

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
ARKANSAS 911 BOARD
September 21, 2023**

A regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas 911 Board was held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management with a Zoom link and conference bridge provided.

Chairman Gary called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and presided over the meeting with a quorum declared.

The following members were in attendance:

Board

AJ Gary, Chairman	Director, Arkansas Division of Emergency Management
Shelby Johnson	Director, Arkansas GIS Office
TJ Fowler	Designee, Auditor of State
Rusty McMillon - Zoom	County Judge, Greene County
Sally Pittser	911 Director, Union County
Bo Roberson	Director, Garland County Department of Emergency Management
Robert McGowen	Administrator of Public Safety, Benton County
Doug Sprouse - Zoom	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 - Zoom	Pafford Emergency Medical Services

Executive Director

C.J. Engel

Assistant Attorney General

Clayton Orr

Chairman Gary welcomed the newest board member, Sally Pittser from Union County 911, who has been appointed by the Speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives.

Motion by Robert McGowen and seconded by TJ Fowler to approve the Minutes from the August 10, 2023 Arkansas 911 Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Financial Report – C.J. Engel provided the financial report reflecting the total assets and liabilities as of August 31, 2023 to be \$23,976,594.04 in which \$2,136,880.23 is in the State Treasury and \$21,839,713.81 is with U.S. Bank.

Expenses – Expenses for month ending August 31, 2023 totaling \$551,054.79 included:

- LEC Charges - \$234,652.32
- AT&T Mobility FirstNet - \$41.23
- Arkansas GIS Office - \$18,074.80
- IAEM - \$199.00
- Office Depot - \$85.30
- U.S. Bank VISA - \$177.48
- Craighead County - \$65,728.71
- Poinsett County - \$16,495.95
- Saline County - \$200,000.00
- Contract Labor - \$15,600.00

2Q23 PSAP Distributions – The quarterly distributions scheduled to be remitted for 2Q23 total \$10,112,235.37 and will be made this month.

15% Allocation Reimbursement Requests – An updated report of the ETSB 15% Carryover Allocation Fund was presented reflecting no new requests, showing a remaining fund balance of \$386,244.17. No new consolidation expense reimbursement requests were received, leaving a balance of \$2,400,000.00 in allocated consolidation reimbursement funds.

LEC Review Status – Disconnects have been requested for Arkansas Telephone, Cleveland County Telephone, Tri-County Telephone, and Walnut Hill Telephone. Windstream is under review. CenturyTel of Arkansas, CenturyTel of Mountain Home, and Yelcot will remain active for the time being.

Motion by Shelby Johnson and seconded by Robert McGowen to approve the financial report and expenses as reviewed. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

GIS Data Aggregation for NG911 Service – Shelby Johnson gave an update on the status of GIS data aggregation. All counties have had officially had GIS data work started. Additional progress has been made finding contacts with the LECs managing MSAGs.

ESInet & NextGen Core Services – C.J. Engel shared that two PSAPs have been transitioned to ESInet since the previous meeting leading to a new total of 71 PSAPs and 5 Dispatch Centers. Of these, 31 are RFAI, 43 are i3, and 2 CAMA. A population of 2,483,825 or 83.51% is currently covered by PSAPs on ESInet. AT&T bill reviews have been completed with 61 PSAPs reflecting a combined monthly savings of \$109,579.84 or \$1,314,958.08 per year to local jurisdictions with a yearly average of \$21,556.68 per PSAP.

NEW BUSINESS

PSAP Consolidation Update – Mr. Engel gave a short update on PSAP consolidation efforts and that progress continued to be made in most counties. Additional voluntary consolidations are also taking shape such as Van Buren County consolidating a dispatch center and PSAP. Conway County intergovernmental council has approved moving forward with discussions with Perry County for a county-to-county consolidation. There are still some question marks and issues being worked out in several cases, but overall projects are

moving along. Sheriff Wright mentioned the unknown costs adding up and would like to look at additional funds for consolidation expenses if available.

CLEST Training Update - A.J. Gary gave an update on CLEST training discussions with Director Chris Chapmond. Topics of conversation included expanded regional training opportunities and making the 40-hour basic course available online.

From the Floor

Chairman Gary opened the floor to members of the board and then guests. Juana Green with Little Rock Emergency Communications informed the board that they would be moving forward with IAED for their basic training and additional protocols and would be open to assist in training others nearby if needed.

C.J. reminded the board that the Arkansas APCO/NENA Conference is coming up on October 22 – 25 in Hot Springs.

The next regular meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, 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 and seconded by Shelby Johnson to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.


Chairman