

# Report to the Joint Legislative Council

## Special Committee on 911 Communications



February 4, 2013

LCR 2013-07

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# SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON 911 COMMUNICATIONS

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February 4, 2012

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# PART I

## KEY PROVISIONS OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Special Committee on 911 Communications recommends the following bill drafts to the Joint legislative Council for introduction in the 2013-14 Session of the Legislature.

### **LRB-0919/1, RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A STATE 911 COUNCIL**

LRB-0919/1 does the following:

- Creates a council to advise and direct the Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) and the Public Service Commission (PSC) on the administration of 911 telecommunications services and grant programs available to promote those services.
- Outlines the membership of the council, which includes entities involved in various aspects of 911 telecommunications and emergency response issues.
- Outlines the duties of the council.
- Authorizes the creation of, and funding for, a 911 telecommunications service coordinator within OJA.

### **LRB-0920/1, RELATING TO CALLS TO 911 MADE FROM MULTILINE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS**

LRB-0920/1 requires the following of owners and operators of multiline telephone systems:

- Creates a requirement that an owner or operator of a multiline telephone system design and maintain the system to provide location and callback information to a public safety answering point (PSAP) when a call to “911” is made.
- Imposes a requirement that every owner or operator of a multiline telephone system instruct each user of the system as to how to call for emergency assistance from a telephone in the system.

### **LRB-0921/1, RELATING TO FUNDING FOR THE STATE 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM**

LRB-0921/1 makes the following changes to the distribution and imposition of telecommunications service fees:

- Directs that any revenue generated annually by the police and fire protection fee in excess of the average of revenue generated by this fee during the 2010-11 and 2011-12 fiscal years, is to be appropriated for the state 911 grant program.
- Applies the countywide 911 telecommunications service fee statewide on all active communications service connections (voice or nonvoice) capable of accessing a public safety answering point.

## **LRB-0922/2, RELATING TO THE STATE 911 GRANT PROGRAM**

LRB-0922/2 does the following:

- Creates the state 911 grant program.
- Directs the state 911 council to establish, and the OJA to promulgate by rule, eligibility criteria and purposes for grants to be provided to PSAPs.

## **LRB-0923/1, RELATING TO STATE 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

LRB-0923/1 creates the following 911 telecommunications services contracting mechanism:

- Requires the PSC to contract with a network of 911 telecommunications services providers to perform functions related to state 911 telecommunications services.
- Requires communications providers to provide price schedules for 911 telecommunications services to the PSC, requires the PSC to review the price schedules to determine whether they are commercially reasonable, and requires the PSC to reimburse the commercially reasonable costs the providers incur.
- Creates a staff position at the PSC to perform these functions and allows the PSC to pay its administrative expenses from the state 911 fee, within enumerated limits.

## **LRB-0924/1, RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATION SUBSCRIBER RECORDS, PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS, AND UPDATES TO CERTAIN 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE DATABASES**

LRB-0924/1 provides for the treatment of telecommunications subscriber records in the following manner:

- Allows communications providers to designate information provided to OJA or the PSC as “proprietary information,” and provides for the exemption of that information and subscriber records from inspection or copying under the state’s open records law.
- Requires 911 telecommunications services providers, communications providers, and PSAPs to take action to update the master street address guide and automatic location identification databases within specified time periods.

## **OTHER RECOMMENDATION**

At its December 13, 2012 meeting, the committee directed Legislative Council staff to draft a letter to the Joint Committee on Finance expressing disagreement with the current disposition of revenue received from collection of the police and fire protection fee. The committee further directed that the letter express the committee's desire that the fee be repurposed for 911 funding or eliminated, or that the revenue from the fee be distributed in a way that is more consistent with consumer expectations.





