

MINUTES OF THE  
MAG 9-1-1 OVERSIGHT TEAM MEETING

May 6, 2003  
MAG Office Building, Ocotillo Room  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Harry Beck, Mesa Fire Department, Chair	Helen Gandara-Zavala, Scottsdale Police Dept.
Jim Gibson, Glendale Fire Department	Jay Spradling, Tempe Police Department
Steve Werner, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office	Lawrence Rodriguez, Tolleson Police Dept.
Mike Fusco, Emergency Management, Peoria	Vacant: Phoenix Fire Department
Blake McClelland, Phoenix Police Department	

\* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

# Attended by videoconference or by telephone conference call.

OTHERS PRESENT

Ramsey Beckstead, Scottsdale Police Dept.	Barbara Jaeger, State 911 Office
Valerie Day, MAG	Susan MacFarlane, Phoenix Fire Department
Mary Dysinger-Franklin, Phoenix Fire Dept.	Tom Melton, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
Dave Eaton, Phoenix Fire Department	

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Harry Beck at 1:35 p.m.

2. Approval of the December 17, 2002 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Beck asked if members had any changes to the minutes. Hearing none, Chairman Beck asked for a motion to approve. Mike Fusco moved to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2002 meeting. Chief Larry Rodriguez seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. MAG FY 2005 PSAP Annual Element/ Funding Request and FY 2005-2009 Equipment Program

Mary Dysinger Franklin, Phoenix Fire Department, reviewed the MAG FY 2005 PSAP Annual Element/Funding Request. Ms. Franklin stated that the requested upgrades and additional equipment total \$558,000. She noted that the monthly maintenance cost is running lower than usual and the transition to self maintenance will take place in the future. Ms. Franklin reviewed the FY 2005-2009 Equipment Program request for additional positions and upgrades. She noted that the PSAP Managers had recommended approval of the MAG FY 2005 PSAP Annual Element/Funding Request and the FY 2005-2009 Equipment Program.

Mr. Spradling moved to recommend approval of the MAG FY 2005 PSAP Annual Element/Funding Request and FY 2005-2009 Equipment Program. Chief Rodriguez seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. MAG FY 2004 PSAP Annual Element/ Funding Request Amendment

Ms. Franklin reviewed the request to amend the FY 2004 approved budget to complete adding the additional positions at Phoenix Police Department and to upgrade the Meridian to symposium at a cost of approximately \$637,000. Ms. Franklin stated that Phoenix Police Department is also requesting partial funding for a logging recorder at an estimated cost of \$96,000. Ms. Franklin noted that the upgrades are to be completed in one year instead of the usual three to four years. She added that the ASU Police Department has requested amending the budget in order to upgrade to CTI and add an additional position at a cost of approximately \$250,000. This will be upgraded this summer. Susan MacFarlane clarified that Phoenix Police is not adding 18 positions, but the hardware to accommodate a previous upgrade. Clarification was provided that these were new requests, and the approved FY 2004 budget would need to be amended. Ms. Franklin noted that the State makes the final approval for funding, because funding is provided by State 911 funds.

Mr. Fusco moved to recommend approving the requested amendment to the MAG FY 2004 PSAP Annual Element/Funding Request. Commander McClelland seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Community Emergency Notification System Update

Chairman Beck stated that in January 2003, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) awarded a \$2.5 million contract to MAG, with Qwest as a subcontractor, to develop and operate a Community Emergency Notification System (CENS) for Maricopa County. Chairman Beck stated that a CENS Stakeholder Work Group is being formed to ensure all interested parties have a voice in setting the policies. Chairman Beck stated that three areas need definition: when to activate the system, the threshold of activation, and ongoing funding. He noted that the ADEQ funds will allow for two to three years of system operation. Chairman Beck added that the recurring costs are unknown at this point, and could depend on whether activation fees would be imposed. An activation fee could provide a mechanism for not draining the fund, while adding a safeguard that the system would not be activated indiscriminately. Chairman Beck stated that letters were sent on April 28, 2003 to the MAG Management Committee requesting representatives for the Stakeholders Group from each member agency.

