

911 Coordinating Council
Minutes
January 10, 2014
Webinar Call

Council Members in Attendance: Michele Abbott, Bob Boaldin, Pat Collins, Jay Coverdale, Keith Faddis, Sen. Marci Francisco, Rusty Griffin, Dick Heitschmidt, Coleen Jennison, Chris Kelly, Mike Koss, Mike Leiker, Mike Napolitano, Kim Pennington, Phill Ryan, Jimmy Reed, Chris Stratmann, Jimmy Todd, and Walt Way, Chair.

Council Members Absent: Sen. Pat Apple, Rep. Kyle Hoffman, Rep. Annie Kuether, Rob Roberts.

Also in attendance: Scott Ekberg, 911 Liaison; Melissa Wangemann, LCPA, and visitors including Jessica Frye, Ken Nelson, Randall White, and Randy Moon.

Chairman Walt Way called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Chair Way called for review and approval of the December 6th minutes. Kim Pennington moved approval of the minutes and Jimmy Reed seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chair Way gave an update on the legislative post audit, noting that Stone Carlie had completed the audit and it would be presented to the Legislative Post Audit Committee on January 22. He reminded the Council that the 911 Act requires an audit be completed by December 2013. He said the audit generally concluded that PSAPs are using the money correctly. Stone Carlie will include comments about training standards in their recommendations. The report remains confidential until its presentation to the Legislative Post Audit Committee.

Chair Way reviewed the draft of the 911 legislation for the 2014 session. The bill draft includes some cleanup provisions, some of which came from the telecoms relating to definitions of providers and 911 operators. Other cleanup includes references to agencies and associations that serve on the Council. He explained the changes that relate to approval of the LCPA contract, and the increase to the spending cap on the Council. There were no concerns expressed about the proposed changes to the 911 Act.

Chair Way noted that the legislative annual report has been submitted to the House and Senate Utility Committees by delivery to their legislative research staff person. Chair Way directed that the legislative report be uploaded to the Council website. He said the legislative report was not very different than the last draft, but was simply updated to reflect end-of-the-year information.

Chair Way turned to the agenda item #6 on the State Grant Fund Philosophy. He noted that the issue had been deferred so that the Technical Committee could consider the philosophy. Chris Kelly explained that the Technical Committee wanted to consider the philosophy with regard to not funding CPE. He noted new section 2, which relates to funding of CPE. The main purpose was to strengthen the position to not fund CPE with grant monies. Pat Collins asked about consolidation of efforts by local government and university PSAPs. Chair Way said that local government could consolidate with universities but that project would not be funded by grant funds. Chris Kelly thought the consolidation could fall under another section of the philosophy. Chris Kelly moved to approve the 911 Grant Fund Philosophy with the suggested edits. Bob Boaldin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chair Way said questions have been raised about the grant fund, which now holds over \$15m, and how the money will be spent. He outlined the plan for how the state grant fund will be used for future projects, including spending \$3-4m for projects and Council expenses in 2014. He noted that startup costs for NG911 may start this year, and may run \$5-7m. The Council can expect similar expenditures in 2015. He suggested that the state grant fund may drop to \$5-7m after these projects are completed.

Chair Way turned the agenda item relating to the Ortho Imagery project over to Chris Kelly. Chris Kelly reviewed the presentation at the December 6th meeting on the Valtus statewide imagery proposal. He noted it was a 3-year program for statewide 1-foot GSD imagery for \$661,000. He noted the additional options of 6-inch or 3-inch imagery. The Technical Committee asked more specifically about the 6-inch imagery, which would run \$55/square mile, which would be a “buy up” option for counties and likely cost less than \$30,000 per county. The Council will not own the imagery but the imagery will be available for download in the CAD system. Negotiations indicated that the Council may gain ownership after three years. Valtus talked with state agencies and determined that other agencies could use the data and even supplant other imagery the agencies currently use. He also noted that the Wireless Advisory Board funded \$2.26m in imagery grants in the past. The Technical Committee recommended use of a guest login to Valtus’ web service to further investigate and test the product. The committee will also investigate other imagery solutions as proposed in the NG911 Imagery Position paper. The GIS subcommittee will draft and publish a RFP for the imagery purchase.

Scott Ekberg said that GIS departments, PSAPs and vendors have told him they support the concept. He said there was support from several levels for this project.

Chair Way asked about jurisdictions that may want to purchase to the buy up of 6-inch images at a later point in time – could they do that? Ken Nelson talked about the timing of the flying season, and he said a PSAP could probably contract for a buy up in the spring or fall. Chair Way

said the whole state should be captured by June 2014 so he was concerned about later purchases by local governments.

