

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Date: April 20, 2021
Bowers Conference Room
Room 417, Rembert C. Dennis Building
10:00 am
(Members attending via WebEx)

Subject: Minutes of the South Carolina 911 Advisory Committee Meeting

Attendees: *Committee Members* – David Morrison – RFA SC 911 Program Manager, Rick Blackwell – PSAP Rep. Greenville County, Mitch Fulmore – PSAP Rep. Florence County, Dent Adams – Wireless Rep. FTC, Jack Maguire – Consumer Rep., Adam DeMars – GIS Expert/RFA, Mike Flynn – PSAP Rep. Spartanburg County, Ben Spearman – Wireline Rep. Comporium, Neil Baxley – PSAP Rep. Beaufort County. *Staff* – Paul Athey – RFA Division Director, Michael Ball – RFA SC NG911 Program Manager, Amy Simpson – RFA SC 911 Program Coordinator.

- I. Chairman Blackwell called the meeting to order at 10:00am.
- II. Chairman Blackwell presented the March 16th, 2021 meeting minutes to the members and asked if any member had edits or questions. Neil Baxley made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike Flynn seconded the motion. All members voted aye in favor, and Chairman Blackwell declared the minutes approved as written. (*See attached*)
- III. ESInet Implementation Update
 - A. Michael Ball presented the committee with project updates for the groups that are slated for implementation through the end of calendar year 2021.
 - B. Group 1 Project Updates: Kickoff calls have been completed. Comtech & Solacom equipment was originally designed to ship to a centralized location but was changed to ship to individual PSAP's for logistics and storage purposes. Data collection and verification is still ongoing, primarily with GIS, ALI, and MSAG databases. There are no changes in tentative migration dates for Group 1.
 - C. Group 1.5 Project Updates: Kickoff calls and Comtech site visits have been completed, and we are awaiting GIS, ALI, and MSAG data submissions. There are no changes in tentative migration dates for Group 1.5.
 - D. Group 2 Project Updates: New tentative migration dates have been assigned. State PSAP surveys and site visits have been completed. ESInet and Solacom system orders are nearing completion.
 - E. Next steps: RFA staff will increase the number of PSAP visits as interaction is crucial to avoid delays. Mr. Ball also reported that there were two PSAP's that have donated equipment to help some of the smaller PSAPs. He is making it a part of his mission going forward with this project to see what equipment is available that could be used to help with cost saving measures.

- F. Chairman Blackwell asked Mr. Ball to describe the plan for testing the system prior to the first PSAPs' go-live dates. Mr. Ball advised that testing is part of the on-boarding process, and it is highly detail oriented involving many processes such as: testing/monitoring equipment for durability and reliability, PSAP training, and reviewing the MOP (method of procedure) with the PSAP, Comtech, RFA, and any vendors that are interconnected. The day prior to go-live, all parties will have a "go, no-go" session in which all types of possible incoming 911 calls (wireless, landline, VoIP) are tested to gauge a baseline of the PSAP's capabilities and to see how ALI is displayed. Additional testing is done the morning of the go-live migration date prior to system cutover to ensure all systems are "go" and running properly. Once migration is complete, the same tests will be run again to compare and confirm that the system's integrity is in alignment before the cut over. Chairman Blackwell requested to see the test plan; Mike Flynn and Jack Maguire expressed interest as well.
- G. Chairman Blackwell asked how Comtech is handling ESI-net Certificates of Authority. Mr. Ball replied that Comtech handles their own Certificate of Authority.

IV. Fiscal Update

- A. Paul Athey presented the updated fiscal model to the committee. The March 2021 activity statement was emailed to the committee members prior to the meeting.
- B. The fund balance should begin to reflect a decrease as more invoices come in from Comtech.
- C. The state received a Federal grant of 2.3 million. Mr. Athey expects that half of the grant money should be expended very soon and the remainder will be expended before the end of the calendar year.
- D. The fiscal model fund balance is on track with the forecast. No adjustments in fees or reimbursement percentages are not expected until at least 2024 unless something unusual occurs.
- E. Chairman Blackwell asked if there were any questions from the committee. Adam DeMars mentioned that he had sent information out to David Morrison and Michael Ball regarding the "Lift America Act", bill No. 1848. The bill outlines approximately 15 billion dollars in (federal) appropriations specifically for NG911 implementation and asked if that was something that could be investigated as a committee to help fund the ESI-net project. Chairman Blackwell stated that the bill hasn't yet passed but agreed that it could be a great avenue to pursue for additional revenue if it does pass. Mr. Morrison said that he would take the lead on this issue and gather more information as well as keep an eye on the status of the bill. He will update the committee with any new information.

V. Other Items and Questions

- A. David Morrison announced that Tommy Paradise recently retired creating a vacancy on the committee for an appointment recommended by the SC Association of Counties as

he is no longer eligible to serve. Mr. Morrison added that in Mr. Paradise's two-years of service on the committee, he eagerly and quickly learned about the state's 911 program and became committed to the many causes the 911 Advisory Committee serves. Mr. Paradise was very responsive and helpful with his feedback. When Mr. Morrison spoke with Tommy, he stated that he was looking forward to retirement; however, he was going to miss serving on the committee. Mr. Paradise also spoke highly of the other committee members. Mr. Morrison thanked Tommy for his service and added that he will be missed.

- B. A recommendation to fill the seat Mr. Paradise held will come from the SC Association of Counties. Based on this recommendation, the RFA Executive Director, Frank Rainwater, will make the appointment.
- C. Charmain Blackwell reiterated Mr. Morrison's comments about Tommy Paradise and thanked him for his dedicated service to the committee.

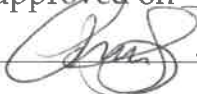
VI. Adjournment

- A. Adam DeMars made the motion to adjourn. Mike Flynn seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:31am.

Attachments: Agenda, Meeting Materials

Public Notice of this meeting was posted at: <http://rfa.sc.gov/e911>

These minutes were approved on 5/18/21.

Amy Simpson .