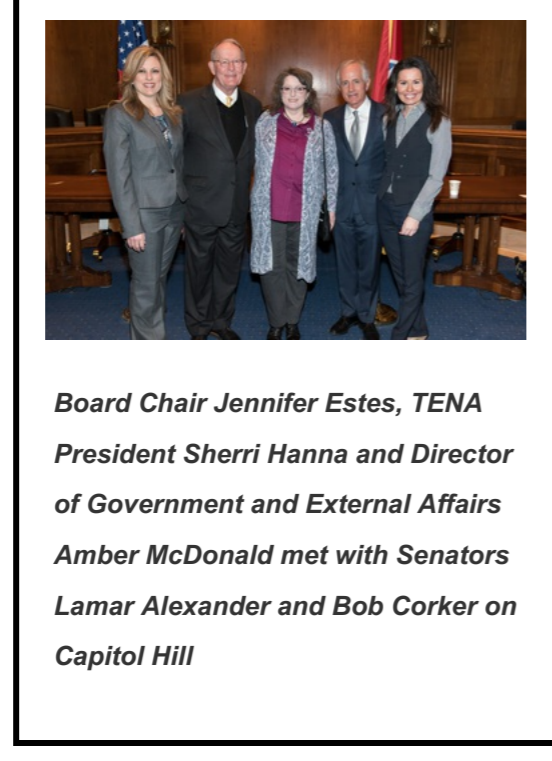


911 Goes to Washington



Board Chair Jennifer Estes, TENA President Sherri Hanna and Director of Government and External Affairs Amber McDonald met with Senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker on Capitol Hill

911 professionals from across the state participated in NENA's 911 Goes to Washington the week of February 26th-March 1st. Topics included advances in 911 technology, PSAP management and government relations, just to name a few. Executive Director Curtis Sutton, Director of Government Affairs Amber McDonald and Chairwoman Jennifer Estes, along with 911 professionals from across the state were in attendance and visited with Tennessee's congressmen. During the congressional meetings staff spoke about the TECB's leadership in the Next Gen 911 deployment project, advanced training initiatives and national recognition for its outstanding emergency communication program.

911 GTW

TECB Receives National Award in Washington

While participating in 911 Goes to Washington, the TECB received the prestigious "Outstanding Program Award" by the NG-911 Institute. Congresswomen Diane Black and Marsha Blackburn were in attendance and took part in the festivities. The TECB would like to thank the voters and congratulate all of the winners. Click below for the official press release.



The TECB and the NG-911 Institute welcomed Congresswoman Black while receiving its award for Outstanding 911 Program.

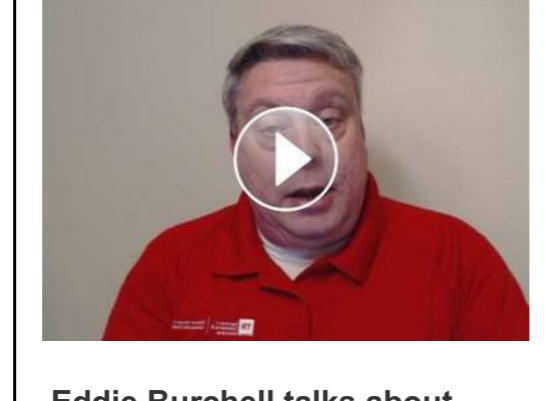


Congresswoman Blackburn congratulated Tennessee for its national recognition while speaking to 911 professionals from across the country

Official Press Release

Next Gen Update

Stage 3 of the Next Gen ALI project will begin testing in the Jackson Region in May. Click the video below to hear more from Technical Director Eddie Burchell.



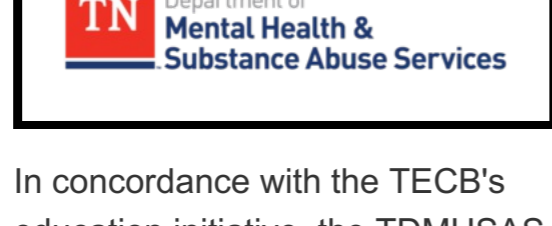
Eddie Burchell talks about Next Gen 911 in this month's Tech Tip

Sign Up for Advanced Education 911 Classes

The TECB and NENA still have spots open for our advanced education initiative. You are permitted to sign up more than one person from your district to participate. Please click on the flyer below for detailed information.



Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Present at 911 Conference



In concordance with the TECB's education initiative, the TDMHSAS is providing mental health and substance abuse training to Tennessee's 911 professionals during the 4th annual "Answering the Call" conference on April 10th-12th at Jackson Madison County General Hospital.

Contact Ken Boroughs at ken.boroughs@wth.org to reserve your spot!

