



MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Date: February 20, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office / Microsoft Teams

Subject: Minutes of the South Carolina E911 Committee Meeting

Attendees: *Committee Members* – Melony Burgess – Chair, Wireless Rep. FTC, Adam DeMars – GIS Expert/RFA, Terrance Ford – Wireless Rep. AT&T (*Teams*), Jane Francis – Consumer Rep., Mitch Fulmore – PSAP Rep. Florence County (*Teams*), Sam Gaither – PSAP Rep. Berkeley County (*Teams*), Amy McDowell – PSAP Rep. Greenville County, David Morrison – RFA SC 911 Program Manager, Sharon O’Bryant – Wireline Rep. Piedmont Rural Telephone (*Teams*), Misty Wise – (*Teams*). *Staff* – Paul Athey, Michael Ball, Carrie Bundrick, Lisa Jolliff, Kathryn Kelley, Sandra Kelly, Frank Rainwater, and Monica Russell. *Guests* – Jim Lake (Charleston County), Darrell Campbell; *Additional participants via Teams*.

Note: Guests were invited to attend virtually. An email invitation was sent to the Distribution list and the meeting notification was posted on the RFA website and in the Rembert Dennis Building. Meeting information and log-in instructions were posted online. Meeting agenda was posted online 2 days prior to the start of the meeting, and the documents were also shared via Teams.

- I. Chair Burgess called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- II. Chair Burgess presented the December 19, 2023, meeting minutes which previously had been shared with the Members and asked if any Member had edits or questions. Hearing no amendments or objections, Adam DeMars motioned to approve the minutes; Jane Francis seconded the motion and all remaining members voted aye. Chair Burgess declared the minutes approved as written. (*See minutes*)
- III. Statewide ESInet Update
 - A. Michael Ball presented the following items:
 - Statewide ESInet – 2023 Statistics
 - Physical PSAP Count – 43
 - Hosted CHE/CPE Count – 30
 - On-Premise CHE/CPE Count – 13
 - 9-1-1 Call Count 2023 – 787,677
 - Statewide ESInet Overview
 - Group 7.0 migrations

- Group 8.0 tentative migration dates, and a map view of the Network Status Dashboard.

IV. Reimbursement Policy Discussion

- A. Paul Athey updated the Committee on the progress of the Reimbursement Policy Workgroup and their recommendations for short term, midterm, and long-term plans for updating the reimbursement policy.
- Short Term Planning will need to include the following:
 - The reimbursement percentage on unlimited amounts will need to be replaced with annual caps to manage budget costs.
 - Reimbursements for local and regional ESInets will be phased out as contracts expire.
 - Six of the current reimbursable categories will need to be removed.
 - Backup site seat counts will not be included in determining reimbursement allocations per PSAP jurisdiction.
 - Midterm Planning (2025 and going forward) is dependent on setting a cap for 2024 to prevent the fund from dropping below target balance of the Wireless Fund.
 - Long-Term Planning will need to focus on acquiring state contractual pricing.
- B. Paul Athey introduced the recommended Reimbursement Policy Change for Calendar Year 2024.
- The total budget will be set at approximately \$23.5 million.
 - The maximum amount eligible for reimbursement for each PSAP will be based on the average of the following:
 - Seat Quantities
 - Call Volume
 - Five-year Historical Reimbursements
 - The reimbursement will remain a percentage at 80%.
- C. Paul Athey introduced the Future Year Budget Planning (2025 going forward)
- There will be a Reimbursement Table that will have which items will be reimbursed.
 - The Reimbursement Table will be reviewed annually to ensure maximum funds available are utilized for reimbursement, and if additional items will be eligible for reimbursement.
 - There will no longer be reimbursement by percentage, rather an allocation of funds per category per PSAP seat count.
 - Any changes to PSAP seat count would have to be brought to the

Committee for discussion and approval.

