

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020  
10:00 AM TO 11:00 AM  
CONFERENCE CALL

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Board Members Absent:**

Col. Gary Vowell

The Georgia Emergency Communications Authority held the board meeting on September 15, 2020 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. Cheryl Greathouse the Chairperson of the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

All board members are present except Colonel Gary Vowell with the Georgia Department of Public Safety.

Chairperson Greathouse welcomed everyone to the conference call.

**Roll Call**

**Approval of the Minutes:**

Michael Nix presented the minutes of the June 30, 2020 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. Chief Billy Grogan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Director's Update**

Michael Nix provided updates on the 911 fee distributions and budget updates as well as Tasks 1, 2, and 3 of the NG911 grant projects. He also discussed the virtual town halls earlier in September and the new GIS Working Group. Executive Director Nix also updated the Board on

the work of the COMU Working group, emergency communications field coordinator activities, the FCC, and potential for NG911 legislation in 2021.

*See Attachment #3 for full presentation.*

**Board Presentations**

Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse opened up the floor for board presentations. There were no board presentations for this meeting.

**Old Business**

Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse opened up the floor for old business. There was no old business to discuss.

**New Business**

Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse opened the floor for new business. Board Officer Elections will be postponed until the December Board Meeting. Michael Wall made a motion to postpone officer elections. William Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse opened up the floor for public comment. There were no public comments made.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse called for a motion to adjourn. Sheriff Billy Hancock made a motion and Amy Oneacre seconded the motion. The motion passed and Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM.

These minutes are hereby approved and adopted this the 9th day of December 2020.

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Cheryl Greathouse  
Chairperson

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William Wright  
Secretary

**Official Attachments:**

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

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Steve Nichols  
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Peter Olson

**9-1-1 Advisory Panel:**

John Blalock, Floyd County  
Daniel Dunlap, Augusta-Richmond County  
Randy Johnson, Mitchell County  
Tamika Kendrick, NENA  
Jason Lawson, Troup County  
Lynn Smith, APCO  
Steve Usher, Glynn County  
Barry Woodward, City of Decatur

**GECA Staff Members:**

Jonathan Jones  
Bess Larson  
Michael Nix  
Amy Ramsey  
Ashley Seay  
Tammy Smith  
Pamela Waters

GEORGIA EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

BRIAN P. KEMP  
GOVERNOR



MICHAEL NIX  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Board of Directors of the Georgia Emergency Communications Authority**

**Tuesday, September 15, 2020  
10:00-11:00 AM  
Conference Call**

**Call Information:**

gema.webex.com  
Meeting Number (Access Code): 171 050 2249  
Meeting Password: GECA2020!

-or-

1-855-282-6330  
Meeting Number (Access Code) 171 050 2249

**Meeting Agenda\***

- I. Call to Order/Opening Remarks—Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse
- II. Roll Call—Secretary William Wright
- III. Approval of June 30<sup>th</sup> Minutes—Chairperson Cheryl Greathouse
- IV. Executive Director's Update—Michael Nix
- V. Board Presentations
- VI. Old Business
  - A. None
- VII. New Business
  - A. Board Officer Elections
  - B. Town Hall Update/RFP Discussion

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Adjourn

\*Meeting Agenda is subject to change



## Georgia Emergency Communications Authority


# September 15, 2020 Board Meeting

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## FY 20 911 Fee Amounts

Month	Non-Prepaid	Prepaid	Total
Jul-19	\$ 15,592,036.35	\$ 3,397,584.47	\$ 18,989,620.82
Aug-19	\$ 14,969,355.77	\$ 3,557,439.36	\$ 18,526,795.13
Sep-19	\$ 14,626,447.29	\$ 3,428,979.12	\$ 18,055,426.41
Oct-19	\$ 15,341,813.03	\$ 3,503,203.25	\$ 18,845,016.28
Nov-19	\$ 14,812,793.40	\$ 3,544,568.89	\$ 18,357,362.29
Dec-19	\$ 15,546,662.87	\$ 4,755,971.65	\$ 20,302,634.52
Jan-20	\$ 15,331,852.41	\$ 3,814,971.83	\$ 19,146,824.24
Feb-20	\$ 14,595,942.69	\$ 3,517,129.61	\$ 18,113,072.30
Mar-20	\$ 15,538,284.50	\$ 3,846,315.41	\$ 19,384,599.91
Apr-20	\$ 15,390,714.19	\$ 3,627,255.87	\$ 19,017,970.06
May-20	\$ 15,261,656.86	\$ 3,750,457.60	\$ 19,012,114.46
Jun-20	\$ 15,187,332.89	\$ 3,778,738.62	\$ 18,966,071.51
<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 182,194,892.25</b>	<b>\$ 44,522,615.68</b>	<b>\$ 226,717,507.93</b>



### FY 20 GECA Revenue Amounts


Month	Non-Prepaid	Prepaid	Total
19-Jul	\$155,920.81	\$33,975.84	\$189,896.65
19-Aug	\$149,693.69	\$35,574.39	\$185,268.08
19-Sep	\$146,264.84	\$34,289.79	\$180,554.63
19-Oct	\$153,418.46	\$35,032.03	\$188,450.49
19-Nov	\$148,128.28	\$35,445.69	\$183,573.97
19-Dec	\$155,467.15	\$47,559.72	\$203,026.87
20-Jan	\$153,318.98	\$38,149.72	\$191,468.70
20-Feb	\$145,959.85	\$35,171.30	\$181,131.15
20-Mar	\$155,383.03	\$38,463.15	\$193,846.18
20-Apr	\$153,906.50	\$36,272.56	\$190,179.06
20-May	\$152,617.03	\$37,504.58	\$190,121.61
20-Jun	\$151,873.78	\$37,878.39	\$189,752.17
	<b>\$1,821,952.40</b>	<b>\$445,317.16</b>	<b>\$2,267,269.56</b>



### GECA Reserves

- FY 19 Reserves = \$597,989.67
- FY 20 Reserves = \$1,787,105.21
- Total GECA Reserves = **\$2,385,094.88**
- The reserve funds will be used for future NG911 development, training, and other priorities set by the Board.


