



To: Administrative Policy Board  
From: Executive Director Ronald Bonneau, ENP  
Ref: Progress Report – March 26, 2012

1. Since Ralph has kept you apprised of the progress of a public safety initiative in Washington, DC., I wanted to include the following: recently President Obama signed legislation dedicating an additional 20 Mhz of radio spectrum to public safety. Known colloquially as the “D” Block this spectrum will provide spectrum to be used as IP broadband for both radio, data and video for public safety.

Additionally, \$6 billion in funding for building out a nationwide public safety grade (secure, encrypted, redundant, survivable) network was both authorized and appropriated as part of the legislation. Furthermore, an additional \$125 million in funding for State/local implementation and \$300 million for research for this network is available for implementation and provisioning of this spectrum.

A related and significant issue included in this legislation was the unpopular, but became a compromise that was agreed to by the parties, requirement for public safety to “give back” certain “T” band frequencies being used by public safety in the range of 470 – 512 Mhz. This spectrum must be returned for reallocation within nine (9) years. The FCC stated there are over 800 public safety agencies on these “T” band channels concentrated in many major cities. Additionally, the FCC is not giving waivers to the agencies using these frequencies to avoid meeting the narrow banding deadline this coming January of 2013

Another part of this legislation is the availability of up to \$115 million in Next Generation 9-1-1 grants. This money will only be available after the successful auction of spectrum that exceeds \$27.6 billion to reduce the fiscal deficit. Thus these funds may not be available for seven or more years.

2. I have spent time interviewing the majority of the Administrative Board members to determine their perceptions and expectations of both the Authority and myself as we move forward. I have compiled a list of their responses to help me in

formulating consensus opinions of various topics of interest to both them individually and the Authority.

Interestingly most of the members interviewed expressed a common theme of the mission of KCDA. That consensus vision was used in part to formulate the draft Mission Statement and the Policy Creation document which were presented at the Exec Committee meeting for discussion and both are in “marked up” state for further discussion at the next Exec Committee meeting.

The Exec Committee tabled the draft of the Financial Policy as they wished to have the new Fiduciary in place before formalizing that policy.

3. Jennifer DeHaan helped me identify the methods she uses to process payment requests so that our new financial policy and related procedures reflect the system to be used, as we transition away from Kent County financial services. This information, as well as Jennifer’s and the Wyoming Finance Director’s expertise, was used to help in formulating the new Financial Policy RFP which was released to a list of potential vendors (per the list distributed to all KCDA Board members) on March 9<sup>th</sup> with responses due to the Kent County Purchasing Authority by the COB on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Pursuant to direction by the Chair, I conducted a preliminary meeting with the Financial Services review committee and we established the methodology to be used in evaluating the responses received. It is the goal of the committee to have a recommendation of the new Fiduciary to the Exec Committee on May 14<sup>th</sup> such that the new Fiduciary can be in place by June 1, 2012.

4. I have had phone calls with Harriet Miller-Brown of the State 911 Commission to learn about regulatory and administrative requirements of the State and have spoken to several other Administrators in the State to learn about projects of interest to the Authority.

I attended the SNC meeting in Lansing on March 13<sup>th</sup> and learned that the Michigan Auditor General has issued three items of interest to KCDA which include:

- a. It is the opinion of Auditor General that the State is losing between \$4 – 7 Billion annually from service providers who are not paying surcharge.
- b. The current method of distributing pre-paid wireless surcharge is being reviewed

- c. Future audits of surcharge funds held and used by Counties will have to be a separate audit from the County audit and will have to have “sampled and tested” validation that surcharge funds are being used as required by law.

The SNC will be issuing white papers on each of these topics and I will continue to monitor them.

- 5. I have also spent time learning about the State of Michigan NG 911 GIS project to help the Authority decide if we are going to participate. In that vein I have attended a Webinar, had a meeting with the State 911 Director, talked to a Kimball representative, several other 911 Authority Directors, our PSAP managers and interviewed Dharmesh of REGIS. Additionally I and Mark Holmes have reviewed the street centerline support data fields on the REGIS map against the project requirements and determined our base map conforms to the NENA GIS standard and the majority of data required in this state project, except for L/R ESZ data on the street centerlines.
- 6. I continue to participate in the weekly conference calls with the PSAP managers and their teams with Motorola as we move forward in addressing the concerns about the implementation plan. I concur with the PSAP managers that the process Motorola has implemented has improved the deliverables to the two centers and has allowed more informed local testing of the product.
- 7. As you are aware, the Grand Rapids Fire Department received official notification that they have been awarded the Fire Interoperable Radio Grant they applied for which KDCA was a partner. The grant amount has been corrected from the previously reported \$1,750,000.00 federal portion to \$2,000,000 of which KCDA agreed to pay the 20% match of the total award or \$500,000.00.

According to Chief Knapp, the grant must be formally accepted by the City of Grand Rapids within the month. In order to address the quick time frame for both acceptance of the grant as well as using the funds (13 months), Grand Rapids FD and PSAP, the Kent County Sheriff's PSAP and KCDA had an organizational meeting on the grant process on Thursday morning, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 AM.

A discussion was held about if the City of Grand Rapids would require KCDA to deposit the entire 20% match of the total award into the city treasury before they formally accepted the grant funds. Chief Knapp checked with the financial director of the City and the determination was that KCDA will not have to deposit

the funds at this time, but will need to draft a letter to the City Council confirming our commitment to contribute 20% of the total project cost as a match not to exceed \$500,000.00. A letter will be presented to the Chair for signature on Monday.

Furthermore, both Grand Rapids and Kent County PSAP's that the Fire Radio Grant project is so complex and that they did not feel that either had the personal nor internal staff expertise to design the RFP for such a system. Additionally, due to the added technical requirements of a microwave backhaul and the concern that any radio consultant from the area would want to bid on the project, I invited radio consultant Max Machuta from Municipal Services of Traverse City, Michigan to attend the meeting.

I can safely say that during the interactive discussion of both the goals of KCDA as it relates to the KCDA strategic plan for interoperability (both legacy and the potential for future trunked radio) and the individual and disparate radio systems of the two centers and throughout the County, that Max gave us an informed path to consider as the RFP is developed.

8. I received a phone call from Jon Stones of Priority Dispatch to tell me they were going to invoice KCDA for the 1<sup>st</sup> Tier milestone payment, per the contract of \$105,921 which was due last March. As you are aware, the EMD system was to be installed after CAD cutover. I told Jon that I did not feel that KCDA would be willing to pay 80% of the system cost regardless of the delay in implementing EMD and the two PSAP managers concurred. But after speaking with the PSAP managers they felt that some type of good faith payment was due, in part since Priority Dispatch had done some preliminary site work at KCSO in January. Also we wanted to protect the current contract to avoid increases in costs and to assure that Priority Dispatch provided the most recent release of Priority Dispatch EMD software, ProQA Paramount to both PSAP's.

Curtis concurred and a conference call resulted with the parties negotiating a new payment schedule which is included in your packet and for which I have prepared a motion to approve the new payment terms.