

Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) Commission
Department of Public Safety, Headquarters, 3rd Floor Large Conference Room
Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2015

- Chair, Paco Aumand, called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm with the following introductions: Paco Aumand, DPS/At Large Member; Suellen Royea, DPS/CJS; Rhonda Camley, DPS/Accounting; Bruce Westcott, DPS/CJS; Dan Manz, EMS; Robert T. White, AOT; Rich Grady, AppGeo; John Roache, AppGeo; Tess Gauthier, DPS/CSJ; Frank Costantino, DII; Corey Chase, Public Service; Kiersten Bourgeois, VTACCD; Dean Hamel, DPS/OTM; Terry LaValley, DPS/Communications; Doug Johnston, Springfield PD; Captain Don Patch, VSP; Allison LaFlamme, DPS/Accounting; Justin Barton, DPS/CJS; and Barb Neal, E911.
- **AppGeo Report/Update:** Tess Gauthier gave a brief review that every state has to deliver a report on coverage, data collection, mapping, etc. by September 30, 2015. She introduced and turned the meeting over to John Roache from AppGeo. Mr. Roache reviewed FirstNet's mapping requirements, Vermont's data processing, and results through a PowerPoint presentation. He noted that FirstNet took a first step by creating a map with generic data and asked each state to review their map and respond by September 30, 2015 with any additional data. Terry LaValley added that we created a subcommittee to help enhance the decision making. Mr. Roache continued that FirstNet's proposal was based on population, roadways and locations of first responders. Vermont's data includes: Population, developed land, historical calls for service, points of interest, number of responders, and areas where commercial cell coverage is lacking. Each type of data was explained. Population mapping combined two (2) data sources to create a hybrid model; US Census and VT's E-911 Rooftop points. A question was asked regarding obtaining law enforcement data but not EMS data. Tess Gauthier answered that it was harder to obtain the EMS data due to HIPPA regulations, the data not being available yet, and the short deadline. Paco Aumand and Tess Gauthier explained where/how the law enforcement data was obtained. Stacking of the different data was reviewed and discussed. Some of the points of interest included: E911 site points, schools, businesses, VCGI features, federal sites, and major public events, which were obtained from travel and tourism events. Tess Gauthier reviewed that over 800 surveys were sent out and about 600 have been returned. Paco Aumand asked how the response rate compares to other states. Tess thought we were in the top of the pack. Paco thought that our response to data collection has been exceptional. Mr. Roache continued by explaining that commercial service data used was from drive tests of the state by Verizon and AT&T, who also have some agreements for sharing with other vendors. There was a slide of the weighting matrix and the preliminary results. It was thought that we can justify enhancing some of the grey areas on the FirstNet map. A suggestion was that where we don't have commercial coverage, may be where we want to focus. The floor was opened for suggestions on areas that we want to make a priority. Some suggestions included: border coverage, train coverage, high priority blocks, a

major electrical line in Norton, ski areas, wind turbine areas, snowmobile trails, colleges/high schools, hospitals, Waterbury State EOC, Vermont Yankee, State Capital, homeland security infrastructure sites, and towns with only 1 or 2 access points. It was noted that FirstNet's way of dealing with single events is to bring in a mobile access and that the network is going to be built in phases. It was decided to make the entire border at least a level 3, make the main highway offices a level 1 and sub-offices a level 2, and include the 6 PSAPs. It was noted our goal is to get the most coverage out of the core and move forward. Some additional suggestions included: reaching out to the Feds to find out what priority sites they may have identified, finding out if there is a federal group looking at their priorities, look at what other states are including, teaming up with other states (Maine and New Hampshire) to build a robust broadband coverage, and identifying any major data switching points that we may want coverage at (Corey offered to do some research today on this). It was noted that something will be sent out for review. It was requested to respond by September 30, 2015. Wireless service providers (Globalnet) was briefly discussed.

- The next meeting will be the first Wednesday in November with a briefing on the fine work Vermont is doing and how we compare nationally. Paco Aumand thanked the presenters for their work and everyone for coming. Meeting adjourned at 2:47 pm.