

1 STATE OF TENNESSEE
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE
3 TENNESSEE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

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10 TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

11 May 19, 2011

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22 Ad Litem Reporting
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Reported by: Tracy Foley-Wilkes

1 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 2 Randy Porter, Chair
- Ike Lowry, Vice Chair
- 3 Mark Archer, Member
- Robert T. Lee, Member
- 4 Freddie Rich, Member
- Steve Smith, Member

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BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

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- James Sneed, Member
- 8 R. Hal Buttram, Member
- Katrina Cobb, Member

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STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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- Lynn Questell, Executive Director
- 12 James Barnes, Accounting Manager
- Rex Hollaway, E-911 Technical Services Director
- 13 Curtis Sutton, Board Attorney
- Andy Spears, Director of Government & External Affairs
- 14 Robert McLeod, Director of Audit
- Jay Goldman, Accountant

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1 CHAIR PORTER: All right. Morning
2 everyone.

3 This is the May 19th meeting of the
4 Tennessee Emergency Communications Board. I'd like to
5 welcome each and every one of you here this morning.
6 We've got a pretty full agenda.

7 Let the record show that members that
8 are absent are Ms. Cobb, Mr. Buttram, and Mr. Sneed. We
9 do have a quorum with the rest of the members being
10 present.

11 First item on the agenda this morning is
12 our executive director's report.

13 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 On the status of wireless carrier and
15 Voice over IP deployment and activity, we have a new
16 wireless carrier -- SI Wireless. It's a rural carrier,
17 and it's deploying mainly in Middle Tennessee and has
18 been making some test calls.

19 They have shown a sensitivity to PSAP
20 issues, and if you've got some issues about their test
21 calls and stuff please contact them or contact me and
22 I'll put you through to them. They don't want to do
23 anything that will disrupt your operations.

24 Another report, during the tornadoes and
25 flooding in late April and May, Verizon deployed one of

1 its cellular on wheels units to Bradley and then to
2 Tipton County.

3 We had no reports of misroutes since the
4 last meeting.

5 We did have a number of PSAP outages.
6 White County lost their wireless 911 trunks on
7 February 25th due to a T-1 card failure in the Ben
8 Lomand Telephone System. Their calls were diverted to
9 Putnam County ECD, and as a precautionary measure Putnam
10 continued to answer their wireless calls over the
11 weekend just to make sure that the technical resources
12 could be brought to bear and make sure that everything
13 was working well.

14 The Hickman County PSAP experienced a
15 problem on March 26th in which 911 calls were not
16 received. At least one known serious 911 call was not
17 answered. Responders were dispatched to that event
18 after receiving a report on the admin line. That
19 problem was caused by a lightning strike, which damaged
20 their 911 trunk card to the extent that call takers were
21 not getting an audible ring. Calls were ultimately
22 re-routed to the 10-digit lines, but not before some
23 calls were not answered.

24 Weakley County ECD lost their 911 trunks
25 on April 25th as a result of another lightning strike.

1 The strike impacted their controllers, so 911 calls were
2 routed over their 10-digit lines.

3 The Dresden PSAP is still dealing with
4 some of their 911 trunks not functioning. The county is
5 served by both Frontier and AT&T. Frontier wire-line
6 subscriber calls are routed through the AT&T selective
7 router in Jackson. There are separate 911 trunks for
8 wireless calls.

9 Moving on to ECD activities. I am proud
10 to note that in March Grainger County 911 was voted the
11 best place to work in Grainger County, and Randy Holt
12 was voted the favorite boss.

13 The April and May storms and flooding,
14 many counties across the state suffered significant
15 damage and death from the high winds and tornadoes and
16 flooding.

17 PSAPs were mostly unaffected throughout
18 out state, although the Lake County PSAP was relocated
19 to Hornbeak in Obion County as a precautionary measure.

20 Washington County EMA requested TERT
21 assistance at their command post, and dispatchers from
22 Blount and Loudon Counties responded to that. Some
23 dispatchers in Bradley County worked 20 hours in the
24 aftermath of the tornadoes that hit East Tennessee.

25 Moving to a more happier subject, the

1 Henderson County PSAP is going to move to -- this month
2 to its new location in the Henderson County Criminal
3 Justice Center.

4 Hardin County ECD has built a new
5 facility on the west side of town and will occupy it on
6 June 1st.

7 Dickson County ECD plans to complete a
8 new facility in September.

9 Henry County ECD has retained an
10 architectural firm and a construction firm to determine
11 the viability of building an administrative building
12 with expansion options for a PSAP.

13 Benton County ECD is in negotiations to
14 move its PSAP to the new sheriff's office.

15 I wanted to just take a second to talk
16 about the Census. We've been informed by the fiscal
17 director of the Department of Commerce and Insurance
18 that the new census data will likely be implemented into
19 the state financial distribution system in May or June.
20 It's looking more like June, I think.

21 As soon as the State tells us that we're
22 allowed to implement the new numbers we will recalculate
23 the 25 percent distribution of wire-line back to the
24 districts based on the population figures for the 2010
25 census. And we'll also apply that to the -- to redo the

1 operational funding calculations.

2 We'll do that as soon as we get the okay
3 from the State. But we can't move ahead before that.

4 Status of the NG911 equipment
5 reimbursement program. In March we requested that
6 districts who intend to seek reimbursement for IP
7 controllers to obtain prior approval so that we can make
8 sure that they will be compatible with the NG911 system
9 that we're putting in place. We're still asking you to
10 do that if you're intending to make one of those
11 purchases.

12 As of May 6, 2011, nineteen districts
13 have either been paid or are in the process of being
14 reimbursed for requests totaling \$5,234,917 under the
15 NG911 equipment funding program.

16 Status of the \$150,000 Essential and
17 Necessary Equipment Program. As of May 16th, ninety-six
18 districts have either been paid or are in the process of
19 being reimbursed for requests totaling \$13 million.
20 Sixty-two districts have requested the maximum amount.
21 Nine more have less than \$10,000 remaining on their
22 allocation. Four have not initiated any documentation
23 toward requesting any of the funding available to them.

24 The Status of the GIS mapping
25 maintenance program. All of the GIS mapping maintenance

1 funds have been paid out. That's \$1,100,000 -- no,
2 \$1,010,000 have been processed for payment from the last
3 year, and we will be redoing this again in August after
4 the beginning of the new fiscal year.

5 Same with the status of the \$2.2 million
6 dispatcher training reimbursement. It's not a
7 reimbursement program anymore; it's just a funding
8 program. Like we did last year, we'll be distributing
9 the amounts in August as well.

10 I want to talk about the districts that
11 have been deemed "at risk." Those are districts with
12 two consecutive years of negative changes in net assets
13 as shown by their audits.

14 As required by the new amendments of
15 Policy 16, Staff has met with and counseled with all the
16 districts that have two consecutive years of negative
17 changes in their net assets. There were six of them.

18 Under Policy 16 districts with two
19 consecutive years of negative changes in net assets are
20 deemed "at risk." Being "at risk" is significant
21 because districts with three consecutive years of
22 negative changes in assets are deemed "financially
23 distressed."

24 "At risk" districts must submit a
25 balanced budget and all budget amendments to the state

1 board. A balanced budget is one in which recurring
2 operating expenditures include depreciation as a budget
3 line item and the recurring expenditures do not exceed
4 recurring revenues.

5 Policy 16 also requires "at risk"
6 districts to provide a written status report to the TECB
7 by June 1 of each year, and as may be requested, and
8 provide copies of all minutes from ECD board of
9 directors' meetings and the financial reports that are
10 required to be provided at every regularly scheduled
11 meeting.

12 I wanted to just kind of take a second
13 to give some context to this. There's -- the reason
14 that we meet with "at risk" districts that have two
15 consecutive years is to make sure they understand the
16 consequences of three consecutive years of negative
17 assets.

18 There should be no surprise that some
19 ECDs occasionally have negative changes in net assets.
20 One year is basically expected if you're going to be
21 doing something like acquiring equipment or building a
22 building. Negative changes in net assets can reflect
23 well-founded fiscally responsible decisions to improve
24 ECD operations. Because anytime an ECD has to dip into
25 its reserve or large or unanticipated emergency cost

1 there is probably going to be negative changes in net
2 assets.

3 As I said, one year of negative changes
4 in net assets is completely permissible under state law
5 and has no negative consequences.

6 Two consecutive years of negative
7 changes raises concerns because ECDs with three
8 consecutive years of negative changes are deemed
9 distressed.

10 We were told by the Comptroller's
11 office -- we've discussed with them about depreciation
12 and about the financial distress terms in the statute.
13 Basically, we were told that the purpose of this law is
14 to ensure that districts monitor their spending and
15 don't make a continued practice of taking more
16 obligations than their income permits.

17 Under Policy 16 Staff meets with the
18 districts that have two consecutive years of negative
19 changes to help them avoid that third consecutive year.

20 That's been done with the six districts
21 that have negative changes -- two consecutive years of
22 negative changes in net assets this year.

23 I wanted to update you on our NG911
24 project -- Next Generation 911. Our entire team is in
25 place. We have TCS, which is a 911 specific company out

1 of Seattle that is going to be kind of the 911 manager
2 of this project.

3 We have the NetTN Program, which is a
4 state program that has a statewide IP Network, that is
5 what NCIC runs on, and with amendments, that the Fiscal
6 Review Committee at the General Assembly has approved.

7 Our experts have determined that we can
8 have a private secure IP Network just for 911 that will
9 meet all those standards that we would want. And so
10 we're moving ahead with that.

11 AT&T is the contractor on the NetTN
12 contract. We also have the GIS group out of OIR. GIS
13 is particularly important because eventually we will be
14 routing calls using the statewide GIS map that we're
15 creating, and that we've been working on for years and
16 years. Since before 2003.

17 I know that we've promised that we would
18 provide a form for all of your questions that you might
19 have once we have the RFP process concluded -- and with
20 the selection of TCS we do.

21 So what we're planning to do is have,
22 basically, three meetings in each division of the
23 state -- East, Middle, and West -- to allow anyone who's
24 interested. There will be totally open meetings to
25 come, and we'll provide a presentation of what the

1 infrastructure is and what the plan is. And we'll open
2 it up to any kind of questions that you-all might have.
3 We promised to do this, and we are about to do it.

4 It will be June 14th in Athens,
5 Tennessee; 15th in Jackson, Tennessee; and 16th here in
6 Nashville at the TBI Headquarters.

