

VIRUS SURGE CANCELS 911 SSAC NOVEMBER MEETING

A growing increase in the number of COVID-19 cases across the state led to the cancellation of the 911 Service System Advisory Committee's (911 SSAC) November 18 meeting.

"With a call for renewed efforts to flatten the curve, we felt it was best not to ask our committee members to have to travel," said State 911 Director Dave Sankey.

The next 911 SSAC meeting will take place electronically on Wednesday, January 20, beginning at 1:00 pm. View information on how to participate in the calendar on the PSC website @ <https://psc.nebraska.gov/calendar>

DIRECTOR'S DESK:



State 911 Director Dave Sankey

Even amid the hardships of a global pandemic, it's been a productive year in the state's effort to implement Next Generation 911 (NG911). We are very excited to be able to move forward with two key pieces of that process.

First, my heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone involved in the Request For Proposal (RFP) process for the ESInet and Next Generation 911 Core Services (NGCS).

This was an endeavor that began prior to March with the 911SSAC technical working group, Mission Critical Partners ((MCP), State Purchasing and PSC staff working diligently to put together the RFP released on March 17. That process continued through the summer with the opening of the bid proposals, the evaluation period and best and final offers from the eight vendors participating in the process. All of these steps culminated in an Intent to Award offered to the highest scoring bidder, Lumen (CenturyLink)/Intrado. The effort continues as negotiations are underway to secure a contract, so that the work of building the backbone of the system that will provide NG911 service to the entire state can begin with the New Year.

Another big accomplishment was the approval of the creation of a new funding system for NG911. Again, this effort would not have been possible without the countless hours and dedication of the 911SSAC funding working group, PSC staff and our consultant MCP. This new framework is designed to allow for the transition to a funding system for NG911 that is fair, equitable, sustainable and transparent. The PSC staff will now work on creating a plan for implementation of the new system.

So while we're happy to say good-bye to 2020 for so many reasons, we are thankful for what our committees, working groups and advisory boards have accomplished and look forward to an even more (dare I say normal) and productive new year.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES GET NG 911 UPDATE

On December 3, the Legislature's Transportation & Telecommunications Committee, joined with the Appropriations Committee for an update on the status of Next Generation 911 (NG911) in Nebraska.

State 911 Director Dave Sankey addressed the progress being made as the state works toward implementation of NG911. He highlighted the RFP process leading to the Intent to Award to a vendor for the ESInet and NG 911 Core Services and provided information on the new Service System Funding model.

Committee members were also updated on the 911 Service System Advisory Committee (911SSAC) and its working groups, PSAP regionalization and the new ECaTs emergency call tracking system.



WIRELESS 911 ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

October 21 marked the final meeting of the year for the Wireless 911 Advisory Board. Members traveled to Lincoln where they donned masks and social distanced in the PSC hearing room. Updates were provided on ECaTs deployment, the ESInet and NG911 Core Services RFP, and regionalization efforts.

Advisory board members also approved 16 funding requests. A discussion was also held on a request from Perkins County to become a 911 Service System funded PSAP. Members voted to recommend to PSC commissioners the request be approved with the condition that Perkins County would join a region. PSC commissioners order a [hearing](#) to be held on the matter. The hearing took place electronically on December 16. A decision by the Commission is expected after the first of the year.

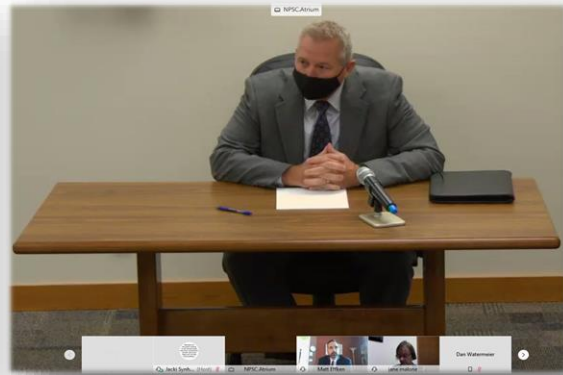
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WIRELESS 911 ANNUAL SURCHARGE HEARING HELD

November 17 was the date for the annual 911 surcharge hearing. Due to the ongoing pandemic most participants joined online as Commissioners heard from state 911 director Dave Sankey on the status of the 911 Service System Fund. He also presented the recommendation of the Wireless 911 Advisory Board to keep the 911 surcharge at its current amount of \$0.45 per line. It is the recommendation of the Advisory Board and the 911 staff that the current 911 surcharge rate will sustain the 911 service system fund through calendar year 2022.

During their Dec. 8 meeting Commissioners approved an Order leaving the surcharge at its current rate of \$0.45 for 2021.



NE APCO/NENA JOINS NESCA FOR OCTOBER VIRUTAL WORKSHOP

In a typical year, Nebraska APCO/NENA and Nebraska Emergency Communications Association (NESCA) members would gather for a fall conference.

But like so many other things in 2020, gathering in person gave way to an online opportunity. On October 27, frontline dispatchers, dispatch managers, supervisors and trainers, joined emergency managers and public safety communication and technology professionals for a day long zoom workshop.

The day was filled with a variety of topics. Attendees sat in on educational opportunities dealing with trust in the center, work-life balance and the importance of setting personal goals, to cyber security challenges and an NG911 updates.

