Public Safety Communications Board Meeting  
July 8, 2020  
Meeting Summary

Agencies Present:
Anthony Avery, Platte County Sheriff’s Office  
Michael Ashcraft, Johnson County Kansas Commission  
Scott Boden, Johnson County Kansas  
Simon Happer, Overland Park Police Department  
Steve Hoskins, Kansas City Missouri Police Department  
Mark Owen, Platte County Sheriff’s Office  
Rance Quinn, Kansas City Kansas Police Department  
Maury Thompson, Johnson County Kansas Manager’s Office  
Robin Tieman, Cass County Emergency Services Board  
Karen True, Kansas City Missouri Police Department  
Don Ward, Overland Park Police Department  
Ellen Wernicke, Johnson County Emergency Communications Center

MARC Staff: Eric Winebrenner, Mike Daniels, Hassan Al-Rubaie, Ben Clark, Saralyn Hayes, Marlene Nagel, Nikki Thomas, Chris Allen Hunter

1. Call to Order and Introductions
Eric Winebrenner asked participants to use the raise your hand and/or chat options to ask questions or make comments. Both will be monitored throughout the meeting. Then, he performed a roll call. Maury Thompson called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of March 11, 2020 Meeting Summary
Scott Boden made a motion to approve the March 11, 2020 summary. It was seconded by Steve Hoskins and approved with no opposition.

3. 911 Legislation Update – Eric Winebrenner
   • Federal
     ➢ H.B. 2 which includes 12 billion for 911 infrastructure was passed and is going to the Senate.  
     ➢ The bill reclassifying dispatchers is still in committee.  
   • Kansas
     ➢ No 911 legislation.  
     ➢ Reclassifying dispatchers is being discussed with APCO, NENA and legislators on the councils.  
   • Missouri
     ➢ No 911 legislation.  
     ➢ The bill reclassifying dispatchers has not been assigned to a committee because of COVID 19.
Jackson County voted to put 911 subscriber tax funding on the November 2020 ballot. Looking to change their revenue formula from the landline to an all subscriber tax.

4. Missouri 911 Service Board – Eric Winebrenner
   - Now have a director.
   - A survey was sent out on July 7 to all PSAPs. MARC staff had reviewed it and Hassan Al-Rubaie forwarded the answers to the questions which MARC would need to provide. Anyone needing assistance should contact MARC staff. Robin Tieman asked for clarification on what the survey was looking for in the 911 authority question. It was shared that they were wanting the name and contact information for the PSAP’s contact person.
   - GIS efforts are underway which should allow Missouri to catch up to Kansas GIS.
   - This Board now has grants and loans available. Requirements can be found on their website.
   - MARC was awarded $500,000 from a federal grant for the microwave overlay project. Overall Kansas and Missouri received $800,000 for the overlay project which may pay over half of the cost.

5. Kansas 911 Coordinating Council - Mike Daniels
   - Working on putting together a mobile PSAP for training and emergency dispatch that can be employed around the state.
   - Continuing to discuss the three counties adjourning MARC region that are not on the system.
   - Coordinating with Missouri on some online training.
   - Still looking at letters and a bill for reclassifying dispatchers as first responders.
   - MARC received a grant that includes funding for microwave overlay.

6. PSAP Updates
   - Douglas County Implementation
     o KU Public Safety office was cut over to the MARC network on June 26.
     o Potential cutover for Douglas County Emergency Management is August 18 or 19.
   - Atchison County Implementation
     o Connectivity established and are working on final details for their trunk cutover. Don Ward asked if Lawrence and Douglas County police departments had been added to the Vesta consoles for speed dialing and transfer functions. It has not because of the need to update the ALI hardware, software and formatting. Once these upgrades have been completed Vesta will be installed on their consoles.