7 We've already -- I guess -- yesterday
8 issued a public notice about this. If you have any
9 questions or you need directions or anything like that,
10 please let us know. We're really hoping for a lot of
11 interest, and everyone is welcome.

12 Committee update. Policy Advisory
13 Committee met on March 21st to consider incentives to
14 improve the State's GIS mapping program, and the
15 Committee made some unanimous recommendations that are
16 on the agenda today.

17 On April 28th the Operations Committee
18 met to discuss implementation of requirements necessary
19 to upgrade the State's GIS mapping system for NG911.

20 And I just want to thank all the members
21 of those committees. They were good meetings. Really
22 helpful. And we just really appreciate your service on
23 them.

24 Legislative update. I want to take a
25 second to pat Andy on the back publically. He's really

1 done a great job with the Board's legislative agenda.

2 Good job.

3 The purchasing bill that the Board
4 decided to sponsor was legislation to allow districts to
5 purchase off each other's contracts. That has been
6 passed and signed into law.

7 And TENA has agreed to serve as a
8 clearinghouse -- use their Web site as a clearinghouse
9 so that you can know what other districts have
10 purchased.

11 So if you've got contracts for -- that
12 you found helpful, you should contact TENA and let them
13 have that information.

14 I just sent two contracts that the State
15 recently entered into for radios to them and
16 they're really appreciate the use of their Web site to
17 be a clearinghouse for this.

18 Waiver legislation. This legislation
19 was to allow districts the discretion to decide if they
20 wanted to ask for a waiver of certain of the misdemeanor
21 prohibitions on serving as a dispatcher. The plan would
22 be to have a committee that the district could bring
23 in -- and the facts -- have the committee review it; and
24 the committee would make a recommendation to the Board.

25 There would be two layers of the review

1 process. And only districts could bring these requests
2 to the committee.

3 This bill has passed. And this is
4 somewhat like what the POST Commission has with their
5 waiver process. And at the -- on the agenda, the next
6 board meeting, we will be asking the Board to consider
7 members for the committee that will review the waivers.

8 The next piece of legislation was the
9 Caller Protection Act, which was to keep 911 recordings
10 private so that a person just having had the worst
11 experience of their life wouldn't turn on the TV and
12 hear themselves making that 911 call. That would be so
13 disturbing. And also to protect people that have
14 reported crimes, because all of that at this point are
15 open records.

16 The media was opposed to this bill, to
17 say the least, and the Senate passed this legislation
18 with an amendment that we are studying. We have some
19 concerns about it violating the First Amendment.

20 It's a two-year session, so we're just
21 going to put it on hold until we have an opportunity to
22 just kind of make sure that districts won't end up being
23 sued for First Amendment violations. That would be the
24 last thing that we would want. So we would rather just
25 take our time and be very, very careful about this.

1 Another piece of legislation that was
2 not sponsored by the Board -- it was sponsored by
3 Representative Joe Towns from Shelby County. It is
4 current incarnation. It was about non-emergency calls
5 to 911 and wanting to increase the fines for that.

6 As you probably all know, the Board has
7 sponsored some legislation that did just that during the
8 last session.

9 MEMBER SPEARS: Two years ago.

10 MS. QUESTELL: So in this latest
11 incarnation it looks like it may simply require a report
12 to the General Assembly from the state board about the
13 number of harassing non-emergency calls that are made.
14 Right now, it's probably on hold until 2012 as well.

15 Turning to Charter Communications. We
16 filed a complaint with the Tennessee Regulatory
17 Authority asserting that Charter had errors in its
18 remittances to a number of districts. Most of the
19 errors related to a failure to remit the full 911 fee on
20 business lines.

21 We've been in negotiations with Charter.
22 They agreed to do an audit. The audit covered nine
23 months of a 26-month time period. Charter has deemed
24 the results of that audit proprietary, so they must
25 remain confidential. But we are currently in

1 discussions to actually resolve this issue.

2 The last item is a report from NENA.
3 NENA recently approved a change in the ENP Certification
4 Program. Previously only personnel with three years
5 experience in a management or supervisory role in
6 emergency communications could sit for the exam. And
7 after several months of deliberation and discussion NENA
8 has decided that anyone could take the ENP exam if they
9 had three years experience in emergency communications,
10 regardless of their position, if they meet the education
11 criteria.

12 So every applicant, regardless of their
13 position, will be treated the same and have questions
14 from the same bank of questions.

15 If you're interested you can contact
16 Jamison Peevyhouse, who serves as the NENA Institute
17 Board Representative for the Southwest United States.

18 Finally, I have accepted an invitation
19 to sit on a NENA panel at the NENA conference in
20 Minneapolis in June. It's a panel on early adopter
21 updates for NG911. Interestingly, the other panel
22 members that I know about are Iowa; Shelby County,
23 Alabama; and parts of Texas. So it's -- really as far
24 as state adopter, it's us and Iowa.

25 That's all I have.

1 CHAIR PORTER: Any questions of Lynn on
2 anything in her report?

3 (Pause)

4 CHAIR PORTER: All right. Hearing none.
5 Next item on the agenda is Staff
6 recommendations for the extension of landline rates in
7 Grundy, Johnson, Morgan, and Overton-Pickett County
8 ECDs.

9 MS. QUESTELL: The landline rates for
10 those ECDs were reviewed under revised Policy 14.

11 Staff has analyzed the reports the ECDs
12 filed. We know that the contributions by other
13 governmental entities to these ECDs have not been
14 reduced and the justification for the rate increases
15 still appear valid.

16 Keeping in mind that Policy 11 allows
17 the Board to modify the rates of local 911 service
18 charges at any time and that Policy 42 requires ECD
19 management to notify the Board of contributions to ECD
20 operations by local government are reduced, Staff has
21 found no reason not to allow the current rates of the
22 above-listed districts to be continued.

23 The rate extension requests are included
24 on the agenda just to make a record that the Board does
25 not object to extending the rates.

1 CHAIR PORTER: Do I hear any objections?

2 (Pause)

3 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none.

4 Next item on the agenda is consider
5 amending Policy 20, which is the GIS mapping system
6 capabilities to include standards and formats necessary
7 to integrate ECD GIS mapping systems into the new NG911
8 System.

9 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 Staff is proposing amendments to the
11 policy that governs the GIS mapping standards to reflect
12 requirements needed to integrate the districts' GIS
13 mapping into the NG911 project.

14 The success of NG911 really depends on
15 having a uniform statewide GIS mapping system, and
16 that's what this amendment is all about.

17 Before I read this proposed policy I
18 just want to relay some concerns about this and what
19 we're asking of you as far as GIS improvements and
20 uniformity.

21 No one is expecting the districts to
22 have to be complete GIS experts. This stuff can be
23 really complicated. All you have to do to get compliant
24 is to call Patrick with OIR/GIS. They have just put on
25 another employee to help him -- Justin. Patrick will

1 come and put a program into your GIS system that will
2 convert it to this standard format that we have to have
3 so that the whole state will have an integrated mapping
4 system.

5 Please feel free to contact districts
6 where Patrick has already completed his work. He's
7 worked in Wilson, Henry, Putnam, Wayne -- and a number
8 of other counties. I think, basically, every one of
9 them would say that it was a pretty painless process.
10 There's nothing complicated. All you have to do is pick
11 up the phone. Patrick will do the conversions for you
12 at no cost. State board is paying for it.

13 With that said, I'd like to read the
14 proposed amendment into the record.

15 The proposed amendment adds Section C to
16 Policy 20.

17 It states effective May 19, 2011, all
18 public safety answering points affiliated with emergency
19 communications districts shall migrate their Geographic
20 Information Systems data to follow the Tennessee
21 information for Public Safety format, defining field
22 naming conventions for address points, street
23 centerlines, and ESN boundaries. This shall be required
24 for participation in the Next Generation 911 Network and
25 for participation in the GIS Financial Incentive.

1 Each ECD shall:

2 1. Provide the TECB with the name of an
3 individual who will be responsible for their GIS mapping
4 and maintenance.

5 2. Obtain the approvals necessary to
6 migrate their GIS data to the TIPS format and provide
7 that data to OIR/GIS or other TECB designee as
8 requested.

9 3. Coordinate with OIR/GIS or other
10 TECB designees to migrate GIS data to the TIPS format
11 and maintain TIPS data on a monthly basis.

12 4. Annually update GIS maintenance plan
13 on a form provided by the TECB and submit the form to
14 OIR/GIS or other TECB designees.

15 5. Implement and maintain the following
16 data layers and provide that data layers and provide
17 that data to OIR/GIS or other TECB designees.

18 And I wanted to stop here and say that
19 these data layers are the same data layers that have
20 been in effect since 2002, except for the last one.

- 21 i. Street centerline;
- 22 ii. Address points;
- 23 iii. Emergency service zone boundaries;
- 24 iv. Area landmarks;
- 25 v. Fire hydrants;

1 vi. Administrative boundaries for city,
2 state, and county;

3 vii. Ortho photography;

4 viii. Other layers NENA may require.

5 Absent a waiver by the TECB, data layers
6 for street centerlines, address points, and ESN
7 boundaries shall be implemented no later than June 1,
8 2012.

9 6. Upon request, cooperate with OIR/GIS
10 or other TECB designees and GIS personnel in adjacent
11 counties/jurisdictions to ensure that:

12 i. Emergency service zones and street
13 centerline data layers are seamless between counties
14 with no gaps or overlaps between boundary polygons; and

15 ii. All boundary street centerlines
16 share an exact begin or end node with the adjacent
17 county street centerline.

18 7. Comply with all NENA GIS mapping
19 standards.

20 CHAIR PORTER: You've heard the
21 recommendations on amending Policy 20 from Staff to
22 basically convert everyone over to the TIPS format.

23 What's the will of the Board?

24 MEMBER ARCHER: I make a motion.

25 CHAIR PORTER: Motion by Mr. Archer.

1 Do I have a second?

2 MEMBER LEE: Second.

3 CHAIR PORTER: A motion and a second
4 that we adopt and amend Policy 20 considering the GIS
5 mapping standards. And I will reiterate what Lynn said.
6 Patrick has come to my office a couple times and it's
7 relatively painless. He's got a lot of tools also that
8 they have at OIR that will help you in your GIS mapping
9 program in finding errors and so forth. I found it
10 really worthwhile.