# PART II

## COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

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### ASSIGNMENT

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on 911 Communications and appointed the chairperson by an April 24, 2012 mail ballot. The committee was directed to review 911 public safety communications in Wisconsin and develop legislation as needed to strengthen and improve the system. The Special Committee was directed to study: (a) creation of a statewide entity to provide coordination and long-term planning for the system; (b) existing funding sources and projected costs of the system; (c) the training curriculum and requirements for 911 dispatch personnel; (d) establishment of a minimum 911 service standard; (e) methods to upgrade multi-line telephone system technology to enable responders to locate calls originating from large or multi-location facilities; and (f) best practices around the country for potential implementation in Wisconsin.

Membership of the Special Committee, appointed by a May 31, 2012 mail ballot, consisted of two Senators, two Representatives, and 12 public members. The final list of committee members is included as Appendix 3 to this report.

### SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

The Special Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

July 19, 2012

August 16, 2012

September 27, 2012

October 25, 2012

December 13, 2012

At the July 19, 2012 meeting, Trey Forgety, Director of Governmental Affairs, National Emergency Number Association, provided information relating to the history of 911 communication and described the progression of the technology to date and moving forward. Mr. Forgety also described issues that the committee should consider when making recommendations.

Dennis Klaila of the PSC noted the separate state funding mechanisms for land line and wireless 911 in Wisconsin, and described their histories. He spoke to the history of 911 funding and the current state of the funding mechanisms in place for this purpose, and offered input into issues relating to converting the current system to a different funding approach.

Deborah Wilichowski of the Milwaukee Fire Department described the department's next generation capable, internet protocol-based 911 system and discussed issues faced by PSAPs relating to cellular telephones that can access 911 but are not subscribed to an actual account.

At the August 16 meeting, a panel on 911 communicator training consisting of Mark Brown, Dean of Public Safety, Blackhawk Technical College, Janesville; Kelly Zenz, Dispatch Manager, Wood County Dispatch Center, Wisconsin Rapids; and Bob Currier, North-Central Director, National Emergency Number Association, Charlotte, Michigan, spoke to the committee about the National Emergency Number Association and shared information about important considerations related to 911 telecommunicator training. The panel discussed funding needs for PSAPs, efforts to create 911 telecommunicator training programs in the technical college system, and opportunities for shared curriculum across multiple locations. There was further discussion of training and operations methods used in other states and issues related to geographic information systems (GIS) that counties and other PSAPs may face.

At the September 27, 2012 meeting, Pamela Hollick, Vice President of Regulatory, tw telecom, discussed the current funding mechanism for 911 communications, suggested improvements in the funding mechanism, and the need for technological neutrality in any future funding mechanism.

Committee members discussed a 2008-09 legislative proposal to fund 911 communications, the progress made at that time, and the state of the proposed legislation at the conclusion of that effort. Members also discussed the creation of a statewide funding mechanism and explored the current funding situation.

The committee discussed reallocating part of the revenues from the existing police and fire protection fee to support training for 911 telecommunicators and other aspects of 911 service.

At the October 25, 2012 meeting, Dr. Steven Zils, Out-of-Hospital Medical Director, Aurora Medical Center, made a presentation to the committee about Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), and members discussed their experiences with EMD.

Patrick Fucik, Director, Western Region - Sprint State Government Affairs, and Michael McDermott, Midwest Executive Director of Public Policy, Verizon Wireless, recommended that the committee propose a 911 funding system paid for by a surcharge on all types of telecommunications technologies and noted that central collection of this type of fee, at the state level, would be preferable to existing fee structures.

John Murray, Executive Director, OJA, provided the committee with a report on the history and functions of the OJA, with particular attention paid to the Interoperability Council and its Interoperable Communications Standards Group.

At the December 13, 2012 meeting, the committee discussed proposed legislation that was suggested by the committee at the October 25, 2012 meeting and prepared by Legislative Council staff. Legislative Council staff described the six proposed drafts, and committee members discussed each and made suggestions for modifications to the drafts.

The committee voted to have Legislative Council staff prepare the drafts with the suggested changes for submission to the committee by mail ballot, along with a letter to the Joint Committee on Finance expressing the committee's displeasure with the current police and fire protection fee.



