# ALABAMA 9-1-1 BOARD MEETING 1 Commerce Street

# Montgomery, AL 36104

Minutes of January 28, 2015

Prior notice of this regularly scheduled meeting of the Alabama 9-1-1 Board was given in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

The roll was called as follows by the Board Chairman, Ernie Blair.

Ernie Blair, Chairman	⊠Present ⊔Absent
Riley Blount	
Alan Campbell	
Evelyn Causey	☑Present □Absent (Arrived 10:05 a.m.
Melissa Dove	
Chris Heger	
Wayne Hutchens	
Fred Johnson, Vice Chairman	
John Nettles	
Betty Sanders	
Donnie Smith, Secretary/Treasurer	
Chad Sowell	
Roger Wilson	

A quorum was established. Chairman Ernie Blair, who acted as presiding officer of the meeting, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The Chairman entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Alan Campbell made a motion to postpone the discussion of the Agreement letter to Districts until after the discussion of ANGEN funding and strategic planning. Donnie Smith seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously. Chad Sowell made the motion to approve the amended agenda and Melissa Dove seconded this. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the December Board Meeting. Roger Wilson made the motion and Chris Heger seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman asked for guest introductions.

#### **Cost Recovery Report:**

Bill Brodeur presented the Cost Recovery Report.

Mr. Brodeur reported the following Cost Recovery reimbursements for September 30, 2015 that were paid in January are as follows:

Cellular South \$8,238.08 (Phase I- recurring)
Pine Belt Wireless \$18,843.80 (Phase I- recurring)
Phase I Total \$27,081.88

Cellular South for \$12,357.78 (Phase II-recurring)
Pine Belt Wireless \$12,320.00 (Phase II-recurring)
Phase II Total \$24,677.78

Mr. Brodeur recommended approval of all, as these are all within their plans. The Chairman entertained a motion to approve the Cost Recovery report. Donnie Smith made a motion and Roger Wilson seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

# Financial Report:

Donnie Smith presented the Board's expense reports for the previous month with board member expenses totaling \$2,660.88, committee member expenses totaling \$322.48, contract expenses totaling \$22,094.36, ANGEN expenses totaling \$51,369.30, and office expenses totaling \$56,480.98.

Jason Jackson explained that the office expenses included the Office of Public Examiner's bill for the ECD audits. Mr. Jackson also noted that there was a deduction from the total price originally quoted for the audits and that in the end the Board paid only 93% of the amount initially quoted. Alan Campbell questioned what the bill covered exactly. Mr. Jackson answered that it covered the remaining 10% for the 44 county audits conducted last year, whereas the 90% had been paid "upfront," with the whole amount totaling approximately \$1.1 million. Mr. Campbell then asked a question about the next milestone deadline to Bandwidth for the ANGEN project. Fred Johnson asked a procedural question about how the Board's bills will be paid now that the meetings are scheduled for every other month. It was agreed that bills that were under budget could be paid prior to Board approval, but any bills over budget should be held until the next meeting. Donnie Smith made a motion to allow for the paying of bills within budget prior to Board approval. Wayne Hutchens seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

The breakdown of all expenses is as follows:

John Nettles for \$61.02 (Board meeting)

John Nettles for \$62.01 (Committee Meeting)

Fred Johnson for \$363.36 (Board Meeting)

Roger Wilson for \$295.12 (Board Meeting)

Donnie Smith for \$100.85 (Board and Committee Meetings)

Donnie Smith for \$92.00 (Committee Meeting)

Ernie Blair for \$408.75 (Committee Meeting)

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Ernie Blair for \$408.75 (Board Meeting)

Chad Sowell for \$123.05 (Committee Meeting)

Melissa Dove for \$95.25 (Board Meeting)

Christine Heger for \$241.88 (Board Meeting)

Bill Brodeur for \$322.48 (Committee Meeting)

Ellison Consulting for \$200.00 (Website)

MDA Professional Group for \$9,335.19 (Accounting)

James Sasser for \$4,486.21 (Attorney)

James Sasser for \$8,072.96 (Attorney-TracFone)

Bandwidth for \$42,800.00 (ANGEN)

AUM for \$3,151.80 (ANGEN)

AUM for \$2,722.50 (ANGEN)

AUM for \$ 2,695.00 (ANGEN)

SEIB for \$2,178.00 (State Insurance)

One Commerce Holding for \$250.00 (office parking)

GE Capital for \$426.19 (office equipment lease)

VISA for \$1,817.04 (credit card purchases)

