



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD BOARD MEETING AGENDA

****September 19, 2025, 9:00 a.m.****

Hybrid Meeting Option:

[Webex Meeting](#)

Phone Number: (408) 418-9388

Meeting Number: 2559 272 6246

Password: amMJkttu492 (26655888 when dialing from a phone or video system)

1. **Call to Order** – Commissioner John P. Fahey, 2025 Board Chair
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Commissioner Fahey
3. **Consent Agenda** – Rohret (**page 3**)
 - A. Approval: July 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - B. Approval: June 2025 Treasurer's Report
 - C. Approval: July 2025 Treasurer's Report
 - D. Approval of Change to MESB Representation at SECB LMR Committee
 - E. Correspondence
4. **Radio Items** – Tracey Fredrick, Radio Services Coordinator
 - A. Approval to Delete Metro ARMER Standard 3.31.0 (**page 27**)
 - B. Approval of Changes to WMRCC Talkgroup & Amendments to Metro Standard 3.27.0 – Use of MRCC Talkgroups (**page 31**)
5. **9-1-1 Items** – Jill Rohret, Executive Director
 - A. Award of RFP for Digital GIS Mapping of School Facilities (**page 37**)
6. **EMS Items** – Greg Hayes, EMS Coordinator
 - A. Acceptance and Approval of Grant Amendment for Minnesota Office of EMS EMS Relief Fund Grant (**page 39**)
7. **Administrative Items** – Jill Rohret, Executive Director
 - A. Award of RFP for Lobbying Services (**page 41**)
8. **Reports**
 - A. Legislative Report – Margaret Vesel/Matthew Bergeron
 - B. Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB) Reports:
 - 1) Finance – Rohret/Fredrick
 - 2) Legislative – Rohret/Anderson – Sept. meeting cancelled
 - 3) Steering – Fredrick/Rohret
 - 4) Other SECB Committees – Fredrick
 - 5) Board – Rohret/Atkins
 - C. DPS-ECN Update – Kent Wilkening, ECN
9. **Old Business**
 - A. Update on School Mapping Grant – Rohret
10. **New Business**
11. **Adjourn**



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Metropolitan Emergency Services Board Members

Anoka County

Commissioner Mike Gamache*
Commissioner Mandy Meisner

Carver County

Commissioner John P. Fahey* (2025 Chair)

Chisago County

Commissioner Rick Greene*

City of Minneapolis

Council Member Elliott Payne* (2025 Vice Chair)

Dakota County

Commissioner Joe Atkins*
Commissioner Bill Droste

Hennepin County

Commissioner Kevin Anderson
Commissioner Irene Fernando*

Isanti County

Commissioner Todd Christensen*

Ramsey County

Commissioner Garrison McMurtrey
Commissioner Kelly Miller* (2025 Treasurer)

Scott County

Commissioner Dave Beer
Commissioner Tom Wolf* (2025 Secretary)

Sherburne County

Commissioner Gregg Felber*

Washington County

Commissioner Michelle Clasen
Commissioner Fran Miron*

*Denotes Executive Committee member



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date:
Agenda Item:
Presenter:

September 19, 2025
3. Consent Agenda
Rohret

- A. **Minutes** – The minutes of the July 9, 2025 meeting of the Board are attached for review and approval.
- B. **June 2025 Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer has reviewed the June 2025 financial statements and has given approval of the report.
- C. **July 2025 Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer has reviewed the July 2025 financial statements and has given approval of the report.
- D. **Approval of Change to MESB Representation at SECB LMR Committee** – The Radio Technical Operations Committee (TOC) recommends making Nate Timm, the current primary representative, the alternate, and making Mike Mihelich, the current alternate representative, the primary representative.
- E. **Correspondence** – There are three items of correspondence included in the consent agenda. The first item is the Washington County 2026 assessment notice. All MESB member 2026 assessment notices were sent in July; Washington County's was included as an example of notices. The second item of correspondence is an educational item from the Federal Communications Commission on Multi-Line Telephone System (MLTS) Requirements, which apply to all MTLS, regardless of owner/user (government, school, business, etc.). The third item is an email from NENA announcing that the U.S. Senate passed a bill (S. 725) reclassifying public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation.
- F. **Informational Only** – The draft minutes from the August 13, 2025 Executive Committee meeting are included as an informational item.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2025

Board Members Present:

Kevin Anderson, Hennepin County
 Joe Atkins, Dakota County
 Dave Beer, Scott County
 Todd Christensen, Isanti County
 Bethany Cox, Washington County
 Bill Droste, Dakota County
 John P. Fahey, Carver County
 Gregg Felber, Sherburne County - **absent**
 Irene Fernando, Hennepin County

Mike Gamache, Anoka County
 Richard Greene, Chisago County
 Garrison McMurtrey, Ramsey County - **absent**
 Mandy Meisner, Anoka County
 Kelly Miller, Ramsey County
 Fran Miron, Washington County
 Elliott Payne, City of Minneapolis - **absent**
 Tom Wolf, Scott County

Staff Present: Tracey Fredrick; Greg Hayes; Kelli Jackson; Jacob Kallenbach; and Jill Rohret.

Others Present: Jim Farrell, *Board Counsel*; Chris Schau, *Lumen*; Charlie Knox, *Lumen*; and Doua Yang-Hernandez, *Ramsey County*.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by the 2025 MESB Chair, Commissioner John P. Fahey.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Richard Greene, seconded by Commissioner Fran Miron to approve the July 2025 MESB meeting agenda. Motion carried.

3. Consent Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Kelly Miller, seconded by Commissioner Joe Atkins to approve the July 2025 MESB consent agenda. Motion carried.

4. Radio Items

A. Approval Amendment 1 to Lease with Great River Energy

Tracey Fredrick said the Radio Technical Operations Committee (TOC) recommends approval of Amendment 1 to the lease with Great River Energy for the Jordan tower site. The amendment continues all of the original language and terms, except it will only be valid for five years, through March of 2030, and will need additional amendments upon expiration as no automatic extension terms were agreed upon. Rent will continue with an annual 4% escalator. The agencies which have equipment at the site have been made aware of the amendment and the continued financial impact.

