

# ALABAMA 9-1-1 BOARD MEETING

1 Commerce Street  
Main Floor Conference Room  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
Minutes of June 25, 2014

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, Roger Wilson:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Ernie Blair                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Riley Blount, Vice Chairman       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Alan Campbell                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Melissa Dove                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Chris Heger                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Wayne Hutchens                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Fred Johnson                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| John Nettles                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Jerry Renfroe                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Donnie Smith, Secretary/Treasurer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Chad Sowell                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Roger Wilson, Chairman            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent                             |
| Rick Wolfe                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent (joined via teleconference) |

A quorum was established. Chairman Roger Wilson 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. Fred Johnson made the motion and Wayne Hutchens seconded this. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the May board meeting. Donnie Smith made the motion and Alan Campbell seconded this. A vote was taken and the motion was carried; however, Chris Heger abstained from voting due to her absence from the previous board meeting.

## Cost Recovery Report:

Mr. Brodeur reported the following Cost Recovery reimbursements for September 30, 2014 that were paid in June are as follows:

Cellular South for \$2,500.00 (Phase I-non-recurring)  
Cellular South for \$12,244.66 (Phase I-recurring)  
PineBelt Wireless for \$10,496.71 (Phase I-recurring)  
**Phase I Total = \$25,241.37**

Cellular South for \$18,304.36 (Phase II-recurring)  
PineBelt Wireless for \$5,544.00 (Phase II-recurring)  
**Phase II Total = \$23,848.36**

He recommended approval of all, as these are all within their plans. The Chairman entertained a motion to approve the Cost Recovery report; Ernie Blair made a motion to approve these payments and Donnie Smith seconded this. 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 \$1,634.96, contract expenses totaling \$499,972.57, and office expenses totaling \$16,823.38.

The breakdown of all expenses is as follows:

Roger Wilson for \$145.05 (ANGEN Committee Meeting),  
Roger Wilson for \$295.05 (Board Meeting & ANGEN),  
Ernie Blair for \$372.88 (Board Meeting & ANGEN),  
Melissa Dove for \$179.25 (Board Meeting),  
Chad Sowell for \$86.25 (Board Meeting),  
Bill Brodeur for \$316.88 (Board Meeting & Cost Recovery),  
Donnie Smith for \$239.60 (Board Meeting & ANGEN),  
AUM for \$1,462.50 (ANGEN),  
Ellison Consulting for \$200.00 (website),  
Bandwidth for \$53,450.00 (ANGEN),  
MDA Professional Group for \$8,311.57 (accounting),  
Jim Sasser for \$9,611.00 (attorney),  
Examiners for \$426,937.50 (ECD compliance audits),  
WEX for \$241.60 (fuel),  
SEIB for \$1,521.00 (state insurance),  
One Commerce Holding for \$5,180.00 (office space-two months),  
GE Capital for \$424.91 (office equipment lease),  
Legislative Reference Service for \$120.00 (publication),  
Charter Communications for \$125.00 (internet),  
Wells Fargo for \$7,013.62 (credit card-postage/conferences),  
State Retirement for \$1,903.09 (employee retirement), and  
Leah Missildine for \$294.16 (travel reimbursement).

Alan Campbell inquired to confirm that the amount owed to the Examiners is the 90% upfront (or "down-payment") invoice and not the whole amount due upon completion of the audits. Ernie Blair made a motion to approve payment of all board expenses and Chris Heger seconded this. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

**Legal Report:**

Jim Sasser began his report by reminding the Board that Cellular South (d.b.a. C Spire) had requested a change to their Cost Recovery plan, which he recommended not be approved at the last Board meeting because it did not qualify for cost recovery reimbursements. He further updated the Board that he sent a letter to Cellular South (d.b.a. C Spire) notifying them of the same.

Mr. Sasser then stated that the Board would need to go into Executive Session due to the ongoing litigation with TracFone and possible litigation with Virgin Mobile for approximately 15 minutes. The Chairman entertained a motion to go into Executive Session. Fred Johnson made the motion; Ernie Blair seconded. At 10:09 a.m., the Board went into Executive Session with a Roll Call vote.

- Ernie Blair                     Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Riley Blount                 Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Alan Campbell               Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Melissa Dove                Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Chris Heger                  Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Wayne Hutchens            Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Fred Johnson                Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- John Nettles                 Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Jerry Renfroe                Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Donnie Smith                Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Chad Sowell                 Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Roger Wilson                Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent
- Rick Wolfe                   Yea  Nay  Abstain  Absent (joined via teleconference; non-voting)

At 10:27 a.m., the Chairman entertained a motion to return to Regular Session. Donnie Smith made the motion to return and Fred Johnson seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Sasser had nothing further to report.

