



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY
COMBINED BOARD AND COMMITTEES MEETING TRANSCRIPT

November 17, 2021

Stephen Benjamin:

Good morning. Today we're convening for the First Responder Network Authority's Combined Board and Committee Meetings. I'm the new Chair of the Board, Steve Benjamin. I'm thankful to Secretary Raimondo for this appointment, and I want to congratulate all of our newly appointed Board members, several are new to the Board, and we'll have a chance to do introductions shortly. I want to welcome all of my Board colleagues and the FirstNet Authority team who are here. Thank you for joining today in person and also virtually for the final Board meeting of 2021. We have a limited number of people gathered in person for today's meeting. Due to restrictions on the number of people who can be present in the room, the public was invited to attend virtually today, and we thank them for their participation as well. Public safety services are integral to the resiliency and strength of our communities across the country. And for public safety, communication is key to delivering lifesaving services and keeping themselves safe.

I know this fact firsthand. In addition to serving as Mayor of Columbia, South Carolina, I previously served as Chief of our state's second largest law enforcement agency, the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services. It was not long after I left the position as Chief that our country was attacked on 9/11. The major challenge that 9/11 highlighted was that first responders couldn't communicate with each other. And this became a driving force for creation of FirstNet. Police, fire, EMS 911, and all of public safety should be able to easily communicate with each other to respond to our community's needs. FirstNet is critical to public safety operations today, and the FirstNet Authority should be commended for the amazing progress it has made to deliver this network for public safety. FirstNet is a success, and I look forward to working with all of you as we build upon the success and serve those who keep us safe - our nation's first responders. I'm excited to be a part of this next phase of the network and the work ahead, so let's turn to the business of today's meeting.

Today's agenda, we're going to have the opportunity to introduce the new Board members and the Board Committee memberships. We're going to make the public aware of the Board meeting schedule for calendar year 2022. We're going to announce the recipient of the Chief Harlin R. McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award. We are going to receive a Public Safety Advisory Committee update from the new PSAC Chair, Christopher Lombard. We're going to get the Advocacy, Network and Technology, and Finance Committee updates as well. We're also going to vote on three committee resolutions, and one Board Resolution related to changing Board committee names.

Stephen Benjamin:

I'm going to ask our Board Secretary to call the roll for the Board and confirm that each committee has a quorum. Madam Secretary, would you please call the roll and then read the Conflicts-of-Interest Statement?

Janell Smith:

Good morning. I'll mark you as present, Chair. Richard Carrizzo?

Richard Carrizzo:

Present.

Janell Smith:

Billy Bob Brown, Jr.?

Billy Bob Brown, Jr.:

Present.

Janell Smith:

Brian Crawford?

Brian Crawford:

Present.

Janell Smith:

Alexandra Fernandez Navarro?

Alexandra Fernandez Navarro:

Present.

Janell Smith:

Kristin Graziano?

Kristin Graziano:

Present.

Janell Smith:

Billy Hewes?

Billy Hewes:

Present.

Janell Smith:

Karima Holmes?

Karima Holmes:

Present.

Janell Smith:
Darrin Jones?

Darrin Jones:
Present.

Janell Smith:
Peter Koutoujian?

Peter Koutoujian:
Present.

Janell Smith:
Warren Mickens?

Warren Mickens:
Present.

Janell Smith:
Sylvia Moir?

Sylvia Moir:
Present.

Janell Smith:
Jocelyn Moore?

Jocelyn Moore:
Present.

Janell Smith:
Paul Patrick?

Paul Patrick:
Present.

Janell Smith:
Tia Patterson?

Tia Patterson:
I'm here virtually.

Janell Smith:
Thank you Tia. Mr. Chair, we have a quorum for the Board as well as for all four committees. Now, I will read the Conflicts-of-Interest Statement. Prior to participating in the FirstNet Authority Combined Board and Committees Meeting today, the Board members have reviewed the agenda as well as the Conflict-of-Interest Guidance provided by the Ethics Law and

Programs Division of the Department of Commerce Office of General Counsel regarding the Conflict-of-Interest standards that apply to the Board members. All Board members have responded prior to today's meeting, that they do not have a conflict and will not need to recuse themselves from participation in any portion of this meeting. Thank you.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you. Each member of the Board has before him or her the minutes of our August meeting. Are there any additions or corrections to those minutes at this time?

Seeing none, I'll take a motion that we accept these minutes.

Richard Carrizzo:

Mr. Chair, motion made.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you.

Billy Hewes:

Mr. President, I would second that motion.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you, Mayor Hewes. All in favor say aye.

All:

Aye.

Stephen Benjamin:

All opposed, please indicate by saying nay. Are there any abstentions?

Hearing none, the motion's passed. The August meeting minutes are accepted. Madam Secretary, please make the minutes available to the public following this meeting.

Stephen Benjamin:

We're going to start this meeting with an introduction of our new Board members. We've already had a few comments about myself, but we have several new members attending their first quarterly Board meeting. So, we'll take a moment and ask everyone just to give a brief introduction into introducing themselves to the community. I am Steve Benjamin, I've had the honor and pleasure of serving as the Mayor of Columbia, South Carolina, my adopted hometown for the last 12 years, and I've been very active in the community of mayors as President of the Conference of Mayors, as well as the African American Mayors Association. And I'm excited about serving the men and women who run towards danger when everyone else is running in the opposite direction. This is a sacred trust, and I'm excited about joining each and every one of you. So, let's go around the table and introduce ourselves. Alexandra, would you start?

