

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019

10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY AGENCY

TRAINING ROOM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Cheryl Greathouse, Chairperson
Billy Hancock, Vice Chairperson
William Wright, Secretary
Any Oneacre
Greg Whitaker
Ted Wynn
Alex Lee (via conference call)
Peter Olson
John McDonough
Michael Wall
Kevin Curtin
Billy Hancock
Billy Grogan
Steve Nichols

Board Members Absent:

Col. Mark McDonough
Kevin Curtin

The Georgia Emergency Communications Authority held the board meeting on June 11, 2019 at the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) Headquarters. A List of Attendees, an Agenda, and the Amended By-Laws are attached hereto and made official parts of these minutes as Attachments #1, #2, and #3. Cheryl Greathouse the Chairperson of the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

All board members are present except Col. Mark McDonough from the Department of Public Safety and Kevin Curtin from AT&T.

Chairperson Greathouse welcomed everyone to the GEMA/HS Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia.

Roll Call

Approval of the Minutes:

Michael Nix presented the minutes of the March 12, 2019 meeting for discussion and approval. Chairperson Greathouse asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes; Sheriff Billy Hancock made a motion to approve the minutes. Michael Wall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Nix presented the minutes of the March 26, 2019 meeting for discussion and approval. Chairperson Greathouse asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes; Michael Wall made a motion to approve the minutes. William Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Nix presented the minutes of the May 21, 2019 workshop for discussion and approval. Chairperson Greathouse asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes; Peter Olson made a motion to approve the minutes. Chief Steve Nichols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Update

Michael Nix provided an update on the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority's (GECA) current projects. Reviewed the monthly 911 non-prepaid fee reports for March, April, and May disbursements. The GECA revenue from these three disbursements is \$571,416.81. The next disbursement is scheduled for Friday, June 14, 2019. Monies should be available in Emergency Telephone System Fund account around June 17, 2019. The disbursement will cover 911 fees remitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) from May 4, 2019 through June 3, 2019, which will generally cover the 911 fees from April 2019.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has issued the Hurricane Michael After-Action Report. The FCC will be holding a webinar on network reliability and security best practices for small and rural communications on June 17, 2019. FEMA Region IV Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECCWG) Annual Meeting is June 11 to 12 in Atlanta. GECA Staff will be traveling to Thomasville, GA later this month to visit the FEMA Mobile Emergency Response Support (MERS) team to view communications equipment that could be deployed. FEMA and the FCC will be conducting a nationwide EAS test on August 7, 2019.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) will be holding a webinar on June 25, 2019 to provide an overview of the cybersecurity tools that CISA has and how 911 centers can utilize them. The information for the webinar will be distributed this week. Michael Nix traveled to Pittsburg, PA in April to meet with the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC). GECA will be working with ECD to schedule our technical assistance requests for the COMU and IPAWS.

There will be a National 911 Program briefing on June 15, 2019 at the NASNA Annual Meeting. No update on the NG911 Grant timeline. The program office issued the CPR LifeLinks to support 911 and EMS agencies in their collaborative efforts to save more lives due to OCHA. The T-CPR Working Group is reviewing the documents and will be meeting in the coming weeks with DPH representatives to discuss.

Michael Nix reviewed the federal legislation regarding 911. H.R. 2741 is the "Leading Infrastructure For Tomorrow's America Act" or LIFT America Act. It includes \$12 billion for

NG911 deployment. The resolution was heard in committee on May 22, 2019 with no action taken. H.R. 1629/S.R. 1015 is known as the 911 Saves Act. This would direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification System. The resolution was introduced in both chambers, but no committee hearings scheduled.

Board Presentations

Executive Director Michael Nix opened up the floor for Board Presentations.

Presentation by Randy Lane and John Flythe with the City of Adel on the South Central Area Regional Radio Systems (SCARRS).

Old Business

Chairperson Greathouse gave an update for the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC). The State Communication Officers Transition Course has been offered twice and has trained eighty-three state communication officers at this point. They have until the end of the calendar year to get their current employees trained through the one-day class. The need for the course is about once every other month. Nancy Greathouse with GPSTC provided an update on CIT for 9-1-1. The course launched last month. The pilot course had fourteen students enrolled. They have received a lot of positive feedback on the course. Currently, there are thirty-three classes scheduled until April 2020.

New Business

Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse opened up the floor for new business.

Michael Nix presented the draft Strategic Plan for discussion. The plan sets goals and priorities for the five area that GECA oversees: 911, LMR, ESF-2, Alerts Warnings, and Notifications, and Public Safety Broadband.

Michael Nix presented the Projected SFY 2020 Budget for discussion and adoption. Chairperson Greathouse asked for a motion for the approval of the Projected SFY 2020 Budget; William Wright made a motion to approve the minutes. Sheriff Billy Hancock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse called for a motion to adjourn. Michael Wall made a motion and Sheriff Billy Hancock seconded the motion. The motion passed and Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse adjourned the meeting at 11:22 AM.

