



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY
**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2019 BOARD AND COMBINED COMMITTEES
MEETING AND TELECONFERENCE**
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

On December 5, 2019, the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) held an open public meeting of the FirstNet Authority Board and Combined Committees. The meeting took place in Hollywood, Florida, and began at 11:00 AM EST. The meeting was made available to the public via teleconference line and webcast. A transcript of the meeting and the archived Board and Combined Committees meeting footage is available on the FirstNet Authority website: www.FirstNet.gov.

BOARD AND COMBINED COMMITTEES MEETING

Chair Edward Horowitz welcomed new Board members Ms. Karima Holmes and Chief Matt Slinkard, as well as Ms. Lisa Casias, FirstNet Authority Deputy Chief Executive Officer. The main focus areas of the meeting were FirstNet Authority and FirstNet Authority Board Committee accomplishments for 2019 and priorities for 2020; the announcement of the Chief Harlin McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award recipient; and the proposal and passage of resolutions for updates to the Board Committees' charters and the Board Bylaws. Mr. Todd Early, Chairman of the Public Safety Advisory Committee ("PSAC"), and Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Communications Chief Greg Rubin also provided presentations.

Conflicts Statement and Reminder

Acting Board Secretary Jennifer Watts reminded Board members of the conflicts statement that the FirstNet Authority provided in advance of the Board and Combined Committees meeting and asked for any recusals from the Board members. In response, all participating Board members indicated no conflicts of interests and the meeting proceeded.

Roll Call

Edward Horowitz ("Chair"), Richard Stanek ("Vice Chair"), Richard Carrizzo, Welton Chase, Neil Cox, Brian Crawford, Vincent DeLaurentis, Billy Hewes, Karima Holmes, Tip Osterthaler, Paul Patrick, Matt Slinkard, and David Zolet. A quorum was present for the Board and Combined Committees.

Votes Taken

Prior to proceeding with the business of the day, Chair Horowitz requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the September 18, 2019 Board and Combined Committees meeting.

Brian Crawford made the motion. Vice Chair Stanek seconded, and the Board and Combined Committees unanimously voted to approve the September 2019 meeting minutes.

The Board also voted to approve the following Resolution:

- Neil Cox motioned to approve Resolution 103, FirstNet Authority Bylaws and Committee Charter Revisions. Richard Carrizzo seconded, and the Board and Combined Committees unanimously voted to approve the resolution.

Votes were also taken on the following Committee Resolutions:

- Neil Cox motioned to approve Resolution 10, Governance and Personnel Committee Charter Revisions. Tip Osterthaler seconded, and the Governance and Personnel Committee unanimously voted to approve the motion.
- Richard Carrizzo motioned to approve Resolution 10, Public Safety Committee Charter Revisions and Name Change to Advocacy Committee. Paul Patrick seconded, and the Public Safety Advocacy Committee unanimously voted to approve the motion.
- Richard Carrizzo motioned to approve Resolution 11, Technology Committee Charter Revisions and Name Change to Network and Technology Committee. Welton Chase seconded, and the Technology Committee unanimously voted to approve the motion.
- Paul Patrick motioned to approve Resolution 24, Finance Committee Charter Revisions. Brian Crawford seconded, and the Finance Committee unanimously voted to approve the motion.

MATTERS DISCUSSED

Chief Harlin McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award

The Chief Harlin McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications award was established in 2017 in honor of Chief Harlin McEwen for his extraordinary expertise, experience and leadership as the founding PSAC Chair. Chair Horowitz announced Sheriff Neil Miller of Buffalo County, Nebraska, as the 2019 awardee recipient in recognition of his spirit of service, commitment, and dedication that is a proud tradition among public safety. Sheriff Miller took time to say a few words.

FirstNet User Spotlight

Chair Horowitz introduced Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Chief Greg Rubin, one of the newest members to the PSAC, who shared his experience using the FirstNet network. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue is currently working with FirstNet and AT&T for testing Sonim devices for push-to-talk capabilities at the Super Bowl in South Florida on February 2, 2020. Chief Rubin and Board members discussed the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue's experience and lessons learned with the FirstNet network.

PSAC

Todd Early provided an overview of the engagements and collaboration with public safety stakeholders, including the PSAC's Tribal Working Group (TWG) and their recent meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. Discussions were centered around the FirstNet roadmap, telehealth, and the Disaster Response and Deployable Program. Feedback received from the TWG members emphasized the need for FirstNet in tribal lands, and TWG members also proposed updates to the FirstNet Authority Tribal Consultation Policy.

New to the PSAC are Strike Teams, which bring together a group of subject matter experts to focus on a task in need. The next PSAC meeting will be held in December in Austin, Texas, and Mr. Early emphasized that the team will continue to work with public safety stakeholders in 2020 to ensure their voice is heard.