11 I know, Mark, he's been to your place,
12 too, and you would reiterate that. This is just -- I
13 know folks are a little scared, and there's nothing to
14 be scared about because he'll walk you through the whole
15 process.

16 The good thing about it is it's free.
17 And as you're going to see in the next motion you're
18 probably going to get you some money, too. So I think
19 it's going to be a good thing.

20 We've got to have it for the NG911
21 system to work properly in the future. So it's pretty
22 much something we've got to do.

23 Any questions?

24 (Pause)

25 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in

1 favor of the motion say "aye."

2 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

3 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

4 (Pause)

5 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

6 Next item on the agenda, to kind of go
7 right along with this, is consider recommendation of the
8 Policy Advisory Committee to provide financial incentive
9 to assure that all ECD affiliated GIS mapping systems
10 are integrated into the Next Generation 911 System,
11 which is called "NG911."

12 Lynn, you want to talk about this one?

13 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. Thank you.

14 As I said before, having a uniformed GIS
15 mapping system that incorporates the NENA GIS standards
16 and the TIPS format so that we are all having the same
17 format and that there's uniform is essential to NG911 --
18 is essential to 911. What people have said to me,
19 basically, there's no point in doing NG911 if we can't
20 get the GIS part in there. It just won't work. We have
21 to do this.

22 And the -- I brought that issue to the
23 Policy Advisory Committee, and they thought that
24 providing some incentive funding to kind of sweeten the
25 pot and get everyone's interest would be a good way to

1 ensure that we met our deadlines. And we really did
2 create a statewide GIS mapping system that would work.

3 What we know is that there are three
4 items that we have to have. And if we don't have them
5 in by the deadlines that I'm going to talk to you about,
6 it's going to slow up the NG911 process. We really
7 don't need to do that. We need to move this thing
8 ahead.

9 We've been working on it for five years
10 now. Now, we're actually at the deployment point. It's
11 time to just bring it all to bear.

12 What has to be in the GIS system for it
13 to work are street centerlines, address points, and ESN.
14 At a minimum, the ESNs have to be converted to TIPS by
15 June 1, 2012, or it'll create delays in our deployment
16 schedule.

17 We think that there may be issues to
18 work out between the counties as to the accuracy of the
19 borders, so I have a conference call actually scheduled
20 this afternoon to talk to R.L. Kimball and Associates,
21 who are our technical advisors, to help us with the --
22 get the ENS boundaries right.

23 They're going to put together -- the
24 plan is to put together kind of a map, and where it's
25 clear that the boundaries aren't in agreement we'll

1 bring them to you. Patrick will do that and give you an
2 opportunity to sit down with your neighbors and work out
3 exactly where you want the boundaries to be. It's
4 essential that we all agree where the boundaries are for
5 this to work.

6 So that's going to happen this
7 afternoon.

8 Also, going forward, we need to monitor
9 the progress in converting to TIPS and assuring that the
10 state's GIS standards are maintained. You-all know a
11 map that's not maintained is not worth having, so it's
12 really important that we -- that that part of this
13 program is mapping maintenance, as well as conversion to
14 TIPS.

15 Okay. Just a little background -- I
16 mean, we've had a contract with the GIS group at OIR
17 since at least 2003. We know that every district in the
18 state has a GIS mapping system. The Board provided
19 \$50,000 for each district to obtain a GIS mapping
20 system, but it's clear that there's work to be done to
21 get all the states into a TIPS standard.

22 Rex did a survey a few months ago in
23 which 83 of 100 districts responded. When asked the
24 question does your local GIS database meet the TIPS
25 standard, 28 districts answered "yes"; 16 said "no"; one

1 said "in progress"; and 40 said "they did not know." So
2 there's work to be done.

3 And the Policy Committee suggested that
4 there should be funding incentives to get people's
5 attention. The funding that we are proposing to provide
6 would be the funding from the Voice over IP 911 service
7 charge.

8 In 2006 the Board passed the --
9 sponsored a statute that we hoped would keep us from
10 having to go back to the General Assembly every time
11 some new emerging technology arose that would -- so that
12 we could have a 911 fee on anything that would connect a
13 person dialing or entering the digits 9-1-1 to a PSAP
14 that was a non-wire line.

15 The State collects a 911 fee on that at
16 present. Voice over IP is what we're collecting on.
17 This is a growing revenue as opposed to -- I think we
18 all know the landline source is reducing, but in the
19 past since we've had this in effect -- since 2006 I
20 don't think it has increased less than 25 percent per
21 year. So we don't know how much you'll actually get
22 from this, but it is a growing revenue source.

23 The plan would be to pay it out three
24 times a year because that's how we kind of keep track of
25 what we've got. We'll collect that much and then

1 provide it out. The State would still keep the 911 fee
2 on cell phones to provide all of our funding programs
3 for you-all and also to do the NG911 project.

4 We would ask the Board that in five
5 years we would have permission to go back and examine
6 this and make sure that we have sufficient funding to
7 carry all of our obligations, but -- okay.

8 Now, this funding program would be
9 different from Policy 20. This would be focusing only
10 on the three things that we absolutely need for NG911:
11 street centerlines, address points, and ESNs. And what
12 we would be asking is for the districts to show progress
13 in these data layers to get the funding.

14 We would propose that the Voice over IP
15 revenue be distributed so that just like with the
16 operational funding there would be a \$20,000 base amount
17 for every district. Then the remainder would be
18 distributed using the seven population based groups that
19 are used for the operational funding.

20 As I said, the distribution would be in
21 three annual payments. Staff will create forms that you
22 can apply for three times a year. It's just basically,
23 checking off stuff on the forms to show progress and to
24 do it three times a year is how we will make sure that
25 there is progress on this. Obviously, once we get the

1 deadline met -- or once you are TIPS compliant you just
2 have to file the form once a year, and we'll send you
3 the three payments.

4 You can request the funding by faxing,
5 e-mailing, mailing, just check them off and send them
6 in.

7 And we would recommend -- the Policy
8 Committee also recommended that there will be no
9 restrictions placed on how the districts spent their
10 funds. They would just be operational funds, but we
11 would be monitoring their progress with GIS.

12 One of the main things is that you have
13 to name a person who's responsible. That's going to be
14 the first thing on the form so that you -- there's no
15 question about who Patrick is to talk to about getting
16 this converted over.

17 We'll post a document that lists the
18 minimum requirements for TIPS compliance on our
19 Web site. This document is basically intended to be a
20 cheat sheet so that you can show it to your vendor -- or
21 whatever -- and say I need this, that this is what it
22 would take to become compliant.

23 So what we're asking is for the Board to
24 authorize Staff to establish a GIS incentive program
25 using all non-wireline 911 service charge revenues after

1 the 25 percent portion is distributed, except for fees
2 on cell phones, and to distribute the funding three
3 times annually using the recurring operational funding
4 format, and to create forms to use for districts to
5 request the GIS incentive funding three times a year.

6 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. You've heard the
7 recommendation from Staff to create this new program.
8 This program that will put money back out to the
9 districts to help them with the GIS.

10 What's the will of the Board?

11 MEMBER RICH: I so move.

12 CHAIR PORTER: Motion from Mr. Rich.

13 Do I have a second?

14 MEMBER LOWRY: Second.

15 CHAIR PORTER: Second by Mr. Lowry.

16 Any discussions or questions?

17 MEMBER ARCHER: I wanted to make sure
18 that I say this. It worries me about "showing progress"
19 because I don't want to see these funds get lost in
20 general funds. So according to how "show progress" is
21 defined -- I'm sure you guys will -- but I just wanted
22 to stress that, because I know it could get lost in
23 general funds. I want make sure that it's being used
24 the way it's supposed to be used.

25 MS. QUESTELL: The reason that we're

1 asking that people request -- people who are not TIPS
2 compliant have to request it three times a year is so
3 that we can keep track and monitor, because we've got a
4 deadline breathing down our neck. We have got to get
5 this done. It would be such a waste of time and effort
6 to have to hold up the deployment of NG911 because
7 people don't have their GIS mapping systems in place.
8 Especially after the Board has been providing GIS
9 support since 2002.

10 We have a statewide GIS mapping program
11 that has -- now the rubber meets the road. I can assure
12 you that Staff will be looking at this extremely
13 carefully.

14 MEMBER ARCHER: The only other comment
15 that I have, Lynn -- and I appreciate that -- is that
16 during the operations meeting it was brought up that
17 it's -- how important it is that OIR stay current with
18 NENA. Looks like there are standards that we weren't
19 sure whether -- what program they were implementing now
20 was current with the new March requirements by NENA, so
21 wanted to make sure that you-all stress that OIR stay
22 current with NENA standards.

23 Because I know this is going to be a
24 moving thing. It's never just going to be settled. I
25 mean, it's always going to be moving. Because NENA, if

1 they change, we'll have to change to stay current, not
2 only in the state, but also in the state's surroundings.

3 So, thank you.

4 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you.

5 I really think that we can expect this
6 to be a moving target, as far as NENA changing things.
7 That's the nature of mapping systems, I think.

8 But Patrick, after the Operations
9 Committee, went back and looked at the new NENA
10 standards that they have recently put down and my
11 recollection is that he didn't see anything that was
12 inconsistent with them.

13 MR. SUTTON: Mr. Chairman --

14 CHAIR PORTER: Just a second.

15 MEMBER LEE: A couple of questions. So
16 there will be a base \$20,000 per district?

17 MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir.

18 MEMBER LEE: And then you said three
19 annual payments? How much additional payments will it
20 be? What's the total projected amount?

21 MS. QUESTELL: The total projected
22 amount, at least for this year, would be around
23 \$4 million. It would be split up. The way the
24 operational funding program works is we have a base
25 amount, and then there are seven population based groups

1 that each district falls into. It has worked well with
2 the other distributions that we do for operational
3 funding. Because there's some costs that districts are
4 going to have no matter what size they are.

5 Then there are some that -- there's also
6 an aspect that is very much population based. And this
7 puts them both together. And the population based
8 amounts are based on the average audited cost without
9 dispatching of those districts. So it's --

10 CHAIR PORTER: Most of the districts
11 will be in the 25- to \$30,000 a year range, except for
12 your bigger ones -- which will be a little higher. It's
13 not a huge amount of money, but it sure would be a help,
14 especially for the small districts,

15 MR. SUTTON: I just wanted to make a
16 note that the funding isn't exactly tied to how much it
17 is going to cost you to do this program because the
18 Board is paying for that through its contract with OIR.
19 Patrick is going to come out and do it for you.

