U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY
**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 COMBINED BOARD AND COMMITTEES
MEETING VIA WEBEX AND TELECONFERENCE**

On September 30, 2020, the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) held an open public meeting of the FirstNet Authority Board and its Committees. The meeting took place via WebEx and teleconference and began at 11:00 AM EST. A transcript of the meeting, audio recording, and the archived Combined Board and Committees meeting presentation, are available on the FirstNet Authority website: www.FirstNet.gov.

BOARD AND COMMITTEES MEETING
Board Chair Robert "Tip" Osterthaler opened the meeting by welcoming all to the FirstNet Authority Combined Board and Committees meeting via WebEx and teleconference. In his opening statement, he thanked Edward Horowitz for implementing the National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) under his leadership as Board Chair and for his continued support and dedication to the FirstNet Authority as Chairman of the Governance and Personnel Committee, until the expiration of his term in 2021. Chair Osterthaler also announced Richard Carrizzo as the new Vice Chair for the FirstNet Authority Board, taking the place of former Vice Chair, Chief Richard Stanek. The main focus areas of the meeting were the approval of the August 18, 2020, Combined Board and Finance Committee meeting minutes; Chair Osterthaler's key priorities for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021; presentations from the public safety community about how the FirstNet network is enabling their work; a Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) update from PSAC Chair Todd Early; updates from the Advocacy, Finance, and Network and Technology Committees; updates to the Board Committees member assignments; a Governance and Personnel Committee vote and Board vote; and closing remarks from FirstNet Authority Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Edward Parkinson.

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

Conflicts Statement and Reminder
Prior to participating in the FirstNet Authority Combined Board and Committees meeting, Board Secretary Janell Smith provided Board members with the agenda and Conflict of Interest guidance that applies to the Board members. All Board members responded prior to the meeting

that they did not need to recuse themselves from participation in any portion of this meeting, therefore indicating no conflicts of interest, and the meeting proceeded.

Votes Taken
Prior to proceeding with the business of the day, Chair Osterthaler requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the August 18, 2020, Combined Board and Finance Committee meeting. Brian Crawford made the motion. Edward Horowitz seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to approve the August 18, 2020, Combined Board and Finance Committee meeting minutes to be available to the public following the meeting.

Votes were also taken on the following committee resolution:

- Brian Crawford motioned to approve the Governance and Personnel Committee Resolution 11, a proposed amendment to the Governance and Personnel Committee Charter. Vice Chair Carrizzo seconded, and the Governance and Personnel Committee unanimously voted to approve the resolution.

The Board voted to approve the following resolution:

- Paul Patrick motioned to approve Board Resolution 107, Adoption of the Governance and Personnel Committee Charter Revisions. Billy Hewes seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to approve the resolution.

Board Committees Member Update
Chair Osterthaler announced new Board committee chairs and assignments. The new committee chairs and members are as follows:

- **Advocacy Committee** – Richard Carrizzo (Chairman); Billy Hewes; Karima Holmes; Paul Patrick; and Matt Slinkard.

- **Finance Committee** – Brian Crawford (Chairman); Edward Horowitz; Paul Patrick; Jessica Renier; and David Zolet.

- **Governance and Personnel Committee** – Edward Horowitz (Chairman); Richard Carrizzo; Neil Cox; Brian Crawford; and Tip Osterthaler.

- **Network and Technology Committee** – Neil Cox (Chairman); Richard Carrizzo; Welton Chase; Vincent DeLaurentis; Darrin Jones; and Matt Slinkard.

MATTERS DISCUSSED

Public Safety Testimonials
Two public safety partner organizations joined the meeting to discuss how they are using FirstNet on the ground in their communities. The first speakers, Tiffany Circle and Karen Condon, were from the Confederate Tribes of the Colville Reservation in the State of Washington. They explained how the FirstNet resources were utilized in setting up an

emergency operations center in a remote community, how a SatCOLT was helpful during a wildland fire, and how tribal consultations with the FirstNet Authority allowed the tribal government to voice their coverage priorities. The second speaker, Michael Nix, is the Georgia Statewide Interoperability Coordinator for the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency. Mr. Nix chronicled his agency's reliance on FirstNet and the FirstNet AT&T system for the provision of tablets and other data devices to assist with COVID-19 testing. Mr. Nix also described his agency's deployment of SatCOLT to two quarantine and isolation areas thus providing good coverage and connectivity in remote areas.

