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PSC APPROVES 911 SERVICE SYSTEM PLAN

On Tuesday, November 7, the Nebraska Public Service Commission issued an Order approving the 911 Service System Plan, (Next Generation 911 Master Plan).

The approval of the plan was more than a year in the making and included formation of a stakeholder group as well as two public hearings. The second public hearing was held in North Platte in October.

During the second public hearing, a PowerPoint presentation on the plan was presented by Mission Critical Partners (MCP). The presentation highlighted updates made to the plan following the first public hearing in July.

The public hearings provided an opportunity for public safety and industry officials as well as private citizens to express their thoughts to Commissioners about the plan and the need for Next Generation 911 in Nebraska.
During the public hearings, numerous individuals provided comment on the plan. Many of those speaking expressed their support for the plan and the importance of moving forward with NG911 services in the state. Funding and local control of a state plan continue to be a focal point.

“We heard that NG911 is needed in Nebraska and the plan is on the right track,” said State 911 director David Sankey. “We look forward to providing the final plan to the Legislature in December.”

The approved plan will be presented to the Legislature on December 13.
DIRECTOR’S DESK:

It is a very exciting time for 911 in Nebraska. The Public Service Commission (PSC) would like to thank everyone who has participated in the process of developing the state plan for Next Generation 911.

Throughout the yearlong process, we have had valuable input from our consultant Mission Critical Partners (MCP) and a devoted group of stakeholders. These 17 members have spent countless hours reviewing, discussing and providing input on the eight major components, which comprise the 911 Service System Plan.

We have heard from public safety officials, community and industry representatives along with citizens through our public hearing process. All of the information gathered has been instrumental in helping to ensure we will put forth a solid plan for the future of 911 in Nebraska.

As with any proposal, differing opinions require negotiation and compromise. Nevertheless, the one constant we have heard throughout this process is Nebraska needs to move forward and the time for Next Generation 911 is now.

ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR NEXT GEN

Next Generation 911 was the focus of the annual Association of Public Safety Communication Officials/National Emergency Number Association, Nebraska Chapter APCO/NENA conference held in October at the Lincoln Cornhusker Marriott hotel. The Nebraska Public Service Commission State 911 Department along with Mission Critical Partners (MCP) staff, joined public safety and communications representatives from across the state to provide information and dialogue on Next Generation 911 and its importance to Nebraska.

The 911 Goes to Lincoln forum kicked-off the three-day conference. Attendees were provided an update on NG911 in Nebraska, including a presentation on the proposed 911 Service System-NG911 Master Plan. The benefits of state wireless integrity testing and lessons learned was the focus of a presentation by MCP. FirstNet, Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) and the Nebraska State Radio System were also covered by the forum’s panel.
E911 ADVISORY BOARD HOLDS FOURTH MEETING IN 2017

The APCO/NENA conference provided a backdrop for the E911 Advisory Board meeting. Board members gathered prior to the start of the three-day event for their fourth meeting of 2017. The board received updates on the prepaid wireless surcharge and the PSC’s new GIS policy. Board members also approved numerous PSAP funding requests. The board’s next meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2018, in the PSC hearing room.

PSC APPROVES GIS POLICY

At their October 17 meeting, Commissioners’ approved an Order adopting a Next Generation 911 GIS Data Policy.

Input provided during a summer Workshop on GIS was used to help create the new policy.

The Policy addresses how the PSC will handle GIS data, including standards providing for Address Point Layers, in-house GIS personnel at PSAPs, and the recognition of State GIS standards as outlined by the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC).

Read the Order (be sure to look at the Appendix) @ http://psc.nebraska.gov/orders/ntips/911-061.pdf

Questions? Contact PSC 911 GIS Specialist Kea Morovitz @ kea.morovitz@nebraska.gov
PSC 911 FIELD COORDINATOR CORDLE HONORED BY NESCA

Congratulations to PSC's state 911 Field Coordinator Troy Cordle, recipient of the Nebraska Emergency Services Communications Association (NESCA) Jud Reed Lifetime Achievement Award.

Created in 1999, Cordle is the 13th recipient of the award, which honors the memory of Scotts Bluff County Communications Director Jud Reed who devoted his life to the Public Safety Field. He received the honor during the NESCA fall conference held in Kearney.

E9-1-1 NOTES

E9-1-1 2016-2017 Audits Are In!

You did it! A big thank you to all of the PSAPs for completing their 2016-2017 wireless audits. All but a few PSAPs returned their audits by the October 15 deadline. Those that did not make the deadline were granted an extension after notifying the Commission. It is important to remember set-aside funds (2914 Funds) cannot be spent unless an Order from the Commission is approved to spend the money.

E9-1-1 Set Aside Usage Requests

Looking to spend some of your set aside funds (2914 Fund). Before you do, your PSAP must file a set aside usage request with the PSC. State 9-1-1 Administrative Coordinator Tina Bartlett is your point of contact. Please submit any such request to Tina @ < tina.bartlett@nebraska.gov >. Should you have any question about set aside fund usage, 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

The PSC is working to share information with PSAPs across Nebraska. If you have not already, we invite you to follow us on social media. Like us on Facebook @ https://www.facebook.com/NEPSC/ or Twitter @NEPSCNG911 and @NEB_PSC