Industry News: Failing to Plan, Is Planning to Fail

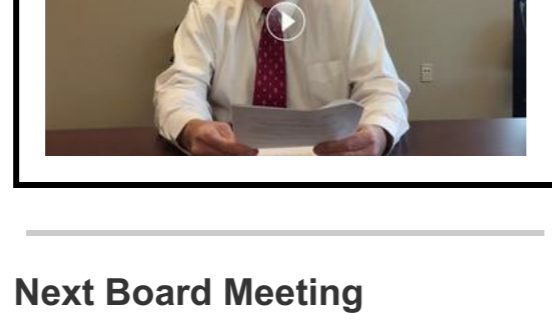
NENA's The Call publication featured the TECB's board Chairwoman Jennifer Estes and her take on the tragic Gatlinburg Fires.



The Call: Gatlinburg Fires

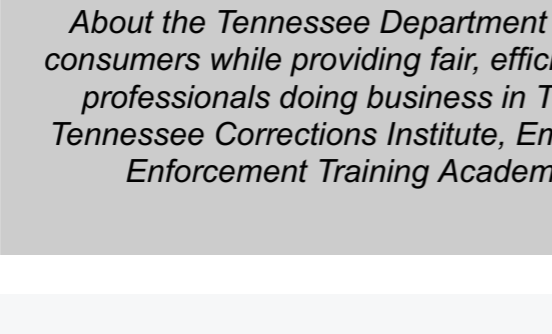
Money Matters

Fiscal Director Jim Barnes talks about capital expenditures and whether to include these items in your budget. Click below for this month's edition.

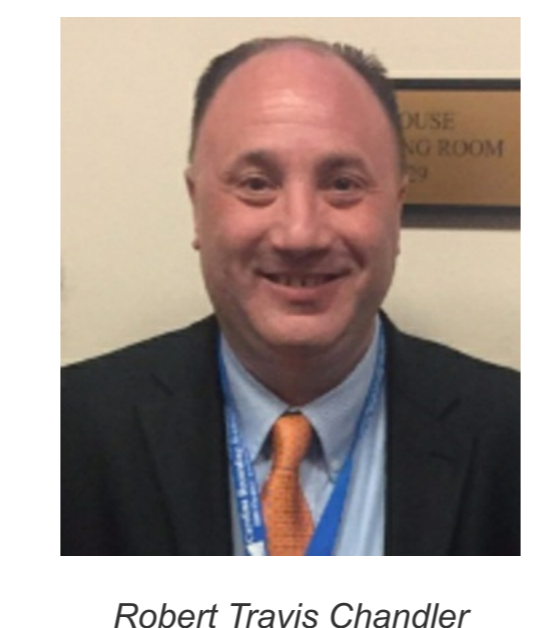


Next Meeting

May 3, 2017
500 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243



Unicoi County Welcomes New 911 Director



Robert Travis Chandler

Robert Travis Chandler is in a new role at Unicoi County. Amber McDonald sat down with him to discuss what it's like being the new director.

Q: What made you want to become a 911 director?

A: I have worked under so many great supervisors, trainers and directors that it has inspired me to take this challenge and to do my very best to help Unicoi County.

Q: What is the most challenging day you have ever had?

A: I would say since I have become director, understanding employee's personalities and putting together work schedules making sure there is proper coverage.

Q: If you could tell someone wanting a career in public safety one bit of advice, what would it be?

A: Don't take on the job or apply for a 911 dispatcher if you don't have the heart for it, take the job, very serious, want to help people, be professional in your job do it to your best every day.

Q: What makes your 911 team so special?

A: The very first thing is we love our community, we love helping people we all know mostly everybody in our community we understand what our roles are as a dispatcher and we want to do the best job we can.

Q: Why is the state 911 board and staff important to you?

A: Because of various things they keep us updated on with new technology and events for training and important items for directors to relay to their staff.

Q: What is one thing you would like the public to know about 911?

A: That our job gets very hectic at times, and dispatchers are juggling more than one thing at a time, I wish the public could come to a 911 center and see on a daily basis what dispatchers do.

Q: What's the most rewarding day as a 911 director have you had?

A: Maybe knowing somehow I might have helped someone along the way, I know this is my job, but it makes you feel good as a person knowing you might have played a part in helping the citizens or even saving a life...



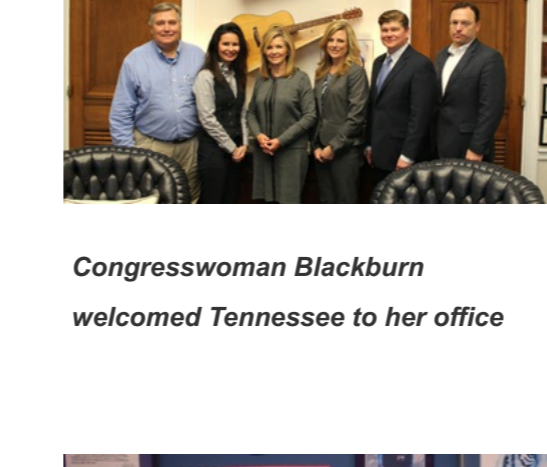
Chandler joined the TECB's Bob McNeill, Amber McDonald and 911 Director Dale Blevins at TENA's 911 Day on the Hill.