Berney for \$377.19 (office printer supplies)

Eternal Networks for \$562.50 (software uploads on office computers)

Eternal Networks for \$22.00 (network/file storage)

Examiners of Public Accounts for \$50,059.50 (ECD Audits)

Baker Realtime Reporting and Video for \$380.00 (Public Hearing)

Leah Missildine for \$378.56 (Mileage to Mobile and Tuscaloosa)

Legislative Reference Service for \$30.00 (Publication of Regulation)

Mr. Smith recommended approval of all expenses. Roger Wilson made a motion to approve payment of all expenses and Wayne Hutchens seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

#### **Executive Director's Report:**

Jason Jackson reported that the total assets as of this month are \$15,694,727.88 and that the total liabilities are also \$15,694,727.88. Total revenue for the month was \$9,514,100.65, total expenses were \$9,755,041.78. The overage was due to the one-time payments to ASA approved at the last Board meeting spanning periods of 2012, 2013, and 2014 adding that the shortage was covered out of the administrative budget. The excess of the year to date is \$618.162.59. Mr. Jackson asked Jim Sasser if the amount spent on ANGEN taken out of the administrative budget could legally be paid back into the administrative budget. Mr. Sasser answered that yes, it could be paid back as it is considered a reimbursement. Mr. Jackson asked that the board approve the transfer of the amount spent in 2014 today and that they approve a transfer of the actual amount of expenses incurred due to ANGEN back to the Board operating fund at each subsequent meeting, so that the excess at the end of the fiscal year could then be distributed to the districts. Roger Wilson made the motion and Donnie Smith seconded. There was a question posed by Alan Campbell as to how much money would be moved. Ralph Dowdy and Roger Wilson answered that it would be about \$1.5 million. A vote was

taken and the motion was passed unanimously. Roger Wilson suggested that the Chairman appoint a committee to formulate a "game plan" to determine what monies should go into an ANGEN fund. Ernie Blair suggests that this discussion be postponed until the ANGEN portion of meeting.

The total in escrow accounts was reported as \$4,499,727.96. Payments to the Emergency Communications Districts totaled \$8,393,588.88 for the current month and \$25,990,232.12 for the year to date. Mr. Jackson closed the financial statements with an overview of recent months' distributions.

## **TracFone Litigation Update**

Jim Sasser updated the Board on the TracFone Litigation. Mr. Sasser stated that mediation will be held next week in Birmingham and that depositions had been postponed as of now. Alan Campbell asked about the Ex Parte meeting with the FCC. Mr. Sasser responded that it has been scheduled for Monday, February 23.

Jason Jackson called the Board's attention to the Maynard, Cooper, Gale Contract included in the meeting packet. Mr. Jackson noted that no invoice has been received as of today.

# Electronic Remittance Requirement Update

Jason Jackson notified the Board that Jim Sasser would be providing an administrative rule requiring electronic remittances for both carriers and districts at the March meeting, but that it would not take effect until October 1, 2015. Mr. Sasser stated that he would circulate a draft of this rule in "a week or so" to the legislative committee. Donnie Smith offered that this would be much more efficient and would help move toward a once per month payment to districts. John Nettles asked if there was a way that the transfers could be made without the ECDs or providers incurring fees. Mr. Jackson offered that there was a possibility for negotiations with the bank that could lead to no fees being charged. Mr. Jackson also mentioned that development of a website portal was being discussed and that would also lead to no fees being charged.

#### **Audit RFP**

Mr. Jackson then discussed the Audit RFP found in the meeting packet. Mr. Sasser then discussed that the Board does have the authority to audit carriers, and that audits of all carriers must be done every two years, but that the depth of the audits is to be determined by the Board. That means that cursory audits of remittances could be performed on all carriers and then more in depth audits could be performed as the Board deems necessary. These audits would need to be completed by October 2015. John Nettles states that he would clean up and clarify the language to state that the carrier is just a conduit between the customer and the Board. Fred Johnson wanted to clarify that professional firms be asked to review carriers' remittances and notify the Board of any discrepancies. Mr.

Jackson affirmed that. Ralph Dowdy also confirmed. Mr. Jackson will clarify language and will present at March meeting.

## ANGEN Update

Discussion then moved to ANGEN-routed call volumes. In 2014, 1,188,166 emergency calls were routed through ANGEN. The projected number for 2015 is 3 million plus.

A recap of the past Board and committee meeting discussions and actions for ANGEN was given for the audience's benefit. Jason Jackson called attention to the ANGEN project timeline because that appears to be the most pressing issue as it is an extremely ambitious one.

