

South Dakota
911 Coordination Board



Annual Report

February 9, 2009

Executive Summary

The South Dakota 9-1-1 Coordination Board was established by Senate Bill 143 in the 2008 legislative session. The purpose and function of the Board (SDCL 34-45-18) is to “set minimum standards for operation of public safety answering points, determine criteria for reimbursement for nonrecurring costs and the amount of reimbursement, and oversee the coordination of 9-1-1 services within the state.”

This document will report on the activities of the Board in its year of inception as directed by its legislative mandate.

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BOARD MEMBERSHIP
South Dakota 9-1-1 Coordination Board

Chairperson

Ted Ruffedt, Jr.
Dakota Chapter
National Emergency Number Association
Expires 06/30/10

Vice Chairperson

Marlene Haines
South Dakota Chapter
Association of Public Safety Communication Officials
Expires 06/30/11

Members

Doug Barthel
South Dakota Police Chiefs Association
Expires: 06/30/10

Lou Sebert
South Dakota Municipal League
Expires: 06/30/11

Jason Bechtold
South Dakota Sheriffs Association
Expires: 06/30/10

Tracy Turbak
South Dakota Municipal League
Expires: 06/30/09

Jeff Carmon
South Dakota Service Provider
Expires: 06/30/10

Jody Sawvell
South Dakota Service Provider
Expires: 06/30/09

Dennis Falken
SD Association of County Commissioners
Expires: 06/30/11

Kristi Turman
SD Department of Public Safety

Bill Floyd
SD Association of County Commissioners
Expires: 06/30/09

Ron Goldschmidt – Ex Officio
Wireless Industry

State Coordinator

Lee Axdahl

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
South Dakota 9-1-1 Coordination Board

Administrative Sub-Committee
Day-to-Day Operations and Issues

Membership: Turman
Rufledt
Haines

Technical Sub-Committee
Draft Technical Standards for 9-1-1 Call Centers

Membership: Carmon
Sawvell
Bechtold
Goldschmidt
Rufledt

Operations Sub-Committee
Draft Operational Standards for 9-1-1 Call Centers

Membership: Falken(*)
Barthel
Haines(*)
Turbak

Funding Sub-Committee
Explore Existing and Alternate 9-1-1 Funding & Grant Opportunities

Membership: Turbak(*)
Floyd
Turman
Haines
Carmon
Sebert

(*) – Denotes Chair or Co-Chair

Lee Axdahl, State 9-1-1 Coordinator, has open invitation to all committee and sub-committee meetings.

PRIORITIZATION OF ACTIONS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

The State 9-1-1 Coordination Board met twice in 2008 (October 9th and December 11th) to begin working on its legislative mandate.

The initial board meeting on October 9th, 2008, laid out structure and related organizational issues. The members also resolved to hire a State 9-1-1 Coordinator to fulfill the day-to-day duties of the board. That position was advertised and subsequently filled by Lee Axdahl.

The second board meeting on December 11th, 2008, ratified the hiring of Lee Axdahl and laid out in greater detail the plan to pursue its responsibilities. Those duties are specifically outlined as:

SDCL 34-45-18.2 Promulgation of Rules

The board at its December 11th meeting met with Doug Decker, Code Counsel for Legislative Research Council (LRC) to discuss the basic process for rule-making. Three rule-making areas have been identified by the legislature:

- 1) Minimum technical, operational, and procedural standards for the operation and utilization of a public safety answering point;
- 2) Requirements and amounts for reimbursement of recurring and non-recurring costs, and;
- 3) Standards for coordination of effective 911 service on a statewide basis.

Committee structure had been established by the board to coincide with

these rule-making allowances and the committees have begun to meet to identify areas from which South Dakota citizens would benefit.

SDCL 34-45-20(1)
Evaluate Current Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP)
Systems and Structure

The first major duty assigned to the State 9-1-1 Coordinator is to update the statistical information contained in the 2006 Intrado (independent consultant hired by South Dakota) report. This document, initially released in the fourth quarter of 2006, updated the status of all known public safety answering points in South Dakota. The report covered technical, operational, and financial aspects of each PSAP.

With the intervening years between Intrado and today, however, much could have (and quite possibly has) changed at the PSAP level. That is why a visit to each PSAP is necessary. Before the State 9-1-1 Coordination Board can act in a sensible and measured fashion, members need contemporary information to begin establishing standards for the future.

The visits to the individual PSAPs should be completed by the summer months of 2009.

SDCL 34-45-20(2)
Develop Uniform Statewide 9-1-1 Plan

Research is already underway to review existing plans from other states with regard to uniform 9-1-1 standards. This activity is being supplemented

by the work of the committees outlined herein. Committee recommendations and preparation of a statewide document will begin in earnest in the early months of 2009.

SDCL 34-45-20(3)
Monitor Current PSAPs and Their Use of 9-1-1 Surcharge Monies

While the board has been charged with this responsibility by the legislature, it first becomes necessary to collect the PSAP financial information and work hand in glove with Legislative Audit.

Much of the legislative mandate requires the board to review information it does not currently have in hand. This is one portion of statute that requires the board to collect additional data prior to having the ability to monitor expenditures.

SDCL 34-45-20(4)
Develop Criteria and Minimum Standard for PSAPs

This development activity is underway at both the board and committee levels.

The Operations Sub-Committee met January 8th, 2009, and in its first meeting assembled a lengthy list of proposed operating standards. This list is in draft form and will be discussed by the full board at its next meeting in February, 2009.

Funding and financing standards have been discussed by the Funding Committee on January 27th, 2009, at its first meeting in Sioux Falls.

A comprehensive agenda established for that initial gathering generated discussions ranging from PSAP funding to performance audits.

SDCL 34-45-20(5)
Develop Criteria for Reimbursement of Recurring
and Non-Recurring PSAP Costs

This issue will be addressed by the Funding Committee and draft standards will be brought to the full board in the coming months.

SDCL 34-45-20(6)
Legislative Audit of 911 Fee Utilization

Contact with Legislative Audit has been established by the State 9-1-1 Coordinator to begin discussions on this mandate.

Legislative Audit requires certain performance standards to be in place prior to undertaking their reviews. Once the performance standards have been established through committee and sub-committee levels, and ratified by the Coordination Board, Legislative Audit will be able to commence its activities.

It is expected that such performance standards can be in place by late 2009.

SDCL 34-45-20(7)
Report Annually to the Governor and Legislature

This report is the first annual document submitted under this section of statute.

It is anticipated that subsequent reports will be submitted in early October of each subsequent year, beginning with October, 2009, to coincide with fiscal year reports for the State of South Dakota. This initial document is submitted in early 2009 due to the recent hiring of the South Dakota 9-1-1 Coordinator, Lee Axdahl and with the intent of providing early activity information.

Furthermore, future reports will include fiscal information.

All documentation and supporting information as it relates to 9-1-1 coordination activity in the State of South Dakota is located in the office space occupied by Lee Axdahl.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

There is substantial work and significant challenges facing the South Dakota 9-1-1 Coordination Board in the coming months.

As one can ascertain from statute, South Dakota lacks a coherent and uniform structure for 9-1-1 operating, technical and funding standards. The South Dakota 9-1-1 Coordination Board is in the process of identifying critical priorities on all three of these fronts.

This discovery and discussion process will ensure the continued beneficial evolution of the 9-1-1 emergency response structure in South Dakota.

Respectfully submitted:



Ted Ruffedt, Jr. – Chairperson
9-1-1 Coordination Board

February 9, 2009

Tom Dravland – Secretary
Department of Public Safety

February 9, 2009