Motion made by Commissioner Atkins, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve amendment 1 to the lease with Great River Energy. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Amendments to Scott County's ARMER Participation Plan

Fredrick said the Radio TOC recommends approval of amendments to Scott County's ARMER participation plan, which would add a new ARMER enhancement site in Shakopee, near Canterbury Park and Valley Fair. The County contracted with Motorola Solutions to provide a 16-channel simulcast RF subsite using "D" series base radio equipment. The new subsite will connect to the Norwood Young America (NYA) prime site via redundant fiber optic connections. The same ARMER RF channel set already deployed in the NYA subnet will be deployed at the

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

proposed Canterbury tank site. Scott County will apply for FCC licensing for the subsite addition following MESB and SECB review. Pending appropriate approvals and FCC licensing, Scott County expects the Canterbury site to be operational sometime in the 4th quarter of 2025. Scott County will fund the project.

Motion made by Commissioner Tom Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Bill Droste to approve the amendments to Scott County's ARMER participation plan. Motion carried.

5. 9-1-1 Items – None

6. EMS Items

A. Acceptance and Approval of Grant from Minnesota Office of EMS EMS Fund Grants and Grant Budget

Greg Hayes said MESB staff recommend the Board accept the EMS Fund Grant from the Minnesota Office of EMS and approve the grant budget for \$328,937.50. The EMS Fund Grant is offered on a bi-annual basis. The grant provides support to fundamental areas of EMS, but also emergency management/preparedness which has had a positive impact in the region.

Commissioner Todd Christensen asks what the funds are allocated for.

Hayes said the funds are used in a variety of ways. He describes and identifies a few grants funded projects related to training, planning, equipment maintenance, and operations.

Motion made by Commissioner Mike Gamache, seconded by Commissioner Wolf to accept the EMS Fund Grant from the Minnesota Office of EMS. Motion carried.

7. Administrative Items

A. Approval of New MESB Policy 037 – Hybrid Meetings

Jill Rohret said she recommends approval of new MESB policy 037 – Hybrid Meetings to comply with the Minnesota Open Meetings Law, as amended by the Legislature in the 2025 legislative session. The amendments make it easier for non-state agencies to hold hybrid meetings. The amended law was discussed at the June 2025 MESB Executive Committee meeting and the Executive Committee recommended the development of a policy to govern how the MESB will conduct hybrid meetings. Rohret drafted which was reviewed by Board Counsel.

Commissioner Miron asked if roll call votes can be limited to those attending online. He said that roll call votes on every action item could significantly increase the meeting length.

Jim Farrell, MESB legal counsel, responded that roll call votes will be needed on every action item so long as even one voting member attends online.

Commissioner Gamache asked for clarity on the 75% yearly in-person meeting attendance rule in regard to whether its origin is at the state level, or at the MESB level.

Rohret said it is a proposed MESB rule.

Chair Fahey suggested a language change to clarify that roll call votes will be conducted by MESB staff, which could create efficiency.

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Motion made by Commissioner Miron, seconded by Commissioner Gamache to approve MESB Policy 037 - Hybrid Meetings with Commissioner Fahey's language change. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Amendments to MESB Policies

i. Policy 009 – Acceptable Use of Technology

Rohret said the Executive Committee recommends approval of amendments to MESB Policy 009 – Acceptable Use of MESB Technology to require the use of firewalls by staff working from home using networks which may also have devices connected to the Internet of Things. Firewalls provide additional protection to devices which will later connect to the MESB network from anything which may be transported across a home network.

ii. Policy 035 – Data Inventory

Rohret said the amendments to MESB Policy 035 – Not Public Data, specifically the Data Inventory portion, are made to include data related to the school mapping project.

Commissioner Kevin Anderson asked what type of firewalls will be used and who will be managing them.

Rohret responded that they are physical firewalls that will be MESB purchased and programmed.

Motion made by Commissioner Mandy Meisner, seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the amendments to MESB Policy 009 – Acceptable Use of Technology, and MESB Policy 035 – Data Inventory. Motion carried.

C. Approval of 2026 MESB Operational Budget

Rohret said the MESB Executive Committee recommends approval of the 2026 MESB Operations Budget. The Board grants preliminary budget approval annually in July, with final budget approval occurring in November. The July approval provides the maximum assessment amount for the following year. The 2026 operational budget contains increases due to changing resource needs, primarily related to 9-1-1, and general cost increases which are occurring in the economy today. Rohret briefly went over the 2026 MESB operational budget.

Commissioner Christensen asked how the MESB tracks the County population changes in regard to changing assessments.

Rohret said the MESB assessments are based on the Minnesota State Demographic Center population data.

Motion made by Commissioner Christensen, seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the 2026 MESB Operational budget. Motion carried.

D. Approval of 2026-2030 MESB Capital Needs Forecast

Rohret said the MESB Executive Committee recommends approval of the 2026-2030 MESB Capital Needs Forecast. Formerly known as the Capital Budget, the Executive Committee recommended the name change as the document doesn't operate as an official budget. The Capital Needs Forecast does not affect assessment levels, as capital projects are funded by the

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Hennepin County Investment Fund. Rohret recommends an amendment to add a regional/local match to CAD-to-CAD if Hennepin County is awarded the Safer Streets for All Grant.

Commissioner Miron said the use of the word “budget” should be removed from all areas of the document to reflect the new name change.

Commissioner Dave Beer asked how the document will take the metro region towards a more redundant, cost-effective, and interoperable future.

Rohret responded that the studies are the most impactful items in terms of planning for the future, as they will determine long-term cost effectiveness for regional planning/interoperability projects.

Motion made by Commissioner Miron, seconded by Commissioner Christensen to approve the 2026-2030 MESB Capital Needs Forecast with the mentioned changes. Motion carried.

8. Reports

A. Legislative Reports

Rohret said she will send out the legislative report by email once it has been received.

B. Statewide Emergency Communications Board

1. Finance

Rohret said the committee met and discussed the Regional Needs documents that were submitted. The committee meets again on July 10, 2025, and will be working on the SECB budget.

2. Legislative

Rohret said the committee did not meet in July.

3. Steering

Fredrick said the committee did not meet in June.

4. Other SECB Committees

Fredrick said the LMR committee heard and approved the Scott County request heard earlier at its meeting on July 8, 2025. The LMR committee has also established a workgroup for the upcoming Motorola SUA. The new workgroup will be meeting monthly.

5. Board

Rohret said the Board is in the early stages of the strategic planning process.

C. DPS-ECN Update

There is no new update.