7. Public Safety Program Updates
   - Training – Mike Daniels
     ➢ Still unable to hold in-person trainings.
     ➢ As of July 1, six new online PowerPhone trainings became available.
     ➢ Work is being done with PowerPhone to adopt a Basic class; if possible, before the end of the year.
     ➢ Working with MARC to evaluate a learning management system with the hope in 2021, to be able to offer our trainings online and to have some in-person trainings.
   - Technical services – Hassan Al-Rubaie
     ➢ Router Project Update
       o Routers have been connected and Motorola and Commencio are doing final configurations.
       o Kansas City Kansas has moved to Johnson County ECC for approximately two – three months.
       o Lenexa may need to move temporarily. Ellen Wernicke shared that Johnson County and Lenexa were meeting today to discuss their moving needs.
       o Equipment has been received for MARC training center, Raymore, Leawood, and Prairie Village’s scheduled updates. Work has begun on training center which includes the new test server.
   - Database / Mapping – Saralyn Hayes
     ➢ Still working remotely with full functionality.
     ➢ Received the very large query (VLQ) which showed us up 1% last quarter (9500) and an annual increase of over 25,000 records. This is the highest we have been in the last five years.
Atchison and Douglas County’s MSAGs and maps have been pushed out to the data link maps.

An email was sent out regarding the Missouri State Fair and the need for volunteers. This year’s booth will be in the Fire Station. Anyone wanting to volunteer should contact Hayes (shayes@marc.org). Hayes noted that talking points would be provided.

8. MODOT Lees Summit router location discussion

Winebrenner said that MARC was notified that our maintenance techs were unable to have 24-hour access to our router at MODOT. Anticipating this could cause some issues and after meeting with the PS Board and Users co-chairs, research for a new location was done. Bids were received from three data centers: LightEdge, Rackspace and Tierpoint. Al-Rubaie provided information on each facility and Daniels shared a cost outline for each.

Scott Boden made a motion to install the router at LightEdge. This was seconded by Steve Hoskins. The motion passed with no opposition.

9. 2021 Proposed Budget Presentation

Winebrenner noted that this budget was being shared for information only. An official vote will be taken in September. Daniels took over the presentation and shared the top three issues were: 1) 911 maintenance, 2) cybersecurity and 3) capital projects. He proceeded to outline the proposed 2021 budget.

911 Maintenance: MARC feels it would be more financially beneficial for the 911 maintenance team to take over some of the items Commenco handles. He outlined what this would entail and the costs. MARC would still continue to contract with Commenco on handling items our techs do not perform (ex. climbing towers) and as a backup. Changing to the MARC techs would save 2% in the overall budget and staying with Commenco would be a 4% increase. Anticipating the possibility of needing to hire more techs and the tech hiring issues MARC has been experiencing, MARC had a salary comparison done. The results showed our techs salaries as regionally low.

Cybersecurity: The budget amount here is a one-time increase for Vesta 911. This will allow for setting backup times and automation. Also, included here is our contract with Seculore.

Capital Projects:

- Equipment replacement is a little over $2 million which is a reduced cost due to grants received by Kansas and Missouri. He went over each line item and their monthly costs. He noted that the cost for the additional maintenance staff was included here. Translation cost went down since we were able to use the Kansas state contract price. Daniels added that the 2020 census may cause a slight cost rise. This was discussed and Daniels will reevaluate these numbers with the internet census counts and resend counties their potential amounts.

10. 2020 OPA Award presentation discussion

Winebrenner shared with the cancelation of the Telecommunicators Appreciations Celebration (TAC), how to recognize the award recipients needed to be decided. The recommendations from the Users committee was shared and discussed.

Scott Boden made a motion to recognize them at the next TAC event. This was seconded by Rance Quinn. The motion passed without opposition.

11. Other Business

- Future meeting format discussion

Winebrenner noted that the possibility of an in-person meeting in September is still unknown. He asked how this committee would like to proceed with meetings.

It was agreed that the September meeting and others would be held through Teams unless something changed allowing in-person meetings at MARC.

12. Adjournment

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.