

Central MN
Next Generation 9-1-1 Committee
Microsoft Teams Meeting
Thursday, June 9, 2022 – 10:00 AM

NG911 COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT

1. Julia Fraley – Benton County
2. Tom Egan, Vice Chair – Douglas County
3. Jody Norstegard – Kandiyohi County
4. Becky Howell & Amanda Seifert – Meeker County
5. Andy Beckstrom – Mille Lacs County
6. Victoria Ingram & Jane Holman – Morrison County
7. Jason Karlgaard & Greg Seim – Otter Tail County
8. Tim Riley – Pope County
9. Brian Koehler – Stevens County
10. Sarah Booker, Chair – Todd County
11. Brenda Bartz – Traverse County
12. Erika Pennar – Wadena County
13. Sheriff Rick Fiedler – Wilkin County

NG911 COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ALTERNATES ABSENT:

14. City of St. Cloud
15. Big Stone
16. Grant
17. Stearns
18. Swift
19. Wright

GUESTS:

1. Commissioner Jeff Jelinski, ESB Chair – Morrison County
2. Caitlin Christenson, GIS – Stevens County
3. Steve Tait – ECN, Southern RIC
4. Curt Carlson – MnGeo
5. Scott Wosje – Northland Business Systems

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order by NG911 Chair Sarah Booker at 10:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Introductions were conducted. There was a quorum for the NG911 Committee.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Traverse County made a motion to approve the NG911 Committee Agenda. Meeker County seconded, motion carried. Roll Call Vote: Benton – Aye; Douglas – Aye; Kandiyohi – Aye; Mille Lacs – Aye; Morrison – Aye; Otter Tail – Aye; Pope – Aye; Stevens – Aye; Todd – Aye; Traverse – Aye; Wilkin – Aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Morrison County made a motion to approve the May 12, 2022. NG911 Committee minutes. Traverse County seconded, motion carried. Roll Call Vote: Benton – Aye; Douglas – Aye; Kandiyohi – Aye; Meeker – Aye; Mille Lacs – Aye; Morrison – Aye; Otter Tail – Aye; Pope – Aye; Stevens – Aye; Todd – Aye; Traverse – Aye; Wilkin – Aye.

Communications

Booker has one item that came out of the ESB meeting yesterday. Commissioner Jelinski asked if we could get a generalized count of how many text-to-911's we are taking since we are all up and going on text-to-911; all of our Central Region agencies are doing so now. Booker is going to guess for most of us they are pretty few and far between. Douglas County gets very few. It is tough to count them, because there are not many. Otter Tail County says it is very few. Otter Tail would estimate one or two a month if that. Booker thinks especially with the messaging that has gone out since we started this with the 'call first unless you cannot, and then text' that has held true with how people are utilizing it.

REPORTS:

ECN Update

1. MN Public Safety Communications Conference – Reimbursements
Booker stated just a reminder if you are still intending on submitting for reimbursement for the conference costs we should be getting that to Shari in the next week.
2. RapidDeploy Radius Mapping Project (Update)
Still in-progress. Booker has not gotten an update that all of the equipment has shipped, but they were very close to having all the equipment shipped out. Those installs are starting to take place. Booker got the notification that she was signed up for the training piece earlier this week.
3. StatusBoard – Recommended Browsers
Booker reported a notification that had come out from ECN a couple of weeks ago with some of the security updates they are recommending that Chrome be the recommended browser to use StatusBoard. Firefox will work as well. It will work on the other browsers, but these are the current recommendations from Mn.IT for the optimal operations. If you are struggling with any browser issues to try one of these alternate browsers. Much like all of the other programs with the support for Internet Explorer going away, Internet Explorer is not recommended for anything anymore.

Statewide NG911 Committee

Booker reported there is going to be an information gathering request coming out again. There will be two short questionnaires that come out shortly. The first two are more on the actual operations questions: staffing, what is your minimum staffing, how many positions do you have, how many of those are filled, how many of those are filled with trainees. Things like that so we can get a good view of how those PSAP operations are working in the state. There will be one coming later that is really going to look at more of the technology pieces for your PSAP.

Information was provided regarding the petition for the Public Utilities Commission regulatory review and ruling request that went from the Department of Public Safety. That is specifically in regards to the cost recovery portion of the statute. When the 403 statute the technical side went for update it was proposed to remove or rewrite the rules around cost recovery. There are some of the telcos that are very opposed to that changing. ECN did try and negotiate with the telcos. Most of them agree that having their actual cost to connect to the 911 network covered is sufficient, but there are others that feel the current tariff rates they are recovering on really need to stay in place. There is some disagreement with that. It has been filed with the Public Utilities Commission.

REPORTS: (Continued)

Statewide NG911 Committee (Continued)

Booker stated it was accepted by the Public Utilities Commission. That is open now for comment. ECN is intending on sending out a copy of the petition and a summary sheet regarding this whole process out to all of the stakeholders here very shortly. If anyone is interested in looking that up if you go to the Public Utilities Commission review it is docket #22-245.