Alexandra Fernandez Navarro:

Good morning, it is a pleasure and honor to be here. My name is Alexandra Fernandez Navarro. I'm the Commissioner on the Puerto Rico Public Service Regulatory Board and

Telecommunications Regulatory attorney by trade. I was in charge of the telecommunication restoration after Hurricane Maria, as well as the Telecom Bureau Commissioner and so I understand I know the importance of FirstNet for emergency response in the United States of America. Again, a pleasure and an honor to be here.

Stephen Benjamin:

Kristin Graziano. Sheriff?

Kristin Graziano:

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Good morning. My name is Kristin Graziano, I have the honor of serving as Sheriff in Charleston County, South Carolina. I am in my first term as Sheriff. It is absolutely an honor to be serving amongst this distinguished group of professionals, and I'd like to thank the Secretary also for that appointment and opportunity to serve from the public safety sector.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you Sheriff. Sheriff Peter Koutoujian?

Peter Koutoujian:

Good morning, all. My name is Peter Koutoujian. I am a former prosecutor, a former legislator with a specialty in health care. Currently, I'm the Sheriff in Middlesex County in Massachusetts, and also currently proudly serving as the President of Major County Sheriffs of America. It's an incredible honor to be able to be here to serve and protect our first responders in our communities. Thank you.

Stephen Benjamin:

Warren Mickens?

Warren Mickens:

Good morning. I'm Warren Mickens. I am a technology executive and occasional consultant. I'm honored to join this Board. It's an opportunity to prove that public and private partnerships can work well, especially in the interests of our first responders who risk their lives every day. I reside outside of Denver, Colorado with my wife of 41 years, Joyce, and we have two adult sons who happen to both be engineers also. I think I've infected them. Thank you.

Stephen Benjamin:

Chief Sylvia Moir?

Sylvia Moir:

Good morning, Mr. Chair. Thank you. I'm Sylvia Moir. I have 33 years of public safety experience in policing, both in California and in Arizona, proudly served on the front lines all the way up into the executive office. I'm delighted to be part of this effort to strengthen the way that we serve communities. And I appreciate that the Secretary has appointed me to this position. Thank you very much.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you. Jocelyn Moore?

Jocelyn Moore:

Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. My name is Jocelyn Moore. I'm here representing the private sector. My background is in corporate affairs, and I presently serve on the Board of DraftKings and AOppFi. But prior to being in corporate America, I served for 15 years in the United States Senate. I was there on 9/11. Subsequently, I worked for Senator Rockefeller after 9/11 and after the Upper Big Branch mining tragedy in West Virginia, as he worked tirelessly to bring FirstNet to life. And so, this is really a full circle moment. I'm tremendously honored to serve with all of you to do our very best on behalf of public safety. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you so much. As you can tell, we are all excited to join the team to move this organization forward as part of the FirstNet Authority Board and we're thankful for the relationships we are building with the other Board members and the FirstNet staff. As the Board Chair, I am responsible for naming the Board Vice Chair, the Board Committee Chairs and the membership of each committee. I have asked Chief Richard Carrizzo to continue serving as Board Vice Chair and he has agreed to do so. So, thank you, Richard, I appreciate it.

Richard Carrizzo:

I appreciate and look forward to serving with you for public safety.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you so much, and I look forward to working with you. I'm also pleased to announce that Sylvia Moir is going to be Chair of the Governance and Personnel Committee, and Jocelyn Moore has accepted Chairmanship of the Network and Technology Committee. Rich Carrizzo will continue to serve as the Chair of the Advocacy Committee, and Brian Crawford is going to continue as Chair of the Finance Committee. We have a full membership for each committee listed here on this slide. The mix of talent and expertise in each committee will be helpful for each committee's work and the work of the Board as a whole. So, I really want to thank all of you for your willingness to serve and look forward to your individual contributions and working closely with the committees to advance our mission.

Looking ahead, the Board meeting schedule has been established for the upcoming calendar year. The Board will meet once a quarter in February, May, August, and November, the August meeting will include the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 budget. Information about these meetings will continue to be made available in the Federal Register Notice and on the FirstNet.gov website.

Now we're going to shift over and announce the recipient of the Chief Harlin R. McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award, and I'm privileged to name the recipient of FirstNet Authority's Chief Harlin McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award today and I'm going to turn this over to the Chief, Vice Chair Carrizzo, to announce this year's award.

Richard Carrizzo:

Thank you, sir. This year it's an honor to announce the Harlin McEwen Award. This award was created in 2017 to honor our first Chair of the PSAC. This was a gentleman that actually helped begin FirstNet and was named as the first Chair. I consider Harlin a good friend and hopefully

Harlin is listening as we announce the new winner this year, as I do believe he'll be just as honored to help give this award to the recipient. This year the FirstNet Authority Board are honored to award the Harlin R. McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award to Chief Mike Duyck. Chief Duyck is the retired fire chief of the Tualatin Valley Oregon Fire and Rescue Department. He served there for 30 years. He's been a PSAC Chair member representing the Metro Fire Chiefs Council for several years. He also serves as the executive member for the last three years. He's also represented the Metro Chiefs on the SAFECOM, and presently still works for the NG 9-1-1 Public Safety coalition that is continuing to work towards the NG 9-1-1 legislation. His leadership in the early years of securing D-block for public safety, educating fire services about the importance of broadband communications capabilities and continual support of the FirstNet Authority and the PSAC that have been very important contributions to get us where we are today. Thank you to those who have supported his work and nominated him and thank you Chief Duyck for all that you have done. Chief Duyck I turn over to you, if you're online right now to make a few remarks.

