

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Kathren Sukus
INITIATED BY



Kathren Sukus, Director
DRAFTED BY

Public Safety & Justice Committee
SUBMITTED BY

September 30, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

FUNDING FOR PSAP GRANTS

1 **WHEREAS**, modernizing Wisconsin’s 911 system has been a priority for local governments, Public
2 Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), law enforcement, and the telecommunications industry since the early
3 2000s; and,
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the 2017-19 and the 2019-21 state biennial budget provided funding for creation of a
6 statewide emergency services IP network (ESInet), which is the first step in the transition to a digital
7 Next Generation 911 (NG911) system; and,
8

9 **WHEREAS**, a NG911 system utilizes advancements in technology to improve communication with 911
10 operators and provides greater efficiency in assisting individuals in crisis; and,
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12 **WHEREAS**, local 911 centers (PSAPs) will require NG911 capable equipment to connect to the digital
13 system; and,
14

15 **WHEREAS**, currently many PSAPs require an upgrade of their equipment to NG911 or will require
16 maintenance and security upgrades to their current NG911 capable equipment; and,
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18 **WHEREAS**, the average cost for the necessary equipment upgrades will likely exceed \$250,000 per
19 county in addition to ongoing maintenance costs based on the number of call stations in the PSAP; and,
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21 **WHEREAS**, while the state has provided grant funding for counties in the past to upgrade local PSAPs,
22 state funding has not existed in over a decade; and,
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24 **WHEREAS**, the state currently has a fund – the Police and Fire Protection Fund – which its original
25 intent was to fund county PSAP upgrades; and,
26

27 **WHEREAS**, revenue from the Police and Fire Protection Fee has been diverted to the state general fund
28 and had never been utilized for its intended purpose.
29

30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this
31 8th day of October, 2020 does hereby urge the Governor and Wisconsin State Legislature
32 to allocate \$15 million annually for grants to PSAPS through the Police and Fire Protection Fund for the
33 upgrade of their equipment and the ongoing maintenance and upgrades required; and
34

35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governor and Wisconsin State Legislature should support the
36 Department of Military Affairs budget request to continue the build of the ESInet and for an annual
37 appropriation for the ongoing maintenance of the system.
38

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Rock County Clerk is directed to transmit by US Mail a copy
40 of this resolution to Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers and each member of Rock County’s delegation to
41 the State Legislature.
42

20-10A-097

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

/s/ Mary Beaver
Mary Beaver, Chair

/s/ Danette Rynes
Danette Rynes

/s/ Brian Knudson
Brian Knudson, Vice Chair

/s/ Jacob Taylor
Jacob Taylor

/s/ Ron Bomkamp
Ron Bomkamp

FISCAL NOTE:

No fiscal impact in and by itself.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats.

/s/ Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/ Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Communications Center has had Next Generation 911 capable equipment since 2013. Since that time we have had to replace/update much of this equipment and software because it was at end of life while waiting for the state's ESInet infrastructure to become available.

- 2018 – Updated Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) software - \$260,000
- 2019 – Replaced 911 call handling hardware at each position - \$76,000
- 2020 – Replaced 911 telephone servers/software/reporting system - \$143,000
- Our call recorder logging system will be due for replacement within the next few years with an estimated cost of approximately \$80,000.

The county pays over \$346,000 for annual maintenance on all of these systems.

All costs are funded with sales tax proceeds or out of the operating budgets for the Communications Center and/or Information Technology.

We do plan to apply for the 2019-2022 Federal NG911 Reimbursement Grant Program (Round 2) to replace our call recorder logging system in 2021, but the grant prioritizes PSAPs that do not yet have NG911 capable equipment, so we are unsure if we will be awarded anything at this time.