



**FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY  
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 28, 2017  
COMBINED COMMITTEES AND BOARD MEETING**

On June 28, 2017, the First Responder Network Authority (“FirstNet”) held an open public meeting of the FirstNet Board and Combined Committees. The meeting took place in Reston, VA and began at 9:00 AM EDT. The meeting was made available to the public via teleconference and webcast. A transcript of the meeting and the archived copy of the Board and Combined Committee meeting webcast can be found on the FirstNet website at [www.firsnet.gov](http://www.firsnet.gov).

**BOARD AND COMBINED COMMITTEE MEETING**

FirstNet Board Chair Sue Swenson opened the meeting by noting that it was nice to be back in Reston at FirstNet’s headquarters as FirstNet enters the deployment phase. Chair Swenson also noted that the Board would have its Committee and Board meeting in one session and outlined the Committee and Board meeting agenda.

**Conflicts Statement and Reminder**

Board Secretary Karen Miller-Kuwana reminded Board members of the conflicts statement that FirstNet had provided in advance of the Combined Committee and Board meeting and asked for any recusals from the Board members. In response, all participating Board members indicated no conflicts of interest, and the meeting proceeded.

**Roll Call:** Sue Swenson (“Chair”), Jeff Johnson (“Vice Chair”), Ed Horowitz, James Douglas, Kevin McGinnis, Neil Cox, Ed Reynolds (via teleconference), Richard Stanek (via teleconference), Teri Takai, Kathy Kraninger (via teleconference), David Hess (via teleconference) and Christopher Piehota (via teleconference). A quorum was present for the Board and the Combined Committees.

***Votes Taken***

Chair Swenson stated that before proceeding with the business of the day, the Board needed to approve the minutes from the March 14<sup>th</sup> Combined Committee and Board meeting and the March 28 Special Board meeting. Chair Swenson asked for a motion to approve the March 14<sup>th</sup> minutes. Ms. Takai made the motion, Mr. Horowitz seconded, and the Board and Combined Committees unanimously voted to approve the March 14<sup>th</sup> Combined Committee and Board

meeting minutes. Chair Swenson next moved to approve the March 28<sup>th</sup> minutes, Mr. Douglas seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the March 28<sup>th</sup> Board meeting minutes.

## **MATTERS DISCUSSED**

Before commencing with the normal course of business, Chair Swenson recognized Chief Harlin McEwen and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Jeffrey Johnson, who asked Chief McEwen to join him, Chair Swenson and newly appointed Public Safety Advisory Chair (PSAC) Chair Tom Sorley for a picture. Vice Chair Johnson presented Chief McEwen with the newly established “Harlin McEwen Public Safety Broadband Communications Award” in honor and appreciation of Chief McEwen’s extraordinary expertise, experience and leadership as the PSAC Chair. Chief McEwen graciously thanked the Board for the wonderful and unexpected honor.

### ***Votes Taken***

Following the inaugural award of the Harlin McEwin Public Safety Broadband Communications award, Chair Swenson moved for the Board to adopt FirstNet Board Resolution 85 - Expression of Thanks for the Services of Chief Harlin McEwen as the Chair and Member of PSAC. The Board unanimously seconded and voted to approve the resolution.

### ***PSAC Update***

Vice Chair Johnson began the PSAC Update with a formal introduction of the newly appointed PSAC Chair Tom Sorley. Mr. Sorley thanked Vice Chair Johnson for the introduction and proceeded with the PSAC tribal, early builder and federal working groups update and a brief discussion of the PSAC Adoption Task Team’s deliverable of the key differentiations between the FirstNet network and traditional cellular networks. Mr. Sorley concluded his presentation with a recap of the June 15<sup>th</sup> PSAC Meeting and thanked the FirstNet Board members who attended.

Chair Swenson also took a moment to welcome Mr. Sorley as the PSAC Chair and offered a brief account of her participation in the PSAC meeting.

### ***Governance and Personnel Committee***

Chair Swenson continued with a brief update on the annual Board member nomination and appointment process. Chair Swenson stated that the Governance and Personnel Committee, along with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) were reviewing the expressions of interests received in response to the recruitment notice published in the Federal Register Notice and that the Committee expected to schedule interviews with in July 2017. Following the interviews, the Committee will submit its recommendations to NTIA, and in turn, NTIA will submit its recommendation to the Secretary of Commerce.

At the conclusion of the Committee update, Board member Kevin McGinnis, who serves as the Board's tribal liaison, suggested that as part of the nomination and appointment process, the Governance and Personnel Committee focus on increasing the tribal representation on the Board.

