



Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services

383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1431 Fax (213) 633-5102

MINUTES

January 4, 2005 Meeting
739 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chairperson
Richard J. Rosenthal, CRE

Vice-Chairperson
Patricia G. Gray

Wendy M. Brogin,
A.I.C.P.

Walter P. Coombs
Shana E. Epstein.
Gordon Gray
Rodrigo A. Guerra, Jr.
Algird Leiga
Sharon Martinez
Deborah H. O'Connor
Kenneth D. Rozell
William Selditz
David Spence
Terri Tippit
Benjamin "Frank" Venti

Chairperson Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 7, 2004 MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Gray, seconded by Commissioner Leiga, the Commission unanimously approved the December 7, 2004 Minutes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

On motion of Commissioner Rozell, seconded by Commissioner Spence, the Commission unanimously reelected Commissioner Rosenthal as Chairperson and Commissioner Patricia Gray as Vice-Chairperson.

UPDATE ON THE "911" RESPONSE SYSTEM

Ella Sotelo provided an overview regarding the "911" response system (copy on file). Ms. Sotelo reported 12,000 sectors converted to Phase II (provides the callers telephone number, the cell site address and the latitude and longitude of the call) call delivery representing 75% of the total sector count in Los Angeles County; 4 of the 5 major cellular service providers completed testing at CHP and local PSAP's with Cingular's testing to begin the first quarter of 2005; and 35 PSAP's submitted letters to the State to accept direct routed wireless calls.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked if CHP has a mapping program to convert the latitude and longitude. Tom Prigatano stated CHP uses Mapquest and a mapping program will be implemented when they move into their new facility. Vice Chairperson Gray inquired about the grant. Ms. Sotelo reported that once an agency signs up to receive wireless calls they receive a one-time grant of \$15,000 per position.

Chairperson Rosenthal suggested meeting with City representatives to better understand the 911 response system and logistics the County needs to provide improved service. Ms. Sotelo advised a pilot project was launched between the City of Covina and the County; however, contractual issues arose. Concerns have been raised regarding errors in the mapping data and Thomas Brothers is reluctant to lose control over the market share.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked staff to coordinate Covina Police Department and the County system's personnel to attend the March 1, 2005 meeting.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked if call takers/dispatchers are trained to eliminate duplicate 911 calls. Mr. Prigatano reported every call is logged and subsequent calls received regarding the same incident are verified in the database. In response to Vice-Chairperson Gray, Mr. Prigatano advised the length of training time for a call taker/dispatcher is 9 months.

Chairperson Rosenthal inquired if the City of Avalon is connected to the 911 response system. Ms. Sotelo reported Avalon fields their 911 calls but lack of connectivity will prevent joining the response system countywide. Chairperson Rosenthal asked Ms. Sotelo to provide the Commission with updates of the California Highway Patrol's PSAP monthly transfer data report.

UPDATE ON THE ROUTING OF CELLULAR 911 CALLS

Mr. Prigatano reported an 8% decrease in calls for 2003; CBX outsourcing, participating agencies, public awareness, and lack of serious weather conditions was attributed to call reduction. Mr. Prigatano discussed how 90% of callbox calls are being referred back to the CHP. Currently the CHP is negotiating with LA Safe to determine criteria for referrals to the CHP.

Concerns regarding the need for regular and more coordinated maintenance of tower sites were discussed. Also, the inexpensive nature of Voice Over IP, its popularity and the inability to provide current location as opposed to programmed location were discussed.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked what happens when 911 calls are made on a non-global positioning phone. Mr. Prigatano stated calls are treated as Phase I and received by the tower which provides a directional sector of the caller's location.

Mr. Prigatano reported Nextel will implement phase changes in May 2005. Ms. Sotelo stated Nextel was hesitant to convert to methods used by other wireless carriers thereby creating a lag time in switching to Phase II.

Commissioner Spence suggested Mr. Prigatano and Ms. Sotelo attend the May 2005 California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) conference to brief cities on the benefits of the 911 wireless response system. Ms. Sotelo reported Marin County is attempting to launch a pilot project to receive all 911 calls in their area, and if successful, Los Angeles County may consider implementing this method as an alternative.

Commissioner Spence suggested requesting the Board of Supervisors support the wireless '911' project and recommended each Supervisor appoint a Deputy to become familiar with the issue. Commissioner Spence noted the Sheriff's Department is reluctant to join this project without the Board of Supervisors and CAO involvement. Commissioner Leiga added the Sheriff's Department is experiencing a budget shortfall and is likely unneager to address new issues without increased funding.

Ms. Sotelo will contact the Los Angeles Police Department to get an update regarding the department's ability to begin receiving the '911' calls directly prior to meeting with the Commission in March.

Chairperson Rosenthal recommended contacting Mayor Beverly O'Neil, City of Long Beach, to ensure awareness of the wireless '911' project and develop ways of improving call productivity.

DISCUSSION WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE WIRELESS "911" RESPONSE SYSTEM AND PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINTS (PSAP)

This item was continued to the next meeting

UPDATE ON CALTRANS PROJECT

Chairperson Rosenthal requested staff arrange another meeting with Caltrans to discuss the project's status.

STUDY COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE STATUS REPORT

Commissioner Rozell will provide an update on the draft of the Commissions Five-Year Sunset Review at the next meeting.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR A FUTURE MEETING)

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT TO HOLIDAY GATHERING

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shana Epstein
Gordon Gray
Patricia Gray
Algird Leiga
Debby O'Connor
Richard Rosenthal
Kenneth Rozell
David Spence

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Wendy Brogin
Walter Coombs
Rodrigo A. Guerra, Jr.
Sharon Martinez
William Selditz
Terri Tippit
Frank Venti

STAFF

Martha Littlefield
Peter Papadakis

GUESTS

John Lounsbery, Intergovernmental Relations, Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office
Ella Sotelo, 911 County Coordinator
Tom Prigatano, Supervisor, Los Angeles Communication Center
Bruce Staniforth, Los Angeles County Economy & Efficiency Commission