Mike Duyck:

Good morning and thank you to the Board of Directors, FirstNet, I'm truly honored by this award, and it's been amazing to reflect on where we were before the legislation was passed and where we are today. I had the unique opportunity to actually participate during the advocacy as Chief Carrizzo said for the D-Block, being there actually in Washington D.C. when the legislation was signed. And then a shared committee for the State of Oregon developed the state plan and then oversaw the build out across the state as we saw across all 56 states and territories. This was all done, you know by public safety and for public safety and it's an amazing effort and it's great to see where it is today. Now as a member of PSAC as I have been for the last several years under now the new leadership of Chief Lombard, it's an exciting group, it's very talented and the speed of which enhancements for public safety are taking place is just phenomenal. I recall, I think it was in 2018, when we decided to stand up some Strike Teams to speed the information and enhancements to public safety. We decided telehealth where we connected through the FirstNet Network responders on scene with medical expertise advanced physicians rather than take them to the hospital to speed their acute care. And little did we know that when COVID struck, how important this would be. It's just an example of how quickly things have moved, and how fortunate we are in public safety to have this network. So, my thanks to you, the Board, the FirstNet Authority for making all this possible. And it's truly an honor to receive the Harlin McEwen Award this year. So, thank you so much.

Stephen Benjamin:

Congratulations, Chief Duyck, a much-deserved honor. Thank you for your dedication to the public safety community. Now I have an update from the Public Safety Advisory Committee Chair, Chief Chris Lombard, who was appointed as the Chair of the PSAC in October and this is his very first Board meeting. Congratulations Chief, and welcome. The Board looks forward to working closely with you and the PSAC.

Christopher Lombard:

Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and congratulations on your appointment as well as all of the new Board members. It's great to see everybody, finally, in person. I would like to thank the FirstNet Authority and Board members for having me today. For those of you who do not know me, I'm Chris Lombard. I've been recently appointed as the newest PSAC Chair and I'm happy

to serve in this role. I've served as a PSAC member for many years, since the Board's inception, actually. I look forward to working with the FirstNet Authority Board and leadership and my fellow PSAC members on how the PSAC can offer its expertise to enhance the FirstNet network. Next slide. It has been a busy fall for us in the PSAC. Here a few updates of the recent PSAC work and some engagements for the Board. On October 26, the PSAC hosted its annual, sorry, its bi-monthly webinar. During this webinar, PSAC members received an overview of quality-of-service, priority and preemption, and the evolution of cellular communications.

In addition, the FirstNet Authority showcased a live demonstration of the FirstNet Authority lab in Boulder, Colorado, on how the prioritization and preemption on the network is tested during a public safety scenario. Kenzie Capece and the FirstNet Authority legal team updated the PSAC members and on procedures to comply with the Don't Break Up the T-Band Act of 2020, which states that any state or taxing jurisdiction identified by the Federal Communications Commission, as engaging in diversion of 911 fees and charges, is ineligible to participate on or send representatives to serve as a member of the PSAC. This administrative update is critical to remain compliant with the federal rules, but as of now does not negatively impact any of our current PSAC members. Additionally, we had some PSAC membership updates since the last Board meeting. As noted, I have been elected as the Chair or appointed as the Chair for the PSAC. In addition, Chief Brian Schaeffer from the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, and Shawn Talmadge from the National Governors Association were selected to serve on the PSAC Executive Committee.

I'm also excited to welcome our newest PSAC members, Jeff Cohen from the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International or APCO, and Brad Stoddard from the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators, NCSWIC. We look forward to their leadership and membership on the PSAC as it carries out its mission to assist the FirstNet Authority. The Tribal Working Group had a good year of work collaborating virtually again in 2021. The TWG delegates have identified Subject Matter Experts on one or multiple of the eight FirstNet Authority Roadmap domain technologies that have been incorporated into the database. The purpose of this database is to provide the Roadmap Development Division contact information for future focus groups. Delegates reviewed and provided suggested edits to outreach to tribal governments' guidance, and tribes and FirstNet Frequently Asked Questions documentation. Delegates and FirstNet Authority staff supported the updating of the Tribal Working Group webpage on the FirstNet Authority website.

The updates included additional information about the TWG and updated delegate headshots. The page is now consistent and mirroring the PSAC page. The PSAC ICAM Strike Team completed its tasking from the FirstNet Authority to provide public safety expertise on ICAM's influence on applications heavily used by public safety. ICAM of course refers to Identity Credentialing and Access Management. The ICAM Strike Team met several times to discuss the types of applications used by public safety and the best practices or best approaches for prioritizing potential inclusion into the FirstNet ICAM ecosystem. These inputs and the group's expertise offered insights into the important application and database solutions for public safety, potential challenges, and other considerations for broad ICAM adoption. The input and results have been outlined in the PSAC ICAM Strike Team Applications Input Report, which was

finalized in October. During the COVID-19 pandemic, telehealth services helped patients and medical providers connect in real-time in a safe setting.

Considering this, the PSAC Telehealth Strike Team re-examined the widespread adoption of telehealth services and identified emerging telehealth case studies that may save lives streamline medical services and ensure quality patient care. This information was collected through a web-based survey that was distributed to EMS providers to gather insight on the current uses of telehealth in the pre-hospital environment. These case studies are highlighted in a recently published blog on FirstNet.gov written by National EMS Management Association PSAC representative and Telehealth Strike Team Chairman, John Olsen. I had the pleasure of working with both of these Strike Teams this year and appreciate both Frank's leadership in ICAM and John's leadership in telehealth. As we look ahead to 2022, the PSAC has identified areas of focus and priorities in the upcoming year. This includes conducting, reviewing in-person PSAC and TWG meetings, leveraging user working group membership for future focus groups, and formulating new Strike Teams.

Lastly, the PSAC plans to focus on expanding outreach partnerships, conducting engagements with stakeholders. It should be a fun year. Thank you all again, and we look forward to continuing the great work of the PSAC of 2022. I'm happy to answer any questions or take any comments or feedback from Board members. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you so much, Chief and, Chris, I look forward to working with you very closely. Now we're going to get an update from the Advocacy Committee. I'll turn this over to the Vice Chair and also the Chair of the Advocacy Committee, Richard Carrizzo.

