



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Public Safety Communications Committee (NPSCC) Statewide 911 Coordinator Subcommittee

Attendance	DATE	Tuesday, August 25, 2015	
	TIME	2:00 P.M.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Division of Emergency Management Training Room 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, Nevada 89701	
	METHOD	Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Janell Woodward	
Committee Members	Present	Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
Lou Amell	X	Janell Woodward (NDEM Staff)	X
Barbara Brabenec	X	Samantha Ladich (AG Rep)	X
Denise Kee	X	Kelli Anderson (NDEM Staff)	X
Patrick Irwin	X	Rick Martin (NDEM Staff)	X
Nonie McCandless	X	George Molnar (NDEM Staff)	X
Karen Stout	X		

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.

Chair, Lou Amell called the meeting to order and Janell Woodward called roll. A quorum was established with all committee members in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chair, Lou Amell opened the meeting for public comment. There were none.

3. PURPOSE OF NPSCC STATEWIDE 911 COORDINATOR SUBCOMMITTEE.

Chair, Lou Amell gave a brief overview of the purpose of the newly created NPSCC Statewide 911 Coordinator Subcommittee. Several newly formed subcommittees were appointed at the last Nevada Public Safety Communications Committee (NPSCC) meeting on June 15, 2015. This subcommittee has a tremendous task in trying to develop what the committee would expect a state 911 Coordinator to do including duties, support staff needed for this position, as well as how this position might be funded. This subcommittee will ultimately submit a report to the full NPSCC with a recommendation for this position. The NPSCC will hopefully accept the recommendation and forward that recommendation to the Governor's office. There were no questions or comments.

4. DISCUSSION OF 911 PROGRAM STATUS.

Chair, Lou Amell stated that Nevada does not yet have a formal 911 program. Barbara Brabenec confirmed that Henderson already receives 911 text messages in their dispatch center. Chair Amell indicated that with Next-Generation (Next-Gen) 911, it is important to

approach this from a statewide perspective in order to avoid confusion with each dispatch center going in its own direction. A statewide 911 coordinator could guide the state as a whole into the Next-Generation 911. Some Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) throughout the state are not yet on the enhanced 911 system and need to be brought to the same level and same standard throughout the state. Pat Irwin added that some counties do not yet have even basic 911 services.

5. DISCUSSION ON HOW TO FUND A 911 PROGRAM IN THE STATE OF NEVADA.

Chair, Lou Amell opened discussion regarding how to fund a 911 program in Nevada. Chair Amell stated that this is really just to open the discussion and is not an issue to be solved today. The largest industry in Nevada is tourism with in excess of 40 million visitors each year. There is a well-demonstrated correlation between tourism and the number of calls to the PSAPs. It is important to emphasize that any funds gathered for the 911 coordinator and related activities need to go into a separate fund from the State General Fund to pay for positions and equipment updates.

Pat Irwin asked how Clark County currently funds 911. Chair Amell stated that his secondary PSAP is funded strictly through the fire departments with no 911 funds to offset costs. Denise Kee stated Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) receives some 911 funds that fund only positions but no hard capital costs. Of total positions, it is less than 10% funding. Barbara Brabenec stated that Henderson does not have any cost recovery at all at this time. Karen Stout indicated that Washoe County has an E-911 Board and they go before them for training costs, but there is no funding for positions. Washoe County is funded by a 25-cent surcharge by the telephone company on all phone bills and this is by legislation. It funds all 911 positions and goes into training as well.

Chair Amell stated that only two states do not have a statewide 911 coordinator, Nevada and possibly Wyoming. The question came up as to what is done with PSAPs that are already receiving 911 funds and the answer suggested was to guarantee that they will get at least the same amount of money. Pat added that the legislation wording would need to be reviewed to ensure that nothing is lost with any possible transition in the future.

Denise asked whether the Washoe County charge is on both wireless and hardwire. Pat indicated that it is both but does not include internet-based telephone. Charter pays this as well so it depends on what services are being utilized. This does not put a 25-cent charge on visitors to Washoe County.