9. Old Business

A. Update on School Mapping Grant

Rohret gave a brief update on the School Mapping Grant. \$6.78 million was awarded to the MESB on behalf the six regions working collaboratively. The RFP for mapping services was posted on June 30, 2025, and will remain open until August 1, 2025. The proposals will be

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

reviewed in August 2025, with a recommendation for services being presented to the Board at its September 2025 meeting.

10. New Business – None

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.



METROPOLITAN
EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

2099 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA
55104-3431

PHONE 651-643-8395
WWW.MN-MESB.ORG

TO: Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

FROM: Ramsey County Commissioner Kelly Miller, MESB Treasurer

RE: Treasurer's Report – June 2025

DATE: July 25, 2025

As Treasurer for the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board, it is necessary to review the following documents:

- Monthly summary financial reports for Administration, 9-1-1, Radio and EMS
- Explanation for significant variance from budget report for Administration, 9-1-1, Radio and EMS.

The review was conducted on July 25, 2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Miller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kelly Miller
Commissioner, Ramsey County
Treasurer, Metropolitan Emergency Services Board



METROPOLITAN
EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

2099 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA
55104-3431

PHONE 651-643-8395
WWW.MN-MESB.ORG

TO: Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

FROM: Ramsey County Commissioner Kelly Miller, MESB Treasurer

RE: Treasurer's Report – July 2025

DATE: September 2, 2025

As Treasurer for the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board, it is necessary to review the following documents:

- Monthly summary financial reports for Administration, 9-1-1, Radio and EMS
- Explanation for significant variance from budget report for Administration, 9-1-1, Radio and EMS.

The review was conducted on September 2, 2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Miller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kelly Miller
Commissioner, Ramsey County
Treasurer, Metropolitan Emergency Services Board



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: September 19, 2025
Agenda Item: 3D. Approval of Change to MESB
Representation at SECB LMR Committee
Presenter: Fredrick

RECOMMENDATION

The Radio Technical Operations Committee (TOC) recommends the Board approve a change in representation to the Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB) Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Committee for the remainder of calendar year 2025.

BACKGROUND

According to MESB bylaws, the Radio TOC must make a recommendation to the Board on the primary and alternate members to the SECB LMR Committee. The MESB normally makes appointments to the SECB and its committees in January of each year.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

At the first board meeting in 2025, the MESB appointed Nate Timm of Washington County to be the primary representative to the LMR Committee and Mike Mihelich of Ramsey County to be the alternate representative.

At the request of Mr. Timm and Mr. Mihelich, the Radio TOC made the recommendation to make Mr. Mihelich the primary representative and Mr. Timm the alternate representative to the LMR Committee for the remainder of 2025.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None to the MESB.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



METROPOLITAN
EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

2099 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA
55104-3431

PHONE 651-643-8395
WWW.MN-MESB.ORG

July 14, 2025

Mr. Kevin Corbid
County Administrator
Washington County
14949 62nd Street North
P.O. Box 6
Stillwater, MN 55082-0006

Dear Mr. Corbid:

In accordance with section 3 of the joint powers agreement which formed the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB), the MESB must notify its member entities annually by August 1 of the maximum assessment amount for the following year. This amount should be used in the county's budgeting process.

Enclosed is a chart which determines the maximum assessment amount Washington County will be allocated for 2026 MESB operating expenses. The invoice for the actual assessment amount due will be mailed in December.

Please contact me with any questions at (651) 643-8394 or jrohret@mn-mesb.org.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jill Rohret
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Commissioner Fran Miron
Commissioner Michelle Clasen
Ms. Jennifer Ochocki
Ms. Holly Hess

MESB BOARD ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE 2026 BUDGET - Approved 07.09.25

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD --- ASSESSMENT TO MEMBERS

	2023	% of 2023	Approved 2026 DUES	2023	% of 2023	Approved 2026 DUES	APPROVED	Difference from 2025 assessment
COUNTY	Population for Radio Admin.	Population for Radio Admin	Radio. Admin	Population for Operational Admin.	Population for Oper. Admin	Oper. Admin	2026 ASSESSMENT TOTAL	2025 ASSESSMENT TOTAL
Washington	280,411	8.18%	\$21,336	274,589	8.07%	\$110,617	\$131,953	\$131,663
TOTAL	3,426,379	100.00%	\$260,710	3,401,368	100.00%	\$1,370,222	\$1,630,932	\$289

increase/decrease in assessments from 2025
\$0
0.00%



FCC.GOV

FCC 911 Requirements for Multi-Line Telephone Systems

Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau
Federal Communications Commission

**Access the
Full Guide
Online
Scan the
QR Code to
Download**



FCC 911 Requirements for Multi-Line Telephone Systems

Multi-Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) are telephone systems installed in office buildings, schools and college campuses, hotels, and similar environments to serve employees, residents, students, and guests. A typical office-based MLTS system enables employees to communicate with co-workers on the premises, while a typical hotel-based system enables hotel guests to call other guests or hotel staff. In addition, MLTS systems allow users to make calls to outside telephone numbers, including emergency calls to 911.

Ensuring that these systems fully support 911 is essential to protecting the life, health, and safety of people that work, visit, or live in these environments. For example, if an MLTS user calls 911 to report that a person in an office building is having a medical emergency or a campus is threatened by an active shooter, it is vitally important for the 911 call to reach the nearest 911 call center without delay and provide precise information about the caller's location to assist first responders.

This is not only important to save lives – it's the law. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted rules for 911 calls from MLTS pursuant to two federal statutes – Kari's Law and Section 506 of RAY BAUM'S Act. Kari's Law is named in honor of Kari Hunt, who was killed by her estranged husband in a motel room in Marshall, Texas in 2013. Ms. Hunt's 9-year-old daughter tried multiple times to call 911 from the motel room phone, but the call never went through because she did not know that the motel's phone system required dialing "9" for an outbound line. Congress responded to this tragedy in 2018 by enacting Kari's Law, which requires direct 911 dialing and notification capabilities for MLTS, and Section 506 of RAY BAUM'S Act, which directed the FCC to conduct a rulemaking to consider adopting rules concerning the caller location information that must be conveyed with 911 calls, including calls from MLTS. The FCC adopted rules in 2019.

Under these rules, MLTS installers, managers, and operators must ensure that the MLTS:

- Allows direct dialing of 911, without a requirement for the caller to dial any prefix or access code such as the number 9;
- Provides central notification that a 911 call has been made; and
- Provides certain information about the caller's location with the 911 call so that first responders can quickly locate the caller.