If you would like to be featured in our monthly newsletter, email amber.mcdonald@tn.gov

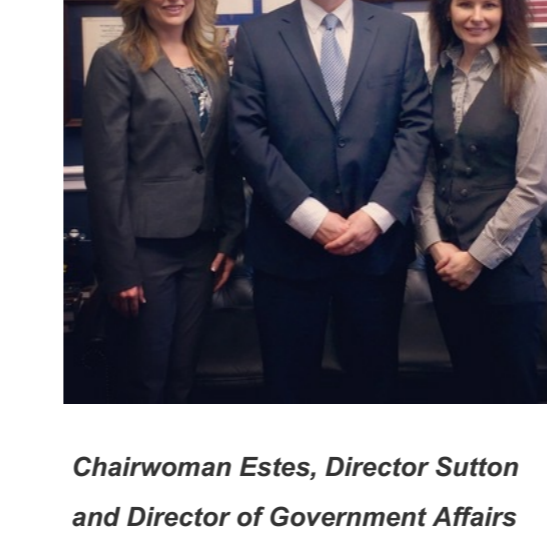
More Pictures from 911 GTW



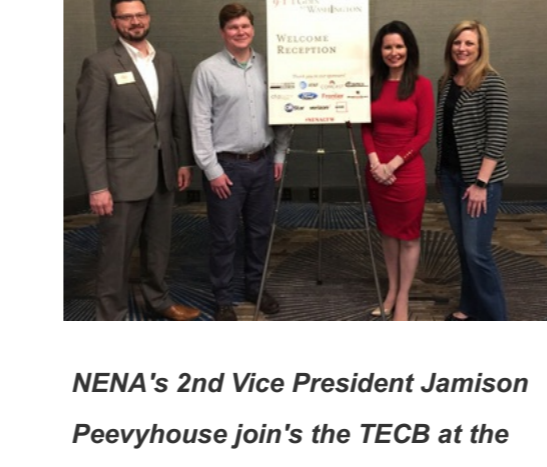
The TECB met with Congressman John Duncan while in Washington.



Congresswoman Blackburn welcomed Tennessee to her office



Chairwoman Estes, Director Sutton and Director of Government Affairs McDonald in Senator Lamar Alexander's office.



NENA's 2nd Vice President Jamison Peevyhouse join's the TECB at the Welcome Reception

TENA Celebrates 911 Day on the Hill

On March 7th, 911 professionals from across the state participated in "911 Day on the Hill" at legislative plaza. 911 Directors met with their local legislators throughout the day and were introduced by Chairman Yager in the State and Local Government Committee in the Senate.



State and Local Government Committee

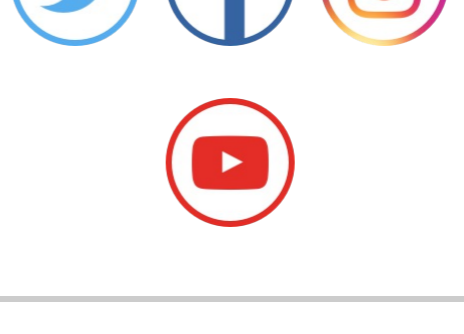


911 professionals being introduced in committee by Chairman Yager

The Official Newsletter of the TECB

Serving the First, First Responders

Visit the TDCI on Social Media



McLeod, Burchell Celebrate Service

The TECB would like to recognize two outstanding employees who recently celebrated career milestones. Robert McLeod was honored at the February board meeting for 20 years of service in state government and Technical Director Eddie Burchell recently celebrated five years of service. Both were presented with a certificate by board chairwoman, Jennifer Estes. The TECB would like to thank Robert and Eddie for their dedication, loyalty and excellence to the state 911 board.



Director of Audit Robert McLeod



Chief of Technical Services Eddie Burchell

Legislative Updates



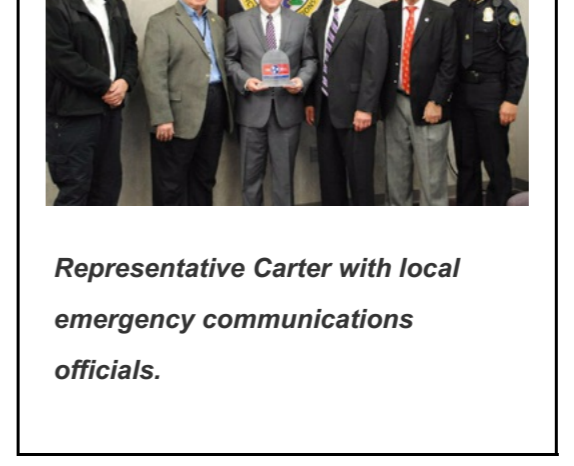
The TECB's four year Sunset passed the Government Operations Senate and House Committees. The staff and board would like to thank the general assembly and Chairmen Mike Bell and Jeremy Faison.