20 This is an incentive program where the
21 money can be used for anything, but in order to get the
22 money you have to meet the requirements.

23 So the money is not actually -- not tied
24 to the work that it's going to take to do this
25 conversion over to TIPS standard because that's

1 basically free with the contract with OIR.

2 CHAIR PORTER: And the key to the whole
3 thing -- merge your data over to the TIPS format, but
4 then the most important thing is keeping your data up to
5 date. One thing we found with some of the districts is
6 they created their GIS data, but on a daily, weekly,
7 monthly basis or whatever, they don't keep that data up
8 to date -- new address points, new streets, that kind of
9 stuff.

10 And the third point is making sure that
11 that data is uploaded to OIR, and then they download the
12 newest -- after OIR updates the whole state, then they
13 download the database back down.

14 So there are key points there that have
15 to be done. This is incentive for those folks to update
16 that data and keep it updated.

17 MR. BARNES: Just a comment, the Board's
18 money is the basis for this particular funding source,
19 and we take that money -- and 25 percent of it has to go
20 back on a pure population basis, according to our
21 distribution scale from the legal requirement for the
22 code.

23 The other three-fourths percent, we're
24 splitting on the 20,000 base and all the access on the
25 seven population groups.

1 So, in essence, the ECDs are getting all
2 the board money coming in. It just comes under two
3 different funding programs.

4 MEMBER LEE: What's the balance?

5 MR. BARNES: There was \$4,084,000, I
6 think, taken in, in 2010. That's what we've based our
7 current projections on. That would be \$3,084,000 going
8 back out to the ECDs. \$2 million of that will be on the
9 base amount, so the remainder will be based on
10 population groups. So it is expected to increase as we
11 get more money in.

12 MEMBER LEE: So that money is already
13 targeted to be spent for the districts anyway. This is
14 just tying it to the GIS.

15 MR. BARNES: Only the 25 percent is
16 currently going to the districts direct.

17 The additional money -- the additional
18 \$3 million will be new money going to the districts for
19 the operational funding.

20 MEMBER ARCHER: So just to make clear,
21 if progress is not shown, then a check won't be sent.
22 Correct?

23 MS. QUESTELL: That's correct.

24 CHAIR PORTER: Other questions or
25 discussion?

1 MEMBER ARCHER: Just one more. I'm
2 sorry.

3 It looks like the money -- does
4 everybody have this sheet showing the projected figures?
5 Nobody has anything like that?

6 Do you think there's going to be
7 enough -- there should be enough funds there by those
8 percentages that they should either possibly be able to
9 hire a staff member to take care of their map or hire a
10 company to do that if -- you know, like some of us might
11 be a little map challenged -- maybe able to get some
12 help with these funds.

13 MS. QUESTELL: Or share a person.

14 I also wanted to mention the importance
15 of making sure that the mapping updates are sent to
16 OIR/GIS. That's been an issue apparently in the past.
17 And what this is going to do for you-all is to allow you
18 to have updated maps of all the districts surrounding
19 you.

20 I mean, we all know that crimes and
21 emergencies don't stop at county lines. This is going
22 to allow your mapping systems to have updated
23 information about your surrounding area.

24 CHAIR PORTER: And Patrick, when he
25 comes to your facility, will be setting up that

1 connection back to OIR where it's like a push of a
2 button for it to upload and come back down. So it's not
3 going to be a complicated process.

4 Any other questions or discussion?

5 MEMBER LOWRY: I guess discussion. A
6 lot of districts that I've had contact with -- and this
7 is before we came here -- it's not associate addressing
8 and GIS as the same thing. I think that's where the
9 misunderstanding is coming from. What's GIS and why do
10 we need it?

11 Well, now we all know, I guess, if
12 you've been listening and reading the standards. That's
13 the other problem -- standards. They're saying I can't
14 understand those standards. There are 50 to 60 pages,
15 and I've read four or five and put it back on the shelf.
16 We need to pull those out and try to read through them.
17 It's certainly not an entertaining read, but it is
18 something we're going to have to do.

19 CHAIR PORTER: And that's where Patrick
20 and his staff will come in to help you with those issues
21 that you don't understand.

22 Any other questions?

23 MEMBER RICH: Jim, you said this goes up
24 25 percent this coming year. This is based on last
25 year?

1 MR. BARNES: The chart that was in the
2 packet was based on last year, yes.

3 MEMBER RICH: So we can see an increase
4 even in this coming fiscal year? If it does increase
5 25 percent.

6 MR. BARNES: Yes, sir. Anything -- any
7 VoIP money that comes in this year will be issued out.
8 That's the reason we have to split it into three
9 payments during the year, because we have to wait to see
10 how much money we get in so we can see how much we pay
11 out.

12 MEMBER RICH: Right.

13 CHAIR PORTER: Any other questions or
14 discussion?

15 (Pause)

16 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
17 favor, say "aye."

18 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

19 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

20 (Pause)

21 CHAIR PORTER: Carried.

22 One thing I want to compliment this
23 board on -- and I know it's something that all of us
24 agree on -- and I see Mike Foster, one of our local
25 county execs sitting out there, and probably one of the

1 things he hates the most is the non-funded mandate down
2 from state or federal government.

3 That's one thing about the TECB is, when
4 we put things out that we want you to do or that we're
5 going to require you to do, I think over the last few
6 years we've been putting money out to give you an
7 incentive to do it or to help -- or not help totally
8 pay -- or more than totally pay for the stuff that we're
9 asking you to do. I compliment the Board and Staff on
10 this. I think this is going to be a great plan, and I
11 think once we get NG911 up and going it's going to be
12 amazing what we'll be able to do with 911.

13 Next item on the agenda, consider status
14 of ECDs with three consecutive years of negative changes
15 in net assets as established in the 2010 annual audits.

16 Did I miss one?

17 I sure did. Excuse me. Consider
18 adopting the policy concerning the composition and
19 selection of consolidated ECD boards created pursuant to
20 Tennessee Code Annotated 7-86-305(a).

21 MS. QUESTELL: At the last meeting the
22 Board asked the Staff to initiate a study of the
23 feasibility of consolidating a financially distressed
24 district with another non-distressed, consenting
25 adjacent district. All of which is authorized in

1 Tennessee Code Annotated 7-86-305.

2 That's what we're trying to do --
3 respond to that request from the last meeting.

4 One aspect of consolidation is forming a
5 consolidated ECD board of directors. The code requires
6 the Board to establish rules and policies concerning the
7 composition and selection of the board of directors.

8 We are proposing a policy that does just
9 that. It incorporates a somewhat similar, but
10 streamlined process that was used when Pickett County
11 ECD was merged into Overton County ECD.

12 I want to thank Chris Masiongale for the
13 time he spent explaining how that was done with me.

14 Our proposed policy states composition
15 and selection of board of directors of
16 multi-jurisdictional district are created pursuant to
17 TECB order of consolidation.

18 The board of directors of a
19 multi-jurisdictional district created by order of
20 consolidation of the Tennessee Emergency Communications
21 Board pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 7-86-305
22 shall be composed of no fewer than seven and no more
23 than twelve members, unless otherwise directed by the
24 TECB.

25 No less than 25 percent and no more than

1 34 percent of the membership of the consolidated board
2 of directors of such district shall represent the area
3 of the financially distressed district.

4 The members representing the financially
5 distressed district shall be appointed by the county
6 mayor or chief executive officer and confirmed by the
7 legislative body of the area they represent.

8 If the legislative body does not act to
9 confirm or reject the appointment within 90 days -- or
10 until the conclusion of its next regularly scheduled
11 meeting, whichever is later, the appointment shall take
12 effect without confirmation.

13 The members representing the financially
14 distressed district shall be appointed for staggered
15 terms of two, three, and four years dating from the
16 effective date of consolidation. Thereafter, the
17 members shall serve for a term of four years.

18 The number and terms of the members
19 representing the non-financially distressed district
20 shall not be changed as a result of the consolidation
21 unless agreed to otherwise by the non-financially
22 distressed district and the TECB prior to consolidation.

23 Members shall serve until a successor is
24 duly appointed and confirmed.

25 CHAIR PORTER: You've heard Staff's

1 recommendation on adopting -- or creating
2 Policy number 43 which will set the standard for the
3 make-up of boards where a financially distressed
4 district has been brought in and merged with another
5 district.

6 What's the will of the Board?

7 MEMBER SMITH: I'll move to adopt.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Motion by Mr. Smith.

9 Do I have a second?

10 MEMBER LEE: Second.

11 CHAIR PORTER: Any discussions?

12 (Pause)

13 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
14 favor, say "aye."

15 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

16 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

17 (Pause)

18 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

19 Next item, consider status of ECDs with
20 three consecutive years of negative changes in net
21 assets as established in the 2010 annual audits.

22 The two are Unicoi County and McNairy
23 County.

24 MS. QUESTELL: Would the representatives
25 from McNairy County please come forward and state their

1 names for the record?

2 MS. SWIMS: I'm Dana Swims.

3 MS. QUESTELL: Did any of your board
4 members come?

5 MS. SWIMS: I'm sorry. I had a board
6 member back out on me last night.

7 CHAIR PORTER: I think the requirement
8 is the chairman of your board is supposed to be here.
9 Let's do a quick check.

10 Curtis?

11 CHAIR PORTER: While he's looking at
12 that why don't we put you on hold.

13 If the Unicoi folks are here, come
14 forward.

15 We'll come back to you.

16 Would you state your name and position
17 for the record?

18 MR. PATE: I'm Jim Pate. I'm on the
19 board, and I'm the director for the board.

20 MS. LEDFORD: Pat Ledford, 911 director.

21 THE WITNESS: I'm W.A. Wilson, chairman
22 of 911.

23 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. So we've got the
24 chairman and director for Unicoi County.

25 Make sure if you talk that you talk into

1 one of the microphones so that we can hear you.

2 MS. QUESTELL: Under the new amendments
3 to Policy 16 -- that's what this review is going to be
4 about -- districts with three consecutive years of
5 negative changes in net assets are deemed financially
6 distressed under the Tennessee Code 7-86-305(d).

7 Policy 16 was amended to address the
8 problem of depreciation in creating negative changes in
9 net assets. The amendments to Policy 16 require the
10 Board to analyze whether districts with three
11 consecutive years of negative changes in net assets are
12 truly distressed and, if so, confirm their distressed
13 status or deem them "at risk" of becoming distressed.

