

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
ARKANSAS 911 BOARD  
March 16, 2023**

A regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas 911 Board was held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2023 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, Chairman	Director, Arkansas Division of Emergency Management
Shelby Johnson	Director, Arkansas GIS Office
TJ Fowler	Designee, Auditor of State
Rusty McMillon	County Judge, Greene County
Bo Roberson	Director, Garland County Department of Emergency Management
Robert McGowen	Administrator of Public Safety, Benton County
Doug Sprouse	Mayor, City of Springdale
Rodney Wright - Zoom	Sheriff, Saline County
Danny Baker - Zoom	Police Chief, City of Fort Smith
Tommy Sizemore - Zoom	Fire Chief, City of Barling
Jamie Pafford-Gresham	Pafford Emergency Medical Services

**Executive Director**

C.J. Engel

**Asst. Attorney General, Office of Arkansas Attorney General**

Douglas House

Chairman Gary called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and presided over the meeting with a quorum declared.

Upon a motion presented by Robert McGowen and a second by Rusty McMillon, the minutes of the February 16, 2023 regular monthly meeting were approved.

**Miller County – Texarkana Proposals Review** – Chairman Gary addressed the Board regarding no consolidation agreement in place and his concerns around this issue. Robert McGowen echoed his opinion on the uniqueness of the situation in Miller County due to having another state involved in a potential consolidation. Mr. McGowen made a motion to allow for funding of two PSAPs in Miller County, Jamie Pafford-Gresham with a second. Additional discussion on concerns and support for this motion was had. Motion fails without 2/3 vote needed as follows:

Shelby Johnson – No  
TJ Fowler – No  
Rusty McMillon – Yes  
Bo Robertson – No  
Robert McGowen – Yes  
Doug Sprouse – No

Rodney Wright – Yes  
Danny Baker – Yes  
Tommy Sizemore – No  
Jamie Pafford-Gresham – Yes  
AJ Gary - Yes

Due to the current escrow on Miller County, AJ Gary motion to fund both entities for 60 days to determine next steps, TJ Fowler with a second. All approve.

**Financial Report** – Following a motion presented by Robert McGowen and a second by Doug Sprouse, the financial report was approved unanimously as provided which reflected the total assets and liabilities as of February 28, 2023 to be \$24,051,222.23 in which \$2,086,283.96 is in the State Treasury account and \$21,964,938.27 is in the U.S. Bank account.

**Expense Report** – Monthly expenses of \$10,893,613.52 were approved for payment as submitted. Included in the approved expenses were:

- LEC Charges - \$313,017.12
- AT&T Mobility FirstNet - \$41.23
- Arkansas GIS Office - \$17,487.41
- U.S. Bank VISA – \$1,425.26
- Executive Director Reimbursement - \$148.15
- Contract Labor - \$12,080.00
- 4Q22 PSAP Distributions - \$10,549,414.35

**15% Allocation Balance by County Report** – An updated report of the 15% Allocation Fund was presented reflecting no change and a remaining balance of \$478,235.91 and \$2,800,000 remaining in allocated consolidation expenses.

### **Old Business**

**GIS Data Aggregation for NG911 Service** – Shelby Johnson gave an update on the status of GIS work. Currently down to three counties that have not had work started yet. 1Spatial project has progressed smoothly. An online portal will be added for locals to be able to review their boundaries and request adjustments as needed.

**ESInet & NextGen Core Services** – C.J. Engel shared that 62 PSAPs have been transitioned to the ESInet. Of these, 31 have been cut RFAI and 31 are i3. A population of 2,196,072 or 72.8% is currently covered by PSAPs on ESInet. No new AT&T bill reviews have been completed. These still reflect a combined monthly savings of \$95,841.84 or \$1,150,102.08 per year to local PSAPs with a yearly average of \$23,002.08 per PSAP.

### **New Business**

**ALETA Update** – Shannon McCuin gave an update to the board on telecommunicator training in 2022. Five Basic Telecommunicator classes were held with 83 students attending and 97 unfilled slots with a class in December cancelled due to low enrollment. 13 local agencies have worked towards being able to host their own courses with 59 telecommunicators being trained. Two Public Safety Instructor Development Courses



graduated 7 telecommunicators. 18 hours of training credits were offered at the Arkansas APCO Conference.

**National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week** – Mr. Engel informed the board that April 9-15, 2023 will be National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week.

**From the Floor**

Mr. Engel discussed the national push to bring public safety telecommunicators to be recognized as first responders. Would like to see the board have discussions around this topic and look for different ways for this to be done at a state level.

The next regular meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2023 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 to adjourn and second by Bo Robertson. The motion carried.

  
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Chairman