Richard Carrizzo:

Thank you, sir. I appreciate the appointment on this wonderful committee, and I'm excited to continue my role as the Advocacy Chair. This committee is very important. It is where we ensure that public safety's voice is heard loud and clear throughout the FirstNet organization and represented at build out and evolution of the FirstNet. Again, our job is to listen to the first responders and determine what their needs are. It's been an honor to hear from public safety how the FirstNet network is improving their operations on a daily basis. And we're also continuing to hear about their operational needs that still need to be addressed for first responders. In September, I was fortunate to travel with the FirstNet Authority Team for the International Wireless Communications Expo in Las Vegas. Connecting in-person with our stakeholders across public safety, government, industry, and academia as well as hearing firsthand from public safety about their recent successful incorporation of FirstNet and incident responses.

I got to sit on many great sessions that the FirstNet Authority put on. These included FirstNet Push-To-Talk and the evolution of mission critical services, current and future communication challenges, a Roadmap for the future of FirstNet, building resilience around disaster response in 2021 and beyond, and FirstNet in action with responding to emergencies and the pandemic. In addition, along with CEO Parkinson, we met with the Presidents of the ten states and Pacific Islands who represent the leadership of the Western Fire Chiefs Association at their President's Forum last week in Phoenix, Arizona. We had many productive conversations and successful scheduled follow-up meetings that we will continue to look into ways for us to help out. We've

had other Advocacy Committee members on the road as well. Paul Patrick participated in the EMS World Expo last month in Atlanta. He spoke with a lot of the stakeholders that stopped by the FirstNet booth - we appreciate that. Harry Markley, our law enforcement Senior Advisor from the Market Engagement Team Office, attended the annual committee meetings for the International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference, which ended up being virtual after the hurricane in September.

We're looking forward to getting into more conferences in-person in the future. At this point, I'll turn it over to Jacque Miller, our acting Chief Market Engagement Officer, to provide more information about our engagement accomplishments.

Jacque Miller-Waring:

Thank you, Chief Carrizzo. As you noted in the Advocacy Committee is where we ensure that public safety's voice is heard loud and clear throughout the FirstNet Authority organization and our partner to impact enhancements to the FirstNet Network. In turn, the Market Engagement Office Team is crucial to our organization's success as we help ensure that public safety's voice is captured, assembled, and channeled to appropriately inform all relevant parties. We focused on three main activities to achieve our goals.

First, we focus on building and enhancing key stakeholder relationships across all disciplines at the local, state, territorial, tribal, and federal government levels, as well as with industry and academia. Just a few statistics from 2021, our team engaged across all 56 states and territories with all disciplines with nearly 1,700 engagements. We reached more than 40,000 stakeholders through numerous engagement types, whether it was a one-on-one engagement, multi-agency, or regional engagements, as well as major national level conferences.

As an example, we were able to educate audiences and extract critical information from many first responders in the form of operational needs and product feedback, and how FirstNet is impacting their operations. We captured over 2,100 unique feedback items from public safety through our engagement efforts. The data feeds into our organization's processes and will help us improve the network.

Second, we're focused on sharing the FirstNet experience. We promote for public safety by public safety on our website, and we share stories of how public safety entities have integrated FirstNet into their operations. We do that through blogs, podcasts, webinars, and other information you can access on our website. We want to ensure that our stakeholders not only know the latest FirstNet updates, but also can hear from their peers what is working in the most effective and in any given environment. For example, our blog, recently published, we had a case study from Indiana County Emergency Management Agency, which is northeast of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania. The ICMA is responsible for overseeing emergency management throughout the county. It is also unique in that it oversees the county's 911 emergency communications operations, coordinating call handling, and dispatching for the county's 24 fire departments and two EMS providers, as well as five municipal police departments. Indiana County and ICMA joined FirstNet in 2019 to ensure personnel could communicate via voice across the country to fill coverage gaps. Since then, ICMA has extended its use of the network,

purchasing additional equipment to enable FirstNet connectivity in the county's mobile command post and other vehicles. It also encouraged other public safety entities to use FirstNet. For example, the Indiana County Sheriff's Office joined FirstNet utilizing laptops and police cars. They're now connected to through FirstNet, enabling deputies to access critical information while in the field. It saves significant time for deputies, as they previously had to return to the station or use their radios to request additional information. ICMA is now working on the ability to provide more exact location data to first responders using FirstNet. In addition, the agency is working with EMS agencies in the county to understand how FirstNet can benefit their operations.

Additionally, our team spent a significant amount of time and effort this year working with stakeholders on several significant incidents. These incidents provided the opportunity for the FirstNet Authority to review and analyze FirstNet's use, operational gaps experienced by first responders with respect to broadband communications, and potential solutions to address those needs. Some of those events included the western wildland fires, the Nashville bombing incident, Winter Storm Uri weather event, and Hurricane Ida. These incidents resulted in communication successes and challenges, as well as identification of best practices and suggestions and considerations for mitigating persistent challenges moving forward. In almost all of these incidents, the most common success was the importance of stakeholder relationships with the FirstNet Authority, namely our Market Engagement Office Team and our partner, AT&T. Many stakeholders linked their successful deployment of FirstNet capabilities to these existing relationships.