The following pages provide additional information on these requirements, including a decision tree to help you determine whether you are subject to the rules, exemptions that may apply, and where to find additional guidance and resources to assist you.

The FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau is providing this fact sheet to help interested parties understand and comply with the rules. This document does not replace, supersede, or modify the rules.

Questions and Answers on 911 for MLTS Installers, Managers, and Operators

Q: Why do the FCC's 911 Requirements for Multi-Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) matter?

A: These requirements help to protect the life and safety of the people who visit, work, or reside at your MLTS-equipped facility, such as guests, employees, students, residents, and customers. In addition, these requirements help first responders to provide emergency assistance. Compliance with these rules also is required by federal law that was inspired by a real-life tragedy resulting in the loss of life. Failure to comply could subject you to FCC enforcement action, including possible fines.

Q: What is an MLTS under the FCC's 911 rules?

A: An MLTS is a telephone system that includes more than one phone line and is typically used in enterprise settings such as hotels, offices, retail stores, and campuses. Under some circumstances, this can include communications platforms such as Microsoft Teams.

Q: Who is covered by the FCC's 911 MLTS rules?

A: The FCC's rules apply to MLTS manufacturers, importers, lessors, managers, operators, and installers. This fact sheet focuses on the requirements applicable to MLTS managers, operators, and installers.

Q: I am a manager, operator, or installer of an MLTS. Do the federal 911 regulations apply to me?

A: It depends. If your MLTS was installed on or before February 16, 2020, it may be exempt from federal regulations, but you should check whether any state laws on 911 apply. If your MLTS was installed after February 16, 2020, or if you have upgraded the hardware or software of the system since then, the MLTS may fall within the FCC's 911 rules.

Q: What constitutes an "upgrade" under the FCC's 911 MLTS rules?

A: Although not every minor improvement to a legacy MLTS would trigger the obligation to comply with the rules, upgrades to core MLTS software or hardware functions generally would be sufficient to bring an MLTS within the scope of the rules.

Q: What is required if I qualify as an MLTS manager, operator, or installer under the FCC's 911 rules?

A: MLTS managers, operators, and installers must set up the MLTS to enable a user to dial 911 directly, without having to dial any additional digit(s), such as "9," for an outside line. Next, the MLTS must provide notification that a 911 call has been made to a central location such as a front desk or security office. Finally, the MLTS must provide information about the 911 caller's location to help first responders locate the 911 caller quickly.

Additional Resources

FCC MLTS Website - www.fcc.gov/mlts-911-requirements

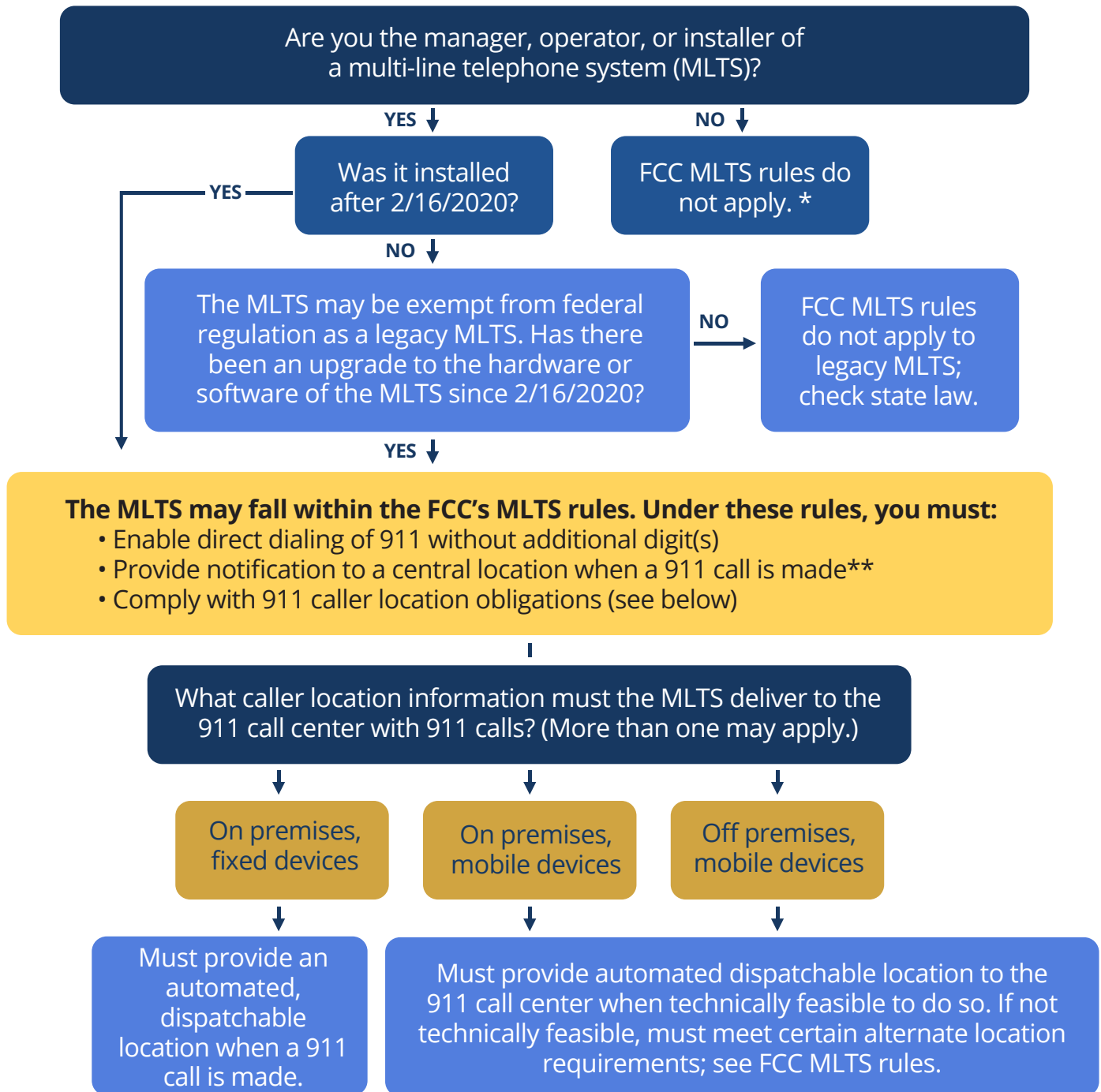
Frequently Asked Questions - www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/mlts_faqs.pdf

- Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), also known as 911 call centers, and other public safety officials may contact the **Public Safety Support Center** (www.fcc.gov/general/public-safety-support-center) to report concerns or request support from the FCC.
- Consumers may file a complaint via the **Consumer Complaint Center** (consumercomplaints.fcc.gov) and select Emergency Communications for 911 issues.