There was also discussion from the Operations workgroup to start holding periodic in-person workshops on PSAP-specific topics. Whether that ends up being quarterly or whatever that is the Operations workgroup was given the go ahead to research the logistics of that and move forward with doing that planning.

1. 988 Mental Health transition

a. 9-1-1 Best Practices Guide – Review and Comment

Booker reported the workgroup and the subgroup still continue to meet monthly with the MN Department of Health. The Samsa Policy Academy will be convening shortly. 988 is on the docket yet to go live towards the end of July. We did include for one more month the Mental Health Best Practices Guide for any review and comment. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns Booker can bring that information back.

2. Operations/Technical Workgroups

Continuing to do some of these projects as assigned.

Statewide NG911 GIS Workgroup

Carlson has provided a link in the chat to the proposed Emergency Services Zone GIS Data Standard that is out for public review culminating July 31st. If anyone has any comments they want to add there is a link provided on that webpage where comments may be submitted.

Link: <https://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/committee/standards/esz/index.html>

Current Legislative Initiatives

Booker reported the 403 technical is on hold. The workgroup is going to continue, so part of that is pending that Public Utilities Commission review. There is work on going to try and set-up some quarterly meetings with some of these telcos and some of the other interested stakeholders. The 403 governance rewrite is still at the Legislative liaison. Once that gets reviewed and put into a better format, that will be distributed for review and comment from the stakeholders with the intention of it being introduced the next session. We know the telecommunicator training and certification was in the Public Safety omnibus bill. It did not get through in the regular session. Everybody was waiting to hear on special session or not otherwise we will attempt to get it reintroduced in the next session.

Wadena County announced they were on the call.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

a. Regional Strategic Plan

1. Promote the recruitment and retention of PSAP staff

2. Implement equipment/technology to improve 9-1-1 location accuracy

Booker reported the recruitment and retention video and marketing materials with ECN and MSA are still in the works. As far as the equipment technology we are in the process of doing the Rapid Deploy Radius mapping project. If anything else comes to light we will be taking a look at that.

GENERAL DISCUSSION (Continued)

- b. CMN800MHz List Serve – Ended May 16th (Sign-up for Notifications)
Booker reported the list serve did end May 16th. If you have not already go to the website and sign-up for notifications. You can select which items interest you.

- c. Training Opportunities

- 1. Training Roadmap

The training roadmap is showing the requested trainings. Booker reported we did make a request to the board yesterday to fund these. We will be able to move forward with a couple of these 911-specific trainings. We sent out the survey and after a couple reminders we did get some pretty good participation in the survey. It is pretty even as far as the choices. We will probably look at doing one of the 911 Training Institute ones and the Public Safety Training Consultant one. We are split in-person or virtual. We will be looking at that a little closer. Staffing and scheduling were two of the big concerns. Everybody is in the same boat with staffing and scheduling. We did add a 911 training resources page to our website. Shari has been adding information to that page for us. It is on the website under training. We have listed a bunch of different resources. There are links to the training vendors, there are also links to some free webinars, podcasts, etc. Sheriff Fiedler had asked for some free stuff that they can do at 2 a.m. so there are some of those things on there. There are some On Demand training from the 911 Training Institute. There are three courses on there right now, but their intention is to continue to add more. That is more of an annual subscription type training. Virtual Academy also has a subscription type training and then you get access to all of their training sites. The Virtual Academy ones have a bunch of the lite versions. They are kind of the preview or summary of some of the 911 Training Institute's full courses. Both of those options are fairly inexpensive for an annual subscription. If anyone has any good resources that we should add to that please send them over to us and we will just keep building on this page, so we have a one-stop shop for all of those training type resources that we come across that are pertinent to us.

Booker asked if we do look at some in-person classes do we have any volunteers that would be able to host that depending on the timeline that we get set-up? Douglas County could certainly host some trainings. We have our public works meeting room which works really well for that. Otter Tail County could as well. We mentioned it at the O&O/Users that we could as well on some of these. Kandiyohi County stated if we get rid of our bird flu people we probably could too.

OTHER ISSUES

Tait stated one reminder there is a PSAP cyber security assessment kick-off webinar for the region at 2:30 p.m. today. A representative from the PSAP and your IT staff for each member of the region has been invited to that. Really important that we start talking about cyber security and look at what your needs might be and how they might be met on a local/regional/state level. Tait did just come off of the Finance Committee and one of the topics coming up at their July meeting is laying out a roadmap for what types of funding we might need in the next budget cycle. Cyber security is certainly one of those things where we are going to need to make significant investments. Without knowing what the starting line is, it is hard to define what the destination will be. That is the purpose of these assessments is to get that baseline and identify what your needs might be. And then figure out the next step to either bring a program online, or get you the money you need or whatever it takes to protect our PSAPs. Wendy will be recording that, so if you cannot make it we will make that recording available. Tait will touch base with Wendy to make sure that happens.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a. July 14, 2022 – Microsoft Teams Meeting

ADJORNMENT

Chair Booker made the executive motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was carried unanimously at 10:28 a.m.

Minutes by Shari Gieseke.