This was the second virtual workshop of the year sponsored by the two organizations.



9-1-1 NOTES

State 911 Department Paperless Efforts Continue

Last year at this time, we told you the State 911 Department would be moving to a paperless process and that all PSAP documentation (funding applications, fund usage requests, and audit information) would need to be sent to us electronically. Well, we are just about there with 90% of our PSAPs completing the needed documentation and submitting it electronically.

For those of you who have yet to file electronically, here are some quick tips;

- Complete all documentation (please remember to sign your documents)
- Scan all documentation
- Email all documentation to psc.psap@nebraska.gov

Just a reminder, when sending in your 2021-2022 funding applications, please include call volumes from the entire year either fiscal or calendar, whichever your PSAP works off of (call data from MIS or ALI Retrieval forms are acceptable documentation for call volumes). Also, include all newly signed contracts from 2020.

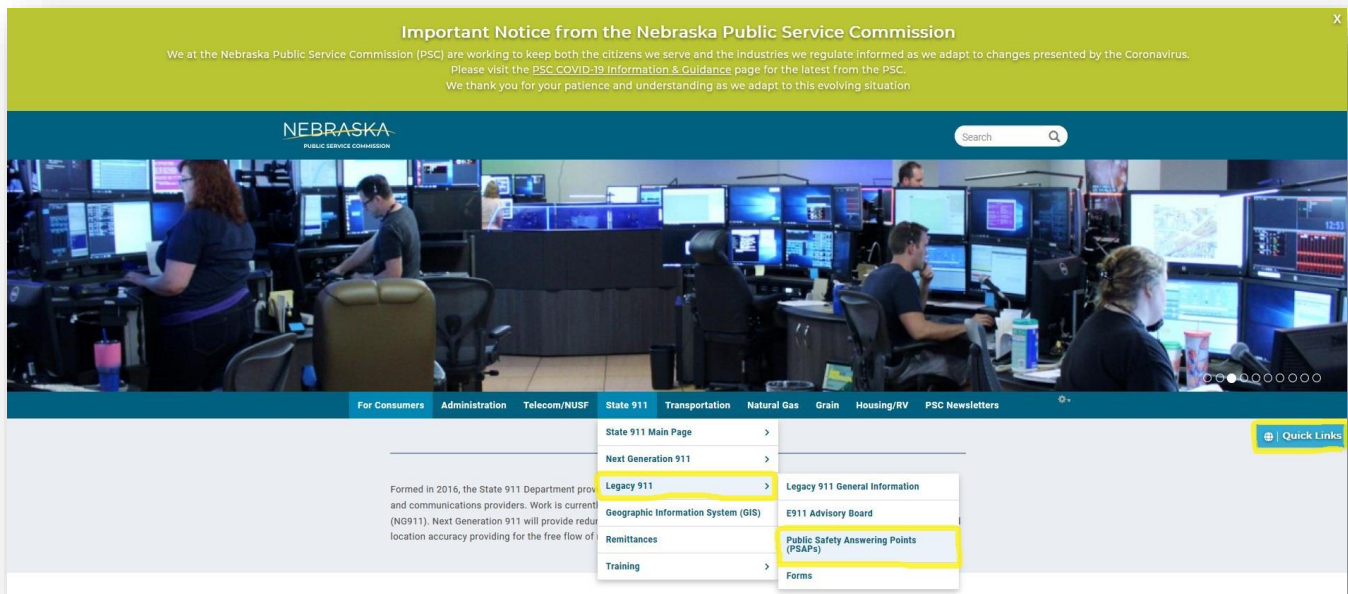
If you have questions about filing documents electronically, email us @ psc.psap@nebraska.gov

Need PSC PSAP Information?

We've got what you're looking for. In need of PSAP contacts, funding applications, call ratios, set aside usage, or perhaps text-to-911 Wireless Service Provider (WSP) information you can find it all on our website [PSAP Information](#) page.

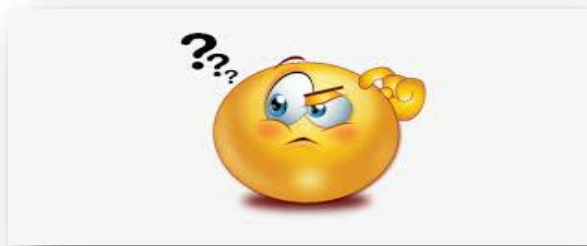
Can't find what you're looking for on the PSAP page? Try the Quick Links drop down on any State 911 page for a fast way of getting to specific 911 Department webpages such as forms, advisory board agendas, minutes etc.

While we're always happy to help you locate what you need, the information may just be a "click" away.



9-1-1 General Questions or Comments

Have a general question or comment regarding 9-1-1? 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.



Have a story to tell... Why not share it with us

The State 911 Department is always on the lookout for stories to share with the readers of our quarterly newsletter. Has your PSAP received recognition? Have you honored a dispatcher/telecommunicator? Perhaps your employees have participated in a fundraiser. Let us know, so that we can share your news with others across the state. Email us with your news along with any pictures to james.almond@nebraska.gov then watch for your story in our next newsletter. We also invite you to connect with us on social media. Like us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) @NEPSCNG911/ [Twitter](#) @NEB_PSC or visit the PSC website @< <https://psc.nebraska.gov> >.



Happy Holidays from the State 911 Dept. Team



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