The discussion then moved to funding for ANGEN. Attention was called to the copy of the Agreement to extend the distribution of excess cost recovery funds through 2019 that was included in the board packet. Mr. Jackson discussed the current Board budget distributions. The first option was changing the Cost Recovery cap to the maximum of 20%. With this, each district would still receive their promised amount. The next option offered that another fund be set up for ANGEN that would move 7% into it and Cost Recovery would be reduced so as to minimize the excess but still cover all carrier plans. The districts would all still be made whole. Mr. Jackson shared the list of the stakeholders that would need to be met with, if the Board would like to look into revising legislation. Mr. Jackson then opened the floor for discussion.

Donnie Smith states that ANGEN failure is "not an option" nor is proceeding forward with Bandwidth. Further, Mr. Smith sees three parallel paths: legislative, replacement of Bandwidth as a vendor, and a one year extension with Bandwidth in a modified maintenance mode. Mr. Smith sees existing agreements as "bandaids" for the fund. Mr. Smith admits concern for the Wiregrass Region due to the amount of time and money they have invested in their part of the project as their consolidation relies on ANGEN functioning. Mr. Smith suggests not building out "extra" IP to PSAP connections at this time, regardless of which path is taken moving forward.

Chris Heger questions whether one path will be faster than the others. Ms. Heger further states that they all seem to be require the same actions at least to a certain point. Ms. Heger also stresses that the Board should take their time with their decision. Ms. Heger states that she is not comfortable "rushing through this process".

Betty Sanders asked what the proposed legislation that could be presented was. It was noted that the most recent decisions made by the Legislative and State Plan Committee could be found in the meeting packet.

Wayne Hutchens thinks that a strategic plan should be made prior to an RFP. Mr. Jackson is concerned as to whether the RFP should be released prior to securing funding. Alan Campbell asked if it was legal to release an RFP without having funding available. Jim

Sasser stated that it was allowed and that is what happened with the Wireless Board and the ANGEN project originally.

Alan Campbell states that it is imperative that the ECDs sign the agreement because as of June 1, 2015, there will be no income for ANGEN if they do not. Mr. Wilson is also concerned about getting legislation together in three months. Donnie Smith made a motion to "resolve to work with 9-1-1 stakeholders and industry representatives to develop a mutually agreed upon long-term solution to provide for funding and administrative support for a statewide 9-1-1 network commonly referred to as ANGEN, as well as develop language for the advancement of statewide 9-1-1 efforts beneficial to all stakeholders." Roger Wilson seconded.

Fred Johnson questions whether or not ANGEN will shut down if there is no agreement signed by ECDs. Mr. Johnson stressed that the Board needs to clearly define ANGEN, suggests the definition of "consolidating routing of wireless calls to PSAPs in an IP format". Alan Campbell clarifies that the calls are not routed in IP format but are "aggregated and transferred to the AT&T network". Mr. Johnson also wants to define ANGEN in the future clearly so that the Board, stakeholder groups, and tax payers accurately understand the project. He states that it is "imperative" that any RFPs released match the model and definition of ANGEN; he also voices concerns about how much tax payers are going to have to pay for, especially if the funding is for redundancy.

Betty Sanders wants the RFP and plan to be sure to address all capabilities.

Roger Wilson suggests that the ANGEN and Finance and Grants Committees meet jointly again. Ernie Blair stressed that all committee members need to make every effort to be at the called meeting because a quorum needs to be established.

Chad Sowell gave an update on the Wiregrass Region. Chilton County, which he clarified is not geographically in the Wiregrass Region, but is participating in the hosted solution project, is scheduled to go live next month. Dale County will cut over in March and Henry County will cut over in April.

John Nettles made motion to amend the resolution on the table by adding on the fourth line between network and commonly, the statement: "that conforms to the evolving industry technical standards and meets all essential public safety and regulatory requirements." Alan Campbell seconded. There was no discussion. A vote was taken and the amendment to the motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Campbell stressed that it was important to make a concrete step forward, to which Donnie Smith recommends calling of an AAND meeting in February, to which Bill Brodeur, AAND President, agreed. Mr. Jackson offered the meeting space at 1 Commerce Street for the meeting. The 911 delegates on the Board committed to reach out to the ECDs in their area to get "a finger on the pulse" of their ECDs. Chairman Blair then called the question on the motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Wilson. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

Jason Jackson then brought up some of the concerns mentioned about the agreement, such as the expiration date and entering into an agreement regarding a project without secured funding. Alan Campbell questions the funding issue. Chris Heger questions why the agreement goes past the contract with Bandwidth. Melissa Dover stresses her concern over the length of the agreement and the ECDs' willingness to sign it. Mr. Jackson expressed his wishes for the agreement to be amenable to the districts. Mr. Campbell made a motion to approve the agreement with districts with change in expiration date to be set for 2017 and including clause stating a change in legislation would nullify the agreement/assignment. Roger Wilson seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

John Ellison asked for the Board's direction about IP connections. Alan Campbell answered that that should wait until March.