14 I'm going to read the criteria for
15 distinguishing between "confirmed" and "at risk" listed
16 in Policy 16. What we'll be looking at is (1), the
17 district's fund balanced in relation to its most recent
18 operating budget; (2), the amount of the negative
19 changes in net assets for the three years, which
20 determined the ECD as financially distressed in relation
21 to the revenue received by the ECD for those years;
22 (3), increase or decrease in the cash flow; (4), source
23 of cash resources, which paid for excessive
24 expenditures; (5), recurring or non-recurring nature of
25 expenditures, which caused negative change; (6), the

1 effect of recording depreciation expense on change in
2 net assets.

3 And in Unicoi County it's current
4 landline rates went into effect in January of 2005, and
5 they are at the maximum of \$1.50 for residential lines
6 and \$3 for business lines.

7 As of the end of fiscal year 2010 the
8 district had \$72,183 in cash and cash equivalents and
9 \$399,735 in net assets.

10 The ECD did not have any significant
11 audit findings for the last audit period.

12 The ECD has no full-time employees
13 except for the director.

14 The ECD does not pay rent or utility
15 costs in office space owned by the County, but the ECD
16 acquired a loan for \$300,000 in 2004 to renovate the
17 space and buy new equipment for dispatchers. The loan
18 has been paid off.

19 There is no interlocal agreement
20 memorializing the terms of the ECD and the County
21 interactions or cost-sharing portions.

22 For the three years prior to 2008 the
23 district was contributing an average of \$85,000 to the
24 County for dispatcher payroll costs. During the last
25 three years the ECD's contribution to the county has

1 averaged \$152,000 annually.

2 Our analysis shows that if the ECD had
3 not increased its contribution to the County for
4 dispatcher payroll they would have had a positive change
5 in net assets for all three years. The district board
6 made a choice to contribute so much to the County that
7 it became financially distressed.

8 In documents recently submitted as a
9 part of its rate extension report, the district
10 projected in the next three budget years to have
11 marginal positive changes in net assets. However, these
12 numbers did not include depreciation -- which is
13 required -- and is currently \$73,000 per year, on
14 average. When depreciation is not included the ECD
15 would continue to have negative changes in net assets.

16 In documents recently submitted as part
17 of its rate extension report, the ECD -- okay --
18 projected that it still would not have a positive change
19 in net assets, and the increase appears to be mainly
20 because of the amounts that are provided to the county.

21 Staff's recommendation -- well, do you
22 want to ask them if they have anything to say?

23 CHAIR PORTER: Yes. The way we normally
24 handle rate increases and so forth is that Staff starts
25 by giving us a brief summary of what we're talking about

1 and financial figures and so forth, then we allow the
2 district -- you folks -- to make any statements or
3 anything that you'd like to say as to -- if there's
4 issues or things that we don't know about that you'd
5 like to speak about.

6 After that the Board will go into its
7 deliberations as to what we would vote on as far as your
8 district goes. Is one of you going to be the spokesman?

9 MR. PATE: Yes. Let me be the
10 spokesman.

11 First of all, I know the Board realizes
12 now what the problem is or what the situation was. To
13 be honest with you, it's probably -- we probably ought
14 to have realized this a year or two earlier. The County
15 kept asking us for help and the Board had extra money --
16 that helped.

17 And basically, this year, the proposed
18 budget we've had -- we went and talked with the
19 municipalities, and the town of Unicoi currently is
20 contributing nothing to us. The town of Erwin is
21 contributing about \$12,000 to us last year. This year
22 we think that -- or they have suggested that they're
23 going to contribute \$25,000 a piece.

24 We also have reduced the amount that
25 we're going to pay to the County to 148,000. We have

1 proposed to them that next year we will reduce that by
2 25- to \$30,000 again.

3 I think if we do that -- and we've been
4 watching very carefully our expenditures this year.
5 Currently through April we have \$111,846 to the good.
6 And we have paid everything off. We don't expect -- we
7 don't have any debt of any consequence, other than just
8 a few outstanding bills.

9 We have \$128,000 in the bank. We're
10 watching it. We shouldn't have gotten into this
11 position. We have -- we already dealt with the County.
12 I think our county mayor called C-Task and may have
13 called a couple of board members, too, because he
14 thought that we weren't shooting straight, with us
15 telling him we were paying much more on the dispatchers
16 than anybody else. I think they straightened him out.

17 I don't think we're in trouble. I think
18 that -- unless something happens in the next two months,
19 we're going to have positive net assets on this audit.
20 We would expect with our new budget that we have a
21 better positive outlook on our new budget.

22 One of the things that we haven't done
23 is we did not budget for depreciation. And next year's
24 budget, if we budget for depreciation we won't be making
25 a whole lot of money, but there will be a little bit

1 there.

2 CHAIR PORTER: As long as it's a dollar,
3 that's the main thing.

4 Thank you.

5 MS. QUESTELL: You will be required to
6 comply with Policy 16. Part of that is going to be to
7 come and meet with Staff, and we'll try to help you.

8 And you also will have to pass a
9 balanced budget and live under it. That's what's
10 required by Policy 16.

11 Staff's recommendation would be that
12 you-all will be deemed "at risk" rather than distressed.
13 Meaning that you would have a year to pull out of this,
14 and then you would basically be free.

15 If you can't pull out of it you would be
16 deemed distressed, and you would come under the Board's
17 supervision.

18 CHAIR PORTER: Sounds like you-all are
19 way ahead of the game.

20 MR. PATE: We understand the problems,
21 and we're willing to fight our way out of it.

22 CHAIR PORTER: Are there any questions
23 of these folks from Unicoi?

24 MEMBER SMITH: Yes. I think I grasp the
25 progress you've made, but one of the items that I'd like

1 to make certain, in your discussions you are proceeding
2 with a interlocal agreement. You mentioned some
3 discussions with municipalities as to their
4 contributions, but you are proceeding with putting that
5 into an interlocal agreement?

6 MR. PATE: We're going to approach
7 municipalities as far as an interlocal agreement. We've
8 got to do that. We didn't do it in the very
9 beginning -- and I wasn't on the board -- and it was one
10 of those things, you know, that we'll take care of you;
11 and it changed.

12 CHAIR PORTER: People change and the
13 governments and elected officials so --

14 MS. QUESTELL: I'd like to say one other
15 thing. We are here to help you. If you've got
16 questions or issues or you want to talk about your
17 relationship with the county government or whatever,
18 please don't hesitate. We want to help you, and we want
19 to help you sustain positive change in net asset.

20 There's no such thing as a dumb
21 question. Please feel free to contact us. We'll be
22 trying to set up a time for us to meet together and talk
23 about your financial situation.

24 MR. PATE: That'll be great.

25 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. I think Staff's

1 recommendation is that we deem Unicoi County ECD "at
2 risk" rather than financially distressed and that we
3 direct them to consult with Staff and submit and operate
4 under a balanced budget.

5 Sounds like you-all are already in the
6 process that's required by Policy 16.

7 You've heard Staff's recommendation.
8 What's the will of the Board?

9 MEMBER LEE: Motion we accept.

10 MEMBER RICH: Second.

11 CHAIR PORTER: Is there discussion?

12 (Pause)

13 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
14 favor of the motion say "aye."

15 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

16 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

17 (Pause)

18 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

19 Thank you for coming.

20 CHAIR PORTER: All right.

21 MR. SUTTON: Mr. Chairman, unlike our
22 Policy 14, which is a policy of rate extensions,
23 Policy 16 does not actually require that at a minimum
24 the director and the chairman be present. Our letter to
25 the director and chairman did ask them to attend. It

1 was sent by certified mail.

2 CHAIR PORTER: I'm going to ask the
3 Board, you've heard the -- what our policy actually
4 says, that we don't have that requirement there, but
5 both of them were invited to come. So do you want to
6 hear from the director and us go ahead with the hearing?
7 Or do you want to postpone it and have them come back
8 with the chairman?

9 What's the will of the Board?

10 MEMBER RICH: I'd hate for her to have
11 to make the trip back here again.

12 CHAIR PORTER: Do you-all want to hear
13 the case -- or hear the facts about it and make a
14 decision as to what you want to happen then, or do you
15 want to put her back on the agenda?

16 MEMBER SMITH: Just make sure I've got
17 the order straight on this, Chairman. If we were, in
18 fact, to take action on this today, that would allow
19 Staff to become involved in the process as opposed to
20 waiting until another meeting?

21 CHAIR PORTER: Basically, our next
22 meeting is not until August --

23 MS. QUESTELL: August 25th.

24 MEMBER ARCHER: I think we ought to go
25 ahead and hear it. I do worry about the board members

1 not feeling that this maybe a serious matter.

2 CHAIR PORTER: We may want to address
3 that by fixing a policy -- or whatever -- when it comes
4 to these at risk hearings that we fix it so that they're
5 required to be here.

6 Is there any objection, then, to us
7 going ahead and hearing from the director?

8 Okay. Ma'am, if you could come back up,
9 from McNairy County?

10 MS. SWIMS: Thank you.

11 I apologize. The chairman of our board
12 has recently been replaced last week and he chose not to
13 finish out the rest of his time.

14 CHAIR PORTER: Would you state your name
15 and position again for the record?

16 MS. SWIMS: Dana Swims, director.

17 CHAIR PORTER: Lynn, you want to give us
18 a rundown of McNairy County?

19 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. Thank you.

20 McNairy County ECD is now deemed
21 financially distressed under Tennessee Code Annotated
22 7-86-304(d)(1) because it has been shown by annual
23 audits to have had negative changes in net assets for
24 three years.

25 The district's current landline rates

1 went into effect November of 2001 at the rate of \$1.15
2 for residential lines and \$2.50 for business lines.

3 At the end of fiscal year 2010 the
4 district had had \$190,268 in cash and cash equivalent
5 and \$399,735 in net assets.

6 The district did not have any
7 significant audit findings for the last audit period and
8 prior period findings have all been corrected.

9 The district pays minimal rent and
10 utility costs in office space owned by the County.

11 There is no interlocal agreement
12 memorializing the terms of the district and the county
13 interactions or cost-sharing portions.

14 The district dispatches from McNairy
15 County and the cities of Selmer, Adamsville, and Bethel
16 Springs. The County contributes to support operations
17 and payroll expenses for dispatch services. For each of
18 the five years under analysis the ECD has received about
19 \$164,000 from the County and City.

