

INSIGHTS

Connecting to the future of public safety
Volume 3/ Issue 3

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PSC HOLDS FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON NG911 MASTER PLAN

Legislative hearing room 1524 in the Nebraska State Capitol was the site for the first of two public hearings on the 911 Service System Act (LB938) Next Generation 911 Master Plan. A live-stream of the hearing was also provided by the Nebraska Educational Television (NET) live and on demand; state government website.

The two-hour hearing began with brief opening remarks from state 911 director David Sankey, followed by a presentation of the draft plan from Mission Critical Partners (MCP).

The 89-page draft proposal contained information and recommendations about system design, governance, geographical information systems, PSAP policies and procedures, training and education and funding considerations.

“We want to thank everyone who attended the public hearing for their thoughts and suggestions as we work through the development process,” State 9-1-1 Director Dave Sankey



A Publication of the Nebraska Public Service Commission State 9-1-1 Dept.



PUBLIC HEARING ON NG911 MASTER PLAN CONTINUED...

Following the presentation comment was taken from those attending the public hearing. Many of those taking the time to speak focused on the issues of local control and funding.

“We would like to thank everyone who attended the public hearing for their thoughts and suggestions as we work through the development process,” said State 911 director David Sankey. “The comments provided will be taken into consideration as we work to finalize a Next Generation 911 Master Plan for presentation to our state leaders.”



A second public hearing on the Next Generation 911 Master Plan is set for October 5 in North Platte. A copy of the revised draft of the plan can be found on the [PSC website](#) homepage under the (Revised) Next Generation 911 Master Plan link.



DIRECTOR'S DESK:



STATE 911 DIR. DAVE SANKEY

As state 911 director, I have the great pleasure of working with a dedicated community of public safety agencies and industry representatives committed to providing a safe and secure environment for the citizens and visitors to our great state.

None of us can do it alone. The partnerships we form as we look toward the transition from the current Legacy 911 system to a Next Generation 911 environment will help to provide our citizens with a multitude of benefits.

In Nebraska, we are already seeing the value of collaboration. The Nebraska Public Service Commission (PSC) supports 70 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) across the state. Forty of these PSAPs have come together to form networks or regions. By taking the initiative to establish partnerships with their neighbors these PSAPs have retained local control while realizing the advantages of shared resources.

That retention of local control, keeping your PSAP, is one of the primary differences between regionalization and consolidation.

When PSAPs consolidate, a decision is made to move operations to one main center in the consolidated counties. Regionalization, allows the member counties to retain their PSAP while at the same time gaining support of others in their region. – *Continued*–

DIRECTOR'S DESK Continued:

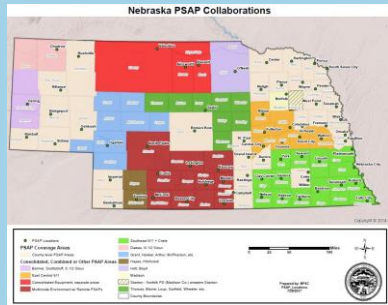
Buffalo County Sheriff Neil Miller is a leader in the effort to establish regionalization. He currently heads the south-central region comprised of 11 counties, housing 10 PSAPs with plans underway to add even more PSAPs in the future.

Sheriff Miller agrees, regionalization is about members sharing cost, while ensuring that 911 calls in their region never go unanswered. "It lowers the cost they pay and it gives them the ability to have backup," Miller said. "Our network is set up so that if 911 rings more than 30 seconds in any location, that 911 call is presented to a different location who they (the PSAP) agree, they want their calls to go to."

There are no state statutes or policies currently in place in Nebraska that mandate regionalization. As we prepare for the implementation of Next Generation 911, our 911 authorities hold the key to this process.

At the PSC, we see regionalization as a positive move and encourage PSAPs to collaborate with other centers. By choosing to form alliances with neighboring agencies, PSAPs have the ability to define what works best for their local public safety needs.

As we look to the future of Next Generation 911 in Nebraska, we are headed down the right path. For PSAPs, concerned about consolidation, regionalization provides an opportunity to move forward, retaining local control while adding the ability to leverage the resources needed to provide the best service possible to the citizens they serve.