**Accountants' Report:**

Ralph Dowdy of MDA Professional Group began the accountants' report by reviewing the Board's assets and liabilities. He stated that as of May 31, 2014, the Revenue account has \$9,420,737.08 and Board funds are lower than they have been at \$356,316.92, but should be okay with the additional 15¢ on the statewide rate. The Examiner's account initially had a six-month reserve in it and an additional \$233K or so was just transferred into the account, totaling approximately \$935K, which will be reduced by about half when the outstanding bill to the Examiner's office is paid. The Cost Recovery account, which is funded monthly with about \$541,667.00, has \$2,297,573.23 in it. The Payroll account has \$1,784.81 in it and the Executive Director has been asked to terminate this account with Wells Fargo and transfer the balance back into the Revenue account. Mr. Dowdy noted that fixed assets included office equipment and a vehicle, minus some depreciation. Mr. Dowdy advised the Board that Moundville Telephone

had remitted the \$1.75 rate too soon, so \$157.26 was refunded to them. The only other liabilities outlined by Mr. Dowdy were payroll tax and retirement for office employees.

Mr. Dowdy moved on to the Board's statement of Revenue and Expenses, stating that this month's revenue totaled \$8,960,828.03, which brings the YTD total to \$62,257,353.10. He also informed the Board that Wells Fargo no longer pays interest revenue and there are no longer ACH deposits from carriers into revenue without reports, as there had been in the past. Payments to ECDs for May 2014 were \$7,754,758.44 (and \$63,187,309.10 YTD), while payments to providers for May 2014 were \$931,822.96 (and \$2,137,419.10 YTD). Mr. Dowdy noted that the other expenses outlined were those previously approved by the Board, and that MDA plans to make a differentiation in the report between health insurance and liability insurance next month.

Mr. Dowdy stated that the remainder of the report is a breakdown by ECD of their escrow account balances as well as the distributions paid out to them.

The Chairman entertained a motion to approve the financial report. Chris Heger made the motion and Chad Sowell seconded it. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

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

Jason Jackson began his report by thanking the Board for allowing staff to attend both the NASNA and NENA conferences in Nashville, stating how beneficial the components of each were to the development of the office. He apprised the Board that our state had been asked to draft a white paper for submission to the FCC regarding funding, stating that he'd like to begin the research and compilation of stakeholder groups for discussion using the Finance Committee as a "checks and balances" component as the paper comes together before submission of the draft to the Board and, ultimately, the FCC. Board members were amenable to this process.

The next topic brought before the Board by Mr. Jackson was on behalf of two districts that requested a decision on money owed to the districts in order to make them whole, specifically with regard to those using accrual accounting methods. The Executive Director outlined for the Board a financial statement, of sorts, for the two inquiring districts in order to explain what they had received thus far. Discussion began, and Alan Campbell made a motion for the Board to seek out an Attorney General's opinion regarding the matter, which was seconded by Donnie Smith. Mr. Sasser elaborated for the Board what an AG's opinion offered to the Board. Mr. Dowdy cited that §11-98-5.2 of the current legislation should offer some guidance on this matter as well. Ultimately, the accountants were asked to also include in the financial report the amounts owed to the ECDs. The motion for the Board to submit for an AG's opinion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jackson's next item to report on was an ANGEN update. Updates are as follows:

- As of May 2014, there have been 47,000+ calls routed via ANGEN, which should increase each month with more PSAPs converted for more carriers. Current ANGEN PHASE I connections are as follows:

- C Spire - 0 of 4
- Pine Belt - 4 of 5 (waiting on a new switch for #5)
- Sprint - 13 of 78
- AT&T - 0 of 131 (all trunks tested)
- SouthernLINC - 95 of 95
- T-Mobile - 96 of 96 (finished last week)
- Verizon - 70 of 135
- The update on ANGEN PHASE II is as follows:
  - Bandwidth has successfully tested a "tandem to tandem" transfer method that will allow an IP PSAP to transfer calls to a legacy PSAP. This was a must have for Phase II to continue.
  - Testing with CallWorks and Solacom is still scheduled for July-August with plans to handle live 9-1-1 calls by late August or early September.
  - A meeting is scheduled for late August with ASA, Bandwidth, and Board representatives to review the IP network design and configuration prior to live calls.
  - A document for security for PSAPs and their CPE vendors will come from this meeting.
- Generally speaking, in reference to ANGEN:
  - The Executive Director and John Ellison made a presentation at the NENA Conference on ANGEN in conjunction with the state of Maine. Feedback was positive.
  - Mr. Ellison met with the Data Subcommittee of the Alabama Geographic Information Advisory Committee to discuss street and address attributes needed for NG9-1-1.
  - It appears at first look that the NENA NG data standards will be acceptable for the state.
  - Virtual Alabama is working with two 9-1-1 Districts to pilot a program that automatically imports the ECDs GIS data into the Virtual Alabama system.
  - The intent is to have an educational session at the Alabama NENA Conference in October to report on the project and build momentum for other ECDs joining.
  - Mr. Jackson and Mr. Ellison spoke to the Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission to provide an overview of ANGEN. This is the leadership group for FirstNet and Ernie Blair serves on this group and wanted a briefing for the non-9-1-1 members. Many members are in public safety, but did not know much about ANGEN. [During the course of today's discussion and update, the Board agreed to have the Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission come to a Board meeting and provide an update.]

