



**North Carolina 911 Board
Funding Committee Meeting
MINUTES**

**June 17, 2021
1:00pm – 3:00pm**

Microsoft Teams, Raleigh, NC

Meeting was Conducted via Use of Simultaneous Communications

| <u>Members on Phone</u> | <u>Staff on Phone</u> | <u>Others on Phone</u> |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Jason Barbour | Amy Berenson | Logan Kerr (Wilkes County) |
| David Bone | Richard Bradford | Todd Lankford (Wilkes County) |
| Greg Coltrain <i>(Joined at 1314hrs)</i> | Stephanie Conner | Mike Reitz (Chatham County) |
| Allen Cress | Kristen Falco | Doug Workman (Cary PD) |
| Chuck Greene | Tina Gardner | Brett Renfrow (Johnston County) |
| Len Hagaman <i>(Joined at 1400)</i> | Pokey Harris | Vic Williams - (Carolina Recording Systems - Joined after Roll Call) |
| Del Hall | Gerry Means | 704-578-8025 (Joined after Roll Call) |
| Melanie Neal | Stanley Meeks | Kellie High-Foster (CMPD) |
| Candy Miller | David Newberry | Byron Burns (Carolina Recording Systems - Joined at 1314hrs) |
| Stephanie Wiseman | Marsha Tapler | Ellis Frazier (High Point 911 - Joined at 1324hrs) |
| | Sarah Templeton | |
| | Angie Turbeville | |
| | | |

1. Roll Call –

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Mr. Bone. Ms. Templeton proceeded to call the roll.

2. Executive Director Opening Remarks –

Ms. Harris thanked all the committee members for their tremendous amount of work that has been done for the Board. Ms. Harris reflected on the FY2021 goals of the

Funding Committee, including management of high and low fund balance, the Approved Use of Funds list and how to establish maximum allowed limits, capabilities of backups and the funding model and encouraged each committee member to reflect and feel good each of the goals have been on the forefront. The PSAP Assistance Team (PAT) pairs the regional coordinator and financial review specialist for PSAPs to have a group working with them. One of the outcomes of the PAT has been the financial planning tool, which has been very beneficial. We have gone into the fiscal year with the \$0.65 service charge with no increase, approval of the FY2022 Budget, and this committee has reviewed reconsiderations and considerations of eligibility. Ms. Harris wanted to remind the committee of all the goals they have accomplished over the year.

3. Chairs Opening Remarks –

Mr. Bone thanked Ms. Harris for reminding the committee of their accomplishments. Mr. Bone thanked committee members and staff and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Approval of May 2021 Minutes (Vote Required) -

Mr. Bone requested a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion made by Ms. Neal to approve, second by Ms. Miller. Ms. Templeton conducted a roll call vote. Motion carried.

| Approval of May 2021 Funding Committee Minutes | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Committee Member | Vote to Approve | Vote to Not Approve |
| Randy Beeman <i>(Not Present)</i> | | |
| Jason Barbour | Y | |
| David Bone | Y | |
| Greg Coltrain <i>(Not Present for Vote)</i> | | |
| Allen Cress | Y | |
| Chuck Greene | Y | |
| Len Hagaman <i>(Not Present for Vote)</i> | | |
| Del Hall | Y | |
| Melanie Neal | Y | |
| Candy Miller | Y | |
| Stephanie Wiseman | Y | |

5. Legislative Update -

Mr. Bradford presented House Bill 203, which was signed into law on June 16, 2021, as SL 2021-34. It extends the deadline for Police telecommunicators to meet training requirements to July 1, 2022, a one-year extension.

6. Wilkes County Seat Count Request (Vote Required) -

Ms. Connor presented Wilkes County's request for one additional seat in their primary PSAP. Wilkes County moved into their new building in 2017 and began discussion with Ms. Tapler but the request was not resolved. Based on the seat count policy, Wilkes County has been given an overflow position. Their current seat count is four plus one (total of five seats) in their primary PSAP, and they are requesting one additional position. Ms. Connor provided details on their 911 calls per hour and a comparison with other PSAPs based on call volume per hour and number of seats. Staff recommendation based on the policy and numbers is to approve one additional base seat, totaling five primary positions with one overflow. Mr. Bone requested a motion to approve staff's recommendation of one additional seat for Wilkes County per the Board's Seat Count Policy. Motion by Mr. Cress to approve staff's recommendation, second by Ms. Miller. Ms. Templeton conducted a roll call vote. Motion carried.

| Approval of Wilkes County Seat Count Request | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Committee Member | Vote to Approve | Vote to Not Approve |
| Randy Beeman <i>(Not Present)</i> | | |
| Jason Barbour | Y | |
| David Bone | Y | |
| Greg Coltrain <i>(Joined at 1314hrs)</i> | Y | |
| Allen Cress | Y | |
| Chuck Greene | Y | |
| Len Hagaman <i>(Not Present for Vote)</i> | | |
| Del Hall | Y | |
| Melanie Neal | Y | |
| Candy Miller | Y | |
| Stephanie Wiseman | Y | |

7. Cary Consideration of Eligibility – Recording as a Service (Vote Required) -

Mr. Newberry and Ms. Falco presented details on Cary's Consideration of Eligibility for Carolina Recording Systems "Recording as a Service (RaaS)". After several months of back-and-forth communication between staff members and Cary, 911 Board staff was unable to align the information provided by the PSAP and vendor with legislation, administrative code, or the Approved Use of Funds list. Staff advised there were both eligible and ineligible components making up the per seat cost presented, but staff could not approve because they were not sure what costs made up the eligible components of the recording solution.

