



## ***Public Safety Communications Board Meeting*** **September 8, 2021** **Meeting Summary**

### **Agencies Present:**

Anthony Avery, Platte County Sheriff's Office  
Michael Ashcraft, Johnson County Kansas Commission  
Maria Beauchamp, Cass County Emergency Services Board  
Richard Carrizzo, Southern Platte Fire Protection District  
Lionel Colon, Kansas City Missouri Police Department  
Chris Crawford representing Jeanie Lauer, Jackson County  
Steve Hoskins, Kansas City Missouri Police Department  
Chuck Magaha, Leavenworth County  
Mark Owen, Platte County Sheriff's Office  
Melissa Sieben, Wyandotte County  
Jamie Taylor, Lee's Summit Police Department  
Shane Taylor, Kansas City Kansas  
Maury Thompson, Johnson County Kansas Manager's Office  
Paul Thurman, Independence Police Department  
Shane Turner, Grandview Police Department  
Don Ward, Overland Park Police Department  
Ellen Wernicke, Johnson County Emergency Communications Center

**MARC Staff:** Eric Winebrenner, Mike Daniels, Hassan Al-Rubaie, Marlene Nagel, Pam Opoka, Nikki Thomas, Chris Allen Hunter

### **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

A role call was done by Winebrenner. Mark Owen welcomed everyone and started the meeting.

### **2. Approval of July 14, 2021 Meeting Summary**

*Richard Carrizzo made a motion to approve the July 14 summary. It was seconded by Tony Avery. Approved with no opposition.*

### **3. 911 Legislation Update – Eric Winebrenner**

#### **Federal**

- The \$15 billion infrastructure bill it is still in committee. No movement.
- Reclassifying telecommunicators from clerical to public safety is still in committee. No movement.

#### **State**

- Nothing going on.

#### **Local**

- Nothing going on.

#### 4. Missouri 911 Service Board – Eric Winebrenner/Jason White

- Winebrenner shared that there are two from our region on this Board, Mike Snider and Jason White. White continued the report.
- The Board is doing a state-wide GIS study trying to learn where the 114 counties are in GIS and moving the baseline up. All but 15 entities have responded to the study. This study opened the door to discussions in Jefferson City from a variety of state agencies and elected officials wondering what to do from a state perspective with GIS. The Board is in line for \$8 million in funding support for GIS state-wide.
- Looking to do broadband and there are 20 PSAPs state-wide that do not have broadband or are underserved. He shared that the total infrastructure bill has \$65 billion for broadband.
- The Board has consultants working on a NextGeneration study to learn where our PSAPs are at. Some have concerns about the language disagreement between NENA and APCO in the legislation and how the \$15 billion should be spent. The House brought people together but a resolution has not been shared.
- White noted that the Board is a funding body and four grants had been awarded out of eight grant requests. The Board just finished their fourth grant cycle working to bring everyone up. There are still seven Missouri southeast counties in the red.
- Currently negotiating to move EM Dispatch (EMD) from underneath the Board of Health to underneath their Board. Wernicke asked if there was a move to standardize EMD. Per White, this has not been discussed yet. White asked Wernicke to send him an email and he would share the language being worded when it is discussed so she can engage.
- Have an RFP out for a Learning Management system. More will be share about this later.
- An AED reporting workgroup was reinstated. Hayes is MARC’s representative on this workgroup.

#### 5. Kansas 911 Coordinating Council - Mike Daniels

- The Council recently met and the main topic was the service interruption on July 25. AT&T was doing a routine administrative upgrade to 45 PSAPs which caused the interruption. The PSAPs were rerouted to admin lines. Sedgwick County had the biggest problem from the rerouting of their phones without making any second calls. The admin lines their calls were sent to had an automatic recording saying “if this is an emergency please call 911”. Sedgwick County was down for 2 hours because they did not know about the reroute. Wernicke and Al-Rubaie are part of a taskforce working with legislators, council staff and AT&T to address how to mitigate these and/or other issues and how to work better together.