Third, we focused on informing FirstNet product and network enhancements based on public safety and other key stakeholder feedback. We know that it's critical for our team to continue to elicit, capture, and represent the first responder community's feedback. As I mentioned earlier, our team collected more than 2,100 items of feedback ranging from operational needs to current uses of FirstNet technologies and various applications and devices, to challenges and issues. For example, the Market Engagement Office Team continued to support the organization's need to collect public safety input across the different Roadmap domains. The detailed feedback and operational needs supported the evolution of priorities to specific opportunities for the FirstNet Authority. The team captured feedback or suggestions regarding existing FirstNet products and services, including the FirstNet App Catalog, deployables, network status map within the FirstNet Central, Z-Axis capabilities, and Response for FirstNet.

All this feedback is informing the FirstNet Authorities input to AT&T and will lead continued product evolution and enhancements. Looking forward, we use a similar framework around building and enhancing key stakeholder relationships, sharing the FirstNet Experience, and informing the FirstNet product and network enhancements. We're looking forward to bringing our new committee members to key engagements, either virtually or in-person, as appropriate. And we will continue to bring the operational needs back to our organization so that they can inform future product network enhancements and investments where it makes sense. That's our market engagement update. And we'll turn it back to Chair Benjamin.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you so much, Jacque. Now we're going to get an update from Network and Technology Committee. Chair Moore, the floor is yours.

Jocelyn Moore:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm very much looking forward to chairing the Network and Technology Committee. This committee has and will continue to play a major role in the Board, especially as we look toward the future. There are exciting and challenging times ahead for FirstNet and public safety communications. Since our last readout, there has been great progress, and we have achieved major program results. Just a few weeks ago, the committee held an excellent briefing where we were able to receive an overview of the options for migration of the network from 4G to 5G. We were also able to provide strategic guidance on a range of issues including coverage feasibility initiative, spectrum opportunities, and emerging technologies. In this committee update, Jeff Bratcher, Chief Network and Technology Officer, will provide a readout focused on the following themes - ongoing momentum and network deployment, the remarkable growth and network connections, differentiating devices available for public safety users, innovative applications and solutions to operational issues faced by first responders, and recent experience and deployable coverage solutions that benefit public safety. Jeff, I'll turn it over to you.

Jeff Bratcher:

Thank you, Committee Chair Moore, and I'd like to express a warm welcome to you as Chair of the committee as well as to the new and the returning Board members. The team and I look forward to working with you and the other members of the committee going forward. The FirstNet Authority is pleased to share that the adoption of the FirstNet Network by our nation's first responders continues to grow at a fast pace, exceeding both the FirstNet Authority and AT&T expectations. The slide that you're seeing here summarizes the FirstNet Network momentum. We work with AT&T to update this slide quarterly and share with the FirstNet Board. Last month, on October 21, AT&T announced their third quarter earnings and results. Within those results, they shared that the FirstNet built with AT&T Network is now providing priority and preemption capable wireless services to more than 2.8 million public safety device connections across more than 18,500 public safety agencies across all 56 states, territories, and Washington, DC.

I'd like to share with the committee and Board a few examples of some recent public safety agencies that have adopted FirstNet as their wireless broadband communications platform. The first example is the San Francisco Sheriff's Department, which is now connecting their officers, emergency managers, first responders and other personnel via the FirstNet Network. They are leveraging FirstNet service for situational awareness to assist officers in making critical decisions at incidents to mitigate the loss of life and property. It is also ensuring streamlined communication between regional public safety agencies during mutual aid incidents. A great recent example of a mutual aid event was the use of FirstNet to support San Francisco's Fleet Week. Another example that I'd like to highlight is the Florida Division of Emergency Management has recently moved their entire agency to FirstNet services. This agency depends on reliable communications to support and coordinate across the 67 counties in Florida in response to emergencies and day-to-day activities.

Expansion of the public safety dedicated and FirstNet Authority licensed Band 14 spectrum coverage is proceeding on an aggressive pace. AT&T remains ahead of their contractual deployment dates and metrics. AT&T announced that they have now exceeded the 95% of the contractually required Band 14 spectrum deployment across all 56 states and territories. The FirstNet Authority Program Management Team is now in the process of validating this milestone and providing that with AT&T. The pace in 2021 has accelerated with ongoing challenges of the pandemic and an extremely active western wildfire season. The communication needs for these challenges faced by public safety over the past year were supported by over 650 FirstNet mobile asset deployments and network restorations year to date for both planned and emergency events requested by FirstNet public safety users. The slide we're showing here is a new one. And this again FirstNet is public safety's network. The public safety community rallied together in 2010 and 11 to lobby Congress for the legislation to get their own dedicated spectrum and funding to create a nationwide broadband network built for their unique mission critical communication needs.

As I stated earlier, the adoption growth of the FirstNet Network by public safety has exceeded expectations. This slide illustrates this growth over the last 15 quarters, three years and nine months going back to Q1 of 2018 when we activated the dedicated FirstNet Core Network and began adding those public safety users and connections. As you can see, at the end of 2018, we're at roughly 500,000 subscribers and connections, the end of 2019 approaching 1.2 million, the end of 2020 1.8 million. And as of the third quarter, we're at that 2.8 million connections, and we're excited to see where we end 2021, and if we hit that 3 million mark. Certainly, part of the reason for this growth is that public safety's utilizing FirstNet to manage daily operations, planned events and emergency situations and disasters. While commercial wireless offerings are available to public safety, FirstNet continues to grow because we provide dedicated priority and preemption capabilities on not only the dedicated Band 14 spectrum, but also all of AT&T commercial LTE spectrum bands. This sets the service truly apart from other commercial offerings. Nowhere else does public safety first responders get their own nationwide dedicated communications platform with a mission-ready and mission-critical standards-based communication solutions that they need to protect themselves and our communities. We continue to listen to public safety and focus on delivering the unique communication services that they need on their network. Listening and adjusting plans as new situations arise as part of the FirstNet value proposition. A great recent example is the deployment of end-to-end wireless coverage in Glenwood Canyon, Colorado, my home state, and as Warren mentioned his home state as well. In late summer, multiple large mudslides swept through the canyon, closing interstate 70, trapping motorists and destroying most everything in its path, after quickly responded with a dedicated FirstNet deployable equipment to support the coverage needs, more recently, a network of cell sites has now been launched as a permanent wireless solution through the Canyon on FirstNet.