Decision Tree for MLTS Managers, Operators, and Installers



The FCC's MLTS rules (47 CFR part 9, subpart F) implement Kari's Law and Section 506 of RAY BAUM'S Act, two federal statutes signed into law in 2018. The rules require MLTS manufacturers, vendors, lessors, installers, managers, and operators to ensure that MLTS users can complete 911 calls without dialing any additional digits for an outside line and help first responders find those in need of immediate assistance when responding to emergencies.

* However, certain FCC MLTS rules apply to MLTS manufacturers, importers, sellers, and lessors.

** Notification obligations may not apply in all circumstances; see FCC MLTS rules to determine applicability.



The Federal Communications Commission is an agency of the United States government that regulates communications by radio, television, wire, internet, wi-fi, satellite, and cable across the United States.

Strengthening communication. Supporting public safety.

Learn more at [fcc.gov](https://www.fcc.gov)

Jacob Kallenbach

From: Jill Rohret
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Jacob Kallenbach
Subject: FW: U.S. Senate Passes Bill to Recognize 9-1-1 as a Public Safety Occupation

Jill Rohret
Executive Director
Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
2099 University Ave. W.
St. Paul, MN 55104
(651) 643-8394
jrohret@mn-mesb.org

From: Chris Nussman <cnussman@nena.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2025 8:40 AM
To: Jill Rohret <JRohret@mn-mesb.org>
Subject: U.S. Senate Passes Bill to Recognize 9-1-1 as a Public Safety Occupation



America's 9-1-1 professionals are celebrating the U.S. Senate's action to classify 9-1-1 professionals as public safety, not clerical, personnel.

The Senate on Wednesday approved the Enhancing First Response Act ([S.725](#)), a bill supported by NENA: The 9-1-1 Association, which would direct the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to reclassify Public Safety Telecommunicators as a "Protective Service Occupation" in the federal Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

Currently, 9-1-1 professionals are classified as "Office and Administrative Support," a designation that fails to reflect the highly specialized, lifesaving work they perform daily alongside other first responders. This no-cost,

bipartisan legislation would correct this outdated classification, ensuring that 9-1-1 professionals receive the respect and recognition they deserve.

“Every day, 9-1-1 professionals are the first first responders in thousands of emergencies,” said NENA CEO John Provenzano. “Reclassifying Public Safety Telecommunicators as Protective Service Occupations is a long-overdue correction that recognizes their indispensable role in public safety.”

The Enhancing First Response Act was sponsored by Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) and co-sponsored by Ted Budd (R-NC), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Mark Kelly (D-AZ), Angus King (I-ME), Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Ed Markey (D-MA), Dan Sullivan (R-AK), and John Thune (R-SD).

NENA thanks Senators Blackburn and Klobuchar, as well as Senate Commerce Committee Chairman Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Ranking Member Maria Cantwell (D-WA), for their leadership in advancing this legislation.

A companion bill, the Supporting Accurate Views of Emergency Services Act (911 SAVES Act, [H.R. 637](#)), is being advanced in the U.S. House by Representatives Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Norma Torres (D-CA). NENA members from across America have conducted hundreds of meetings with Members of Congress to urge swift passage of this commonsense, bipartisan measure.



[Unsubscribe](#)

This message was sent to jrohret@mn-mesb.org from cnussman@nena.org

Chris Nussman
NENA: The 9-1-1 Association
1700 Diagonal Rd Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 13, 2025

Commissioners Present:

Joe Atkins, Dakota County
 Todd Christensen, Isanti County - **absent**
 John P. Fahey, Carver County
 Gregg Felber, Sherburne County
 Irene Fernando, Hennepin County - **absent**

Mike Gamache, Anoka County
 Richard Greene, Chisago County
 Kelly Miller, Ramsey County
 Fran Miron, Washington County - **late arrival**
 Elliott Payne, City of Minneapolis - **absent**
 Tom Wolf, Scott County - **absent**

Staff Present: Tracey Fredrick; Greg Hayes; Jacob Kallenbach; and Jill Rohret.

Others Present: Michelle Clasen, *Washington County* (Online); Nancy Haas, *Poul Haas*; Courtney Jasper, *Poul Haas*; Julia Page, *Larkin Hoffman*; and Margaret Vesel, *Larkin Hoffman*.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by the 2025 MESB Chair, Commissioner John P. Fahey.

2. Approval of Agenda

MESB Executive Director Jill Rohret asked for discussion items titled “8B: ARMER Maintenance Contract” and “8C: September 2025 MESB Meeting Date” to be added to the August 13, 2025 meeting agenda.

Motion made by Commissioner Kelly Miller, seconded by Commissioner Joe Atkins to approve the August 13, 2025 MESB Executive Committee meeting agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Roll call for Approval of Agenda

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	
Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County	X	
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Michelle Clasen (alternate)	Washington County	X	
Elliott Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 7 Nay: 0 Motion passed

3. Approval of June 11, 2025 Executive Committee Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Rick Greene, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the June 11, 2025 MESB Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Roll call for Approval of June 11, 2025 MESB Executive Committee Minutes

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	
Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County	X	
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Michelle Clasen (alternate)	Washington County	X	
Elliot Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 7 Nay: 0 Motion passed

4. Radio Items – None

5. 9-1-1 Items – None

6. EMS Items – None

7. Administrative Items – None

8. Old Business

A. Update on School Mapping Grant

Rohret said the MESB posted the Request for Proposal (RFP) on July 7, 2025. The RFP received seven responses and closed on August 1, 2025. The evaluation committee is reviewing submissions and will have a recommendation to the board at its September meeting.