# **PART III**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS INTRODUCED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

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### **LRB-0919/1, RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A STATE 911 COUNCIL**

#### **Background**

The provision of 911 services is currently administered at the local level, with each PSAP operating under the direction of county or municipal authorities. Coordination among PSAPs, where present, is largely facilitated through professional organizations and ad hoc agreements. Funding is provided by a combination of fees paid by users of landline telephone service and moneys appropriated by local units of government.

#### **Description**

LRB-0919/1 creates a council to advise and direct the OJA and the PSC on the administration of 911 telecommunications services and grant programs available to promote those services. It outlines the membership and duties of the council and authorizes the creation of a 911 telecommunications service coordinator within OJA, to be funded from the service fees established in LRB-0921/1.

### **LRB-0920/1, RELATING TO CALLS TO 911 MADE FROM MULTILINE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS**

#### **Background**

The committee heard testimony on the difficulties that can arise for emergency service providers responding to facilities serviced by multiline telephone systems. Many phone systems do not provide an exact location from which the call originated, and in some instances provide locations a considerable distance from the site of the actual emergency. These systems may also not provide a callback number for a PSAP to use if a 911 call is disconnected. This may result in emergency services being dispatched to a billing location of a business when the emergency is in a different location.

#### **Description**

LRB-0920/1 creates a requirement that an owner or operator of a multiline telephone system design and maintain the system to provide location and callback information to a PSAP when a call to "911" is made, with exceptions. It further imposes a requirement that every owner or operator of a multiline telephone system instruct each user of the system as to how to call for emergency assistance from a telephone in the system.

## **LRB-0921/1, RELATING TO FUNDING FOR THE STATE 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM**

### **Background**

Funding for 911 services is provided by a combination of local government funding and revenues from a service fee imposed upon landline telephone service that is capped by statute and limited in its permissible uses. There exists a police and fire protection fee assessed on both landline and cellular telephone bills that generates revenue that is directed to the general fund. Committee members expressed dissatisfaction with the use of these fees, originally intended for 911 system improvements to augment the general fund.

### **Description**

LRB-0921/1 directs that any revenue generated annually by the police and fire protection fee in excess of the average of revenue generated by this fee during the 2010-11 and 2011-12 fiscal years be appropriated for state 911 grants. It further applies the countywide 911 telecommunications service fee statewide on all active communications service connections (voice or nonvoice) capable of accessing a public safety answering point.

## **LRB-0922/2, RELATING TO THE STATE 911 GRANT PROGRAM**

### **Background**

There is currently no statewide grant program for support of 911 services.

### **Description**

LRB-0922/2 creates the state 911 grant program, funded from revenues generated under the statewide 911 fee and part of the police and fire protection fee, as provided in LRB-921/1. It also directs the state 911 council to establish, and the OJA to promulgate by rule, eligibility criteria and purposes for grants to be provided to PSAPs.

## **LRB-0923/1, RELATING TO STATE 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

### **Background**

Currently, PSAPs contract with communications providers to perform functions related to 911 service. Wisconsin statutes provide for a mechanism by which counties can authorize the provider to add a surcharge onto landline telephone service bills and keep the revenue to pay for these functions. In some instances, the authorized surcharge amount is sufficient to pay for the services. In counties with a smaller number of active landlines, the surcharge may not fully cover the expense. With a decrease in the number of landline telephones in service, this deficit is growing in some areas.

## **Description**

LRB-0923/1 requires communications providers to provide price schedules for 911 telecommunications services provided to their customers, requires the PSC to pay the communications providers for these costs, to the extent that they are commercially reasonable. The PSC is also required to contract with a network of 911 telecommunications service providers to perform functions related to state 911 telecommunications services. The draft also creates a staff position at the PSC to perform these functions and allows the PSC to pay its administrative expenses from the state 911 fee, within enumerated limits.