20 During the same five years the
21 district's payroll costs have increased annually by
22 3.25 percent. The district has not previously budgeted
23 for the depreciation expense.

24 The district has had decreasing amounts
25 of negative net changes over the last three years. In

1 fact, the amount of negative changes in net assets for
2 fiscal year 2010 was \$375.

3 CHAIR PORTER: Barely.

4 MS. QUESTELL: Just by that much.

5 So do you have anything you want to say
6 about that?

7 MS. SWIMS: I've been working with our
8 accountant. We are -- you are right. We have not been
9 showing depreciation in our budget, and we are going to
10 do that. I've worked on our budget. I've added
11 depreciation. This won't be an issue again. They were
12 booking their depreciation, but they weren't showing it
13 in our budget.

14 MS. QUESTELL: Well, this makes such a
15 good point, you're not required to show it in your
16 budget. But if you don't you run the risk of running in
17 the negative.

18 CHAIR PORTER: Any questions from the
19 board members?

20 MEMBER LEE: You said your chairman is
21 new?

22 MS. SWIMS: No. Our chairman that we've
23 had for several years was replaced last week. He was
24 supposed to come with me, and he couldn't make it. So
25 he's not going to finish out the rest of this month as

1 chairman. We haven't had a meeting yet. We've had a
2 loss of our radio consoles due to a storm, and we're in
3 the middle of replacing them this week. We haven't had
4 a meeting to replace our chairman -- or vote for a new
5 chairman.

6 MEMBER LEE: That explains his absence
7 here today.

8 How long have you been director?

9 MS. SWIMS: Since September of 2010.

10 MEMBER LEE: So you're relatively new,
11 also?

12 MS. SWIMS: Yes.

13 MEMBER LEE: And you-all do all the
14 dispatching for the county and city police?

15 MS. SWIMS: Yes, sir.

16 CHAIR PORTER: Other questions?

17 MEMBER ARCHER: Do you know what
18 percentage of salaries you pay dispatchers? What
19 percentage you pay? Do you pay all of it?

20 MS. SWIMS: Yes.

21 MEMBER ARCHER: I saw that pretty big
22 number down there, \$322,000.

23 MS. SWIMS: We take in approximately
24 \$150,000 from the County, City, and EMS; and whatever
25 over that is what we pay for salaries.

1 CHAIR PORTER: So you're paying little
2 better than 50 percent right now?

3 MS. SWIMS: Yes.

4 CHAIR PORTER: So the increase of the --
5 have you been giving everybody raises? Is that where
6 the big increases have been coming from on the salaries?

7 MS. SWIMS: Yes. The previous director
8 was doing a 3 percent raise for the last three years at
9 the beginning of each fiscal year.

10 CHAIR PORTER: Wow. State employees
11 haven't had a raise in four years. Local county
12 governments haven't had any in three or four years.

13 MEMBER LEE: How many employees? How
14 many dispatchers?

15 MS. SWIMS: Fifteen. There's 15 total
16 counting our mapping consultant, myself, and the
17 dispatchers.

18 CHAIR PORTER: Any other questions?

19 (Pause)

20 CHAIR PORTER: Lynn?

21 MS. QUESTELL: Staff's recommendations
22 are that the district be deemed "at risk" and be subject
23 to the "at risk" requirements in Policy 16.

24 We think that compliance with the
25 requirements of a balanced budget, which includes

1 depreciation, should be sufficient to result in a
2 positive change in net assets. We would suggest that
3 the district consider requesting a rate increase for the
4 landlines.

5 The district -- it's recommended that
6 you get into an interlocal agreement with the entities
7 that you're dispatching for and that you review your
8 funding mechanism with the County to ensure that you're
9 receiving a reasonable and affordable amount.

10 We'll be arranging a meeting with you
11 and board member representation to talk about all this.

12 MS. SWIMS: Okay.

13 CHAIR PORTER: You've heard Staff's
14 recommendations for McNairy County, that they be deemed
15 "at risk" instead of financially distressed and direct
16 the ECD to consult with Staff and submit and operate
17 under a balanced budget as part of Policy 16 and suggest
18 that they consider raising their landline rates.

19 What's the will of the Board?

20 MEMBER LEE: I make a motion that we
21 accept the recommendation.

22 MEMBER SMITH: Second.

23 CHAIR PORTER: Discussion?

24 (Pause)

25 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in

1 favor of the motion say "aye."

2 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

3 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

4 (Pause)

5 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. SWIMS: Thank you.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Next on the agenda is
9 consider request by Dekalb County ECD to waive timing of
10 notice of requirement in Policy 14 that two notices
11 appear and are published in the local newspaper.

12 Dekalb folks, you-all want to come up?

13 Would each one of you state your name
14 and position for the record, please?

15 MR. FOSTER: I'm Mike Foster, Dekalb
16 County executive.

17 MR. MULLINAX: Brad Mullinax, director
18 of Dekalb County ECD.

19 MR. ROGERS: Ron Rogers, chairman of the
20 ECD.

21 CHAIR PORTER: Well, I think we've had a
22 little problem with the newspaper.

23 MS. QUESTELL: Yes, they did. And this
24 is from absolutely no fault of Brad at all. He
25 actually -- in the record there is an apology from the

1 newspaper for messing up his request for notice. But he
2 made arrangements for the notice to go out and have it
3 be done under Policy 14, at least 30 days -- two notices
4 at least 30 days, but not more than 60 days before the
5 hearing. And the paper failed to fulfill these
6 requirements.

7 Even so, Brad had gone above and beyond
8 the call of duty. He had the hearing announced on the
9 local radio station. The announcement ran randomly each
10 day for the whole month before the hearing. The open
11 meetings law only requires adequate public notice. I
12 would assert that the district provided substantially
13 more notice than the law or Policy 14 requires. And the
14 Staff would very much recommend that the Board waive the
15 requirement about the two notices being published in the
16 local paper.

17 CHAIR PORTER: Staff recommends that we
18 waive requirement in Policy 14 that the public hearing
19 on the rate increase be noticed twice in the local
20 newspaper.

21 MEMBER RICH: As one of those who's had
22 problems with the local newspapers in the past, I so
23 move we accept Staff's recommendation on that.

24 CHAIR PORTER: Motion by Mr. Rich.

25 Do I have a second on that?

1 MEMBER ARCHER: Second.

2 CHAIR PORTER: Any discussion?

3 (Pause)

4 CHAIR PORTER: Four times a day every
5 day for a month on the local radio station. That's new.

6 Hearing no discussion, all in favor of
7 the motion say "aye."

8 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

9 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

10 (Pause)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

12 MEMBER RICH: My question for Brad is
13 did anyone show up after all those notices?

14 MR. BRAD: We had one gentleman. He was
15 the county commissioner. He had one question.

16 CHAIR PORTER: Okay.

17 The next item on the agenda is consider
18 request to increase emergency telephone service charge
19 in Dekalb County ECD. The way this works -- you may not
20 have been here before -- is that Staff will give a
21 summary of all your financial statements and so forth
22 that you turned in as part of your packet to the state
23 board for the rate increase request. After we've had a
24 chance to hear those and ask questions, then you folks
25 will be given a chance to make any statements or

1 anything that you'd like to make to the Board. Once
2 you've made those statements the board members will ask
3 you questions.

4 Once that is finished, then the Board
5 will go into its deliberations and make a decision on
6 your rate increase request.

7 Who's going to start out first?

8 MR. HOLLAWAY: As part of the Staff's
9 due diligence in looking at the rate increase I made a
10 site visit and visited with the director, Brad Mullinax,
11 on April 15th.

12 The ECD actually operates the primary
13 PSAP for Dekalb County and answers 911 and other public
14 safety calls for essentially all the agencies in the
15 county, including the sheriff department, fire and
16 rescue, Smithville Police Department, Alexandria Police
17 Department.

18 They're equipped with three fully
19 equipped positions where they can actually take the call
20 and then radio dispatch the call out. They're staffed
21 by eight full-time and five part-time telecommunicators.
22 This allows them to have two call takers on duty at all
23 times. They've all received the required state
24 dispatcher training, except for their two newest
25 employees. I believe they're going to complete that by

1 June, according to the director.

2 They also have two part-time folks that
3 handle the day-to-day GIS and addressing duties. That's
4 kind of supplemented by a contractor that maintains the
5 actual mapping system.

6 The county -- the unique situation,
7 they're served by more than one phone company. They're
8 served by Ben Lomand, Twin Lakes Telephone, and DTC for
9 wireline service and a multitude of wireless carriers to
10 provide service there.

11 The PSAP is located in the Smithville
12 downtown area just a few hundred feet from the DTC
13 central office.

14 They do have a written contingency plan
15 and their calls will be re-routed to Putnam if a failure
16 occurs, which will then give them time depending on the
17 amount of the outage to put a mobile PSAP or another
18 selection in place for a longer outage.

19 Their biggest issue from an equipment
20 standpoint is nearly everything is going to have to be
21 replaced. They have a Combix processing system that's
22 been in for several years. It's not NG or IP compliant.
23 They have a Combix MapALI, which is going to have to be
24 replaced with the controller at the same time. And
25 their radio equipment is 15 years old. It's past due

1 for replacement.

2 Their UPS, while itself doesn't have to
3 be replaced, the batteries are going to have to be
4 replaced. But a lot of times when you replace the
5 batteries it's almost just as cheap to replace the whole
6 thing.

7 Their AudioLog is not that old, but it's
8 still three years old, which in the life cycles probably
9 by the time, you know, next year rolls around they'll be
10 needing to replace that, too.

11 That's all I have.

12 I'll throw it to Jay Goldman, who is
13 actually going to report on their financial at this
14 time.

15 MEMBER GOLDMAN: Dekalb County's current
16 rate is 65 cents for residential lines and \$2 for
17 business lines. ECD has interlocal agreements with the
18 County and Cities of Alexandria and Smithville. These
19 agreements established and address the management and
20 financing of a Communications Center.

21 County pays the ECD \$108,000 annually.
22 The City of Alexandria pays \$26,000 annually. And the
23 City of Smithville pays the costs, salaries, and
24 benefits for three dispatchers.

25 The landline revenue has decreased by

1 8.2 percent over the last two years and is projected to
2 continue to decline.

3 Our recurring support is projected to
4 increase, but only at 2 to 3 percent per year. There's
5 a substantial increase in the amount of local
6 contributions in 2009, but these funds are fixed by
7 interlocal agreement and not expected to increase,
8 except the payroll cost increase.

