



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2, 2025
COMBINED BOARD AND BOARD COMMITTEES MEETING

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) held a public Combined Board and Committees meeting on Monday, June 2, 2025, in person and via MS Teams at 9:30 AM PST in Bellevue, WA. A video recording and transcript of the meeting, as well as the archived presentation, are available on the FirstNet Authority website: [FirstNet.gov](https://www.firstnet.gov).

Acting Board Chair Renee Gordon welcomed everyone and introduced Michael Cannon as the new Executive Director and CEO for the FirstNet Authority, along with new National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Chief of Staff Brooke Donilon. During this meeting, highlights and updates were provided from the Public Safety Advisory, Advocacy, Finance and Investment, and Programs and Future Planning committees.

Roll Call

Renee Gordon (“Acting Chair”), Michael Adkinson, Billy Bob Brown Jr., Damon Darsey, Alexandra Fernández Navarro, Erik Gaull, Sean McDevitt, Warren Mickens, Jocelyn Moore, Jeffrey Norman, Rasheid Scarlett, and Trisha Wolford participated.¹ A quorum was present for the Combined Board and Board Committees meeting.

Conflicts Statement and Reminder

Prior to participating in the FirstNet Authority Combined Board and Board Committees meeting, Board Secretary Jennifer Watts sent Board members the meeting agenda and Conflict of Interest guidance provided by the Ethics Law and Program Division of the Department of Commerce, Office of General Counsel that applies to all Board members. All Board members responded prior to the meeting that they did not need to recuse themselves from participation in any portion of the meeting, therefore indicating no conflicts of interest, and the meeting proceeded.

Votes Taken

Prior to proceeding with the business of the day, Acting Chair Renee Gordon, requested a motion to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2025, Combined Board and Board Committees meeting. Erik Gaull made the motion. Billy Bob Brown Jr. seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously voted to approve the meeting minutes and to make them available to the public at the end of the meeting.

Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) Update

PSAC Chair Chris Lombard welcomed the FirstNet Authority Board, staff, and 5X5 Summit

¹ Billy Bob Brown Jr., Damon Darsey, and Alexandra Fernández Navarro attended virtually.

attendees to the Washington area and expressed pride that his region has the most FirstNet users within the state. Chief Lombard's recap included the PSAC's continued engagement with public safety stakeholders on best practices and network optimization. He reported that the PSAC is assessing a comprehensive Emergency Management guide for all disciplines and its Tribal Advisory Group continues to collaborate on nationwide and regional association outreach and will meet in-person later this afternoon. A workgroup will be convened to assess how to better engage technology specialists that can support public safety. Over the next several months, the PSAC will continue to collaborate with the FirstNet Authority on investment issues related to coverage enhancements and network evolution.

Advocacy Committee Update

Committee Chair Trisha Wolford highlighted the 300 engagements and collaborations with public safety stakeholders held over the past quarter that touched more than 10,000 stakeholders in 49 states and territories. Six public safety tours were held at the Boulder FirstNet Authority facilities that included state and local public safety leaders and academia. Feedback gathered at these engagements continues to include input for operational needs and capability gaps, with reliability being a persistent topic. Stakeholders also identified potential enhancements and elaborated on outstanding needs. Some engagements attended over this period included multiple fire and EMS related conferences, like IAFC Fire Rescue Med, IAFC's Community Risk Reduction Conference, and the National Volunteer Fire Council Spring Conference. Board members also participated at this year's National Police Week in Washington, D.C., and FirstNet Authority staff attended the National Hurricane Conference and conducted nine successful coverage enhancement workshops since the last Board meeting.

Finance and Investment Committee Update

Committee Chair Sean McDevitt briefed that during the first 7 months of FY2025, the FirstNet Authority obligated a cumulative total of \$45.6 million, which is well within the forecasted parameters of the 2025 budget. It is approximately 12% under budget expectations, largely due to reduced personnel, some delayed expenditures, and continued prudence on behalf of the management team of the FirstNet Authority and the Board's oversight.

Programs and Future Planning Committee Update

Committee Chair Rasheid Scarlett stated that the network has surpassed 7 million connections as public safety's adoption and use of the network steadily grows. Feedback from stakeholders, like those received at coverage enhancement workshops, assist in determining coverage investments for new site builds. AT&T FirstNet has delivered 1000 new site builds, 9 months ahead of schedule, that include Band 14 coverage. The in-building program has funded the deployment of over 10,000 in-building solutions since June 2022 and at no charge to public safety. These were needs identified by public safety stakeholders. The FirstNet Authority will continue to invest in emerging technologies like upgrading deployable fleets to 5G and working on investments to enable satellite to device technologies. Assets will be mobilized and staged in preparation for hurricane season. FirstNet Authority will also continue to be the voice of public safety in 3GPP standard activities internationally and participate in early stages of 6G standards. The team is also reviewing options for investment opportunities to complete maritime and air to ground trials, leverage AI, and to continue to innovate with deployable form factors. The team is still prepping for the launch of the new 5G standalone core, continuing enhancements to FirstNet

Central, and keeping a focus on ongoing mission critical product developments as public safety's interest and usage of FirstNet continues to grow.

Closing Remarks

Acting Chair Renee Gordon noted the strides the FirstNet Authority made for the network and for public safety. The Acting Chair looked forward to seeing the evolution and expansion of the network and expressed excitement to connect with public safety leaders during the 5X5 Summit before asking Executive Director and CEO Michael Cannon for closing remarks.

Mr. Cannon thanked Acting Chair Gordon and the Bellevue hosts before reflecting on some of the key developments mentioned during the meeting, including the continued growth to over seven million connections and 30,000 public safety agencies and organizations on the network, the continued progress with evolving the network to 5G, and the recently achieved major milestone of 1,000 new cell sites completed ahead of schedule. He committed that expansion of coverage for public safety will remain a key priority and the FirstNet Authority will continue to do so with the help of public safety through venues like the coverage enhancement workshops.

Board Adjourned

Acting Chair Gordon requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board member Damon Darsey motioned to adjourn. Jeffrey Norman seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.