In addition, House bill HB0556 and Senate bill SB0596 were introduced by Senator Gardenhire and Representative Matheny. The bill allows members of emergency communications district boards of directors to attend meetings electronically. Click below to read more.

HB0556-SB0596

Representative Mike Carter Honored

Tennessee's local emergency communications officials presented Rep. Mike Carter, R-Ooltewah, with their 2016 Legislator of the Year award for his support of issues aimed at putting 911 operations on a more secure funding basis.

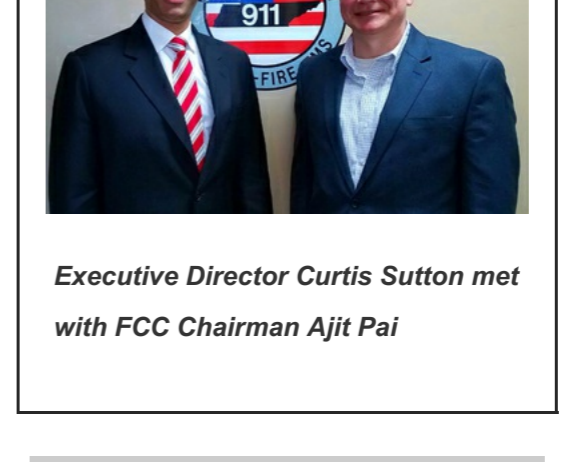


Representative Carter with local emergency communications officials.

Read More

Director Sutton visits with FCC Commissioner

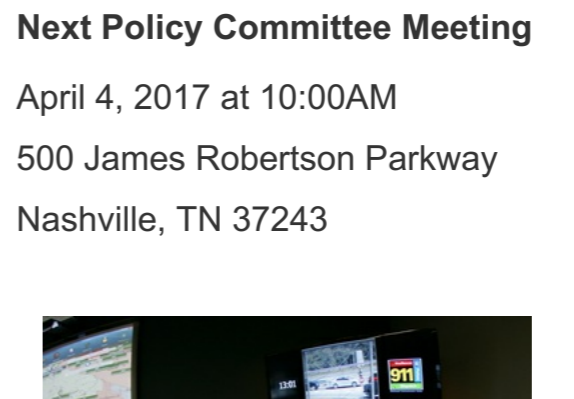
Last month Executive Director Curtis Sutton met with FCC Chairman Ajit Pai at the Maury County 911 Center. During their visit, Director Sutton spoke about the board's recent award given by the NG-911 institute.



Executive Director Curtis Sutton met with FCC Chairman Ajit Pai

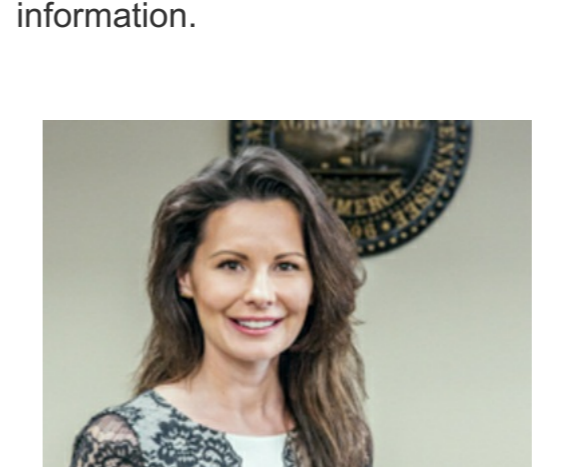
Telecommunicator Week

A reminder that Telecommunicator Week is April 9th-15th!



Next Policy Committee Meeting

April 4, 2017 at 10:00AM
500 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243



Did You Know?



Initially, neither the FCC nor Congress wanted any jurisdiction over 911 or its operation, most likely because they did not want to fund the 911 system. However, on October 26, 1999, President Bill Clinton signed Senate Bill 800, which directed the FCC to make 911 the nationwide emergency telephone number.

About the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance: TDCI is charged with protecting the interests of consumers while providing fair, efficient oversight and a level field of competition for a broad array of industries and professionals doing business in Tennessee. Our divisions include the Athletic Commission, Consumer Affairs, Tennessee Corrections Institute, Emergency Communications Board, Fire Prevention, Insurance, Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, Peace Officers Standards and Training, Regulatory Boards, Securities, and TennCare Oversight.

