discussed the Rural Health Care Transformation Fund and potential ways the Arkansas 911 Board could be involved or assist in determining places these funds could be spent, including AWIN for EMS providers.

Bo Robertson shared that Garland County received their first swatting call and that there was reason to believe it was AI-generated and wants to make sure PSAPs are aware and prepared for these types of situations.

Shelby Johnson covered a positive story in which a 9-1-1 call was properly routed to Polk County although it was made from Sevier County because of the inaccessibility of first responders from Sevier County. This is a product of local agreements and the GIS work that has been completed to ensure these PSAP boundaries are correct and route calls to where the quickest response will come from.

The next regular meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management. 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 T.J. Fowler and seconded by Shelby Johnson to adjourn. Motion carried.

Chairman