## **LRB-0924/1, RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATION SUBSCRIBER RECORDS, PROPRIETARY INFORMATION OF CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS, AND UPDATES TO CERTAIN 911 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE DATABASES**

### **Background**

In order to facilitate the provision of 911 telecommunications services statewide under the committee's proposed legislation, communications providers will need to provide information to the OJA and PSC. Some of the necessary information would include information about subscribers and proprietary information, which could be subject to disclosure under ss. 19.31 to 19.39, Stats., the Wisconsin public records law. The committee determined that it was appropriate to exempt these records from this law.

The committee also discussed difficulties in providing emergency services in instances where telephone records are not promptly updated to reflect new accounts or the relocation of existing accounts.

### **Description**

LRB-0924/1 allows communications providers to designate information provided the OJA or PSC as "proprietary information," and provides for the exemption of that information and subscriber records from inspection or copying under the state's open records law.

LRB-0924/1 also requires 911 telecommunications service providers, communications providers, and PSAPs to take action to update the master street address guide and automatic location identification database within specified time periods.





# APPENDIX 1

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## COMMITTEE AND JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL VOTES

The following drafts were recommended by the Special Committee on 911 Communications.

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE VOTE

The Special Committee voted by a January 23, 2013 mail ballot, to recommend the following six bill drafts to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2013-14 Session of the Legislature. The votes on the drafts were as follows:

- LRB-0919/1, relating to the creation of a state 911 council, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Ballweg and Vruwink; Sens. Jauch and Moulton; and Public Members Backus, Bychinski, Froiland, Jermain, Kesler, Landers, McInnis, Nehls, Ranous, Sanfelipo, Tuma, and Welp); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 0.
- LRB-0920/1, relating to calls to 911 made from multiline telephone systems, passed by a vote of Ayes, 15 (Reps. Ballweg and Vruwink; Sen. Jauch; and Public Members Backus, Bychinski, Froiland, Jermain, Kesler, Landers, McInnis, Nehls, Ranous, Sanfelipo, Tuma, and Welp); Noes, 1 (Sen. Moulton); and Not Voting, 0.
- LRB-0921/1, relating to funding for the state 911 telecommunications system, passed by a vote of Ayes, 13 (Reps. Ballweg and Vruwink; Sens. Jauch and Moulton; and Public Members Backus, Bychinski, Froiland, Kesler, Landers, McInnis, Nehls, Ranous, and Tuma); Noes, 3 (Public Members Jermain, Sanfelipo, and Welp); and Not Voting, 0.
- LRB-0922/2, relating to the state 911 grant program, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Ballweg and Vruwink; Sens. Jauch and Moulton; and Public Members Backus, Bychinski, Froiland, Jermain, Kesler, Landers, McInnis, Nehls, Ranous, Sanfelipo, Tuma, and Welp); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 0.
- LRB-0923/1, relating to state 911 telecommunications services, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Ballweg and Vruwink; Sens. Jauch and Moulton; and Public Members Backus, Bychinski, Froiland, Jermain, Kesler, Landers, McInnis, Nehls, Ranous, Sanfelipo, Tuma, and Welp); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 0.

- LRB-0924/1, relating to telecommunication subscriber records, proprietary information of certain communications providers, and updates to certain 911 telecommunications service databases, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Ballweg and Vruwink; Sens. Jauch and Moulton; and Public Members Backus, Bychinski, Froiland, Jermain, Kesler, Landers, McInnis, Nehls, Ranous, Sanfelipo, Tuma, and Welp); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 0.
- Letter to the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance regarding the police and fire protection fee, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Ballweg and Vruwink; Sens. Jauch and Moulton; and Public Members Backus, Bychinski, Froiland, Jermain, Kesler, Landers, McInnis, Nehls, Ranous, Sanfelipo, Tuma, and Welp); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 0.