2019 FirstNet Authority and Board Committee Accomplishments

Chair Horowitz noted the revised membership of each of the Board Committees, with Karima Holmes and Matt Slinkard joining the Public Safety Advocacy Committee, Matt Slinkard and Vincent DeLaurentis joining the Technology Committee, and Tip Osterthaler joining the Governance and Personnel Committee.

FirstNet Authority management reviewed the FirstNet Authority 2019 priorities, which include the network, public safety engagement, industry engagement, investment, and enterprise support. FirstNet Authority Chief Technology Officer Jeffrey Bratcher provided network updates, including the announcement that the FirstNet network now has over one million connections and over ten thousand subscribers. He then provided updates on the number of applications and certified devices available for use on the network.

FirstNet Authority Public Safety Advocacy Executive Director, David Buchanan, also spoke on Public Safety Advocacy (PSA) accomplishments in 2019 – The team engaged in 56 states and territories, over 1,100 different engagements, with 33,000 public safety personnel.

Several Board members discussed their participation in various outreach events, such as the FirstNet Authority Roadmap Summit in Phoenix, AZ; the IACP 2019 conference in Chicago, IL; and the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire-Rescue International conference and expo. FirstNet Authority Technology and Innovation Division Executive Director Mark Golaszewski spoke about recent collaborative ecosystem engagements. These included Tech to Protect; the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) Division's Haptic Interfaces for Public Safety Challenge; and the Accelerate R2 Network Challenge, which is a one-million-dollar grant competition sponsored by NIST and the U.S. Economic Development Administration, to which the FirstNet Authority provides subject matter expertise. A brief video from the Tech to Protect event was shared during the meeting. Then FirstNet Authority Board Technology Committee Chairman Neil Cox provided a brief overview of the Committee's accomplishments and outreach conducted by Committee members in 2019.

The FirstNet Authority's Edward Parkinson highlighted the FirstNet Authority's 100+ engagements in 2019 with public safety, industry, AT&T, and government partners that informed the FirstNet Authority Roadmap, which was published in August 2019. The roadmap identified 16 priorities for the FirstNet Authority (*e.g.*, Coverage, Voice Communications, User Experience). Mr. Parkinson also mentioned the FirstNet Authority's first two investments initiated by the Board - the NPSBN Deployable fleet and the core for 5G network capabilities.

FirstNet Authority Chief Financial Officer Kim Farington provided an update on the FirstNet Authority's financial results for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019. Ms. Farington noted that the variance between budgeted and actual obligations and expenses will be carried over to the FY 2020 and future FY budgets in support of the operations budget and reinvestment back into the network. She then yielded to Tip Osterthaler.

Tip Osterthaler spoke on the accomplishments of the Finance Committee and the three Committee Resolutions passed in 2019 that defined the FirstNet Authority's investment principles, financial responsibilities for reinvestment in the FirstNet network, and approved the FirstNet Authority's FY 2020 budget.

2020 Priorities

Edward Parkinson spoke about the five core objectives that are fundamental to the success of the FirstNet Authority in 2020 – Contract Oversight, Stakeholder Engagement, Roadmap Implementation, Strategic Investment, and Organizational Health. He mentioned that the FirstNet Authority will continue its engagement with the stakeholder community, and the FirstNet Roadmap is the key factor in the strategic direction of the organization, which leads to investment. The FirstNet Authority's engagement with public safety and the strategic direction of the roadmap bring ideas to make the best improvements to the network and organizational health going forward.

Each of the Board Committee Chairmen briefly spoke about how the proposed changes to each of the Committees' Charters is to help align the Committees' work in 2020 with the FirstNet Authority's Roadmap and strategic plan. Each Board Committee then voted to approve these revised charters, and the Board and Combined Committees voted unanimously to approve the proposed revisions to the Committee Charters and the necessary changes to the Board Bylaws.

Closing Remarks

Jeffrey Bratcher thanked Chair Edward Horowitz for a successful 2019 and looking forward to a successful 2020 as well. He again thanked Sheriff Miller for attending and congratulated him for his award. He shared the story by Assistant Chief Dennis Weiner from Palm Beach School District on how they adopted and managed to stop two school shootings leveraging the FirstNet network. Mr. Bratcher then expressed his thanks on being humbled to work on this effort in providing the tools and resources needed by public safety to save lives. He then turned it over to Edward Parkinson.

Edward Parkinson thanked the Board for the number of engagements they participated in throughout the year, and also the team for their hard work and achievements in 2019. He emphasized the kick-start of the FirstNet Authority's strategic investment, the publication of the roadmap, the new strategic plan, and its mission to evolve the FirstNet network and ensure it can provide the services and tools for the men and women who are protecting lives every day. Mr. Parkinson expressed his honor to be able to serve public safety and looks forward to further the goals and ambition of the FirstNet Authority Network in 2020. He then yielded to Chair Horowitz, who shared similar thoughts.

Board Adjourned

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.