9 In 2009 the ECD became responsible for
10 all payroll and the County provided a fixed amount of
11 funds to the district to support payroll costs, because
12 the salaries, costs, and benefits increased in the last
13 two years and are projected to continue to increase.

14 The total expenditures increased by
15 approximately 17 percent in the last two years and is
16 also projected to continue to increase. Without an
17 increase the ECD is projecting a negative change in net
18 assets for fiscal years 2011, 2012, and 2013. The ECD
19 has provided the justification for the rate increase in
20 that they need to increase -- or want to increase the
21 salaries and benefits of existing employees. They want
22 to hire two additional dispatcher to offset the decline
23 in revenue.

24 Staff has extended the request to the
25 TECB and finds the request reasonable and justifiable.

1 We have no reason why this request should not be
2 considered for approval by the Board.

3 CHAIR PORTER: You've heard Staff's
4 report. Is there questions of either Jay or Rex?

5 (Pause)

6 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none. Okay.
7 Dekalb, do you have a spokesperson or
8 all three of you want to make a statement? Whatever.

9 MR. MULLINAX: Ladies and gentlemen,
10 we've tried to prevent this from happening. We tried
11 our best to do whatever we could to keep from having to
12 raise rates on our customers, our citizens of our
13 community. But, basically, what we've come to is we've
14 had a decrease in landline, costs are ever more
15 increasing.

16 Just like Mr. Goldman and Mr. Hollaway
17 said, we've got some things coming down the line --
18 we're wanting to improve technology in our community,
19 you know, as far as our radio communications and some of
20 our next generation equipment as well.

21 We don't feel like -- we don't want to
22 be a financially distressed district. We want to get on
23 top of this on the head end and try to prevent that from
24 happening, so we're coming to you guys, asking for an
25 increase in these rates so that we can try to prevent

1 that.

2 CHAIR PORTER: Anybody else?

3 MR. FOSTER: Just that we want to
4 reiterate that we want to be pre-emptive in our attempts
5 to be on top of this.

6 Dekalb County is a very small county, as
7 you're aware. We -- during the process of updating our
8 tax situation this last year -- re-evaluations -- our
9 tax assets actually went down \$18 million.

10 There's several counties that have done
11 this and a lot of ours is based on tourism and lake
12 houses around the lake and the value of some of those
13 lake lots just went from -- I mean, considerably down
14 and there's no market for them. So we're looking at tax
15 increases just to stay even. We are barely sound,
16 financially. I'm proud of that. We've worked at that
17 very hard.

18 The County furnishes the building. We
19 bought the building and did about \$100,000 maintenance
20 on it.

21 Like Mr. Goldman said, much of our
22 equipment was bought at one time and we have a really
23 good -- we're very proud of our system. But it was all
24 bought pretty much at the same time, so it's going to
25 need replacing pretty much at the same time. Which is

1 kind of a bad situation. But everything is working
2 really well. We have good interlocal agreements, and
3 it's just so much better than the situation we were in
4 with it being run out of the jail that we want to
5 continue to see this progress.

6 We thank you for your consideration.

7 MR. ROGERS: The only thing I would add
8 is, I said once upon a time I would never come to
9 Nashville to get a rate increase -- and I didn't think
10 we'd have to. Part of the reason is, obvious, the
11 landline decreases and other things -- costs go up.

12 The requirement of keeping back your
13 depreciation -- actually physically having it in there,
14 which is quite a bit. We're just trying to make sure
15 that we don't get in a situation where we're going to
16 have a problem.

17 We are very mindful of our
18 responsibility -- being fiscally responsible with
19 everyone we deal with. We try to provide them with the
20 best possible service at the cheapest possible price.
21 We just feel that this situation is beyond our
22 control -- economy, all the things going on. We don't
23 want to get in a situation where we're down here having
24 to deal with you on a distress situation where we've got
25 major problems. We're trying to head that off is all

1 we're asking for.

2 We've operated the same fees from day 1.

3 We've never asked for an increase. This is what we
4 started with all those years ago. It's just no longer
5 going to function that way. So we're asking for the
6 increase.

7 We appreciate your consideration.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Thank you.

9 Any questions of the Board to Dekalb
10 County?

11 MEMBER LEE: Just a few. I commend you
12 for getting ahead of the ball on this. I'm familiar
13 with Dekalb County.

14 First off, you have three cities -- two
15 cities and county, and you have the interlocal
16 agreements.

17 How many employees do you have?

18 MR. MULLINAX: We have eight full-time
19 dispatchers, plus myself. We have five part-time
20 dispatchers. We have two addressing -- part-time
21 addressing clerks doing our GIS addressing. And we have
22 a contractor employee, Triple A Mapping, who maintains
23 our map for us.

24 MEMBER LEE: Okay. I believe the
25 interlocal agreement with Smithville -- Smithville pays

1 for one -- some of the dispatchers?

2 MR. MULLINAX: They do. They
3 actually -- well, their agreement is based on the
4 funding of three dispatchers, so whatever the costs are
5 associated with those three dispatchers -- I figured it
6 up on a spreadsheet right down to the fridge benefits,
7 such as unemployment, Social Security, and Medicare.
8 All of that is taken into consideration, and I present
9 them each year at the start of the year with a number
10 that tells them what they need to budget for in the
11 coming year.

12 MEMBER LEE: They -- it is 100 percent
13 of those three dispatchers?

14 MR. MULLINAX: Yes.

15 MEMBER LEE: Okay. That sounds like a
16 good interlocal agreement for that, and you get three
17 dispatchers for Dekalb County.

18 Then Alexandria is just a flat --

19 MR. MULLINAX: Actually, their contract
20 reads different. The Dekalb County contract has a
21 dollar figure associated with it. Dekalb County pays
22 the exact equal amount that the City of Smithville pays.
23 So if they fund three dispatchers and if
24 it comes to \$110,000 or \$111,000, the County pays the
25 exact same thing that the City of Smithville pays.

1 MR. FOSTER: And these agreements were
2 worked out when we combined all the dispatching into
3 one, which was years back, and took all the dispatcher
4 responsibilities for the entire county. And this was
5 the agreement we worked out that everybody was agreeable
6 to. Saved them positions, saved county positions. It
7 worked out for the improvement of their budgets quite a
8 bit.

9 MR. ROGERS: And Alexandria being such a
10 small town, theirs is about a third of ours. In
11 addition, the County furnishes the building and most of
12 the maintenance on it at no cost.

13 MEMBER LEE: How old is the building?

14 MR. ROGERS: It was an older building.
15 It was actually a restaurant, and he had gone out of
16 business. We remodeled it seven or eight years ago.
17 Completely remodeled it.

18 Outside it doesn't look great, but
19 inside is really good. So everything inside is new, and
20 we're going to be doing some maintenance on the outside.
21 It was an older building associated with one of our
22 factories, and we bought about an acre of parking lot to
23 help the factory as well. Then we used the building for
24 the 911 system.

25 MEMBER LEE: I was wondering what kind

1 of maintenance there was with it. I was wondering how
2 old it was.

3 MR. ROGERS: Inside everything is new,
4 but outside we're going to be -- there's some roof
5 issues right now, that we actually talked about coming
6 down here, that we will budget for.

7 MEMBER LEE: One other question. This
8 goes back to the Census. What kind of census growth did
9 Dekalb County --

10 MR. ROGERS: About 7 and a half percent.

11 MEMBER LEE: Little flat.

12 MR. ROGERS: A little flat from some of
13 our neighbors.

14 We're not -- barely far from the
15 cities and 10 or 12 miles from the interstate.

16 We are very fortunate that we've
17 maintained 3,000 industrial jobs. We've lost two
18 factories in the economic downturn. But we have seen
19 one expand 120 jobs, another one about 50 jobs, and one
20 of them is going to be expanding 75 jobs soon.

21 So it's not really stagnant, but we have
22 a lot of lake people that come there on the weekends and
23 so that -- it's kind of a mixed blessing when you have a
24 rural area to respond to, but they come and spend their
25 money and go home.

1 CHAIR PORTER: Other questions?

2 MEMBER ARCHER: What was the ratio? Did
3 he say it was -- were you-all paying half the
4 dispatchers and the County's paying half?

5 MR. MULLINAX: The County and the
6 cities, they fund about \$250,000. And our actual
7 salaries, according to our budget, is about \$330,000.
8 So about \$80,000 of that money is our responsibility.

9 CHAIR PORTER: Pretty small percentage.

10 MS. QUESTELL: I'd just like to point
11 out to the Board that this district has had no audit
12 findings for the past three years. That really is to be
13 commended.

14 CHAIR PORTER: They run a tight ship. I
15 can't believe they made it all these years.

16 Ron, I remember him saying back in the
17 '90s that he'd never come for a rate increase request.
18 You held up for 15 -- 16 years.

19 MR. ROGERS: You know, I don't know if I
20 should tell you this or not, Randy, but there was a time
21 we didn't have \$100 in the account and didn't know if we
22 could make payroll the next week.

23 We've come a long way, and we've done it
24 through a lot of cooperation with the County. We've
25 tried to be careful with what we did. We think that --

1 we're proud of what we accomplished so far.

2 CHAIR PORTER: Any other questions from
3 board members?

4 (Pause)

5 CHAIR PORTER: Okay.

6 Guys, thank you.

7 We'll go into our deliberations now.

8 You-all can stay seated if you want to.

9 You've heard Staff's recommendation that
10 we grant the rate increase request to Dekalb County. I
11 believe raise them to the max, right, \$1.50 and \$3?

12 What's the will of the Board?

13 MEMBER ARCHER: I make a motion to
14 approve.

15 MEMBER LOWRY: Second.

16 CHAIR PORTER: Is there discussion?

17 (Pause)

18 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
19 favor of the motion say "aye."

20 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

21 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

22 (Pause)

23 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

24 Thank you for coming. That speaks a lot
25 when -- we don't see a lot of county executives take the

1 time to come down.

2 MR. FOSTER: In a small community we do
3 everything, including catching dogs.

4 CHAIR PORTER: Moving right along. Next
5 item on the agenda -- looks like we've got another one
6 of those newspaper problems, Lynn.