## APPENDIX 2

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### JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

#### SENATE MEMBERS

**LUTHER OLSEN, Co-Chair**  
1023 Thomas Street  
Ripon, WI 54971

**ALBERTA DARLING**  
1325 West Dean Road  
River Hills, WI 53217

**PAUL FARROW**  
Room 3 South  
State Capitol

**SCOTT FITZGERALD**  
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Juneau, WI 53039

**CHRIS LARSON**  
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Milwaukee, WI 53207

**JOE LEIBHAM**  
3618 River Ridge Drive  
Sheboygan, WI 53083

**MARK MILLER**  
4903 Roigan Terrace  
Monona, WI 53716

**JERRY PETROWSKI**  
720 North 136th Avenue  
Marathon, WI 54448

**FRED A. RISSE**  
100 Wisconsin Avenue  
Unit 501, Madison, WI 53703

**JENNIFER SHILLING**  
2608 Main Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

**DALE SCHULTZ**  
515 North Central Avenue  
Richland Center, WI 53581

#### ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

**JOAN BALLWEG, Co-Chair**  
170 W. Summit Street  
Markesan, WI 53946

**PETER BARCA**  
1339 38 Ave.  
Kenosha, WI 53144

**TERESE BERCEAU**  
4326 Somerset Lane  
Madison, WI 53711

**BILL KRAMER**  
2005 Cliff Alex Ct. South, #3  
Waukesha, WI 53189

**AMY LOUDENBECK**  
10737 S. State Rd. 140  
Clinton, WI 53525

**CORY MASON**  
3611 Kinzie Ave  
Racine, WI 53405

**JOHN NYGREN**  
N2118 Keller Rd.  
Marinette, WI 54143

**SANDY PASCH**  
6301 N. Berkeley Blvd.  
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

**JEFF STONE**  
5535 Grandview Drive  
Greendale, WI 53129

**SCOTT SUDER**  
102 South 4th Avenue  
Abbotsford, WI 54405

**ROBIN VOS**  
960 Rock Ridge Road  
Burlington, WI 53105

This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the co-chairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.

*Terry C. Anderson, Director, Legislative Council Staff  
1 East Main Street, Suite 401, P.O. Box 2536, Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2536*



# APPENDIX 3

## COMMITTEE LIST

Special Committee on 911 Communications	
<p><b>Chair Joan Ballweg</b>, Representative 170 West Summit St. Markesan, WI 53946</p> <p><b>Jim Backus</b>, Chief Deputy Clark County 517 Court St., Room 308 Neillsville, WI 54456</p> <p><b>Thomas Bychinski</b>, Supervisor Sauk County 1820 Tivoli Ln. Reedsburg, WI 53959</p> <p><b>Tracey Froiland</b>, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator ThedaCare N9152 South Kernan Ave. Appleton, WI 54915</p> <p><b>Paul Geiszler</b>, Chief of Police (resigned 12/3/12) City of Muskego Police Department W183 S8150 Racine Ave., Box 749 Muskego, WI 53150-0749</p> <p><b>James Jermain</b>, Regional Vice President -- External Affairs AT&amp;T Wisconsin 316 West Washington Ave. Madison, WI 53703</p> <p><b>Keith Kesler</b>, Director Douglas Cnty. Emergency Mgmt, Comms., and Gen. Servs. 1316 North 14th St., Suite 10 Superior, WI 54880</p> <p><b>Brian Landers</b>, Mayor City of Wisconsin Dells 300 La Crosse St. Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965</p> <p><b>Pam McInnis</b>, Communication Center Director City of Eau Claire 740 Second Ave. Eau Claire, WI 54703</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chair Robert Jauch</b>, Senator 5271 South Maple Dr. Poplar, WI 54864</p> <p><b>Terry Moulton</b>, Senator 980 118th St. Chippewa Falls, WI 54729</p> <p><b>Todd Nehls</b>, Sheriff Dodge County 124 West St. Juneau, WI 53039</p> <p><b>Jeff Ranous</b>, State Advocacy Consultant American Heart Association/American Stroke Association 660 East Mason, Suite 200 Milwaukee, WI 53202</p> <p><b>Vicki Sanfelipo</b>, Founder/Nurse Accident Scene Management, Inc. W267S7980 Stony Point Ct. Mukwonago, WI 53149</p> <p><b>Richard Tuma</b>, Director of Preparedness Waukesha County 560 Wiswell Dr. Williams Bay, WI 53191</p> <p><b>Amy Sue Vruwink</b>, Representative 9425 Flower Ln. Milladore, WI 54454</p> <p><b>Bradley Welp</b>, General Manager Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative, Inc. 202 North East St., P.O. Box 67 Blue River, WI 53518</p>

