

# **Standards Committee Meeting Minutes**

**March 14, 2014**

Attending the meeting were committee members: Laura Sykora (Chairman), Wayne Cyrus, Barry Furey, Joe Gurley, Jimmy Stewart, Neal Sizemore, Christy Shearin, and Donna Wright. Attending the meeting were staff members: Richard Taylor, Richard Bradford, Tina Bone, David Dodd, Dave Corn, and Teresa Banks the NC ITS rules coordinator.

Laura Sykora introduced herself and began the meeting. She asked for a status update of the Standards Enforcement Subcommittee. The Enforcement Subcommittee is created to establish a process of standards enforcement consistent with existing enforcement regimens currently in place with law enforcement, fire, and rescue. The subcommittee is composed of seven members from various sectors of Public Safety. There is one person appointed by the Sheriff's Association, one person appointed by the Police Chief's Association, one person appointed by the Fire Chief's Association, one person appointed by the NC Association of Rescue and EMS, one person appointed by NENA, one person appointed by APCO , and the Standards Committee Chairman. The Standards Committee discussed providing guidance to the members of the Subcommittee on how that Subcommittee should proceed. The Committee decided to invite the members of the Enforcement Subcommittee to discuss with the members of the Standards Committee expectations and provide direction to the Subcommittee at the next meeting.

The Chair asked Staff to share with the Committee their observations from field visits to PSAPs around the state. Staff replied with the following lists of issues that the Standards Committee may want to take up in the future. Equipment Obsolescence is a real problem in some PSAPs, staff is encouraging PSAPs to replace old and outdated CPE. There continues to be a serious problem with a lack of backup plans. There are PSAPs with no battery backup or UPS system. Too many PSAPs are not taking advantage of eCats or any other performance management tool. Training continues to be a challenge in that not all PSAPs are doing continuing education training. Not all PSAPs are doing all three protocols; 80 out of 100 counties have approved OEMS EMD protocols. Staff suggestions are being ignored by too many PSAPs in large part because there are no rules/standards.

Staff presented pending language to the Committee requested by the legislature requiring all PSAPs to have a backup plan. This language as requested by the legislature will be added to the 911 Board statutes. The Board approved this language at the last meeting. What constitutes a backup is for the Board to determine. The funding model encourages PSAPs to work together for a backup plan. In addition the language allows the Board flexibility in applying penalties. Currently the language in the existing statute includes only the ability to stop all funding payments, there is no intermediate measure. This language will allow the Board flexibility to impose a less strenuous penalty.

Most of the meeting was consumed by the rules review. The Committee proceeded through the rules as they currently exist. The working document is a compilation of back and forth suggestions between various entities. The Standards Committee reviewed all the points labelled "committee." The Committee discussed points and made corrections where applicable. Guidance was provided by the Committee to Staff on some points. Many of the points were for information only because it was felt that the Standards Committee should be aware of recommended changes. Teresa is the IT rules making coordinator for the Board. Amanda is a staff attorney at the Rules Review Commission. Amanda made a number of objections. There is a lengthy back and forth process that is going on now between Teresa, Amanda, and Richard Bradford behind the scene. The entire process involves additional activity by Staff and the Board. At the end of the discussion Richard Bradford agreed to provide the Committee another revised version so that the Committee can insure the revisions maintain the intent of the Standards.

The next meeting will include the Standards Enforcement Committee and additional work on the Rules. The Committee agreed to meet on April 15 at 10:00 am at 3900 Wake Forest Road in Raleigh.