

Sustainable Funding Committee Meeting

June 26th, 2019 11:00AM

Council Members in Attendance

Jolena Young J.R. Powell Sheriff Hieatt

Staff in Attendance

Dorothy Spears-Dean Steve Marzolf Lewis Cassada

1) Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Sustainable Funding Committee was called to order at 11:00AM by Ms. Young.

2) Research Survey Update

Ms. Spears-Dean stated that final revisions had been made. The survey has been sent to VML for distribution. Ms. Spears-Dean said that VML asked for some revisions to the instruction document so it ensures a better coordinated response.

3) Recommendations and Options

Ms. Spears-Dean opened the discussion on Recommendations and Options by covering items of consideration. We are only in the first year of the new funding formula, the Fund continues to grow, current NG9-1-1 recurring costs are an estimate, and we may have more than one NG9-1-1 solutions provider with a different recurring cost model. Ms. Young said that based on what we know now, there will be a 40% increase in connectivity costs. Further additional costs and expenses are expected. An example of additional costs for PSAPs is Wal-Mart's tracking software; other new costs were discussed. Also mentioned were PSAPs whose share of the 9-1-1 fund will not cover the expected increase in connectivity costs. Ms. Young felt that if the Committee was to recommend a need for increased revenue, there would be a good case for it now. She also stated that in discussions

she's had with VML and VACO, most jurisdictions would be in favor if elimination of the pre-paid 9-1-1 sales and use tax exemption. There was Staff/Committee discussion. Potential revenues from the elimination of the CSUT pre-paid 9-1-1 exemption, and where that revenue would flow were reviewed. It is expected that the pre-paid funds would not go to the Wireless E9-1-1 Fund, but be sent directly to localities. There was discussion on how to validate or estimate how much individual localities would receive if an estimated \$20 million in revenue came from eliminating the pre-paid 9-1-1 exemption. Ms. Young felt that the inclusion of an increase of the \$.75 9-1-1 Surcharge as a recommendation to the Board would depend on the results of the survey. For recommendations to the funding distribution, the consensus was to have no changes to budget language or funding methodology until at least FY22. There was additional Ms. Young also presented long-term recommendations that would encourage consolidations and the need to analyze Compensation Board funding. Another recommendation discussed was the inclusion of a strategic initiative in the 9-1-1 Comprehensive Plan to analyst the feasibility and potential cost savings for a statewide solution with some possible exemptions. Ms. Spears-Dean summarized three items that the Committee is considering; increasing the current \$.75 wireless surcharge, until FY22 continue to monitor the funding formula and predict it's impact, and the removal of the pre-paid wireless 9-1-1 exemption (with an estimated \$20 million in additional revenue).

4) Committee Report to the Board

Ms. Spears-Dean discussed what Staff will be reporting to the 9-1-1 Services Board on July 11th. The report will focus on the survey, and the three summary items.

5) Upcoming Meeting Dates

There will be a 9-1-1 Board Meeting on July 11th. A day earlier, there will be a webinar on the activities of the Funding Committee on July 10th. Two additional Committee meeting dates would be July 10th and July 25th.

6) Public Comments

Ms. Young called for public comments, there were none.

7) Adjourn

The meeting of the Sustainable Funding Committee ended at 11:45 AM.