As the network and user base expands, the FirstNet Authority is working tirelessly to ensure innovation as a component in new public safety communication technologies and solutions for FirstNet. Prime examples of this include our thriving ecosystems that are delivering the communication devices and applications requested by first responders. We're also investing in and growing unique deployable covered solutions that provide that differentiated value to public safety FirstNet users. We have a dedicated team of senior standards development engineers that

are working tirelessly within the open standards bodies to ensure public safety communication needs do not get left behind in the evolution of future wireless communication technologies in generations.

Touching on the devices briefly as we plan for FirstNet public safety stress to us time and again, that access to innovative wireless broadband devices was critical. We continue to deliver on this by developing and growing a global device ecosystem so that public safety has choices for their devices. There are now over 380 devices in this ecosystem, and over 80% of those support their dedicated Band 14 spectrum. This is a gain of over 114 devices in the past year. We've also introduced new smartphones, tablets, rugged handheld laptops, and a growing wave of public safety relevant Internet of Things devices. You see the logo FirstNet Ready that means the device has gone through the device approval program within FirstNet and certification by AT&T and acceptance by the Authority. And this has access to Band 14 and is compatible with the FirstNet dedicated core network. Increasingly next generation wireless capabilities 5G are now part of the latest wave of devices, positioning our public safety FirstNet subscribers to take full advantage of this generational shift and wireless capabilities. This is leveraging investments we made last year, as we are fast followers for the FirstNet Network with what the overall industry is doing. By ensuring the first responders have access to the latest commercial off-the-shelf technology via FirstNet, we're also enabling them to take advantage of cost savings and maximize the value of every public safety dollar. We are pleased with the wide and diverse number of devices.

Moving on to applications, we received from public safety they stressed a robust ecosystem of new applications to address their operational needs. We now have over 180 applications and user solutions in the FirstNet Application Catalog. And this is geared towards first responders. We have actual first responders developing applications as well, to meet their unique needs that are listed in the catalog. It's exciting to see the new solutions for public safety and taking advantage of not only the 4G but the 5G capabilities. One application I'd like to highlight in the application catalog is an application that provides approved law enforcement officials with access to the state, local, and federal databases, such as the Criminal Justice Information Services and the National Crime Information Center. The application's designed to be intuitive and easy to operate, leverages strong encryption, plus two-factor authentication, and meets all FBI Criminal Justice Information Service security requirements. Law enforcement agencies have real time access to this data from their mobile devices, which allows them to run warrants and driver's license checks right from their Android or iOS devices on FirstNet and get those responses back in seconds on their priority and preemption capable network.

Lastly, deployables one of the unique high value elements of the FirstNet Network is the fleet of dedicated deployable coverage assets. These assets are available 24/7 at the request of FirstNet subscribing agencies at no cost to them. The deployable fleet is a unique capability that public safety told us they needed - they want to bring their network with them wherever they are operating. To meet the usage demand, the FirstNet Authority invested in expanding the size and diversity of the existing fleet last year. And that was via a Task Order under our contract with AT&T. These assets are now fully integrated into the deployables fleet, and there are over 100 dedicated assets now available to the FirstNet subscribers in all states and territories.

As noted earlier, this has been an active year with over 650 deployable and network restoral requests from FirstNet users. The numbers bear out here that the extent of deployments and coordination with public safety in response to the western wildfire season and the tropical storms experienced in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic regions.

To close out my update for the committee, I would like to reiterate that as we have done since the inception of FirstNet in 2012, we will continue to place public safety communication needs and requirements at the center of all of our efforts to plan, build, and reinvest, into their Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network, FirstNet, built with AT&T. Chair Moore, as the results of this past quarter illustrate, the FirstNet Authority continues our focus on innovation and investment that benefits the unique mission critical communication needs of our nation's public safety first responders. AT&T continues to be a strong partner and is delivering on their contractual requirements. And I look forward to updating on the end of year 2021 results in our upcoming meeting in February. Thank you again, Committee Chair Moore, and I will now turn this back over to Chair Benjamin.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thanks so much for an excellent report, Jeff, and thank you, Madam Chair. Now we're going to get an update from the Finance Committee. Brian Crawford, turn this over to you.

Brian Crawford:

Thank you, Chairman Benjamin, and congratulations on your appointment to you and the new Board members. I'm very excited to continue my role as Finance Chair and looking forward to working with the new Board members. The Board's Finance Committee is responsible for reviewing and providing guidance on the FirstNet Authority's financial matters. Specifically, the committee assures internal controls independent audit and financial analysis of the Authority. The responsible management of the finances of the FirstNet Authority ensures adequate funds for the annual operations of the Authority and for the reinvestments providing for the maintenance, operations, and improvements to the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network. And now I'd like Kim Farington, our Chief Financial Officer and Administrator to provide a brief financial update, Kim.

Kim Farington:

Thank you, Brian. Good morning, I'll begin with Fiscal Year 2021 cumulative operations execution. The FirstNet Authority finished its Fiscal Year 2021 on September 30 of this year, with total cumulative obligations of \$77.6 million. We are currently still working through Fiscal Year-End reconciliations with the anticipation of the confirming a few million dollars that will be carried over from our Fiscal Year 2021 budget, and we will carry that into Fiscal Year 2022. These funds will be available to support the maintenance, operation, and improvements to the National Public Safety Broadband Network benefiting our public safety stakeholders.

