

**FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY  
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 26, 2019  
BOARD AND COMBINED COMMITTEES MEETING  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN AND TELECONFERENCE**

On June 26, 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 Indianapolis, Indiana, and began at 10:00 AM CST. The meeting was made available to the public via a webcast, and a transcript of the meeting and the archived Board and Combined Committees meeting footage can be found on the FirstNet Authority website at [www.firstnet.gov](http://www.firstnet.gov).

**BOARD AND COMBINED COMMITTEES MEETING**

Chair Edward Horowitz opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Indianapolis, Indiana, and expressed his enthusiasm for the opportunity to preview the Roadmap that the FirstNet Authority is developing in concert with public safety representatives. The main focus areas of the meeting were the progress in development of the FirstNet Authority Roadmap, report-outs from the Board committees, and the passage of several resolutions. Todd Early, Chairman of the Public Safety Advisory Committee (“PSAC”), and Tyler Clements, Field Coordinator for the State of Indiana, also provided presentations.

**Conflicts Statement and Reminder**

Board Secretary Karen Miller-Kuwana reminded Board members of the conflicts statement that the FirstNet Authority had 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 interest and the meeting proceeded.

**Roll Call:** Edward Horowitz (“Chair”), Richard Stanek (“Vice Chair”), Richard Carrizzo, Welton Chase, Neil Cox, Brian Crawford, Billy Hewes, Ron Hewitt, Tip Osterthaler, Paul Patrick, Richard Ross, Teri Takai, and David Zolet. A quorum was present for the Board and Combined Committees.

***Votes Taken***

Before proceeding with the business of the day, Chair Horowitz requested a motion to approve the minutes from the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board and Combined Committees meeting. Brian Crawford made the motion. Teri Takai seconded, and the Board and Combined Committees voted to approve the March 20<sup>th</sup> Board and Combined Committees meeting minutes.

A vote was taken on the following committee resolution:

- Paul Patrick motioned to approve Resolution 22, Financial Responsibility for Reinvestment. Brian Crawford seconded, and the members of the Finance Committee voted to approve the motion.

The Board also voted to approve the following resolutions:

- Neil Cox motioned to approve Resolution 99, Expression of Thanks for the Services of Teri Takai. Welton Chase seconded, and the Board voted to approve.
- Richard Carrizzo motioned to approve Resolution 100, Financial Responsibility for Reinvestment. Neil Cox seconded, and the Board approved.

## **MATTERS DISCUSSED**

### ***Governance and Personnel Committee***

Chair Horowitz noted that the selection of a Chief Executive Officer for the FirstNet Authority is underway, and until the process is complete, the duties and functions of the CEO were divided and assigned to Jeff Bratcher and Ed Parkinson, with Jeff responsible for the budget and executive leadership of the FirstNet Authority, while Ed Parkinson continues to oversee the daily operations.

The Chair also indicated that the process is also underway for the selection of a new Board member, and expressed his and the FirstNet Authority Board's gratitude for the service of Teri Takai, whose term ends in August 2019. Chair Horowitz, Ed Parkinson, Jeff Bratcher, Richard Stanek, Neil Cox, and Welton Chase all shared their memories of Teri and the profound impact she has had on FirstNet. Teri thanked the Board.

Finally, the Chair also announced that the FirstNet Authority is seeking nominations through September 30 for the next Chief Harlin McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award.

### ***FirstNet User Spotlight***

Chair Horowitz provided a brief introduction and yielded to Tyler Clements, Field Coordinator for the Indiana Integrated Public Safety Commission. Mr. Clements shared the experience of the State of Indiana and public safety with the FirstNet network from its inception to the present, as well as some of the progress made. He talked about their experience testing, deploying, and utilizing the FirstNet network, highlighting the success they have had in using the network during large events, such as Thunder over Louisville, state-level training exercises, an air show in Terre Haute, and the Indianapolis 500. Chair Horowitz invited Mr. Clements to work with the FirstNet Authority to continue to provide feedback and ideas for future network enhancement and improvement.