PSAC Update
PSAC Chair Early noted the addition of two new members to the PSAC: Director Patrick Sheehan, from the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, representing the National Emergency Management Agency, and Dr. Lenny Weiss, from the University of Pittsburg School of Medicine, representing the National Association of EMS Physicians. In regards to the six FirstNet Authority Roadmap domains, the PSAC held its first bi-weekly webinar on the Core Roadmap domain as well as participated in poll regarding a 200-level question. The PSAC also received an overview of the approved investment decision to make the FirstNet Authority 5G ready. In the Coverage and Capacity domain, the Tribal Working Group (TWG) ensured that the needs of Indian Country and rural America are met when considering network investments. The TWG also utilized survey tools to capture feedback from members of the working group. On the Situational Awareness domain, members reviewed the challenges to the LTE-based location services and Z-axis technology solutions at the bi-monthly webinar in August 2020. PSAC members participated in a poll regarding a question on the Voice Communications domain in December 2019 and also received feedback on the new push-to-talk solution in May 2020. On the Secure Information Exchange domain, PSAC continues to make progress with the ICAM Strike Team in partnership with AT&T FirstNet, in which the Strike Team anticipates the opportunity to discuss other topics within this domain at the PSAC bi-monthly webinar in September 2020. Finally, in the User Experience domain, in the March 2020 bi-monthly webinar, members participated in poll questions on the features and capabilities of imminent peril solution and in which situations first responders would utilize the tool.

Advocacy Committee Update
Committee Chairman Carrizzo thanked the Public Safety Advocacy (PSA) team for the work they have done during the pandemic, finding ways to continue engagements with public safety. Chairman Carrizzo then introduced Public Safety Advocacy (PSA) Division Director David Buchanan. Mr. Buchanan gave a brief update on the number of PSA engagements to date for FY20. By the end of FY20, almost 1,200 public safety engagements occurred across 56 states and territories, reaching over 30,000 stakeholders from across the nation.

Mr. Buchanan went on to mention five FirstNet Authority solution enhancements derived from feedback received from public safety. This includes the continuous development of the downloadable FirstNet PTT to keep improving and conducting user experience testing of new features in the application; the expansion of subscriber-paid options to allow for some extended primary users; central and assist application updates such as the addition of the notification center to communicate to administrators and users of new features added, outages, maintenance, and new offers and promotions; network status map additions to alert the vicinity impacted and

provide increased situational awareness; and inclusion of frequently used applications in the catalog to help the FirstNet Authority continue to improve, enhance, and invest in the network.

As a continued execution of the Roadmap, the team has concentrated on the collection of general data from public safety for the high level 200-level domain questions specific to each domain; focused data collection on various methods such as surveys, one-on-one discussions to capture detailed perspectives on how public safety uses and views device caches; and virtual small focus groups to gather and allow these groups to share experiences, viewpoints and opinions on complex topics.

Network and Technology Committee Update
Committee Chairman Cox spoke on the FirstNet Authority technical team briefing held at the beginning of September, which enabled the committee to provide strategic guidance on engaging, influencing, and building the network and ecosystems that align with the Roadmap, as well as inform them about future investments to the network. He then yielded to Chief Network and Technology Officer Jeffrey Bratcher to provide updates on the recent progress in global standards; devices available for public safety users; innovative applications that provide solutions; operational issues faced by first responders; and progress in advancing public safety technologies.

Mr. Bratcher noted that FirstNet Authority staff actively engaged with the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), the key global standards body for 4G and 5G wireless networks, to develop the specifications and requirements and ensure those for public safety communications are in the committees and being worked on. The completion of the 3GPP Release 16 was mentioned in the June 2020 Combined Board and Committees Meeting, and its primary focus was on the push-to-talk land mobile radio networking activities and the B2X support for some of the 5G services, and device-to-device support. 3GPP Release 17 is currently in the works, with a targeted completion date of December 2021. The current focus items for Release 17 are the enhancements to the building blocks for the mission-critical services to 5G, additional device-to-device direct and relay modes, multicast broadcast capability, enhanced location-based services, and, a recent addition, the Non-Terrestrial Network support within 3GPP. He also mentioned the involvement with the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions and the Telecommunications Industry Association, who are key standards-setting organizations in North America. In this involvement, the FirstNet Authority and the organizations are working the functions and standards for the land mobile radio networks to the long-term 3GPP and 5G networks. Significant progress has been made, and there is an end of the calendar year 2020 target date for the project 25 conventional and trunking features support in those standard bodies.