7 Will the Hawkins County folks come up?

8 MS. MURRELL: Gay Murrell, director of
9 Hawkins County 911.

10 CHAIR PORTER: You don't have your
11 chairman with you?

12 MS. MURRELL: No.

13 MR. SUTTON: Policy 14 states that at
14 the minimum the director and the chair must be present.

15 CHAIR PORTER: So we'll have to --
16 unless the Board wants to waive its policy, we'll have
17 to postpone them until the next meeting.

18 What's the will of the Board?

19 MEMBER LOWRY: Do you have a vice
20 chairman?

21 MS. MURRELL: Yes, we do.

22 The secretary is watching us online.
23 Would he count?

24 MEMBER ARCHER: I personally think they
25 need to be here.

1 CHAIR PORTER: The chairman and the
2 director will have to be here for the rate increase.
3 Unless I hear a motion to waive the rules -- okay.

4 We'll have to postpone you until the
5 next board meeting, which will be in August. I'm sorry.
6 Make sure they understand that for this to happen that
7 he's going to have to be here -- or she -- or whoever
8 that is. Okay? We'll put you on the next agenda in
9 August.

10 MS. MURRELL: Thank you.

11 CHAIR PORTER: All right. Last item on
12 the agenda is to the consider the status report from
13 Jackson County ECD, a financially distressed district.

14 If you-all will come forward?

15 Both of you state your names and
16 positions.

17 MR. SMITH: Michael Smith, chairman of
18 Jackson County 911.

19 MR. MARTIN: Patrick Martin. We don't
20 have enough seats to put all our people up here, if
21 that's okay?

22 CHAIR PORTER: That's fine.

23 MR. MARTIN: We have our chair, which is
24 also on the board of directors; Brad Stafford, our
25 attorney on the board of directors; my assistant, Nora;

1 Diana Martin, she's on the budget committee for Jackson
2 County; the 38th District House Representative --
3 Representative John Cason; county mayor; Scotty
4 Christian, our EMS director.

5 CHAIR PORTER: Who's minding the store
6 in Jackson County?

7 Lynn, you want to start off?

8 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you.

9 Jackson County Emergency Communications
10 District, a financially distressed district since 2007,
11 was on the agenda of the February 3, 2011, meeting of
12 this board to present a plan for ending its distressed
13 status.

14 At that meeting the Board -- the ECD
15 presented its plan, which was reviewed by state board
16 and Staff. At that time the ECD was asked to return to
17 this meeting to do a status report on how it had done
18 implementing its plan and the district provided a
19 written status report.

20 They have gone to the County and
21 attempted to get additional financial support, and the
22 County is considering that. They don't do their budgets
23 until the end of June, so they've asked us to wait on
24 that. But they clearly made their voices heard, and
25 they stopped using the debit card. That was

1 problematic. They have stopped making expenditures
2 exceeding their budget. And they have just really done
3 everything that they said they would do.

4 CHAIR PORTER: Guys, that's great news.
5 We were all worried there for a while.

6 Either one of you-all want to make a
7 statement or say something?

8 MR. SMITH: We've also contacted Patrick
9 with OIR/GIS. We've gotten with Triple A Mapping, and
10 they're working together to get us on board with all
11 that.

12 MR. MARTIN: I have lots of things.
13 I'll just leave it with we also have a check here, too,
14 for what we're behind in our payments as well, because
15 the projections are \$9,877 -- \$9,800.77 projections
16 right now. I believe, correct me if I'm wrong, I
17 believe it'll be more than that in the black, so we
18 would like to catch up our arrears as well, so we're not
19 in delinquent status.

20 CHAIR PORTER: That's great.

21 MS. QUESTELL: And you-all will end up
22 being --

23 MR. MARTIN: Yes, ma'am.

24 MS. QUESTELL: With a positive --

25 MR. MARTIN: Yes, ma'am.

1 MS. QUESTELL: What a turnaround. Wow.

2 MR. MARTIN: And that's without the
3 County money -- that we still need, though, because we
4 still have mapping next year.

5 MS. QUESTELL: I just have to say that
6 it really speaks to the leadership of the district.
7 You-all have really stepped up to the plate, and you
8 deserve a big pat on the back.

9 MR. MARTIN: I told you when we were
10 here, we have a really proactive board now. I think it
11 speaks for itself. I think that you'll see lots of
12 changes.

13 CHAIR PORTER: That's great. And when
14 you -- again, seeing John here and the state rep and
15 folks come, that shows how much they care about 911 in
16 Jackson County. That's a positive -- compared to what
17 it was in maybe the past few years and the problems
18 you've had.

19 MR. MARTIN: And if they weren't in
20 session our senator would be here, too. She apologizes
21 for not being here today.

22 CHAIR PORTER: That's just great.

23 Questions of the board members?

24 MEMBER ARCHER: I would just like to
25 give you a hand because I know how much hard work --

1 with how you've been behind. You-all have done an
2 awesome job. Your board members are -- have been
3 proactive, but they do understand the seriousness of the
4 imbalance in the payment to dispatchers and County?
5 Does your county representatives understand?

6 MR. MARTIN: We actually have the budget
7 committee and the county mayor, and I have a letter
8 sitting in front of me saying that they're going to
9 consider giving us a raise and how much they're
10 contributing. We've not locked down on any numbers yet.
11 We're working on those now.

12 To be honest with you, we'd like to get
13 closer to the finish of our year and get our new budget
14 worked up before we know what to ask for. To be honest
15 with you, we've had some discrepancies, you know, with
16 having the two general ledgers; and it's taken a lot of
17 time to strike a lot of that out. And still have some
18 glitches here, but for the most part it's coming
19 together.

20 CHAIR PORTER: Anyone else?

21 (Pause)

22 CHAIR PORTER: So, Lynn, this was an
23 update report. We'll -- probably -- our next meeting
24 isn't until the end of August. We'll know then whether
25 the County passed the new funding and all that kind of

1 stuff. Do they need to come back in for August? Or do
2 they just report to you what has happened?

3 MS. QUESTELL: Considering the progress
4 that they've made it would be my recommendation that
5 they report to us. And as long as it shows that they're
6 continuing the progress that they're making, I will see
7 no reason to bring them in.

8 CHAIR PORTER: So we need a motion to
9 that effect or --

10 MEMBER LEE: Just a staff report I think
11 would be sufficient, wouldn't it?

12 CHAIR PORTER: Is everybody in agreement
13 that unless something comes up --

14 MEMBER LEE: Unless they just want to
15 come to Nashville.

16 MR. MARTIN: I've been here for
17 two weeks, so I might as well stay a little longer.

18 CHAIR PORTER: If you-all want to come
19 back and see us, that's fine.

20 MR. MARTIN: I've got about eight kids
21 on the hill that I've got to go see when I leave here.

22 CHAIR PORTER: The whole board commends
23 you for the good job that you-all have done. And we
24 just ask that you-all keep that up. We'd love for
25 you-all to be a distant memory as far as financial

1 distress goes and everything go great down there. Just
2 know that Staff is still here to help you and to do
3 anything -- if anything comes up. Just keep them posted
4 as to the progress. We appreciate all of you-all folks
5 coming from Jackson County. That's great.

6 Anything else of Jackson?

7 (Pause)

8 CHAIR PORTER: That being the last item
9 on the agenda, Lynn, did I miss anything?

10 MS. QUESTELL: No, sir.

11 CHAIR PORTER: Our next meeting date is
12 August the 25th at 9:30, same room, same place, same
13 time.

14 Announcements that we need to make --
15 NENA's coming up in June. Everybody make sure that
16 these NG911 meetings -- June 14, 15, and 16 -- please
17 try to make those. If you want to bring your GIS
18 mapping folks, if you want to bring your 911 controller
19 folks, your equipment vendors, your county folks --
20 anybody you want to bring with you, I think we'll have
21 plenty of room.

22 Get your questions down, and hopefully
23 we'll answer all your questions in the presentations
24 that we have. If not, we want to try to do that while
25 you're at that meeting because we're going to have all

1 of the specialists and the know-it-all folks there at
2 this meeting. We're going to have a large group
3 presenting to you. Hopefully, there won't be any
4 questions we can't answer.

5 This is a very big thing. Those of you
6 that went through Phase 1 and Phase 2 of wireless, I
7 don't think that will hold a candle with what we're
8 going to be doing with NG911 and what it's going to open
9 Tennessee up to be able to do with 911. We're very
10 excited, and we'll make this happen. We want to make it
11 happen in a good way. We don't want any SNAFUs or
12 problems. The only way it's going to happen is if all
13 of the districts and the PSAPs work with us as a joint
14 venture. Please come to those meetings.

15 Anything else coming up?

16 MEMBER LEE: I would just like to say in
17 my job with the Comptroller's office I'm at the
18 Legislative Plaza a lot and commend Andy for his work
19 over there during the session. And -- I apologize -- I
20 had his business card, and I meant to recognize him --
21 the director of Giles County, I believe testified a
22 couple of times, and he did an excellent job.

23 Andy, if you just want to mention his
24 name.

25 MR. SPEARS: Are you talking about

1 Jimmy?

2 He was here.

3 MR. LEE: Is he here?

4 He was great. He did an excellent job
5 of representing 911 over there and testifying a few
6 times. A couple times I watched him do an excellent
7 time.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Anything else we need to
9 talk about?

10 MEMBER LOWRY: Call Patrick. Call
11 Patrick. Call Patrick.

12 CHAIR PORTER: Check our Web site. You
13 can get all this stuff. We've got it all posted. If
14 you need any help from Staff, especially with the new
15 GIS, call Patrick.

16 If you don't have his numbers, maybe
17 Lynn can get it to you. We look forward to seeing you
18 in June.

19 Do I have a motion to adjourn?

20 MEMBER RICH: So move.

21 MEMBER ARCHER: Second.

22 CHAIR PORTER: All in favor say "aye."

23 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

24 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

25 (Pause)

1 CHAIR PORTER: We're adjourned.

2 (End of the proceedings.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF TENNESSEE)
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY)

I, Tracy Foley-Wilkes, court reporter and
notary public for the State of Tennessee,

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
transcript of the proceedings were taken on the date and
place set forth in the caption thereof; that the
proceedings were stenographically reported by me; and
the foregoing proceedings constitute a true and correct
transcript of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not related to
any of the parties named herein, nor their counsel, and
have no interest, financial or otherwise, in the outcome
of events of this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed
my official signature and seal of office this the 19th
day of September, 2011.

Tracy Wilkes, LCR #366
Court Reporter and Notary Public
State of Tennessee

My Commission Expires: June 15, 2015.