Nonie McCandless stated that Douglas County also collects the 25-cent charge for both wireless and landline. However, Nonie stated that other states collect a much higher fee of 75 cents or higher. Douglas County's 25-cent charge does not cover their six positions in their call center. Next-Gen 911 coming on line raises the concern of costs as well.

Chair Amell stated that it is his hope that enough funding could be found in order to at least defray if not cover the costs for upgrading of equipment in 911 centers along with covering a statewide 911 coordinator.

Nonie added that wording will be very important in safeguarding funding and provided the example of Washington State who had their 911 funds taken by the government and lost millions of dollars. Wording would need to include specific information about what any funding could be used for.

It was also noted that Arizona had issues as well with wording of legislation allowing for use of funds for telecommunications and the State ended up utilizing funds collected for paying their phone bill.

Barbara brought up the National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA). She did a bit of research and felt they would be an invaluable resource to the subcommittee. She contacted George Molnar as to whether the State would pay for a State membership which is \$150 per year. He was going to take that to the next NPSCC meeting. Essentially what would happen is the State would decide whether or not to join. If they do join, then the subcommittee would have access to all the contacts and information from NASNA.

Lou asked Barbara to please forward out the information regarding NASNA to members of the subcommittee. Barbara also reported that considerable grant money is available to states that have a statewide 911 coordinator.

Deputy Attorney General, Samantha Ladich, emphasized to the subcommittee that all materials distributed to the committee needs to go through Janell Woodward to be sent out to members to avoid a situation where a quorum discussion could occur outside of an open meeting.

6. GATHER BEST PRACTICES INFORMATION FROM OTHER STATES REGARDING THEIR STATEWIDE 911 COORDINATOR PROGRAMS.

Chair, Lou Amell indicated that he felt much of this was covered with agenda item number five. It is important to be able to research the best practices from other states, especially regarding legislative wording for funding. The subcommittee does not want to spend time doing work that has already been done by other states.

7. DISCUSSION OF JOB CLASSIFICATION, JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Chair, Lou Amell stated that much of the information regarding job classification and job duties and responsibilities will be collected from what other states are doing. Barbara Brabenec and Denise Kee sent information to Lou and Lou asked that this information also be sent to Janell Woodward so this can be forwarded to the committee. Barbara stated that the NASNA website gives great information on how to set up a statewide 911 coordinator, job descriptions, as well as other valuable information.

Lou indicated that at the next meeting he hoped the subcommittee would be able to begin to develop a plan on how to carry out the task of developing their recommendation for a statewide 911 coordinator. Discussion included a contract versus permanent state employee for a statewide 911 coordinator with subcommittee members in favor of a permanent state position.

8. DISCUSSION OF MEETING SCHEDULE.

Chair, Lou Amell opened discussion regarding how often the subcommittee should meet. The subcommittee discussed the meeting schedule possibilities.

A timeline for completing the work of the subcommittee was also discussed. The NPSCC has not yet given a timeline, but Lou felt that it could potentially take about a year to be sure that the subcommittee was able to give their best recommendation. A question was asked regarding utilizing GoToMeeting so the committee can view documents when they are all

together. Samantha Ladich will check into the legalities of utilizing GoToMeeting. Lou recommended meeting once a month.

Janell Woodward will contact subcommittee members to determine the next meeting date hopefully within the next month or so.

Denise Kee suggested that LVMPD and Washoe County should share their current legislation which allows them to collect 911 fees. As well, Denise gave a presentation to executive staff regarding where LVMPD is with regard to Next-Gen 911. Again, this was requested to be sent to Janell. It is important to ensure that the entire state is taken care of with regard to movement toward Next-Gen 911. The subcommittee needs to see where the Counties are currently prior to moving forward.

Again, Lou reminded everyone to send anything they might have to Janell so that it can be sent out to the subcommittee members.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chair, Lou Amell opened the meeting up once again for public comment. There was no comment from the public. Lou thanked all the members of the subcommittee for attending the first meeting. It is his wish that everyone on the subcommittee do their best to attend every meeting. The recommendation of this subcommittee will go to the NPSCC and if the Committee agrees with the recommendation, it will be forwarded to the Governor.

10. ADJOURN.

Chair, Lou Amell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nonie McCandless made the motion for adjournment and Pat Irwin seconded. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.