

**FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 15, 2019
BOARD AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
RESTON, VA AND TELECONFERENCE**

On August 15, 2019, the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) held an open public meeting of the FirstNet Authority Board and Finance Committee. The meeting took place in Reston, Virginia, and remotely via teleconference line, and began at 11:00 AM EDT. The meeting was made available to the public via a teleconference line, and a transcript of the meeting and the archived Board and Finance Committee meeting audio can be found on the FirstNet Authority website at www.firstnet.gov.

BOARD AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair Edward Horowitz opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the FirstNet Board and Finance Committee meeting. In his opening, Chair Horowitz also acknowledged the recent shooting and standoff events in Philadelphia and expressed gratitude for the leadership shown by Philadelphia Police Commissioner and FirstNet Board Member Richard Ross, as well as the overall bravery shown by the Philadelphia Police Department and other first responders. Commissioner Ross then took a few moments to thank Chair Horowitz and reflect briefly on the situation. The Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, presented by the Finance Committee, was the primary agenda item. Chief Operations and Technology Office Jeff Bratcher also provided an update.

Conflicts Statement and Reminder

Board Secretary Karen Miller-Kuwana reminded Board members of the conflicts statement that FirstNet provided in advance of the Board and Finance Committee meeting and asked for any recusals from Board members. In response, all participating Board members indicated no conflicts and the meeting proceeded.

Roll Call: Edward Horowitz (“Chair”), Richard Stanek (“Vice Chair”), Richard Carrizzo, Welton Chase, Neil Cox, Brian Crawford, Billy Hewes, Tip Osterthaler, Ron Hewitt, Paul Patrick, Christopher Piehota, Richard Ross, Teri Takai, Dana Wade, and David Zolet.¹ 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 minutes from the June 26th Board and Combined Committees meeting. Teri Takai made the motion. Neil Cox seconded, and the Board and Combined Committees voted to approve the June 26th Board and Combined Committees meeting minutes.

A vote was taken on the following committee resolution:

¹ Board member David Zolet and Federal Board member designees Dana Wade and Christopher Piehota were not present during roll call, but joined the meeting in progress.

- Brian Crawford motioned to approve Resolution 23, Fiscal Year 2020 Budget. Paul Patrick seconded, and the members of the Finance Committee voted to approve the motion.

The Board also voted to approve the following resolution:

- Richard Carrizzo motioned to approve Resolution 101, Fiscal Year 2020 Budget. Richard Stanek seconded, and the Board voted to approve.

MATTERS DISCUSSED

Introduction

Chair Horowitz opened by describing the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget as focused on strong financial management and designed to streamline operations to maximize returns to public safety. He stressed the budget's alignment with the FirstNet Authority's priorities and its advancement of the organization's five strategic objectives. He then reviewed the strategic objectives accompanied by a brief description of each respective objective. He also brought the release of the FirstNet Authority Roadmap to attention, and noted that the FirstNet Authority is ready to move forward with initial investments to advance the network. Chair Horowitz then yielded to Chief Operations and Technology Officer Jeff Bratcher.

Mr. Bratcher thanked Chair Horowitz for announcing the Roadmap at the APCO conference, and noted it has been received positively through social media and other channels monitored by the organization. Mr. Bratcher then gave a brief overview of the budget timeline before providing the FirstNet Authority's Fiscal Year 2020 priorities: network, public safety engagement, industry engagement, investment framework, and enterprise support function with respective definitions and associated activities. Mr. Bratcher then yielded to Finance Committee Chairman Osterthaler.

Finance Committee

Chairman Osterthaler began by congratulating the FirstNet Authority team on the public release of the Roadmap. Transitioning to the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, he thanked FirstNet Authority CFO Kim Farington and her entire team for their hard work. He then proceeded to provide a high-level overview of the budget, including budget categories, totals and the one-time \$46 million transfer from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to the FirstNet Authority. Chairman Osterthaler then yielded to CFO Farington.

CFO Farington opened by reiterating the three budget categories mentioned by Chairman Osterthaler during his high-level overview: operations, reinvestment, and reserves. She focused first on the operations budget – an \$82.1 million request – a 1 percent increase from the Fiscal Year 2019 budget. She stressed that every dollar requested aligned to the enterprise's strategic objectives and Fiscal Year 2020 priorities in support of the FirstNet Authority mission. The 1 percent increase, she explained, is a result of plus-ups in program support to cover market assessment and investment activities, increase in internal agreements, as well as the buildout of the Public Safety Experience Center in Boulder, Colorado. Moving on, she explained that the FirstNet Board decided last year that the reserves budget should equal the operations budget – as such, the Fiscal Year 2020 reserves amount is \$82.1 million. CFO Farington then spoke about the reinvestment budget request, mentioning, as Chairman Osterthaler did in his opening

remarks, the one-time \$46 million dollar transfer from the NTIA account to the FirstNet Authority. Due to this infusion, the proposed amount for the reinvestment fund is \$145.1 million. CFO Farington noted there is still the assumption that the \$78 million remaining in the reinvestment fund from Fiscal Year 2019 will be obligated prior to September 30, 2019. However, she did stress if the funds are not obligated, the remaining funds will carry over into Fiscal Year 2020.

CFO Farington clarified the obligation amount of \$18.68 million in October was due to the majority of the FirstNet Authority's contracts and agreements being signed in this month. She thanked the business units and her team for their support for the formulation of the Fiscal Year 2020 budget. CFO Farington concluded her remarks by asking for any additional comments or questions. Hearing none, she yielded back to Chairman Osterthaler.

Closing Remarks

Jeff Bratcher thanked Chair Horowitz and the Board for approving the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, as well as key staffers within the NTIA Budget and Finance Office for ensuring the utilization of funds. He highlighted the FirstNet Authority's dedication to financial stewardship and to reinvestment in the network based on feedback from public safety. He concluded his remarks by expressing his excitement for the September Board meeting and the presentation of investment proposals to the Board, as well as thanking CFO Farington and the CFO team for their diligent work on the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget.

Board Adjourned

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.