These minutes are hereby approved and adopted this the 8th day of October, 2019.



Cheryl Greathouse
Chairperson



William Wright
Secretary

Official Attachments:

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

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Greg Whitaker
Ted Wynn
Alex Lee (via conference call)
Peter Olson
John McDonough
Michael Wall
Kevin Curtin
Billy Hancock
Billy Grogan
Steve Nichols

GECA Staff Members:

Michael Nix
Ashley Larrow
Bess Larson
Ashley Seay
Greg Smith
Mike Smith
LaTonya Turner
Edwin Whitworth

9-1-1 Advisory Panel:

Joe Barasoain, Fulton County
Jason Lawson, Troup County
Lynn Smith, APCO

Others Attending:

Kelli Beaman
Douglas Bentley
Ralph Bevan
Angela Bowen
Brandon Burns
Jonathan Crowe
Chris Faircloth
Amanda Flores
John Flythe
Ekaterina F.
Kevin Gardner
Nancy Greathouse
Randy Lane
Bridget Lawlor
Dawn Lawson
Natalie Lee
L. McCoy
Susan Miller
Clint Mueller
Robert Murphy
Mike Ormond
Bob Sabin
Felicia Smith
Chris Sweigart
Erica White
Barry Woodward

GEORGIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

BRIAN P. KEMP
GOVERNOR



MICHAEL NIX
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Board of Directors of the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority

**Tuesday, June 11, 2019
10:00 AM-12:30 PM
GEMA/HS HQ
Training Room**

WebEx Information:

gema.webex.com
Meeting number (access code): 642 621 719
Meeting password: 6-11GECA911

Meeting Agenda*

- I. Call to Order/Opening Remarks—Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse

- II. Roll Call—Secretary William Wright

- III. Approval of March 12th, March 26th, and May 21st Minutes—Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse

- IV. Executive Director's Update—Michael Nix

- V. Board Presentations
 - A. South Central Area Regional Radio Systems (SCARRS) – Randy Lane and John Flythe


- VI. Old Business
 - A. CIT for 911 and Basic State Communications Officer Transitional Course Update—Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse

- VII. New Business

- A. Discuss Strategic Plan
- B. Discuss Projected SFY 2020 Budget


VIII. Adjourn

*Meeting Agenda is subject to change




Georgia Emergency Communications Authority

June 11, 2019 Board Meeting



911 Fee Distributions

- March Disbursement
 - Non-prepaid: \$9,795,611.46
 - Prepaid: \$5,983,774.86
 - Total: **\$15,779,386.32**
- April Disbursement
 - Non-prepaid: \$18,551,477.09
 - Prepaid: \$2,041,481.72
 - Total: **\$20,592,958.81**
- May Disbursement
 - Non-prepaid: \$16,310,640.97
 - Prepaid: \$4,458,588.49
 - Total: **\$20,769,229.46**
- **Total: \$57,141,574.59**



GECA Revenue Update


- March Disbursement
 - Non-prepaid: \$97,956.33
 - Prepaid: \$59,837.75
 - Total: **\$157,794.08**
- April Disbursement
 - Non-prepaid: \$185,515.14
 - Prepaid: \$20,414.82
 - Total: **\$205,929.96**
- May Disbursement
 - Non-prepaid: \$163,106.89
 - Prepaid: \$44,585.88
 - Total: **\$207,692.77**
- **Total: \$571,416.81**

FROM: Georgia Emergency Communications Authority (GECA)
 TO: [REDACTED]
 REPORT PERIOD: March 2019

911 Non-Prepaid Fees Report
 Information provided by the Georgia Department of Revenue


Taxpayer Name	Filing Period	Unit Type	Jurisdiction	Amount
808 INCORPORATED	3/31/2019	VOIP		1.46
A/C/N COMMUNICATION SERVICES INC	3/31/2019	Wireline		4.37
AIRSPRING INC	3/31/2019	Wireline		1.46
ALLTEL CORPORATION	3/31/2019	Wireless		10,671.71
ALMA TELEPHONE COMPANY	4/30/2019	Wireline		2,164.62
AT & T	3/31/2019	VOIP		162.99
BANDWIDTH COM INC	3/31/2019	Wireline		37.44
BELLSOUTH TELLCOMMUNICATIONS, LLC	1/31/2019	VOIP/Wireline		0.01
BELLSOUTH TELLCOMMUNICATIONS, LLC	3/31/2019	VOIP/Wireline		3,377.75
BIRCH COMMUNICATIONS INC	3/31/2019	Wireline		10.40
BULLSEYE TELECOM INC	3/31/2019	Wireline		10.39
CELCO PARTNERSHIP	3/31/2019	Wireless		7.28
CHARTER ADVANCED SERVICES (GA) LLC	3/31/2019	VOIP		2.91
CUMCAST IP PHONE LLC	3/31/2019	VOIP		4.37
DREXCOM LLC	3/31/2019	Wireline		1.46
GC FIVOTAL LLC	3/31/2019	Wireline		5.82
GEORGIA WINDSTREAM LLC	1/31/2019	Wireline		56.76
GEORGIA WINDSTREAM LLC	2/28/2019	Wireline		55.30
GEORGIA WINDSTREAM LLC	3/31/2019	Wireline		55.31
GLUBALSTAR INC	3/31/2019	Wireless		1.46
GOOGLE NORTH AMERICA, INC.	3/31/2019	Wireless		2.91
GRANITE TELLCOMMUNICATIONS LLC	3/31/2019	Wireline		45.11
GREATCALL INC	3/31/2019	Wireless		65.49
HUGHES NETWORK SYSTEMS LLC	3/31/2019	VOIP		45.12