### ***Finance Committee***

Chief Financial Officer Kim Farington presented a cumulative view of FirstNet's obligations and expenses for Fiscal Year 2017 (FY 2017) to date. Ms. Farington reported that as of May 31, 2017, FirstNet's obligations totaled \$44 million and expenses totaled \$53.8 million. Ms. Farington also explained the major deltas in the FY 2017 budget and reported that FirstNet had re-baselined the FY 2017 budget to account for the delayed award of the National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) contract. Ms. Farington next informed the Committee and Board that FirstNet had returned nearly \$10 million in funds as a result of financial stewardship efficiencies that may be used for future funding needs. Ms. Farington concluded with an update on FirstNet's Strategic Plan and FirstNet Operations that focused on the short- and long-term priorities as they related to performance management, the budget process, internal operations and future investments. Chief Executive Office Mike Poth previewed the upcoming FY 2018 Budget process and noted that FirstNet was targeting a vote to approve the FY 2018 Budget at the September Board meeting. Finance Committee Chair James Douglas also thanked Ms. Farington for her leadership as Chief Financial Officer and announced that FirstNet had established a separate Treasury account for the receipt of gifts and bequests.

### ***Contract Overview and Strategic Roadmap***

President TJ Kennedy's update to the Committees and the Board focused on an overview of the NPSBN contract and the FirstNet strategic roadmap. Mr. Kennedy provided a high-level review of the FirstNet acquisition process and the objectives based Request for Proposal (RFP). Mr. Kennedy also highlighted the terms of the NPSBN contract and reiterated that the detailed acquisition process had resulted in a solution that not only met, but in many instances, exceeded the 16 RFP objectives. For example, Mr. Kennedy noted that FirstNet would have access to quality of service, and priority and preemption on both Band 14 and AT&T's existing network and that a comprehensive 3GPP-compliant device portfolio would be made available to public safety users. Mr. Kennedy also discussed the initial application store, cybersecurity, public safety user adoption targets, rural telecom provider partnerships, deployables, and a customer service team dedicated to public safety.

Mr. Kennedy continued with an outline of FirstNet's strategic roadmap and milestones beginning in March 2017 with the NPSBN contract execution to the FirstNet core being brought on-line in March 2018 and with Band 14 going "live" in June 2018 to more than 60% Band 14 Coverage in June 2019. The roadmap and milestone discussion included State Plans release, Governors' decisions, device and application ecosystem, FY18 budget approval, priority and preemption

implementation, mission critical push to talk, network policies, and updated FirstNet location based services. Mr. Kennedy emphasized that the FirstNet solution includes the capability to evolve and innovate with changing technology.

### ***Network Program Update***

Network Program Officer Steve Fletcher began the Network Program Update with a review of FirstNet and AT&T's accomplishment post contract award, including the implementation of a contract administration plan, review and approval of initial 30 day contract deliverables and the establishment of operational task teams and program management reviews. In response to questions from Chair Swenson, Mr. Fletcher added that the biggest task of the first 90 days was just getting up to speed on the process and establishing a reporting and information sharing cadence. Mr. Fletcher also directed the Board's attention to FirstNet and AT&T's upcoming key events and planned activities for the next 90 days, and highlighted the level of complexity in developing and establishing this cadence moving forward. Mr. Poth and Mr. Fletcher noted that the Network Program Office was focused on establishing the infrastructure to develop the 56 state plans, troubleshooting and resolving issues that may arise with AT&T, and ensuring and facilitating AT&T's successful execution of the NPSBN contract. Other significant events discussed included FirstNet's visit to AT&T's Global Network Operations Center; a Board cybersecurity briefing, a national State Plan kickoff meeting and the State Plan release on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Fletcher also discussed the upcoming deliverables under Task Order 1: State Plan Portal; Task Order 2: State Plan Development & Refinement and Task Order 3: FirstNet Radio Access Network (RAN) and briefed the milestones identified in the AT&T NPSBN 2017 Program Schedule.

### ***Technology Committee***

Before the start of the Technology Committee Update, Chair Swenson reported on the review process undertaken by the Consultation and Outreach and Technology Committees of FirstNet's proposed Network Policies. Chair Swenson recounted that both Committees and the Board had received briefings on the proposed Network Policies, and the Committees had recently reviewed and been given the opportunity to make recommendations on the proposed policies. Following Chair Swenson's report, Chief Technology Officer Jeff Bratcher began the Technology Committee update with a thank you to Chief McEwen for his tireless commitment to public safety. Mr. Bratcher continued with a "progress report" on the NPSBN Core network design and FirstNet's coordination with AT&T to finalize the Network Policies. Next, Mr. Bratcher described FirstNet and AT&T's recent cybersecurity activities and detailed some of the key focus areas and milestones for cybersecurity moving forward. These milestones and areas include enhanced network security, identity credentialing and access management capabilities, the security operations center, applications security, and FirstNet's quality assurance and surveillance plan. Mr. Bratcher concluded with an update on the 33 Public Safety Innovation Accelerator Grant awardees that were recently announced at the Public Safety Communication

Research Division (PSCR) Conference. The discussion focused on mission critical voice capabilities, location based services, and prototyping platforms. Technology Committee Chair Neil Cox and Board members Edward Horowitz, and Kevin McGinnis also commented on the awardees featured at the PSCR Conference.