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to review 911 public safety communications in Wisconsin and develop legislation as needed to strengthen and improve the system. The Special Committee shall study: (a) creation of a statewide entity to provide coordination and long-term planning for the system; (b) existing funding sources and projected costs of the system; (c) the training curriculum and requirements for 911 dispatch personnel; (d) establishment of a minimum 911 service standard; (e) methods to upgrade multi-line telephone system technology to enable responders to locate calls originating from large or multi-location facilities; and (f) best practices around the country for potential implementation in Wisconsin.

**16 MEMBERS:** 2 Representatives; 2 Senators; and 12 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Larry Konopacki, Senior Staff Attorney; Chad Brown, Staff Attorney; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



## OTHER RECOMMENDATION

### State of Wisconsin JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

*Co-Chairs*  
**LUTHER OLSEN**  
Senator

**JOAN BALLWEG**  
Representative



**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF**  
**Terry C. Anderson**  
*Director*  
**Laura D. Rose**  
*Deputy Director*

January 22, 2013

Senator Alberta Darling, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
Room 317 East  
State Capitol

Representative John Nygren, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
Room 309 East  
State Capitol

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

The Special Committee on 911 Communications was created by the Joint Legislative Council to study various aspects of 911 public safety communications in Wisconsin and develop legislation as needed to strengthen and improve the system. In particular, the Special Committee was directed to study existing funding sources and projected costs of the system, among other factors.

Membership of the committee included individuals with a wide range of backgrounds including local government, 911 center operations, telecommunications, health advocacy and health care, and law enforcement. The Special Committee held five meetings over six months at which it reviewed research provided by Special Committee staff and others, heard from a variety of invited speakers and experts, and debated the current status and future direction of the 911 system in this state.

A recurring theme during the Special Committee's work was the dissatisfaction of the Special Committee members with the current police and fire protection fee. This fee was originally proposed to specifically fund ongoing 911 services in Wisconsin. However, the revenue from this fee has not been used for this purpose. Instead, because of a state budget deficit, all revenue from this fee has been deposited into the state's general fund. The Special Committee supports the imposition of a uniform statewide 911 user fee on all communications users. However, the Special Committee does not support the continued imposition of a police and fire protection fee aimed at collecting general revenue for the state *and* a separate statewide 911 user fee.

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The Special Committee respectfully requests that you take action to eliminate the police and fire protection fee in favor of the Special Committee's recommendation to establish a uniform statewide 911 user fee on all communications users. Alternatively, the police and fire protection fee could be repurposed to support 911 service in Wisconsin, as originally intended. If this option is chosen, the current landline 911 user fee should also be eliminated. A more detailed account of the history of the police and fire protection fee is provided in the following paragraphs.

Beginning in 2007, a diverse group of interests concerned with 911 service and funding in Wisconsin got together to explore options to improve the 911 system. The culmination of their efforts was a comprehensive proposal to improve the state's 911 system by:

- Providing a method for 911 centers and service providers to recover their costs.
- Providing standards for 911 centers and telecommunications providers to meet.
- Coordinating 911 services statewide.
- Being technology-neutral with respect to the types of devices that can contact 911 centers.
- Allowing the 911 system to better meet the expectations of the public.
- Providing for better-trained 911 dispatchers.
- Allowing the 911 centers to have access to the latest technology.