#### 6. Public Safety Program Updates

- **Training – Pam Opoka**
  - Power Phone
    - 479 have trained through this system.
    - A 40-Basic training started on Monday, August 30 and will be available until the end of September. There are 12 agencies participating with 24 attendees. The next Basic is scheduled for December.
  - Pause First Academy
    - This is our training platform for mental health resiliency and resources.
  - Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Training
    - MARC is partnering with Kansas City Police Department on this in-person training. It will be held at the Lee’s Summit Police Department November 15 – 17 with only 45 attendees being allowed.
  - Certified Training Officer (CTO) Training
    - Launching this training in January 2022.
- **Technical services – Hassan Al-Rubaie**
  - Router Project Update
    - Met with Motorola regarding a timeline status report. Motorola is working with Commenco on expediting this and pushing to have this work completed by the end of year.
    - There was a plugin receptacle issue on the power distribution units at LightEdge which required a different receptacle. This has been resolved. All the equipment at LightEdge is now powered and connectivity between LightEdge and the ECC has been established. Had to use some

temporary switches because the ones wanted were not available. The desired switches are now available and the temporary ones will be replaced.

- There will be a meeting with Motorola Friday, September 17. Winebrenner noted that Motorola's Director of Next Generation Corp Services is now involved with this project and there has been more movement.
- Atchison is now connected to the system.

➤ Workstations

- Upgrades have been completed at Cass County Sheriff's Office, Johnson County Emergency Communication Center and Johnson County Sheriff's Office. Currently, awaiting the equipment shipment for the final 2021 upgrades which include Grandview, Harrisonville, Lee's Summit Police Department, Lenexa, North Kansas City, Pleasant Hill and Pleasant Valley. It is hoped to have this completed later this year.
- PSAPs that had a cost-share request approved at the last Board meeting equipment will be ordered and installed as part of the 2022 budget year.
- Monitors for the 2020 upgrades should be available and installed soon. Still must order the 2021 upgrade monitors.
- A dual channel was approved for Nokia. Three structural analysts have been completed and waiting on the completion of last one. Nokia has been given the approval to proceed with the FCC licensing now.
- Daniels and Thomas are working on storage space for equipment. Thomas shared that she had requested quotes from three facilities and had heard only heard back from one. She noted that the one quote was from a facility that Nokia has used before.
- Winebrenner noted that a refund from Commenco for software support had been received. The refund was just over \$300,000. The funds were placed in the Capital projects reserve fund and a portion will be used to cover half the cost of the dual antenna project.

● **Database / Mapping – Eric Winebrenner**

➤ Error Report Contest

- The annual error report contest closed in June. There were two categories: 1) most valid PSAP initiated error reports received total 2) error reports based on call volume. The winners this year were Johnson County ECC for total number received and Fort Leavenworth on call volume. Their name plates will be put on the plaque in the MARC training center.

➤ Private Switch 911 or PS911

- This is a subscription through AT&T that businesses, local government and schools can subscribe to where they maintain their own database records that are feed into this database. There used to be 20–30 school districts that subscribed but now more school districts have upgraded to a new voip system and are not using PS911. There are still 11 schools participating and the database/mapping staff have reached out to those school before school started to remind them, they still subscribe and to update their records. If staff finds updates, they put the school in touch with the AT&T contact.

➤ Dish Network

- They are starting Dish Wireless and MARC staff is reviewing their cell sectors. Dish is utilizing a new technology that none of the other carriers utilize. Therefore, staff will be working with Dish on testing. PSAPs will be notified when this goes live.

➤ Mapping

- Completed an upgrading project of water features such as lake sizes 4 acres or larger and outlines any newly built lakes. In process of receiving railroad line crossings and milepost from DOT and will conduct a full review and update by the end of October.
- Working with Platte County Parks on determining emergency trail location signs along the Prairie Creek Greenway Trail and will assist in collecting GPS data for the trails layer in the maps.