#### **Executive Session:**

Based on advice from counsel, Fred Johnson made a motion to go into Executive Session due to discussing the good name and character of General Counsel Jim Sasser and his role in ongoing litigation. Donnie Smith seconds. A roll call vote was taken:

⊠Yea □Nay □Abstain □Absent
⊠Yea □Nay □Abstain □Absent
⊠Yea □Nay □Abstain □Absent
⊠Yea □Nay □Abstain □Absent
⊠Yea □Nay □Abstain □Absent

The motion is carried unanimously and Board meeting moved to Executive Session at 11:30 p.m. stating that the duration was is expected to be 20 to 30 minutes. The Board reconvened at 12:04 p.m.

Betty Sanders left the meeting at this time.

The floor was then opened for public comments.

Lon Jones expressed concerns about lack of deadlines in the ANGEN project. Mr. Jones also states that there is no good time to go to the legislature, supporting the plan to do it sooner rather than later.

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Bill Brodeur posed the question to Jason Jackson about meeting with stakeholders. Mr. Jackson answered that he did still want and planned to meet with them.

Marvin McIlwain requested that executive sessions be held to the end of meetings, after public comments.

John Nettles made a motion to adjourn at 12:09 p.m., Wayne Hutchens seconds. The motion is carried unanimously and with no discussion.

18MARCH 2015

Approved this 18th day of March, 2015.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

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Agency: Alabama 9-1-1 Board Date/Time: January 28, 2015 @ 10:00 AM  Chairman: Ernie Blair Location: 1 Commerce Street, Montgomery, AL 36104	
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	EAN Overpe	bevery Co	334-684-6947	334-684-6947 genevae911 @gmallon
John Schremser Com Dir.		Century Link	334-531-2985	334-531-2985 John J Schremser @ contingual. com
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Type: Regular	Chairman: Ernie Blair	Agency: Alabama 9-1-1	MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET
Purpose:	Location:	Board Date/Time:	
Monthly Board Meeting	1 Commerce Street, Montgomery, Al 36104	Alabama 9-1-1 Board Date/Time: January 28, 2015 @ 10:00 AM	

Name	Title	Agency/Company	Phone	E-Mail
Krish Stamnes	Director	Covington County 911	334-427-4911	Covington County 911 334-427-4911 KS tampes @cc9116ppa.com
Dale Wholey	Reg. Acct Mar Airbus DS		951-595-5409	951-595-5409 dale whaley @ airbus-decomme co
Mark Fortur	Via Presidut	35/	th 80582 5M	Vice President Lyn Public Sith Soldbus 285084326 Mart. Fortur @ RPSS911. Com
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Lee Moore	Drine, pa	SILLONSUIT	334 451-0513	334 451-0513 Lec. moore @ Gl/consult. com
David Gleason		4,0.5	802.473.205	802.473200 dayleason @ teleconsys, com
KEYINJENKINS DEPRENOR		CALITATIVE COUNTY	256-223-668	CALIFORN COUNTY 256-223-6688 Kienkins @ calhour 911-ang
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Alalama, 9-1-1 Board, Date/Time: Tanuary 28 2015 @ 10:00 AM		Agency:
	MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET	MEETIN

Name	Title	Agency/Company	Phone	E-Mail
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Jane Brown	9-1-100ordinator	Montcomer Conf	334832-7711	4-1 Coordinator Montgomer, Conf 34832-7711 jone brown on a la. o's
Melissa Carpenter	911 Director	Antauga Co 9/1	334-595-0691	334-595-0691 melissa carpenter @prattvilleal.g.
Greg Siles	8/10 incotor	Show ECD	205-500-0496	205-500-0496 Greg. Siles Obiominghand, God
Tullie Warren	Tech. consultant	ATT	77035550	7703555a2 two228@at. Com
AT PRISTON	AHIKA TONSAIS	A747	205 4518610	2054518610 CP 0430 @ ATT, COM
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