

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Kathren Sukus  
INITIATED BY



Kathren Sukus, Director  
DRAFTED BY

Public Safety & Justice Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

October 9, 2018  
DATE DRAFTED

**FUNDING FOR NEXT GENERATION 911 UPGRADES**

- 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 state biennial budget provided funding for creation of a statewide emergency
- 6 services IP network (ESInet), which is the first step in the transition to a digital Next Generation 911
- 7 (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,
- 11
- 12 **WHEREAS**, once the ESInet is operational, local 911 centers (PSAPs) will require NG911 capable
- 13 equipment to connect to the digital system; and,
- 14
- 15 **WHEREAS**, currently very few PSAPs have the equipment necessary to utilize the ESInet and transition
- 16 from analog to digital systems and while Rock County does have the necessary equipment as an early
- 17 adopter, it is already due for replacement due to age; and,
- 18
- 19 **WHEREAS**, the average cost for the necessary equipment upgrades will exceed \$250,000 per county
- 20 in addition to ongoing maintenance costs; and,
- 21
- 22 **WHEREAS**, while the state has provided grant funding for counties in the past to upgrade local PSAPs,
- 23 state funding has not existed in over a decade; and,
- 24
- 25 **WHEREAS**, the state currently has a fund – the Police and Fire Protection Fee – whose original intent
- 26 was to fund county PSAP upgrades; and,
- 27
- 28 **WHEREAS**, revenue from the Police and Fire Protection Fee is deposited in the state’s general fund
- 29 and has never been utilized for its intended purpose.
- 30
- 31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
- 32 this 25th day of October, 2018, does hereby urge the Governor and Wisconsin Legislature
- 33 to allocate \$7 million annually for counties to upgrade local 911 centers to begin the NG911 transition;
- 34 and,
- 35
- 36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the \$7 million for county PSAP upgrades should be funded through
- 37 the existing Police and Fire Protection Fee.

18-10B-111

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Mary Beaver  
Mary Beaver, Chair

Philip Owens  
Philip Owens, Vice Chair

Terry Fell  
Terry Fell

Absent  
Kara Hawes

Brian Knudson  
Brian Knudson

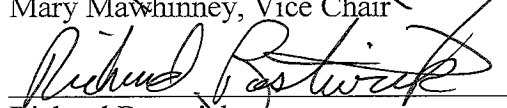
FUNDING FOR NEXT GENERATION 911 UPGRADES

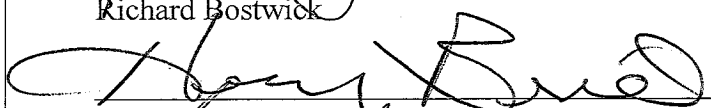
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COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

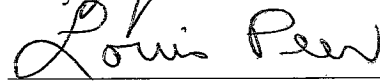
  
J. Russell Podzilni, Chair

  
Mary Mawhinney, Vice Chair

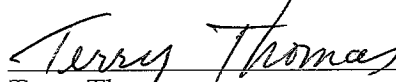
  
Richard Bostwick

  
Henry Brill

  
Betty Jo Bussie

  
Louis Peer

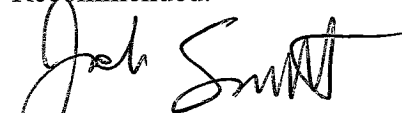
absent  
Alan Sweeney

  
Terry Thomas

absent  
Bob Yeomans

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.



Josh Smith  
County Administrator

FISCAL NOTE:

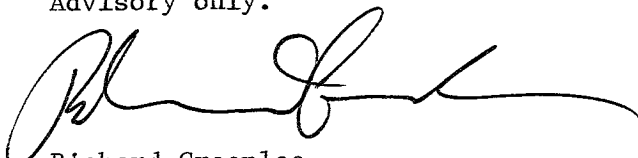
This resolution is advisory only and has no direct fiscal impact on Rock County operations in and by itself.



Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

Advisory only.



Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Communications Center has had Next Generation 911 capable equipment since 2013. However, due to the age of the equipment the Communications Center has submitted a CIP for 2019 and 2020 to replace 911 telephone equipment with an estimated cost of over \$225,000. This will replace the call handling computers, servers, and software. The software and servers for the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system were updated in 2018 at a cost of over \$260,000. The annual maintenance for both systems is over \$220,000. All of these costs are currently funded by sales tax proceeds or out of the operating budgets for the Communications Center and Information Technology.

Allocating the Police and Fire Protection Fee for county PSAP upgrades, as originally intended, would help pay for this critical equipment.