

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022
1:30 PM – 2:00 PM
CONFERENCE CALL

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Billy Hancock, *Chairperson*
Alex Lee, *Vice Chairperson*
William Wright, *Secretary*
Angie Bowen (in place of Cheryl Greathouse)
Amy Oneacre
Pete Olson
Ted Wynn
Steve Nichols
Brian Screws

Board Members Absent:

Billy Grogan

The Georgia Emergency Communications Authority held board meeting on June 30, 2022, as a 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. Sheriff Billy Hancock called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM.

All board members are present except Billy Grogan.

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

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Sheriff Hancock made a motion to approve the March 1st and May 3rd meeting minutes. Peter Olson made a motion to approve the minutes. Angie Bowen seconded the motion. Sheriff Hancock asked for any discussion. There being no comments, the motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business

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

New Business

Chairperson Billy Hancock opened the floor for new business.

Budget Continuation for 2023

Listed as item “a” on the attached agenda. Sheriff Hancock introduced the discussion on budget continuation. Due to the recent transition in Executive Directors for GECA, the proposal requests

a 90-day budget based on recommendation of the Budget Committee. This budget will expire on September 30, 2022. William Wright made a motion to approve the budget, followed by another motion by Peter Olson. Alex Lee seconded that motion. Sheriff Hancock asked for a board vote. All GECA board members were in favor with no opposition. The 90-day budget continuation was approved.

Internal Independent Audit

Next, Sheriff Hancock introduced item “b” on the agenda and asked William Wright to further explain this segment. Peter Olson made a motion and William Wright seconded the motion to open the floor for discussion. He began clarification of what this audit would entail. By law, State Authorities are required one audit per year. GECA has repudiated an audit thus far. That said, GECA Board Members have located a reputable company by the name of Rushton, out of Gainesville, to complete this audit. It is proposed that they will begin with the years 2020 and 2021. They will work in increments and bill GECA periodically, until their work has reached the invoice amount of \$30,000. Further assessment can then be made, whether GECA should continue the audit and/or create a contract with Rushton. Sheriff Hancock opened the floor for discussion. There being no discussion, he opened the floor for a vote. All board members were in favor of the internal audit with no opposition. The motion was carried to engage in an independent audit of GECA funds.

GECA Board/Staff Training

Lastly, Sheriff Hancock introduced item “c” on the agenda. With respect to starting on a ‘clean slate,’ it was agreed upon by Director Whitaker, Sheriff Hancock, William Wright, and Alex Lee, that all affiliates of GECA participate in a training – from Board Members to GECA employees – on how the authority should operate according to the law. Sheriff Hancock asked William Wright to further discuss. Thus, the Carl Vinson Institute at the University of Georgia will partner with GECA in a two-to-three-day training session that will be broken out into two phases. On day one of training, topics covered will include operations of an authority, duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors, open meeting laws, open records laws, and executive session procedures. Day two will cover human resources for the authority, employees and board of governance, and collaborative leadership. In Phase 2, the Board and GECA staff would come together on a later date for a strategic planning session, based on everything learned in operation. During this phase topics discussed will include development of the mission, vision, and values. Upon approval by the board, William will work on receiving an invoice from the Carl Vinson Institute. William made a motion to approve this training. Brian Screws seconded the motion. Sheriff Hancock opened the floor for any discussion. Director Greg Whitaker mentioned that the Carl Vinson Institute would also guide GECA on receiving legal representation from the Attorney General’s office. Sheriff Hancock made a motion for a vote. All board members were in favor of training with no opposition.

Public Comment:

Chairperson Sheriff Hancock opened the floor for public comment. Director Greg Whitaker made a few remarks on his first month of being the Executive Director of GECA. This being his first Board Meeting as Director, he thanked the board members for their trust in him. He

mentioned that many of the decisions made today have been a part of a team effort in other previous discussions, and in essence will benefit GECA in the long run.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairperson Billy Hancock made a motion to adjourn the meeting. William Wright made a motion to adjourn. Alex Lee seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:59 PM.

These minutes are hereby approved and adopted this 28th day of September 2022.

Billy Hancock
Chairperson

William Wright
Secretary

Official Attachments:

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM

CONFERENCE CALL

BOARD MEETING ATTENDEES

Board Members:

Billy Hancock, *Chairperson*

Alex Lee, *Vice Chairperson*

William Wright, *Secretary*

Angie Bowen (in place of Cheryl
Greathouse)

Amy Oneacre

Pete Olson

Ted Wynn

Steve Nichols

Brian Screws

GECA/GEMA-HS Staff Members:

Greg Whitaker

Aleisha Rucker-Wright

Skylar Whitaker

LaTonya Turner

Amy Ramsey

Jason Lawson

Jonathan Jones

Pamela Waters

911 Advisory Panel and Others:

Barry Woodward

Amelia Baxter

T. Muwwakkil-Smith

Debra Gross

Bob Sabin

Lt. Veronica Edins

Scott Sirotkin

Rick James

Kelly Barnard