Find the Nebraska PSAP Map on the PSC website @ <http://bit.ly/2vJ7UIW>

STAKEHOLDERS MEET TO REVIEW UPDATES TO NG911 MASTER PLAN

In late August the Nebraska Public Service Commission 911 Staff and Mission Critical Partners gathered together with stakeholders to review suggestions and changes to the Next Generation 911 Master Plan. Good discussion was had by those participating in the work session. Everyone involved seemed pleased with the adjustments and are looking forward to presenting the updated version of the master plan to the public next month.



WIRELESS 911 BOARD HOLD 3RD QUARTER MEETING

On July 31, the Public Service Commission (PSC) hearing room was the site of the 3rd quarter meeting of the Wireless E9-1-1 Advisory board. PSC Commissioners Tim Schram and Mary Ridder attended the meeting along with PSC staff. State 9-1-1 Director, Dave Sankey, provided board members with an NG9-1-1 update. Advisory board members discussed and approved funding requests from PSAPs across the state. The next board meeting will take place Monday, October 23 at 10:00 a.m., prior to the start of the 2017 Nebraska Chapter [APCO-NENA](#) conference in the lower level conference center of the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, in Lincoln.



PSC 911 STAFF PROVIDES FUNDING & AUDITING PROCESS TRAINING



Over the past couple of months, PSC 911 staff members have hit the road to provide training on the Wireless E911 funding and auditing process.

The training incorporates everything from filling out the application and submitting requests, to determining what the funds can be used for and how to document funding that usage.

The training is designed to help streamline the funding and auditing process and to answer any questions PSAP directors might have. Staff will be scheduling visits with PSAP directors and staff across the state. If we have not scheduled a time to visit, your County email us @ psc.psap@nebraska.gov and we will get you added to our roadshow list.



PSC 911 staff visit PSAPs to provide information and direction on the Wireless E911 funding and auditing process

E9-1-1 NOTES

E9-1-1 2016-2017 Audits

The 2016-2017 wireless audits are due in our office (PSC) by October 15. Just a reminder, you do not have to wait until October to send in your audit forms. In fact, the sooner the better. It is also important to remember if your PSAP cannot make the October 15 date, you must notify our office and provide a date that your audit will be submitted.

If you have questions about your audit and the information required, or need to report a late filing email us @ psc.psap@nebraska.gov

E9-1-1 Funding Requests

Is your PSAP filing a funding request? Then State 9-1-1 Administrative Coordinator Tina Bartlett is your new point of contact. Please submit any future funding request to Tina @ < tina.bartlett@nebraska.gov >. Should you have any question about funding, Tina would also be happy to answer them for you.

E9-1-1 General Questions or Comments

Have a general question or comment regarding E9-1-1? Email us @ < psc.psap@nebraska.gov > our knowledgeable and experienced staff will work to answer your question or provide you information in a timely manner.

Helping to Keep You Informed by Sharing Information

From outages to workshops, the PSC is working to share information with PSAPs across Nebraska. If you have not signed up yet, you may want to consider making plans to attend the Nebraska Public Safety Technology (NEPST) Group, Public Safety Technology Summit “Focus on FirstNet”, Sept. 27-28 in Omaha. Hosted by the Omaha Fire Department and PSC Mobile the summit provides two-days of educational presentations and panel discussion with industry specialist, along with new technology displays and demonstrations. Find out more at <http://www.nepst.org/>

When: September 27th & 28th
LOCATION:
[Omaha Public Safety Training Center](#)
11616 Rainwood Road
Omaha, NE 68142

Please join us for a dynamic two-day event of new technology displays and demos, educational presentations and panel discussions with industry specialists.

Day 1 - FirstNet and Related Technology Presentations
Day 2 - Land Mobile Radio Technology and Panel Discussion
Vendors displays will be available both days.

The line-up of experts include:
FirstNet, AT&T, Getac, GetWireless, Gamber-Johnson, NetMotion, Jones Automotive, Racom, Bullex, Visual Lab, OtterBox, Cradlepoint...and more.

For continued updates go to the NEPST website: <http://www.nepst.org/>

We hope you are able to attend this year's event. By doing so, you are helping the NEPST define public safety technology in a manner never before done in Nebraska. If you don't see your favorite tech vendor on the list, please let us know and we'll invite them. Also, please feel free to distribute this invitation.

You may have also recently received an email from state 911 director Dave Sankey informing you about an FCC workshop on “[Improving Situational Awareness during 911 Outages](#)”. We hope many of you had the opportunity to tune into the workshop. We plan to continue to share information as a way of raising awareness, so watch for future emails.



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