### ***PSAC Update***

Todd Early opened his portion by thanking Chair Horowitz and members of the Board for the opportunity to brief them on the work being conducted by the PSAC. Mr. Early went on to highlight several events including the first in-person Tribal Working Group meeting in Nashville, Tennessee held on April 29<sup>th</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Early stressed each meeting with the PSAC has provided an opportunity to gain invaluable feedback, and many successful conversations had been held. He also expressed his thanks for several Board members participating in various meetings and events. He also reflected on meeting with Tim Zientek to

learn how the Potawatomi Nation utilized FirstNet for their FireLake Firelight Balloon Festival. Mr. Early also expressed thanks for the coordination and hard work of Dave Buchanan and the Public Safety Advocacy team. He also noted several strike teams previously formed will continue to operate to provide continuous feedback on the build out of the experience center in Boulder, CO.

***Public Safety Advocacy Committee Update, Strategy Update, and Technology Committee Update*** (For this meeting, these were combined into one section. Dave Buchanan, Jeremy Zollo, Ed Parkinson, and Jeff Bratcher each took turns speaking).

Public Safety Advocacy Committee Chairman Stanek opened by discussing how the Public Safety Advocacy Committee has been working very diligently, in tandem with the PSAC, to clearly understand the needs of public safety across the country. He reflected briefly on his own experiences meeting members of the public safety community before yielding to FirstNet Authority staff Dave Buchanan, the Executive Director of the Public Safety Advocacy Division and Jeremy Zollo, the Executive Director for the Enterprise Strategy Division.

Dave Buchanan opened by discussing why FirstNet Authority developed a FirstNet Roadmap and why it is important – highlighting the critical input from first responders and the need to integrate their input into the FirstNet Roadmap. He provided several examples of how public safety has been engaged, including the convening of focus groups. Mr. Buchanan stated over 600 engagements have occurred with FirstNet Roadmap domains being discussed. Mr. Buchanan stressed at the various engagements the importance of prioritizing the FirstNet Roadmap and FirstNet Roadmap-related conversations.

Jeremy Zollo echoed Dave Buchanan by stressing the importance of public safety feedback being the foundation of the FirstNet Roadmap, as well as making sure the technology FirstNet has, specifically the core, is current. He stated the vision is to ensure the core technology is current and investments are made smartly. Mr. Zollo continued throughout his presentation to breakdown the specific domains involved in the FirstNet Roadmap, and continually stressed the importance of the FirstNet Roadmap being driven by public safety's feedback – specifically, the importance of clearly understanding their needs, and how they operate and what exactly they need out of the network.

Ed Parkinson interjected briefly to discuss specific technology – speaking about how the network will be ready for 5G and noting how the network has provided the best service on 4G LTE – and will continue to do so.

Jeff Bratcher took over at this portion in the conversation and went over the buildout of the network, focusing on key AT&T dates, and his excitement regarding the features and capabilities to come over the next couple of years as the first initial five-year phase continues to be built out.

### ***Finance Committee Update***

Finance Committee Chairman Osterthaler provided a brief introduction then yielded to Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Kim Farington. CFO Farington opened by discussing the cumulative operations for FY '19. For the obligations budget, \$45 million of the total \$81 million budget has been utilized which means an execution rate of about 56%. From an expense standpoint, the FirstNet Authority has utilized \$39.2 million of the total \$76.5 million dollar expense budget, putting this utilization at a rate of about 51%. CFO Farington stated this is good news as any

funding not utilized can be used for future investment purposes. CFO Farington also shared for the sixth year in a row FirstNet Authority has received a clean or unmodified audit by an independent auditing firm. CFO Farington then yielded back to Finance Committee Chairman Osterthaler.

Finance Committee Chairman Osterthaler concluded the Finance Committee update by thanking CFO Farington, and asking if any Board members had additional comments or questions. Hearing none, he yielded the floor to Jeff Bratcher and Ed Parkinson for closing remarks.

### ***Closing Remarks***

Jeff Bratcher and Ed Parkinson provided the closing remarks for the June 2019 FirstNet Authority Board meeting. Mr. Bratcher began the closing remarks by re-capping the last several Board meetings and expressing his gratitude for all the FirstNet Authority staff and public safety responders. He focused on all the accomplishments made by the organization since December 2018, highlighting reinvestment and the FirstNet Roadmap. He concluded his portion of the closing remarks by stating his excitement for the future. Mr. Bratcher then yielded to Ed Parkinson.

Mr. Parkinson echoed the sentiment shared by Jeff Bratcher of gratitude for all the work performed by the FirstNet Authority staff and the public safety community. He also stressed the importance of heavy involvement by the FirstNet Authority Board. Mr. Parkinson concluded his remarks by again stressing the commitment of FirstNet Authority to the public safety community. He then yielded back to Chairman Horowitz.

### **Board Adjourned**

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.