### *Closed Session*

Chair Swenson announced that the Board would convene in a closed session, and moved to close the Combined Committees and Board meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by the FirstNet Board and Combined Committees.

At 1:30 PM (EDT), the FirstNet Board and Combined Committees reconvened the open public meeting and Chair Swenson introduced Director of State Plans Brian Hobson and Deputy Chief Customer Officer Amanda Hilliard for the State Plans Update.

### *State Plans Update*

Before beginning the update, Ms. Hilliard echoed the Board and Mr. Bratcher's sentiments and thanked Chief McEwen for all the work and engagement that he has given to FirstNet and the Chief Customer Office team. Next, Ms. Hilliard discussed the State Plans timeline and announced that the initial State Plans were delivered on June 19th, three months ahead of schedule. Ms. Hilliard explained that FirstNet was in the 45 day review cycle for states and public safety to review and provide any comments to FirstNet. Following this 45 day review cycle, FirstNet will review the comments and feedback and make any necessary adjustment to the State Plans prior to the official release in mid-September. This mid-September release will serve as official notice to the Governors and trigger the 90 day timeline for the Governors' decisions. Ms. Hilliard also clarified that FirstNet has offered the states the option to opt-in before the mid-September release of the State Plans. Ms. Hilliard also recounted the State Plan kickoff meeting between FirstNet and AT&T and the three main outcomes: State Plan Portals training, State Plan review process, and one-on-one sessions with the 56 states and territories. Chair Swenson, Chief McGinnis, Mr. Cox and other Board members also took a moment to provide their accounts of the State Plan Kickoff meeting. Chair Swenson also credited Marsha McBride from NTIA for all the work she has done with FirstNet beginning with the early days during the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) negotiations. Ms. Hilliard likewise concluded with a compliment to Communications Director Ryan Oremland and the FirstNet Communications team for their outstanding work leading up to the release of the State Plans.

During the second part of the State Plans update, Mr. Hobson provided the Committees and the Board with a high-level walk through of the FirstNet State Plans Portal and a demonstration of the FirstNet.com. The State Plans Portal consist of six separate sections that include: background information on "what is FirstNet"; a summary of what was learned during state

consultation; the Governor's decision with an Executive Summary; a coverage section that allows users to access coverage maps and deployment information, a network architecture section, and a products and services section. The State Plan Portal also includes a comment section and is available only to identified State Plan Portal users within each state. Additional information is publicly available on the [www.FirstNet.com](http://www.FirstNet.com) website. This website was launched on the same day as the State Plans Portal and targets the broader stakeholder community that are interested in learning more about FirstNet. The FirstNet.com website is an open website that anyone can access (as opposed to the State Plans Portal that is restricted to identified State Plan Portal users within each state) and allows the user to contact a FirstNet specialist. Interactive coverage maps are also available on FirstNet.com as well as basic information on devices and accessories, the overall FirstNet solution, application ecosystems, the application store and FirstNet events.

### ***CEO Update***

Mr. Poth concluded the meeting with a brief CEO Update. To start, Mr. Poth thanked the Board, Chief McEwen, Chief Customer Officer Rich Reed and the State Plans team, and the entire FirstNet organization for all of their hard work getting FirstNet to this point. Mr. Poth announced that the Board would be receiving the inaugural FirstNet Challenge coin as a token of FirstNet's appreciation. Mr. Poth also reiterated the significance of the release of the State Plans and recounted that FirstNet has spoken with over 140,000 public safety officials and collected data from 12,000 public safety agencies. Mr. Poth added that FirstNet is truly a network for public safety by public safety. Mr. Poth acknowledged that public safety has high expectations of FirstNet and that FirstNet will need to pass those high expectations along to AT&T. Mr. Poth assured the Board that FirstNet was prepared, with its governance and management approach, to ensure that AT&T meets all of the contract terms over the 25 year contract. Mr. Poth added that the good news is that AT&T had, in short time, not only met, but exceeded FirstNet's expectations, Mr. Poth also stated that FirstNet looks forward to continuing to work with AT&T and is confident that AT&T and the FirstNet network will be successful.

In closing, Mr. Poth recapped what lies ahead for FirstNet – from the final release of the State Plans and the start of the 90 day Governors' decision clock to the September Board meeting focused on innovation and technology, and the building of the CORE – and promised that FirstNet would continue to focus on getting it right for public safety and the states.

### **Board Adjourned**

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.