Steve Werner expressed concern that the most imperative issue facing public safety today is interoperability. He noted that an example of this is the communications problems encountered during the forest fires last year. He questioned whether the money from the settlement could be used toward achieving interoperability. Mr. Werner stated that some money is coming available from other sources, but at a very slow rate, and of insufficient quantity. He stated that CENS is a great program, but perhaps the broader picture needs examination.

Chairman Beck advised that the funding was earmarked specifically for the purpose of establishing a community emergency notification system. He explained that the judge required in the settlement that the funds be set aside for a notification system, and we are restricted by that. Chairman Beck stated that the cities of Phoenix and Mesa are in the process of implementing an 800 MHz system that will address community issues. Chairman Beck stated that communication is a huge issue. After September 11, there is increased urgency for interoperability.

Mr. Werner commented that communication is an immediate, not a future, issue. To protect the community, the communication issue might need to be readdressed. Mr. Gibson commented that it appeared that the judge was specific on the use for the settlement funds. Mr. Werner questioned if there might be an opportunity to review the settlement. He stated that he constantly searches for sources of new funding. Mr. Werner stated that he felt he needed to express concern for the interoperability issue. Mr. Werner stated that applying for Homeland Security funds should be a collective effort. Mr. Gibson commented on mobile devices that can be taken to a scene that can provide communications patch throughs. Chairman Beck noted that patch throughs provide an option, however, they would not be a substitute for achieving interoperability. He advised that implementing CENS has already been approved through the MAG process.

Chairman Beck stated that name submissions for the Stakeholders Group are due May 21. Their work will begin with a workshop scheduled for May 27 at the South Mountain Environmental Education Center. He added that the timeframe to implementation is eight to nine months, followed by testing of the system, training of the PSAPs, and educating the public.

Tom Melton asked if the funding would cover PSAP training costs. Ms. MacFarlane replied that training would be a train-the-trainer scenario, with each PSAP training their own staff. Chairman Beck noted that some of the funding is for training and public awareness, which are key components. Ms. MacFarlane commented that system deployment will be the responsibility of the CENS project manager. She stated that the CENS Program Manager position opened May 5 at City of Phoenix, and it is important to have the position on board before implementation of the system. Mr. Melton suggested that the job notice be provided to area agencies. Ms. MacFarlane stated that she would have the Human Resources Department send the notice out.

Ms. Gandara-Zavala asked if the CENS Program Manager position would be through deployment only and have an end date. Ms. MacFarlane stated that the position would be permanent as ongoing maintenance beyond deployment is foreseen, in addition to preplanned events.

Ms. MacFarlane asked if it was anticipated that Oversight Team members would be on the Stakeholders Group. Chairman Beck replied that continuous involvement of the Oversight Team was desired. Chairman Beck stated that the goal is to have an open process and get input from all. The system cannot go online without policy decisions.

Chairman Beck requested that members carry back the messages to their agencies that there is much work to be done.

#### 7. Update on GIS Manager and Technical Manager Positions

This agenda item was taken out of order.

Ms. MacFarlane introduced Dave Eaton, the 911 GIS Manager, who will be spearheading the GIS data sharing project to use in the mapping program for locating wireless 911 calls. She stated that interviews with candidates for the 911 Technical Manager position are in process. The Technical Manager will support the function of self maintenance for the system instead of it being provided by Qwest.

6. 911 GIS Sharing Agreement

Ms. MacFarlane stated that the 911 Office is working on a countywide 911 GIS Mapping project that will help provide the location of a wireless caller's cell tower and eventually, a wireless caller's location. She noted that in order to accomplish that, the 911 Office is proposing to establish a 911 GIS sharing agreement through the MAG process. Ms. MacFarlane stated that having one agreement will facilitate the project by not having to go to each city council for approval of individual agreements. She requested that the Oversight Team provide feedback if there may be any issues with such an agreement. Ms. MacFarlane added that the agreement will be structured so that the GIS sharing will be for public safety use only.

Ms. Gandara-Zavala stated that an agreement that would be authorized through MAG for all to use made sense.

Chairman Beck stated that because much money has been invested in databases, they are extremely valuable. He added that some databases have been shared in the past for dispatch purposes.

Ms. MacFarlane commented on the successes with separate entities in getting the GIS project going. It is important for all to have the same information.

Chairman Beck asked if members had items for the next meeting. He mentioned that items for the next meeting will include status reports on Phase I and II and State 911 funding. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.