Now, moving on to Fiscal Year 2022 budget execution. Our Fiscal Year began on October 1 of this year, and this slide illustrates the \$12 million of obligations made during the first month of Fiscal Year 2022. The blue line that you see going up, portrays the budget forecast for the next 11 months of this Fiscal Year, with the green line representing our total Fiscal Year budget. And we will continue to share with you every month our budget execution throughout the Fiscal Year. That concludes the financial report for today. I'll hand the floor back over to you, Chair

Benjamin.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you so much Kim and Mr. Chairman, thank you so much for that report. I'm going to slip into the period of Committee and Board Resolutions. In order to move the organization to the next level and position it for success, there are several resolutions that will be voted on to change the names of three of the four Board Committees. I now ask each of the respective committee Chairs to introduce resolutions and call a committee vote, and we'll start with the Network and Technology Committee. Madam Chair.

Jocelyn Moore:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, in acknowledgement of our future focus through this resolution. The Network and Technology Committee would like to recommend that the Board change the name of the committee from the Network and Technology Committee to the Programs and Future Planning Committee.

Before we vote, do any Network and Technology Committee members have any questions about the proposed resolution? Hearing none, we're prepared to vote on Network and Technology Committee Resolution 12. Madam Secretary, would you please read the operative language?

Janell Smith:

Yes, Network and Technology Committee Resolution 12. Network and Technology Committee name change to Programs and Future Planning Committee. Now therefore be it resolved that the Network and Technology Committee approve and recommend that the Board adopt the FirstNet Authority Network and Technology Committee Charter, which changes its current name from the Network and Technology Committee to the Programs and Future Planning Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Jocelyn Moore:

Thank you, Madam Secretary. May I have a motion to approve Network and Technology Committee Resolution 12?

Paul Patrick:

This is Paul Patrick - so moved.

Jocelyn Moore:

Thank you, Paul. Is there a second?

Alexandra Fernandez Navarro:

This is Alexandra Fernandez Navarro. I second it.

Jocelyn Moore:

Thank you, Alexandra. All in favor say aye.

All:

Aye.

Jocelyn Moore:

All opposed indicate by saying nay. Are there any abstentions?

Madam Secretary, will you please make the following resolution available to the public following this meeting?

Janell Smith:

Yes, I will.

Jocelyn Moore:

Now I'll turn the floor over to Sylvia Moir, Committee Chair for the Governance and Personnel Committee, for the next committee resolution.

Sylvia Moir:

Thank you so much, Jocelyn. Through this resolution, the Governance and Personnel Committee would like to recommend that the Board change the name of this committee from the Governance and Personnel Committee to the Governance and Risk Committee.

Before we vote, do any Governance and Personnel Committee members have any questions about the proposed resolution? Hearing none, we are prepared to vote on Governance and Personnel Committee Resolution Number 12. Madam Secretary, would you please read the operative language?

Janell Smith:

Governance and Personnel Committee Resolution 12. Governance and Personnel Committee name change to Governance and Risk Committee. Now therefore be it resolved that the Governance and Personnel Committee approve and recommend that the Board adopt the FirstNet Authority Governance and Personnel Committee Charter, which changes its current name from the Governance and Personnel Committee to the Governance and Risk Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Sylvia Moir:

Thank you very much. May I have a motion to approve Governance and Personnel Committee Resolution 12?

Karima Holmes:

Chair, this is Karima. I move to approve Governance and Personnel Committee Resolution 12.

Sylvia Moir:

Thank you. Is there a second?

Richard Carrizzo:

Chief Carrizzo seconds it.

Sylvia Moir:

All in favor say aye.

All:
Aye.

Sylvia Moir:
Opposed indicate by saying nay. And are there any abstentions?

Madam Secretary, will you please make the following resolution available to the public following this meeting?

Janell Smith:
Yes, I will.

Sylvia Moir:
I will now turn over the floor to Brian Crawford, Committee Chair for the Finance Committee for the next committee resolution. Mr. Crawford.

Brian Crawford:
Thank you, Sylvia. Through this resolution, the Finance Committee would like to recommend that the Board change the name of this committee from the Finance Committee to the Finance and Investment Committee.

But before we vote do any Finance Committee members have any questions about the proposed resolution? Hearing none, we prepare to vote on Finance Committee Resolution 29. Madam Secretary, would you please read the operative language for this resolution?

Janell Smith:
Finance Committee Resolution 29. Finance Committee name change to Finance and Investment Committee. Now therefore be it resolved that the Finance Committee approve and recommend that the Board adopt the FirstNet Authority Finance Committee Charter, which changes its current name from the Finance Committee to the Finance and Investment Committee, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Brian Crawford:
Thank you Janell. May I have a motion to approve Finance Committee Resolution 29 from a Finance Committee member?

Billy Hewes:
Mr. Chair, this is Billy Hewes. I'm in approval of Finance Committee Resolution number 29.

Brian Crawford:
Motion made by Mayor Billy Hewes. Is there a second?

Jocelyn Moore:
Mr. Chairman, this is Jocelyn Moore, I second the motion.

Brian Crawford:
Second by committee member Jocelyn Moore. All those in favor say aye.

All:
Aye.

Brian Crawford:
Opposed, say nay. Are there any abstentions?

Madam Secretary, will you please make the following resolution available to the public following this meeting?

Janell Smith:
Yes, I will.

Brian Crawford:
Now I'll turn the floor back over to Chair Benjamin for the Board Resolution.

Stephen Benjamin:
Thanks, Brian, and everyone else too. The Board is now prepared to vote on Resolution 111 to amend the bylaws to reflect the new Board Committee names.

Before we vote do any other Board members have any questions about the proposed resolution?