Next, Mr. Jackson brought to everyone's attention an issue with wireless company field testers not being able to perform Phase II tests with call-takers. Discussion ensued and all seemed to agree that training and notification were key to all PSAPs being familiar with Phase II technology; several 9-1-1 directors agreed to reach out to other districts to stress the importance.

The last item brought before the Board by the Executive Director was the ANGEN contract extension. He reviewed a few minor changes, one being Bandwidth's request that the Board's

60-day notice of entering maintenance mode be extended to a 90-day notice. The Chairman also added that the recommendations made during and discussed by committee would allow for the hosted 9-1-1 CPE solution intended to primarily serve PSAPs in southeastern Alabama [currently out for bid] to potentially be in place prior to the next legislative session, which could be viewed favorably by legislators as a step toward consolidation. Mr. Jackson added that the same could be an option for another area in the State with multiple districts and PSAPs. Mr. Campbell summarized that committee's discussion and the contract amendments for all present. Mr. Smith inquired if ASA is amenable to the Board proceeding in the fashion of the proposed contract and if the Board is protected should they decide to enter maintenance mode. Chairman Wilson reiterated the protections offered to the Board by the proposed contract changes and extension. Mr. Campbell expounded on the fiscal investment of the Board with regard to the proposed contract changes and extension. Mr. Johnson asked a few technical questions of Mr. Ellison. The Chairman entertained a motion to approve the Bandwidth contract extension. Ernie Blair made the motion and Chris Heger seconded it. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously. The Executive Director informed the Chairman that he had nothing further to report.

### **Committee Reports**

***Administrative Rules Report:*** After checking with the Board's attorney, Fred Johnson, chairman of the Administrative Rules Committee, stated that he had nothing to report.

***Level Rate:*** No report.

***State Plan:*** Per the Executive Director--Of the nine initiatives in the plan, progress has been made on five of them, ideas for two of them are being worked on for presentation to the Board, and the other two have not been discussed any further.

***ANGEN:*** Covered in Executive Director's report.

***Grant:*** No report.

***Standards & Training:*** A committee meeting is scheduled immediately following the Board meeting.

***Policy & Procedure:*** No report.

***Finance:*** No report.

***Evaluation:*** Ms. Blount advised a report is forthcoming.

### **Public Comments:**

The Chairman opened the floor to the public. There was a question from the floor regarding the contracts entered into with the Examiner's office and the lack of notice to the districts being audited.

Chairman Wilson reported that the next board meeting would be July 23, 2014 in Montgomery at 1 Commerce Street, in conjunction with AL NENA Executive Board and membership meetings. Donnie Smith made a motion to adjourn the June 2014 board meeting, which was seconded by Melissa Dove. A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

# Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Project: 9th Board Meeting

Meeting Date: 4-25-14

Facilitator: Chairman Roger Wilson

Place: Commerce St., Montgomery, AL 36104

| Name              | Title                     | Company            | Phone                        | Fax                 | E-mail                      |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bill Brodeur      | Chairman<br>Cost Recovery | ETouch 911         | (256)<br>458-0911            | (256)<br>593-2847   | bbrideur@townofcovityll.com |
| Jia FLEMING       |                           | RPS                | (256)<br>425-6568            |                     | JIA.FLEMING@RPSFL.COM       |
| Kristi STANNES    | Director                  | Cov. Co. EQ-H      | 334-<br>427-4911             | 334-<br>427-7136    | KSTANNES@C911EMA.COM        |
| Jeremy WILLIAMS   | Director                  | Geneva Co EQV      | 334-684<br>6947              | 334-684-<br>6962    | jeremy@911.com              |
| Lon E. JONES      | Coordinator               | Enterprise         | 334-406<br>2600              |                     | JONES@ENTERPRISE.COM        |
| Beky NEUGENT      | Coordinator               | CLARKE COUNTY 911  | 251-275-1091<br>334-408-6374 | 251-275-2802<br>205 | bneugent@clarkecounty.com   |
| Jeanette MARTINEZ | Coordinator               | Interstate         | 257-4911                     | 257-4552            | jeanette@interstate.com     |
| Jim WILLIAMS      |                           | S. Wake + Perm #   | 205<br>530-5778              |                     |                             |
| Victor KENNEDY    | Director                  | Technology         | 334-261-1115                 | 334-261-1115        | v.kennedy@tech.com          |
| Rod COLEMAN       | Director                  | Tuscaloosa Co 911  | 205<br>764-8284              | 205<br>349-3870     | rcoleman@tuscaloosa.com     |
| LARRY FISHER      | Dir                       | Montgomery         | 334<br>240-4111              |                     | lfisher@montgomeryal.gov    |
| STARR COLLINS     | COORDINATOR               | HOUSTON COUNTY 911 | 334-<br>615-3622             |                     | stcollins@houston.org       |
| TEEL THORNBERRY   | PM                        | Bandwidth          | 248<br>716-3450              | -                   | thornberry@bandwidth.com    |