B. ARMER Maintenance Contract

Rohret stated that ARMER stakeholders continue to meet to discuss the ARMER maintenance contract. At the last meeting, there was discussion regarding paring the contract back to three essential items and removing upgrades. Local system managers were asked if they would have difficulty in regaining budget funds should the maintenance contract increase in the future; system managers responded yes. The group then discussed the possibility of the state or regions continuing to bill counties at their current levels and creating ARMER savings/upgrade funds with the overage, so the funds could remain in budgets and be saved to be put towards future ARMER projects. The item is discussion only and are being mentioned today for awareness.

C. September 2025 MESB Meeting Date

Rohret said the board is split between September 3 or September 17 for a replacement meeting date. A quorum will be needed as the recommendation for a school mapping provider will be

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

presented and voted upon. Rohret suggested the possibility of hosting the meeting on Friday, September 19, 2025 with a 9:00 a.m. start time.

Members of the MESB Executive Committee prefer the Friday, September 19, 2025 meeting date. Rohret will reach out to committee members with the finalized replacement date in the coming week.

9. New Business

A. Interviews of Respondents to Lobbying Services RFP

The MESB Executive Committee heard presentations from and asked questions of the two respondents to the MESB's RFP for lobbying services, Larkin Hoffman and Poul Haas. Once the presentations and questions were concluded, the respondents left the meeting, and the Committee discussed preferences for awarding the RFP.

Motion made by Commissioner Gregg Felber, seconded by Commissioner Mike Gamache to recommend approval to award the RFP for lobbying services to one of the two respondents. Motion carried.

Roll call for Agenda Item 9A

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	
Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County		X
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Fren Miron	Washington County		X
Elliot Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 5 Nay: 2 Motion passed

10. Adjourn

Motion made by Commissioner Gamache, seconded by Commissioner Fran Miron to adjourn the August 13, 2025 MESB Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Roll call for Adjournment

Name	County/City	Yes	No
Joe Atkins	Dakota County	X	
Todd Christensen	Isanti County		
John P. Fahey	Carver County	X	

METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Gregg Felber	Sherburne County	X	
Irene Fernando	Hennepin County		
Mike Gamache	Anoka County	X	
Rick Greene	Chisago County	X	
Kelly Miller	Ramsey County	X	
Fren Miron	Washington County	X	
Elliot Payne	City of Minneapolis		
Tom Wolf	Scott County		

Yea: 7 Nay: 0 Motion passed

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: September 19, 2025
Agenda Item: 4A. Approval to Delete Metro ARMER
Standard 3.31.0 – StatusBoard
Presenter: Fredrick

RECOMMENDATION

The Radio Technical Operations Committee (TOC) recommends the Board approve the deletion of Metro ARMER Standard 3.31.0 – Status Board.

BACKGROUND

When the Metropolitan 9-1-1 Board assumed the duties of the former Metropolitan Radio Board and became the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board it implemented all of the standards created by the Metropolitan Radio Board. Over time, the MESB approved additional standards for greater operational functionality and interoperability.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

Metro Standard 3.31.0 – StatusBoard was created to standardize the talkgroups in metro consoles listed on the state StatusBoard application. After a recent review, Radio TOC members found the list of talkgroups to be outdated, and the content of the regional standard did not significantly vary enough from the state standard to justify having a separate metro standard.

As such, the Radio TOC recommends the regional standard be deleted and users follow the state standard.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None to MESB.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL

Metro Region ARMER Standards

Section 3 – Metro 3.31.0 ARMER System Status Board TO BE SUNSET ON OR AROUND 9/19/2025

~~Application Talkgroup or Channel Minimum Requirements~~

Date Established

8-24-08

Date Revised/Reviewed

4-27-20

~~1. Purpose or Objective~~

~~To establish a guideline for the minimum talkgroups or channels that shall be required on all ARMER System radio consoles Status Board applications in the Metro Region. This standard does not relate to console resource requirements.~~

~~2. Technical Background~~

~~• Capabilities~~

~~The Status Board Application, maintained Department of Public Safety Emergency Communication Networks Division (ECN), is a statewide web-based dispatch tool accessible through the public internet and is intended to help facilitate and advise what interoperable talkgroup or channel may be in use for an urgent, emergent or preplanned event.~~

~~• Constraints~~

~~This standard will give guidance to all metro region agency dispatch centers as to what talkgroups or channels should be on their Status Board Application and will serve to minimize usage conflicts when multiple incidents may be occurring simultaneously.~~

~~Status Board is accessed via the public internet. If a user has no internet access, then he or she cannot access Status Board.~~

~~Status Board is provided on a “best effort” basis without a Service Level Agreement or any guarantee of service.~~

~~3. Operational Context~~

~~The Status Board Application is to be used for day to day, urgent or emergency situations. It is a tool to advise all dispatch centers what interoperable talkgroups or channels may be in use (real time) at any given time.~~

~~Metro Region interoperability resources will be maintained in Status Board by the regional Status Board administrator appointed by the Radio TOC. No other person shall make any changes in the Status Board application regarding these resources.~~

~~Please refer to State Standard 3.31.0 – Status Board for a discussion on the types of reservations and users in the Status Board application.~~

~~4. Recommended Protocol/Standard~~

~~The following matrix shall serve as guidance and as the minimum requirements of which interoperable talkgroups and channels will be included in any Metro Region agency's dispatch center Status Board Application.~~

Since June 30, 2015

Resource- Name	Public- Safety- LE Dispatch Centers	Public- Safety- Fire Dispatch Centers	Public- Safety- EMS Dispatch Centers	Public- Service- Highway- Maintenance Dispatch Centers	Public- Service- Transit Dispatch Centers	Public Service- Other Public- Service- Dispatch- Centers
Statewide						
STACs (STAC 1-12)	R	R	R	R	R	R
STAC 13E & 14E	R	R	R	N	N	N
LTAC 1-4	R	N	N	N	N	N
LTAC 5-8E	R	N	N	N	N	N
SIU 1-4E	R	N	N	N	N	N
VLAW31	R	O	R	N	N	N
VFIRE23	O	R	O	N	N	N
VMED28	O	O	R	N	N	N
MN COMM	R	R	R	N	N	N
VTAC14R	R	R	R	R	R	R
FEDCOM	R	R	R	N	N	N
8TAC91-94	R	R	R	R	R	R
8TAC91-94D	R	R	R	R	R	R
Metro- Region						
PTACs (ME TAC 1-4)	R	R	R	N	N	N
ATACs (ME TAC 5-8)	R	R	R	R	R	R

R=Required resource in agency's Status Board

O=Optional resource in agency's Status Board

N=Not Allowed in agency's Status Board

5. Recommended Procedure

Anytime an interoperable talkgroup or channel is used for a preplanned, urgent, or emergency event the Status Board shall be used to indicate this.