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Next disbursement

- Scheduled to begin on Friday, June 14, 2019.
- Monies should be available in Emergency Telephone System Fund account around June 17.
- Will cover 911 fees remitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue from May 4, 2019 through June 3, 2019 which will generally cover 911 fees from **April 2019**.




Federal Communications Commission

- [Issued Hurricane Michael After-Action Report](#)
- Three main factors of slow restoration of services:
 - Insufficiently resilient backhaul connectivity
 - Inadequate roaming agreements
 - Lack of coordination between wireless service providers and power crews
- The FCC will hold a webinar on network reliability and security best practices for small and rural communications providers on June 17, 2019.




FEMA

- FEMA Region IV Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECCWG) Annual Meeting is June 11-12, 2019 in Atlanta.
- GECA Staff will be traveling to Thomasville, GA later this summer to visit the FEMA Mobile Emergency Response Support (MERS) team to view communications equipment that could be deployed during a disaster.
- [FEMA, in coordination with the FCC, will conduct a nationwide EAS test on Aug. 7, 2019.](#)




Emergency Communications Division

- The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) will be holding a webinar on June 25, 2019 to provide an overview of the cybersecurity tools that CISA has and how 911 centers can utilize them.
 - Information to be distributed this week
- Traveled to Pittsburgh in April to meet with the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC)
- Will be working with ECD to schedule our technical assistance requests for the COMU and IPAWS.




National 911 Program

- Will receive National 911 Program briefing on June 15, 2019 at the NASNA Annual Meeting.
- No update on NG911 Grant timeline
- The Program office issued the CPR LifeLinks to support 911 and EMS agencies in their collaborative efforts to save more lives due to OCHA
 - The T-CPR Working Group is reviewing the documents and will be meeting in the coming weeks with DPH representatives to discuss.



Federal Legislation

- H.R. 2741—"Leading Infrastructure For Tomorrow's America Act," or LIFT America Act
 - Includes \$12B for NG911 deployment
 - Heard in committee on May 22nd with no action taken
- H.R. 1629/S. 1015 – 911 Saves Act
 - Would direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification System
 - Introduced in both chambers, but no committee hearings scheduled




Georgia Emergency Communications Authority

South Central Area Regional Radio System (SCARRS)


Randy Lane, Community Development, City of Adel

John Flythe, City Manager, City of Adel




SCARRS

- P25 Radio system to serve the local needs of public safety responders in:
 - Cook County
 - City of Adel
 - Berrien County
 - Turner County
 - Worth County
 - Wilcox County
- Total Population: 73,992
- Total Square Mileage: 1,932 Square Miles
- Total Cost of Systems for SCARRS: \$9.5M




GECA Strategic Plan

- Set goals and priorities for the 5 areas that GECA oversees:
 - 911
 - LMR
 - ESF-2
 - Alerts, Warnings, and Notifications
 - Public Safety Broadband




GECA Strategic Plan

- **911**
 - 911 Funding Structure
 - Basic to E-911
 - NG911
 - Transition Plan
 - GIS Plan
 - Cybersecurity Plan
 - Training Opportunities
 - New 911 Directors Academy
 - NG911 Awareness for Telecommunicators
 - NG911 Training Block Grants
 - T-CPR Guidelines
 - Office of Public Safety Officer Support partnership



GECA Strategic Plan

- **LMR**
 - Promote efficient use of tactical channels
 - Build/grow public-private partnerships
 - Conduct 2020 MCV exercise
- **ESF-2**
 - Communications Unit (COMU) update
 - TERT improvements
- **Alerts, Warning, and Notifications**
 - New EAS and IPAWS plans
 - Engagement with local EMAs
- **Public Safety Broadband**
 - Monitor FirstNet activities
 - LMR to LTE interoperability
 - Explore common platform to share data



FY 2020 Budget Highlights

- 4 Area Emergency Communications Field Coordinators
 - 2 GECA Regions per Coordinator
- Serve as local POC for 911 Directors and radio system managers
- Embedded in 911 center during disaster for direct liaising with ESF-2
- Provides support in development of emergency communications plans and updates to ensure continuity with state and federal goals and objectives (911, interoperability, alerts and warning, etc.)