Kim Pennington asked for clarification on 6-inch images versus 1-foot images. Ken Nelson explained that 6-inch images are produced at a lower attitude so more detail is available. Map scale and resolution are affected depending on the size of the image. Chris Kelly explained that the 1-foot image was sufficient for 911 needs.

Senator Francisco noted her participation in aerial photography at KU. She noted the 6-inch option is more helpful, especially in an urban area. Ken Nelson added that the ultimate solution should have the buy-up option so that communities can buy the detailed imagery that they may need for their areas. The statewide imagery would be the base 1-foot with the additional detailed imagery as an option.

Pat Collins noted concerns about cities and counties that have already budgeted for the aerial service in their budget year, and they will not have the money to make the purchase in 2014. Chair Way said the buy-up could go past 2014, possibly next winter (2015). Ken Nelson said the vendor indicated that a local government could delay the buy-up and treat it like an individual project at a later date. The data would be integrated at a later date. Ken Nelson said the rotation would likely be three years. Chair Way noted that the Council discussed in the past funding the whole imagery project, but no decision has been made. Pat Collins said the project is going to require an RFP anyway, which adds months to the project. Chair Way asked if the project should be a cost-share with other stakeholders, like KDOT or other state agencies that will use the product. Bob Boaldin said that his county used this imagery in several capacities. Mike Napolitano said he thought counties would probably exercise the buy-up, but they may need up to three years to execute the buy-up. He suggested the Council consider funding the full year completely and partial funding for the following years. Mike Napolitano and Walt Way noted that a statewide flyover creates cost savings for everyone.

Pat Collins moved to adopt the recommendations, which was seconded by Mike Napolitano. Chair Way reiterated that there are no costs to consider and that the recommendation is to investigate and test the product further.

Jimmy Reed asked whether the local governments would be aware that they are paying for the buy-ups of more detailed images but they will not own the images. Chris Kelly reminded the Council that the committee is trying to negotiate ownership at the end of the three years. Scott Ekberg noted that everyone can use the information; the only thing they cannot do with the imagery is to sell or transfer it.

Chris Kelly moved to discussion on the ESInet design trade study. The technical committee met with MCP to review the results of the Esinet study at several meetings. The trade study was

intended to study best practices and what others jurisdictions are using. Throughout the trade study MCP considered standardization, rapid deployment, affordability, high availability county consensus high availability, compatibility and O&M.

MCP conducted a high-level investigation of network providers and facilities and the interconnection between carriers. They offered the following four options for the physical design of the network: 1. Statewide fiber ring, 2. Interconnected regional rings, 3. Hybrid solution, which combines the two rings and 4. Managed network. Chris Kelly detailed the advantages and disadvantages of each option. The Technical Committee's recommendation was the hybrid solution, with the caveat that the Council will need to gain access to the networks in each region. It would be best to have fewer than 10 regions for good system governance, so self-defined regions are not the goal. The hybrid solution will offer lower costs than the statewide ring, but higher costs than the regional. There is greater redundancy, flexibility and options for connectivity. Jimmy Reed commented that the hybrid system seemed to be the best option. Mike Napolitano asked about how the hybrid creates the needed redundancy. Chris Kelly said the redundancy comes from the combination of the two components. Mike Napolitano followed up with a question about the costs and Chris Kelly said any component has costs. Jay Coverdale noted that redundancy may be worth the cost in some PSAPs. Keith Faddis explained the connections in Johnson County, which uses established connections. Mike Napolitano asked who oversees or controls the regions. Chris Kelly said the design documents will come back with a recommendation on governance. Jay Coverdale said more regions will create more complexity, so it is best to maintain the regions at a manageable level. Pat Collins said he liked the idea of the hybrid solution but asked about new, additional PSAPs that might come into existence in the future. Chair Way summarized that the Council consensus supported the recommendation of the Technical Committee.

Chris Kelly moved on to the issue of monitoring and managing the regional networks. He reviewed the two options for monitoring and management (M&M): state agency overarching M&M or third-party overarching M&M. The Technical Committee recommended the third-party overarching monitoring and management. Senator Francisco suggested that the committee invite the state to respond to the RFP; she thought their bid would give a good comparison and the state may already have the resources to handle the project. Scott Ekberg said the state was already assumed to be on the RFP list. By consensus, the Council accepted the Technical Committee's recommendation.