These objectives were to be supported by the creation of a revenue source that was designed to relieve the state's property tax burden by having each communications "user" help to pay the costs of 911 service. This was to be done by creating a new fee capped at \$0.75 per line per month on all communications service connections. This proposal was included in the 2009-11 state budget as passed by the Legislature. However, because of the budget deficit that existed at that time, the proposal included a two-year delay in the implementation of the 911 proposal. During that two-year period of time, the revenue from the new \$0.75 fee was to be distributed to the general fund to partially offset the deficit. Then-Governor Doyle vetoed the 911 proposal, but retained the \$0.75 fee to produce revenue for the general fund, and made the fee permanent. This fee is known as the "police and fire protection fee." It continues to be levied against communications service customers, and the revenue from this fee continues to be distributed to the state's general fund.

The committee considered recommending legislation that would eliminate or repurpose the police and fire protection fee. However, we felt that it would be inappropriate for this committee, with its limited study scope, to recommend fiscal policy that would leave a gap in revenue sources for the state's general fund. To avoid this problem, the committee proposed that only the revenue generated from the police and fire protection fee that is in addition to the average amount generated over the last two fiscal years be used for 911 support. The committee also recommended the revision of other existing funding sources to form the primary fiscal support for its recommendations.

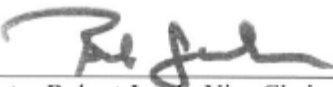


The committee feels strongly that the efforts of the people who crafted the vetoed 911 proposal described above were ignored, that people currently paying the police and fire protection fee on their monthly bills are being misled, and that the continued support of the general fund through this tax on telecommunications service is inappropriate. The Special Committee respectfully requests that you take action to eliminate the police and fire protection fee in favor of the uniform statewide 911 user fee proposed by the Special Committee, or that you repurpose this fee for 911 service and eliminate the current landline 911 user fee.

Thank you for your attention to this request, and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Representative Joan Ballweg, Chair  
Special Committee on 911 Communications

  
Senator Robert Jauch, Vice Chair  
Special Committee on 911 Communications

JB:RJ:ksm



# APPENDIX 5

## COMMITTEE MATERIALS LIST

[Copies of documents are available at [www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc)]

January 23, 2013 Mail Ballot				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Memo No. 3</a>, <i>Committee Bill Draft Changes</i> (January 22, 2013).</li> <li>• LRB-<a href="#">0919/1</a>, relating to the creation of a state 911 council.</li> <li>• LRB-<a href="#">0920/1</a>, relating to calls to 911 made from multiline telephone systems.</li> <li>• LRB-<a href="#">0921/1</a>, relating to funding for the state 911 telecommunications system.</li> <li>• LRB-<a href="#">0922/2</a>, relating to the state 911 grant program.</li> <li>• LRB-<a href="#">0923/1</a>, relating to the state 911 telecommunications services.</li> <li>• LRB-<a href="#">0924/1</a>, relating to telecommunication subscriber records, proprietary information of certain communications providers, and updates to certain 911 telecommunications service databases.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Letter</a>, to the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance regarding the police and fire protection fee (January 22, 2013).</li> <li>• Mail <a href="#">Ballot</a> of the Special Committee on 911 Communications (January 23, 2013).</li> <li>• <a href="#">Notice</a> of Mail Ballot.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Results</a> letter.</li> </ul>				
December 13, 2012 Meeting	<a href="#">Notice</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Audio</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
<p><b>The following drafts are preliminary and for discussion purposes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WLC: <a href="#">0042/1</a>, relating to telecommunications subscriber records.</li> <li>• WLC: <a href="#">0046/P1</a>, relating to state 911 telecommunications services.</li> <li>• WLC: <a href="#">0047/P1</a>, relating to the state 911 grant program.</li> <li>• WLC: <a href="#">0048/P1</a>, relating to funding for the state 911 communications system.</li> <li>• WLC: <a href="#">0053/P1</a>, relating to making 911 calls from multiline telephone systems.</li> <li>• WLC: <a href="#">0058/P1</a>, relating to the creation of a 911 advisory council.</li> </ul> <p>ADDITIONAL MATERIALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Letter</a> to Representative Joan Ballweg, Chair, and Senator Robert Jauch, Vice Chair, Special Committee on 911 Communications, from Michael W. Wagner, Legislative Advisor, Department of Revenue (January 15, 2013).</li> </ul>				
October 25, 2012 Meeting	<a href="#">Notice</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Audio</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Minnesota</a> Statutes governing multiline telephone system 911 requirements and <a href="#">related definitions</a>.</li> <li>• <a href="#">NENA</a> Technical Requirements Document on Model Legislation, E9-1-1 for Multi-Line Telephone Systems.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Memo</a> No. 2, <i>Information on Various PSAP Costs</i> (dated October 23, 2012).</li> <li>• <a href="#">Presentation</a>, <i>Emergency Medical Dispatch</i>, by Steven Zils, MD, FAAEM, NREMT-P, out-of-Hospital Medical Director, Aurora Medical Center, Grafton.</li> </ul>				
September 27, 2012 Meeting	<a href="#">Notice</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Audio</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Memo No. 1</a>, <i>Options for Legislation Related to 911 Communications</i> (dated September 19, 2012).</li> <li>• <a href="#">Current</a> Police and Fire Protection fee administrative rule language.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Information</a> prepared by Dennis Klaila, Public Service Commission, in response to points raised at the August 16, 2012 meeting.</li> </ul>				