Hearing none, we are prepared to vote on Board Resolution 111. Madam Secretary, would you please read the operative language?

Janell Smith:
Board Resolution 111 Bylaws Amendments. Now therefore be it resolved that the FirstNet Authority Board hereby amends the bylaws of the FirstNet Authority, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Stephen Benjamin:
Thank you. May I have a motion to approve Board Resolution 111?

Billy Bob Brown Jr.:
Mr. Chair, this is Billy Bob Brown, Jr. I move to approve Board Resolution 111.

Stephen Benjamin:
Thank you. Is there a second?

Warren Mickens:
Yes, this is Warren Mickens. I second the motion.

Stephen Benjamin:
Fantastic. All in favor, say aye.

All:
Aye.

Stephen Benjamin:

Opposed? Are there any abstentions?

Madam Secretary, please make the final resolution available to the public following this meeting.

Janell Smith:

Yes, I will.

Stephen Benjamin:

This is a rather efficient operation. I'd never gotten a city council meeting to run this way. So, thank you, Janell. This does conclude our Board business for the day. As we wrap up, I really want to say again, what a real honor it is to serve on this Board amongst such leaders as we focus on delivering the very best nationwide broadband network for our nation's first responders. It's an exciting time to be joining the FirstNet Authority and this Board is ready and well positioned to hit the ground running, especially grateful to our CEO Edward Parkinson and Janell, and the entire FirstNet Authority staff - really first class for the work in support of this Board and day-to-day dedication to serving public stakeholders. Look forward to working with each of you and this entire great team. I'm going to turn it over to it Ed Parkinson, our CEO for any remarks he'd like to add to close this out.

Edward Parkinson:

Thank you Mayor, I appreciate that. Good morning to everyone listening and good morning to everyone in the room. I first of all, just would like to thank Mayor Benjamin for just the friendship and relationship we've been able to strike up just in a relatively short period of time. I think the Board and the program under his stewardship is in very, very good hands and I echo that all the Board members not just those who've been here for a while but for the new Board members. It's just been a privilege to get to know you over the last few days, and I know I speak on behalf of Lisa and myself and the entire organization, just how excited we are as staff to see the path going forward under the vision that you will have. So, really just couldn't be happier about where we stand. It would also be remiss of me not to thank Tip Osterthaler, our outgoing Chair, as well as all the other Board members who were not reappointed, just want to thank them for their dedication to public safety. It's remarkable when you think, going back to our first Chair, Sam Ginn, now coming all the way to our fifth Chair, Mr. Benjamin, the type of talent that this program has been able to attract all voluntary, or putting their hands up for the advancement of public safety in this great nation of ours and to really be part of that, albeit a small part, is really an honor.

So, I just like to thank everyone involved in the project, going back to even when Jocelyn was working for Senator Rockefeller who was the author of the legislation, as you say. It's come full circle, hasn't it? And remarkable to see that. You know, we've had a remarkable transformation, since Jeff had the slides up showing when in 2018, all those numbers were zero. And when you think about the growth that this program has shown, as well as understanding the evolution that this program has taken on. You know, we sit here now on the cusp of 5G with FirstNet Ready for 5G, being able to supply those types of services to public safety, and when you think of the fact that so much has been done by such a small group of remarkable people, it really does go back to the wonderful beginnings of where we are, but also how excited it is to see the future of

the program. We know we have a long way to go. It's a 25-year contract for a reason. We understand that mistakes have been made along the way, but we're thankful for the trust that public safety has been able to put into the FirstNet Authority, and also the commitment that AT&T has shown. As I said before, no one is perfect, certainly not us, but at the end of the day we are completely dedicated to achieving the mission that Congress put forward to us and we're certainly dedicated to that.

As we go forward into 2022, we look forward to potential programmatic reauthorization, spectrum re-license at the FCC, we look forward to continuing the evolution of the technology and the evolution of the network. Similar to how we think about technology, we all remember the flip phones from the past and probably playing Snake on those Nokia 3310s in our misguided youths. The games have gotten better in smartphone technology and our ability to provide services to public safety has just taken those leaps and bounds. It's quite exciting to think about where we'll sit in just another three years and as we approach the further advancements in technology along the Board. So, I'd like to thank everyone, I'd certainly like to thank Lisa, my right hand, as we go forward. I'd like to thank Jeff and Rich for the partnership and technology and all of management. I again, I'm just a small part of a much more important team that we have in the organization. So, a shout out to the FirstNet Authority staff, a remarkable group of men and women who give up so much to really provide so much to public safety. So, as we look forward into 2022, focusing on the priorities that we have as the enterprise, the contract oversight over AT&T, continued engagement with public safety it's really what we do, it's front and center of everything that we have at the program, continuing to advance the network, and ultimately continue to improve and advance the culture of what we do inside the FirstNet Authority, but of course, the service that we provide to public safety. So, I couldn't be more excited about the opportunity we have in front of us, Mayor Benjamin, my thanks to you, my thanks to all of the Board and really excited to get our heads down and achieve what we can in 2022.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you so much Ed. Thank you, we're now prepared to adjourn this meeting. May I have a motion to adjourn?

Alexandra Fernandez Navarro:

Mr. Chair, I present a motion to adjourn the meeting. This is Alexandra Fernandez Navarro.

Stephen Benjamin:

Thank you. Is there a second?

Karima Holmes:

This is Karima, I second.

Stephen Benjamin:

All in favor say aye.

All:

Aye.

Stephen Benjamin:

All opposed, say nay. No nays? Are there any abstentions?

Oh, just want to thank everyone who attended the Combined Board Meeting and Committees Meeting and to the audience who joined us over WebEx today. Our meeting is now adjourned. Godspeed.