Mr. Greene discussed statute in regard to the lease, purchase, or maintenance and how the RaaS fit into these three categories and referred a question about the statutory requirements to Mr. Bradford. Mr. Bradford noted the statute has been around for 30 years, and other managed services have been funded. The question was posed on what was included in the managed service.

Ms. Neal noted one of the goals of the Board is to keep up with technology and be progressive with technology. Ms. Neal was favorable to the strategic equipment replacement and refresh idea and to a cloud-based solution. Ms. Neal asked Pokey Harris if costs were approved, would they be approved on a per seat basis. Ms. Harris confirmed it would be approved per seat but advised Ms. Neal what was presented was not for a cloud-based solution. Mr. Bradford clarified the RaaS is a managed service, and the description was not understood at the beginning. He said staff was unsure how to classify this service.

Ms. Miller asked if this service would replace having to purchase new systems every 3-5 years. Ms. Falco confirmed. Ms. Miller stated she saw the benefit, due to hardware replacement.

Mr. Coltrain stated the issue was staff was unable to see what the funds will be spent on. He noted the Board must follow guidelines, and staff need to see what monies are being spent on and if the purchases are justified, or not. Mr. Bone advised staff has been working with the PSAP and vendor to figure out what is eligible, versus ineligible.

Mr. Workman was given the opportunity to speak and noted Carolina Recording Systems was attempting to get away from flex pay due to it taking funds away from the company at the benefit of the PSAP. Cary 911 noted the benefits are: capital improvement budget requests for this item are not needed, software revisions and updates are appealing, hardware/software refresh are on a regularly scheduled basis as a part of the subscription, and unlimited training as needed. Based on the cost for the flex pay versus the RaaS, the lease will come with a higher interest rate if Cary does not pick the RaaS. Regarding the eligibility, the agreement states they are not using anything different if they purchased the items which was submitted to staff. There are advantages of additional integrations that are being invoiced separately to the Town of Cary and not a part of the RaaS. Mr. Workman appreciated the opportunity to speak.

Ms. Tapler reiterated staff does not know what is included in the \$5400 per seat and asked CRS for full detail of the package to determine eligibility. Without being able to determine eligible versus ineligible, it opens the Board up to a possible fee diversion scenario. Mr. Bradford was unable to speak on fee diversion, due to his appointment on the FCC strike force and noted the FCC commission will be issuing final rules in a week. Ms. Neal verified with Ms. Falco the eligible amount for the leased option was \$402,722.48 and noted for the RaaS eligibility has not been determined.

Ms. Neal made a motion to have staff members continue to work with the PSAP and vendor to seek further clarification for funding and eligibility purposes, and to bring their findings back to the Funding Committee once all details have been provided. Mr. Barbour seconded the motion. Mr. Coltrain noted for the record that the committee and Board are dedicated to ensuring PSAPs have what they need, and that if the motion is approved, the PSAP and vendor were to assist in meeting the Funding Committee's obligations before it would go forward to the Board. Ms. Templeton conducted the roll call vote. Motion carried.

Ms. Harris noted subscription and managed services are favorable with on other projects, and staff members are tasked with making sure expenditures align with legislation, administrative code, and the Approved Use of Funds List.

| Approval of Cary's Consideration of Eligibility | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Committee Member | Vote to Approve | Vote to Not Approve |
| Randy Beeman <i>(Not Present)</i> | | |
| Jason Barbour | Y | |
| David Bone | Y | |
| Greg Coltrain | Y | |
| Allen Cress | Y | |
| Chuck Greene | Y | |
| Len Hagaman | Y | |
| Del Hall | Y | |
| Melanie Neal | Y | |
| Candy Miller | Y | |
| Stephanie Wiseman | Y | |

8. PSAP Funding Reconsideration Status Update

Ms. Falco provided an update on the four funding reconsideration requests under current review for Chatham County, Greene County, Jacksonville Police Department, and New Hanover County.

9. PSAP Report Status Update

Ms. Templeton presented the PSAP Report Status update for FY2019 and FY2020 expenditure reports. For FY2019, there are 93 finalized, 27 in the clarification process, and 7 awaiting signed revised report. For FY2020, there are 41 finalized, 33 in the clarification process, 45 reports awaiting review, and 8 awaiting the signed revised report.

10. Closing Remarks

Ms. Falco introduced Ms. Berenson to the committee as the new Administrative and Logistics Coordinator for the 911 Board staff. Ms. Harris said Ms. Berenson's primary tasks are Board management and administrative tasks. Ms. Harris reminded the committee about the hybrid Board meeting next week and possibly the same format for committee meetings in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 pm.

Approved By Funding Committee 08192021