**7. Cost Share position recommendations approved by PSCU Committee – Nikki Thomas**

➤ Platte County

- Thomas shared that Platte County Sheriff's office was requesting to equip their county's ECC with two 911 call taker positions, to be used primarily as backup for northland. The estimated cost is \$44,700. She noted that the network and fiber costs were still to be determined since there is potential to use existing fiber. If unable to use the existing fiber, there will be an annual cost of

\$1,000 per leg. This will be a regional backup. There was discussion around those in the northland signing an agreement. It was decided that agreements should be signed. A sample agreement template will be sent to Avery.

*The Technical / Users committee is recommending approval of this request.*

*Jamie Taylor made a motion to approve Platte County's request for two 911 call taker positions. This was seconded by Richard Carrizzo. The motion was approved with no opposition.*

## **8. 2022 Regional 911 Budget – Mike Daniels**

- A PowerPoint of the budget was shared as Daniels outlined what was being seen. He said there was an increase from the 2021 budget of 6.6% which was mainly approved cost shares requests. Daniels noted that there may be some adjustments to the 911 SS7 cost due to router changes. The 2020 Census numbers were used to calculate cost for the 2022 budget. The total budget amount is \$9,029,435.

*Tony Avery made a motion to approve the 2022 budget as it was presented. This was seconded by Richard Carrizzo. The motion passed with no opposition.*

## **9. 988 Discussions – Eric Winebrenner / Mike Daniels**

### **Missouri**

- Winebrenner said that Missouri has a committee for this. There will be seven answering centers but it is not known where or how these will be funded.
- Kansas has a bill that is still in committee for funding this.
- There is also a regional Kansas City Group that is meeting and have indicated that they will be reaching out to MARC to facilitate.
- The issue on how routing is handled is still being worked out. There are discussions on partnering with PSAPS, putting mental health providers in PSAPs which they were very interested in. Owen shared that he had heard that there is discussion about going to the highway patrol for the seven answering centers.

### **Kansas**

- Daniels shared that Kansas has a state planning team working on call taking. They also have a larger coalition that is discussing the broader picture. Kansas will have three answering agencies in Douglas, Sedgwick and Johnson counties. The Department of Aging Disability is running the show for answering 988 calls. The main concern is answering 988 calls and getting them to the correct entity or services. There are discussions on how to get calls transferred between 911 and 988 or from 988 to 911. Daniels will be listening to these meetings.
- Further down the line, Kansas is looking at answering all the 988 calls that come into Kansas in Kansas. Wernicke shared that Johnson County ECC and the department of Mental Health are working on embedding mental health call takers into their Johnson County's PSAP which would eliminate the concerns about losing calls. Once they are completely embedded, the discussions will start on the call handling process which will be independent of 911 for now.
- Winebrenner said that the national suicide hotline number will be changed to the 988.
- Daniels added that each state is figuring out how to do this with limited resources and funding on their own.
- Winebrenner shared that KS HB 2281 is to establish and implement 988 as their mental health hotline. Owen shared that there is a need on the Missouri side to look at intergrading into existing systems rather than building out a new system and taking on that additional cost. There was some discussion around this.

## **10. 2022 TAC/OPA**

- Winebrenner shared that at the July committee meeting, this committee had decided to hold an in-person event in April 2022. At the User/Tech September committee meeting, there was a discussion about the COVID numbers and it being time to pay a deposit to the hotel. Winebrenner noted that because of the two previous cancellations there was a chance of not get our deposit returned, should we have to cancel again. There was discussion around holding an in-person or virtually 2022 event.

*The User/Tech committee is recommending to the Board not hold an in-person event but to have a virtual event in 2022.*

*Melissa Sieben made a motion to have a virtual TAC/OPA event in 2022. This was seconded by Tony Avery. The motion passed without opposition.*

#### **11. Other Business**

- Winebrenner shared that MARC staff would be reentering the office on a part-time bases soon and he was looking for this committee's thoughts on having in-person meetings. He noted that due to the space limitations and equipment setup in our conference rooms, MARC staff was recommending the continuation of virtual meetings. There was discussion around this and committee members shared experiences that they had encountered in other meetings. It was agreed to hold the next two meetings virtually and then revisit this item.

Next meeting: December 15 at 10:00 a.m. (TEAMS)

#### **12. Adjournment**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.