D. Chair Burgess proposed to take a vote on the 2024 Budget Proposal.

- **Sam Gaither motioned to discuss; Mitch Fulmore seconded.**
- Sam Gaither proposed 3 amendments to the 2024 Budget Proposal.
 - o Amendment #1: Any contracts that were entered into or Purchase Orders that were issued prior to the end of 2023 will not impact the 2024 budget cap.
 - o Amendment #2: RFA will issue a single check for the 2024 budget cap amount presented to each county and let the PSAP's apply those funds as they see fit to their jurisdiction.
 - o Amendment #3: All PSAP's that are on the State ESInet and/or using the state CHE will be required to pay 20% of the cost.

After discussion between committee members, it was determined that the amendments presented by Mr. Gaither would need to be voted on as proposals to be presented to the RFA Board as they are separate proposals. Amendments 1 and 3 were combined into a single proposal utilizing Amendment 3 as the funding mechanism for Amendment 1.

- Chair Burgess asked for a motion to vote on Proposal #1: Original Budget Proposal presented by the Reimbursement Policy Workgroup. (Please note: a revised Budget Allocation for PSAPs was sent out after the meeting along with a summary of changes.)
 - o **Jane Francis motioned to vote; Adam DeMars seconded. There were 6 votes yes, 4 votes no, and the motion carried to present Proposal #1 to the Board.**
 - o Sam Gaither voted no.
 - o Amy McDowell voted no.
 - o Mitch Fulmore voted no.
 - o Terrance Ford voted yes.
 - o Melony Burgess voted yes.
 - o Sharon O'Bryant voted no.
 - o Jane Francis voted yes.
 - o Misty Wise voted yes.
 - o David Morrison voted yes.
 - o Adam DeMars voted yes.
- Chair Burgess asked for a motion to vote on Proposal #2: Amendments 1 and 3 combined.
 - o **Amy McDowell motioned to vote; Sam Gaither seconded. There were 5 votes yes, 5 votes no (with Chair Burgess).**

- *Sam Gaither voted yes.*
 - *Amy McDowell voted yes.*
 - *Mitch Fulmore voted yes.*
 - *Terrance Ford voted yes.*
 - *Melony Burgess voted no.*
 - *Sharon O'Bryant voted yes.*
 - *Jane Francis voted no.*
 - *Misty Wise voted no.*
 - *David Morrison voted no.*
 - *Adam DeMars voted no.*
- *Chair Burgess asked for a motion to vote on Proposal #3: Amendment #2.*
 - *Sam Gaither motioned to vote; Mitch Fulmore seconded. There were 6 votes yes, 4 votes no, and the motion carried to send Proposal #3 to the Board.*
 - *Sam Gaither voted yes.*
 - *Amy McDowell voted yes.*
 - *Mitch Fulmore voted yes.*
 - *Terrance Ford voted yes.*
 - *Melony Burgess voted yes.*
 - *Sharon O'Bryant voted yes.*
 - *Jane Francis voted no.*
 - *Misty Wise voted no.*
 - *David Morrison voted no.*
 - *Adam DeMars voted no.*
- E. *Chair Burgess proposed to take a vote on the 2025 Budget Proposal.*
- *Sam Gaither motioned to discuss; Terrance Ford seconded.*
 - *Sam Gaither asked if the 2025 Budget Proposal needed to be voted on with or without amendments. Chair Burgess stated that the approved amendments would carry over to the 2025 Budget Proposal.*
- F. *Chair Burgess asked for a motion to vote on the 2025 Budget Proposal.*
- *David Morrison motioned to vote; Amy McDowell seconded. There was a unanimous vote, and the motion carried to send the 2025 Budget Proposal to the Board.*

Members asked questions throughout the presentation which generated further discussions between Members and staff.

V. 911 Wireline Fee Impact Presentation by Jim Lake

VI. Other Items for Discussion

No items for discussion.

VII. The next scheduled meeting is March 19, 2024.

VIII. Adam DeMars motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jane Francis seconded the motion. All voted aye, and the meeting adjourned at 12:14 P.M.

Public Notice of this meeting was posted at: <https://rfa.sc.gov/boards-committees/911> and at the Rembert Dennis Building.

These minutes were approved on 4/16/2024

Monica G Russell *Monica Russell*