Chris Kelly turned to the issue of call-handling solutions, saying that each PSAP will need to upgrade to an NG-compatible call-handling solution. He said the call handling solutions need to be limited in order to be better managed. He noted three options: state-approved single vendor, state-approved multiple vendors, or PSAP and local/regional decision. He outlined the

pros and cons for each solution. The Technical Committee's recommendation is a single vendor. Although this concept is more difficult for PSAP consensus it is the simplest in terms of governance, O&M and resource-sharing. This solution is likely to mean a change in vendor for some PSAPs. Chris Kelly noted that the committee discussed the pros and cons of these solutions for several hours and recognizes the challenges of the recommended choice. Pat Collins noted that single vendor would be simplest, but his experience with bad vendors leads him to prefer a list of vendors to choose from. Keith Faddis discussed the history of MARC leasing equipment versus purchasing equipment, and how they have used both methods: single vendor and multiple vendor. He believes single vendor has worked in his region. Jimmy Reed said his experience agrees with the comments made by Keith Faddis. Chair Way asked Kim Pennington her thoughts and she said initially she was opposed to it but that she has grown comfortable with the idea of a single vendor. Michele Abbott said she was comfortable with a single vendor. Scott Ekberg noted that a PSAP invested with a vendor could remain with that vendor until its equipment reached its end of life and then switch to the new single vendor. He also noted that regional equipment sharing would ultimately require a single vendor in those regions.

Chair Way asked what Chris Kelly was looking for from the Council, and Chris Kelly said the committee needed direction on the strategic plan and that there is no need to commit to the recommendation yet. Chris Kelly said there is time for additional discussion. Jay Coverdale said it would be beneficial to agree on the strategy now, and then transitions can be tweaked as the project progresses. Chair Way asked if the Council could evaluate this solution when it reviewed the strategic plan at the April meeting. Mike Napolitano said that would be a good approach.

Chris Kelly reviewed the call handling architecture: traditional CPE or software as a service. The scoring showed a dead heat between the two options. The Technical Committee's recommendation was to let the RFPs show the available options and those options can be analyzed during the RFP process. The Council indicated no concerns about this approach.

Chris Kelly reported on the program management RFP. He said the Committee had discussed this at the December 6th meeting. The program management RFP will oversee all the projects handled by the 911 Council. He noted that Randall White was doing a phenomenal job of managing the project and holding down costs. Randall White's contract is ending and therefore the Committee issued an RFP. They received five responses on the RFP. Three of the responses were considered qualified and two were within budget. The Technical Committee had questions about the responses, and Jay Coverdale is lining up interviews with the contractors. The committee hopes to have a recommendation on this RFP after the interviews. Chair Way said the budget should support Randall White's contract through the end of February.

Chris Kelly noted that the Technical Committee saw a demonstration of the ECAT call-tracking solution at its January meeting. It records in-depth information on calls. The call information is uploaded to the vendor's site, which allows for analytical reporting. The committee examined this software because there has been an ongoing problem of getting information from all PSAPs. Chris Kelly noted the information that can be accessed from the call-tracking system. Kim Pennington asked if the information is real time or historical, and Chris Kelly said it was real time.

Chair Way asked Scott Ekberg to update the Council on the MOUs. Scott Ekberg reported that the MOUs went out to 117 PSAPs this last Monday with a cover letter and white paper explaining the project. The same materials went to the jurisdictional GIS offices. He has received 23 signed MOUs back this week and about 15 have advised that they will have theirs signed in the next week.

Ken Nelson reported on the AOS kickoff meeting and the status meeting. They are preparing the data gathering from the south-central region and that region will be the first area for GAP analysis. He noted the future meetings and the kickoff meeting with the remediation vendor.

Senator Francisco noted that she had to leave but expressed gratitude to those who serve on the Council and the time they invest in working on the state's 911 system.

Chair Way asked for comments and questions about the first-ever webinar. The Council responded with positive comments. Kim Pennington, Bob Boaldin and Chris Kelly all said it worked well for them. Mike Leiker said not traveling on a snowy day was a great benefit to him. Chair Way noted that the next meeting is February 7 in Topeka.

One last item was the discussion of consolidation of NG911, state 800MHz radio system and KCJIS/NLETS services at a Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) meeting on Wednesday. Chris Kelly noted that the topic came up at the Wednesday SIEC meeting and was based on an informal proposal written by a central Kansas sheriff. Chris and other Council members present at the SIEC meeting did not believe there was any support for pursuing such a consolidation of those services under one state agency.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.