Mr. Bratcher went on to give an update on the current 200 plus FirstNet Authority devices in the ecosystem, 159 of which are now Band 14 capable. Since the June 2020 Board and Committees Meeting, 24 additional devices have been added to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) list from the input received from public safety on being able to choose from a diverse range of devices for their communication needs. As mentioned earlier, the applications ecosystem now also holds over 100 plus applications in the FirstNet Authority catalog, with additional security vetting solutions and built-in mechanisms to ensure the applications continue to meet public safety needs for the network. Since the August 2020 Board and Committees

Meeting, an additional ten applications have been added. There are currently over 13,000 public safety agencies and organizations that are subscribed to the network who use it on a daily basis.

The FirstNet Authority collaboration with the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program at NIST continues, with the support of a new "CHARIoT Challenge." This challenge invites innovators to build Internet of Things (IoT) data emulators by participating in a multi-phase contest. Early stage winners and awards have been made to emulate Smart City data for disaster scenarios. An additional 18 awards were made for building augmented-reality interfaces for first responders. The next phase of the challenge is now underway, with teams participating in augmented-reality prototyping with IoT data. The end of this challenge is expected to happen in 2021.

The committee also continues its work with PSCR and the U.S. Economic Development Administration on the Accelerate Response and Resiliency 2 (R2) Network Challenge. Another exciting initiative is the grant program, with an award of $1 million made in July 2020 to a public-private partnership consisting of RapidSOS, an entrepreneurial company involved in public safety communications; Responder Corp, an early-stage investor focused on the public safety communications area; Orleans Parish Communications District; and the Western Fire Chiefs Association. This initiative will create a network to connect organizations and stakeholders involved in R2 and, in addition, provide avenues for the entrepreneurs to connect with like-minded individuals, companies, investors, and associations. The awardees have been performing foundational work on the R2 platform in an online portal for communication across different groups and companies, as well as a press release and social media launch of upcoming virtual and in-person events to bring the communities together.

Finance Committee Update
New Finance Committee Chairman Brian Crawford thanked the FirstNet Authority team and Board members, especially Chair Osterthaler, and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Kim Farington for providing him with background knowledge of the FirstNet Authority financial landscape. He then yielded to CFO Farington for an update on the FY20 operations and looking forward into FY21.

CFO Farington discussed the August 2020 cumulative operations budget execution, where $71 million of the $77 million budget was utilized, which put the FirstNet Authority at an 8% variance. The close out of FY20 is expected to be at about 3%-5% variance. Lastly, she ended with a brief look into the FY21 budget. The budget includes $83.5 million set aside for operations and a reserve of $83.5 million to support the contingency needs that may be needed in support of the FirstNet Authority, the NPSBN, and public safety. Also set aside is $45.9 million for reinvestment that will support the continuous development of emerging features, functionality, and coverage for public safety users.

Closing Remarks
CEO Parkinson thanked the Board members and all those who joined via WebEx and teleconference, as well as expressed his appreciation to former Board Chair, Edward Horowitz, for his continued service to the Board, especially in his new role as Chairman of the Governance and Personnel Committee until the end of his term in 2021. CEO Parkinson went on to

acknowledge David Buchanan and the Public Safety Advocacy group, and the Office of the Chief Information Officer group under Jim Gwinn who have met that the IT needs of the FirstNet Authority staff. He also noted the tireless work FirstNet staff have done to ensure that public safety is being taken care of and to gather feedback to advance the FirstNet Authority Roadmap to further guide the programs, activities and investments. The feedback received from public safety helps the FirstNet Authority continue to learn, improve, and share information on various disasters and COVID-19.   He reminded the audience about the 19th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and the framework from Congress that led to the establishment of the FirstNet Authority to create a dedicated nationwide wireless broadband network for public safety to respond to situations and disasters all over the United States. CEO Parkinson then yielded to Chair Osterthaler.

Board Adjourned
Chair Osterthaler requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Neil Cox made the motion, Darrin Jones seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.