Category	FY 2021 Budget	YTD Expenditures (as of July 31)	% Spent YTD (as of July 31)
Personnel	\$813,701.18	\$83,328	10%
IT and Equipment	\$50,000.00	\$6,636	13%
Motor Vehicles	\$27,765.00	\$0	0%
Regular Operating	\$133,400.00	\$2,513	2%
Telecomms	\$81,500.00	\$957	1%
Contracts	\$134,000.00	\$1,091	1%
Grant Match Requirements	\$126,412.85	\$22,000	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,366,779.03</b>	<b>\$116,525</b>	<b>9%</b>



## NG911 Grant Update


- **Task #1: NG 911 Strategic Plan and Assessment and RFP Development**
  - NG911 Survey
    - 103 Completed (67%)
    - 13 Partial (8%)
    - = *75% participation rate*
  - Conducted 2 virtual town halls on Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - 80 PSAPs in attendance
    - ACCG, Sheriffs' Association, elected officials also participated





## NG911 Grant Update

- **Task #2: NG911 GIS Readiness Assessment and Strategy**
  - GIS Working Group was formed.
    - Marty Roberts, Towns County 911
    - Kelly Barnard, Bulloch, Candler, Evans 911
    - Hunter Key, GIS Manager, Coastal Regional Commission
    - Michelle Grembowski, Technology Services Director, Middle Georgia Regional Commission
    - Joseph D'Angelo, GIO, Athens-Clarke County
    - *Will be adding more members as workload grows*



## NG911 Grant Update

- **Task #2: NG911 GIS Readiness Assessment and Strategy**
  - GIS Working Group will:
    - Advise GECA/GIO on issues related to GIS strategy for NG911 deployment
    - Advise GECA/GIO on selection of archetypes/standards/best practices for GIS data
    - Review and provide feedback for the ESInet/NGCS RFP to ensure GIS alignment
    - Review and advise on workshop, training, and strategy for GIS/911 inclusion
  - *Currently, the group is reviewing the GIS survey which will open on **September 28<sup>th</sup>** and close on November 16<sup>th</sup>.*




## NG911 Grant Update

- **Task #3: NG911 Training**
  - GPSTC staff is continuing to develop the 911 Directors Academy.
  - Aiming for a pilot course of the 911 Directors Academy in Q4 2020/Q1 2021.
  - Training Working Group is finalizing the list of recommended courses to bring to the state.
    - Training Survey will go out this week
      - Two separate surveys: one to gather opinions of PSAP leadership and one for frontline telecommunicators




## COMU Update

- COMU Working Group meeting this afternoon to continue discussion on a COMU plan.
- Working to develop a credentialing/certification process to better identify, train, and certify COMU personnel
- **Georgia leads the nation in the number of certified TERT members at 79 with 44 agencies participating.**
- If you are interesting in becoming a TERT member or team leader, please contact Michael Nix or Jonathan Jones.



## GECA Activities

- PSAP/ECC Visits: 70
- Requests for Assistance: 5
- Assisted with communications support at super COVID-19 testing site
- Distributed 130+ daily COVID-19 patient positive address information to PSAPs
- Assisted with radio programming for Stone Mountain protests



## General Updates

- GECA Executive Director will be serving on two national groups:
  - Creating SOPs for PSAP Outage Notifications
  - U.S. DHS-funded project to develop technical and governance recommendations for NG911 interoperability
- Will be presenting to the FirstNet Authority Board on September 30<sup>th</sup> to highlight Georgia's successes with public safety broadband during COVID-19 and the unique structure of Georgia's emergency communications environment.



## Wireless Location Accuracy

- Effective Sept. 28, 2020, nationwide wireless providers must deploy Z-axis technology nationwide by April 2025.
- Non-nationwide wireless providers must do so by April 2026.
- This follows the 2019 FCC decision to establish a Z-axis location accuracy of +/- 3 meters for 80% of indoor wireless 911 calls.



## NG911 Next Steps

- Model for Advancing Public Safety (MAPS) Assessment
  - Will show Georgia's readiness regarding a variety of NG911 components including:
    - Planning and governance, security, call routing functional elements, ESInet development, CPE, Operations, GIS, Staffing, Training, Quality Assurance
  - Assessment results will be derived from the surveys and interviews with GECA leadership
  - Report from MCP to GECA by Nov. 1
  - Discussion with GECA Board at December Board meeting



## NG911 Next Steps

- **ESInet RFP Development Discussions**
  - Will be meeting with the Georgia Department of Administrative Services to discuss the state's RFP process
- **Challenges of NG911**
  - Appropriate funding model
  - Legislation
  - Cybersecurity
  - Training
  - Planning