A brief description of the event and an estimated end time should be in the description field. In times of urgent or emergency use, at minimum, the Status Board shall be marked "Resource in Use".

The Status Board shall be marked "Resource Available" when the interoperable talkgroup or channel is no longer being used.

6. Management

~~The dispatch center managers for agencies on the metro region ARMER system shall ensure that there is a procedure for use of the Status Board in the dispatch center for which they are responsible.~~

~~Dispatch center operators shall receive initial and continuing training on the use of the Status Board.~~

~~The system managers and administrators will be responsible to see that this policy is implemented as defined in the system standards manual. Identified issues and concerns will be brought to the Radio TOC for resolution.~~



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: September 19, 2025
Agenda Item: 4B. Approval of Changes to WMRCC
Talkgroup & Amendments to Metro
Standard 3.27.0 – Use of MRCC Talkgroups
Presenter: Fredrick

RECOMMENDATION

The Radio TOC recommends a change to the West Medical Resource Control Center (MRCC) 2 (WMRCC2) talkgroup and amendments to Metro Standard 3.27.0 – Use of MRCC Talkgroups.

BACKGROUND

Earlier this year, Hennepin Healthcare requested the Radio TOC approve a change to its WMRCC2 talkgroup from a clear talkgroup to an encrypted talkgroup. The impetus for the change is due to several EMS partner agencies using encryption-capable devices and a desire for EMS agencies to have an encrypted talkgroup for communications. Currently, Hennepin Healthcare houses the main control for the West MRCC, which also utilizes encryption-capable devices.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

According to Metro Standard 3.27.0 – Use of MRCC Talkgroups, West and East MRCCs should mirror each other's capabilities. Currently, East MRCC, housed at Regions Hospital, does not have encryption-capable devices. Hennepin Healthcare plans to provide encryption-capable devices to East MRCC until it purchases its own.

Due to this, the Radio TOC recommends amendments to Metro Standard 3.37.0 to reflect an additional encrypted talkgroup for both West and East MRCC, named WMRCC2E and EMRCC2E, respectively. Talkgroup 1 for both sides will remain in clear mode. The Radio TOC determined that there is enough significant traffic on WMRCC2 that could not be handled on WMRCC1.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None to the MESB.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL

Ms. Fredrick,

Please receive this memorandum regarding the West Medical Resource Control Center's intention to replace the current *WMRCC2* radio talkgroup with a new, encrypted *WMRCC2E* talkgroup.

West MRCC intends to offer this new, encrypted talkgroup to EMS services operating within the normal business of West MRCC. Agencies currently using the *WMRCC2* talkgroup are supportive of this encrypted talkgroup. At no point will West MRCC be mandating that EMS agencies move to the encrypted talkgroup, rather offering it as an option for agencies who choose to use encrypted radio transmissions. The clear *WMRCC1* talkgroup will remain as it currently is. West MRCC also monitors the clear *SMRCC* for agencies who do not have the West MRCC talkgroups.

Upon approval of the encrypted *WMRCC2E* talkgroup, West MRCC will work with radio administrators to create the talkgroup and prepare it for programming. Once the new talkgroup is on the West MRCC radio consoles, the current *WMRCC2* and new *WMRCC2E* would temporarily be soft-patched. The patch will remain in place until *WMRCC2* users have their radios programmed to the new *WMRCC2E*. Once all radios are programmed, the patch will be terminated and the clear talkgroup will be sunset. During the period of transition, and for an amount of time after, West MRCC will provide portable radios to East MRCC for continuity across the MRCC talkgroups. This implementation plan has no downtime for users and provides a seamless transition between talkgroups.

West MRCC is committed to a seamless transition through this project and the offering of encrypted patient information radio communication.

Warm regards,

Dan Klawitter – Deputy Chief of Communications/West MRCC Manager

Metro Region ARMER Standards

Section 3 – Metro 3.27.0 Use of the MRCC Talkgroups

Date Established

12-16-02

Date Revised/Reviewed

8-27-25 ~~1-27-16~~

1. Purpose or Objective

To establish operational policy for use of the Medical Resource Control Center (MRCC) related talkgroups. These EMS talkgroups are a regional EMS system resource to facilitate communications with the West Metro MRCC located at Hennepin County Medical Center and the East Metro MRCC located at Regions Hospital for the purpose of patient care and EMS resource coordination.

2. Technical Background

• Capabilities

To enable EMS personnel operating in the metro region to contact West and East Metro MRCCs. The MRCC is an EMS communications resource for the purpose of EMS incident coordination, relay of patient care information, obtaining physician medical control or system medical direction, cross patch of radio and/or telephone communications, assignment of ME TACs, STACs and other shared EMS resources or any other operational needs as required and allowed by system policy.

• Constraints None

3. Operational Context

EMS personnel operating in the metro region may use West and East Metro MRCCs as an EMS communications resource for the purpose of EMS incident coordination, relay of patient care information, obtaining physician medical control or system medical direction, cross patch of radio and/or telephone communications, assignment of ME TACs, STACs and other shared EMS resources or any other operational needs as required and allowed by system policy.

• Talkgroups

The MRCC talkgroups are the primary 800 MHz communications channel between EMS personnel in the field and the MRCCs. Requests for and communications with the MRCCs shall be initiated on the is designated talkgroup. Personnel calling the MRCCs should clearly identify their service, unit number, and request. MRCC operators will direct communications to other talkgroups if necessary and as appropriate.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| • WMRCC1 | (Hennepin) | [CLEAR] |
| • <u>WRMCC2*</u> | <u>(Hennepin)</u> | <u>[CLEAR]</u> |
| • WMRCC2E* | (Hennepin) | [ENCRYPTED] |
| • EMRCC1 | (Regions) | [CLEAR] |
| • <u>EMRCC2E</u> | <u>(Regions)</u> | <u>[ENCRYPTED]</u> |

All MRCC talkgroups will have the full metro region site access profile.

Encryption, when applicable, will utilize a shared metro all-users key.

The key for the encrypted talkgroups will be held by the MESB and the Regional System Administrator.

