

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021
10:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
CONFERENCE CALL

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Billy Hancock, Chairperson
William Wright, Secretary
Cheryl Greathouse
Amy Oneacre
Greg Whitaker
Ted Wynn
Steve Nichols
Kevin Curtin
Steve Horton
Michael Wall
Peter Olson

Board Members Absent:

Major Robert Balkcom
Alex Lee, Vice Chairperson
Billy Grogan

The Georgia Emergency Communications Authority held a board meeting on June 8, 2021, via conference call. A List of Attendees, an Agenda, and the Meeting Presentation are attached hereto and made official parts of these minutes as Attachments #1, #2 and #3. Billy Hancock called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

All board members are present except Maj. Robert Balkcom, Alex Lee and Billy Grogan.

Chairperson Hancock welcomed everyone to the meeting and the conference call.

Roll Call

Approval of the Minutes:

Sheriff Billy Hancock presented the minutes of the March 24th and April 29th, 2021 meetings for discussion and approval. Peter Olson asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes; Steve Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Update

Director Nix provided updates on FY21 911 fee amounts and GECA funds. He provided that 911 fee collections remain strong and slightly grow as Georgia contracts more providers in the State. Nix provided a federal update, specifically about the 9-8-8 Program (the National Suicide Hotline). A national roll-out will begin July 16, 2021. GECA is a part of the 9-8-8 Coalition and will continue with assistance in its transition. The goal for 9-8-8 is to become the "9-1-1" for mental health. Nix discussed the 911 Fee Diversion as it relates to the Consolidated Appropriations Act. Director Nix also updated the board on Vertical Location Accuracy, which has become a hot topic among wireless carriers, in regards to its viability. Nix also gave an

update on federal legislation and NG-911. Natalie Lee with the Geospatial Information Office (GIO) provided a progress report for the GIS component of NG911. There is a NG-911 Strategic Planning Workshop planned for June 23, where the Mission Critical team will help reset where GECA is on NG-911 plan.

See Attachment #3 for full presentation.

Board Presentations

Director Nix opened the floor for board presentations. Cheryl Greathouse presented on 911 Training and the 911 Directors Academy update. She gave an overview of the 40-hour, Director's Academy that was hosted May 24-28, where fourteen 911 directors attended to produce a curriculum that can be used for new communications directors. Additional offerings will occur in July, September, and November. Jason Lawson (Troup County 911 Director) and Lynn Smith (Habersham County 911 Director) each spoke on what they thought about the Director's Academy course. Greathouse spoke on the 911 Training Block Grant and how to register for courses through GPSTC. Director Nix announced that on July 8th, the National 911 Office and GECA staff will be presenting to other states how the State of Georgia has handled NG-911 Training. Director Nix gave a legislative update from the state level: Senate Bill 84 and Senate Bill 76. Nix also began the budget discussion for FY22 in detail and allowed board members to comment. Sheriff Billy Hancock announced a motion to approve the budget. William Wright motioned the approval. Amy Oneacre seconded the motion; Sheriff Bill Hancock approved the budget. Lastly, Director Nix gave an update on the EMS Discussion.

Old Business

Chairperson Billy Hancock opened the floor for new business. There was no new business to discuss.

New Business

Chairperson Billy Hancock opened the floor for new business. There was no new business to discuss.

Public Comment:

Chairperson Billy Hancock opened the floor for public comment. There were no public comments made.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Michael Nix called for a motion to adjourn. Chairperson Billy Hancock made a motion and seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:17 PM.

These minutes are hereby approved and adopted this 14th day of September 2021.

Billy Hancock
Chairperson

William Wright
Secretary

Official Attachments:

1. List of Attendees
2. Agenda
3. Meeting Presentation

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9-1-1 Advisory Panel:

Daniel Dunlap, Augusta-Richmond County 911
Jason Lawson, Troup County 911
Lynn Smith, APCO
Russ Palmer, Chatham County 911
Barry Woodward, City of Decatur 911
John Blalock, Floyd County 911

Others Attending:

Natalie Lee
Nicola Tidey

GECA Staff Members:

Michael Nix
Aleisha Rucker-Wright
Bess Larson
Skylar Whitaker