- [2008](#) Proposal for 9-1-1 Legislation.
- [Example](#) of a Model State 911 Plan, prepared for the National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA).
- [Memorandum](#), *Police and Fire Protection*, from Curt Witynski, Assistant Director, League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

August 16, 2012 Meeting	<a href="#">Notice</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Audio</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Presentation</a>, <i>Training Standards for Public Safety Telecommunicators</i>, by Bob Currier, ENP, North Central Region Director, NENA Executive Board (August 16, 2012). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <a href="#">State</a> by <i>State Training Standards Overview</i>, prepared by NENA Government Affairs Staff (August 2012).</li> <li>◦ <a href="#">Range</a> of 911 User Fees.</li> <li>◦ <a href="#">Emergency</a> 9-1-1 Service Standards of Training, Michigan Public Service Commission, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (March 9, 2012).</li> <li>◦ <a href="#">Texas</a> Hiring Standards of Training (August 2012).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">Presentation</a>, <i>NG911 in Minnesota Lessons Learned</i>, by Jackie Mines, Emergency Communication Networks (April 16, 2012).</li> <li>• Materials provided by Curtis Pulford, Geographic Information Officer, Division of Enterprise Technology, Wisconsin Department of Administration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <a href="#">Image</a> of cross jurisdictional Wisconsin GIS data.</li> <li>◦ <a href="#">NENA</a> workgroup presentation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
July 19, 2012 Meeting	<a href="#">Notice</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Audio a.m.</a> <a href="#">Audio p.m.</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Staff Brief 2012-04</a>, <i>911 Communications</i> (July 12, 2012).</li> <li>• <a href="#">Clarifications</a> of Staff Brief 2012-04 provided by AT&amp;T.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Presentation</a>, <i>City of Milwaukee Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Presentation</i>, by Debbie Wilichowski, City of Milwaukee, Fire Technical Services Manager.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Presentation</a>, <i>9-1-1 In Context</i>, by Trey Forgety, Director of Government Affairs, NENA (July 19, 2012).</li> </ul> <p>ADDITIONAL MATERIAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Public Chapter No. 705</a>, State of Tennessee (April 11, 2012).</li> <li>• <a href="#">National</a> 911 Assessment Guidelines.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Memorandum</a>, <i>911 Emergency Communications Funding Sources</i>, to the members of the Special Committee from Elise Nelson, Legislative Advisor, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (August 1, 2012).</li> <li>• <a href="#">Table</a>, <i>Landline and Wireless Phone Subscribers</i>, provided by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.</li> </ul>				