- **SMRCC Talkgroup**

SMRCC is a statewide hailing talkgroup for EMS agencies in Greater Minnesota to contact the MRCCs. Refer to SECB Standard IOP-14 for information on the use of the statewide resource SRMCC.

- **XP1 and XP2**

MRCXP1 and MRCXP2 are statewide resources available for patching. Refer to SECB Standard IOP-14 for information on the use of these resources.

4. Recommended Protocol/Standard

Talkgroup Requirements:

- ☒ Highly Recommended for All EMS
- ☐ Recommended for _____
- ☐ Optional for _____
- ☐ May not be used by _____

These ~~clear~~ talkgroups shall be in ~~the all~~ MRCC consoles. Encrypted talkgroups shall be in MRCC consoles with encryption capabilities.

East and West MRCCs jointly control/manage day-to-day operations.

East and West MRCC control the site during an event or emergency.

All EMS agencies should utilize these talkgroups.

5. Recommended Procedure

None

5.6. Management

Both the West and East Metro Medical Resource Control Center's will be responsible for monitoring and controlling communication traffic on WMRCC and EMRCC EMS talkgroups. The MRCC operators will ensure that policies related to the provision of a regional 24/7/365 EMS communications access point are followed; this includes, but is not limited to, monitoring and responding appropriately to radio traffic and performing radio patches as required and authorized.

West and East MRCCs work in collaboration and are in constant contact. The MRCCs back each other up in various failure scenarios and work together to create a seamless communication environment for the EMS field personnel that use these talkgroups.

Operational responsibility and performance monitoring shall be a function of the MRCC Supervisor or Manager.

*At the current time, WMRCC2 will continue to exist in clear mode until approximately 09/19/2026. After 09/19/2026, WMRCC2E will be used as an encrypted talkgroup and clear WMRCC2 will be sunset.



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date:

September 19, 2025

Agenda Item:

**5A. Award of Digital GIS School
Mapping RFP**

Presenter:

Rohret

RECOMMENDATION

The Digital GIS School Mapping RFP Evaluation Work Group recommends the Board award the RFP for Digital GIS School Mapping Services to one of the seven respondents.

BACKGROUND

In the 2024 legislative session, the Legislature approved allocating \$7 million from the 9-1-1 special revenue fund to serve as grants to the regional emergency communications/services boards. The grant was to be administered by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) Emergency Communication Networks (ECN) division, with input from the Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB). ECN has stated that any grant above \$5,000.00 must be a competitive grant.

At the March 2025 MESB meeting, the Board approved a joint procurement with other emergency communications/services board regions. Six of the seven emergency communications/services board regions will jointly procure, with MESB being the lead contracting agent, digital mapping services under this grant.

At the May 2025 MESB meeting, the Board accepted the grant and authorized the Chair to sign the grant agreement upon receipt. On June 30, 2025, MESB received a letter from DPS notifying MESB that it would receive a \$6.78 million grant award.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

The MESB issued an RFP for Digital GIS Mapping of School Facilities on July 7, 2025, with responses due on August 1, 2025. The MESB received seven responses from: Critical Response Group, Inc. (CRG); Datamark Technologies; Digital Twin Imaging, Inc.; GeoComm; MGT Impact Solutions, Inc.; SAM Managed Geospatial Services; and Timmons Group Geospatial Solutions.

MESB staff formed an evaluation workgroup to evaluate the responses which were received. Evaluators were from each of the six participating regions, covering all public safety disciplines (EMS, fire, law enforcement (police and sheriff), and PSAP), as well as emergency management and GIS. The group also had someone representing schools. MESB staff members did not score the proposals.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: September 19, 2025
Agenda Item: 5A. Award of Digital GIS School Mapping RFP
Presenter: Rohret

Issues of highest concern to the evaluators include: could the vendors cover the volume of schools included in this project; would the vendors be able to meet the short timeframe of the project; and cost.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

All costs under this project, other than MESB staff time to administer the grant and project, will be reimbursed by the grant.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: September 19, 2025
Agenda Item: 6A. Approval of Amendment to Minnesota Office of EMS 2024-2028 Relief Grant
Presenter: Hayes

RECOMMENDATION

MESB staff recommend the Board accept and approve, pending favorable legal review, a grant amendment to the Minnesota Office of EMS' (OEMS) 2024-2028 Relief Grant, providing access to \$65,445.65 in unused funds from fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

BACKGROUND

Minnesota State Statutes authorizes the OEMS to provide funding to Minnesota's EMS regions sourced from seatbelt fines issued. This grant has been utilized by the MESB since the inception of the law. In the past, the grants were two-year grants; this is the first time the grant has been a five-year grant.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

The relief grant also called the "Seatbelt" grant provides five years of funding under Minn. Stat. § 169.686 Subd 3. The current grant covers fiscal years 2024 through 2028 and was originally approved in 2023. This grant amendment allows the rollover of unused funds from prior years. \$65,445.65 will be rolled forward from previous fiscal years within the current grant.

These grant funds are used to support training and equipment within the region.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The grant amendment provides MESB access to funds previously unspent. In the past, the EMS program focused on training; due to staffing shortages and increased call volumes and workloads, EMS providers have not been able to send staff to training classes, which has made it difficult for the MESB to spend its grant dollars on training. Staff and the EMS TOC are working to find alternate worthwhile ways to spend the grant dollars without the primary focus on training.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL



METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Meeting Date: September 19, 2025
Agenda Item: 7A. Award of Lobbying Services RFP
Presenter: Rohret

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Committee recommends the Board award the lobbying services RFP to one of the two remaining respondents.

BACKGROUND

MESB Policy 27 – Contracted Professional Services requires the MESB to issue an RFP every five years for contracted professional services. The last RFP for lobbying services was issued in 2020, with contract execution in January 2021.

ISSUES & CONCERNS

The MESB issued an RFP for Lobbying Services on June 30, 2025, with responses due on July 25, 2025. The MESB received three responses from Larkin Hoffman Public Affairs, McAlpin Capitol Results, and Poul Haas. When asking the respondents to attend the August 13, 2025 Executive Committee meeting, one of the respondents withdrew from consideration. The remaining respondents were interviewed by the Executive Committee.

MESB staff did an initial evaluation of the responses and made a recommendation to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee discussed the interviews and made a recommendation to the Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Costs for lobbying services were included in the 2026 MESB operational budget.

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
MOTION:

PASS/FAIL