

DUNN COUNTY, WISCONSIN
RESOLUTION NO. 63

**Requesting the Wisconsin Counties Association to Include Support
for Legislative Action to Upgrade Local 911 Centers for Next Generation 911 Transition
in its Platform and 2019-2021 Legislative Agenda**

WHEREAS, Modernizing Wisconsin's 911 system has been a priority for local governments, Public Safety Answering Points [PSAP's], law enforcement, and the telecommunications industry since the early 2000s; and

WHEREAS a Next Generation 911 [NG911] system utilizes advancements in technology to improve communication with 911 operators and provide greater efficiency in assisting individuals in crisis, by creating a faster, more resilient system that allows voice, photos, videos and text messages to flow seamlessly from the public to the 911 network, more accurate mapping to call origination sites, and connectivity with electronic lifesaving and medical equipment—for example, a defibrillator could contact 911 at the time it is used – and improves the capability of PSAP's manage call overload, natural disasters, and transferring of 911 calls and proper jurisdictional responses based on location tracking; and

WHEREAS, The 2017-19 state biennial budget provided funding for creation of a statewide emergency services Internet Protocol network (ESInet), which is the first step in the transition to NG911.

WHEREAS, very few PSAPs have the equipment necessary to transition from analog to digital NG911 systems or utilize the ESInet.

WHEREAS, the transition to NG911 will involve new computer hardware and software and implementing NG911 in counties will require the coordination of a variety of emergency communication, public safety, legislative and governing entities, with the average cost for the necessary equipment upgrades exceeding \$250,000 per county, with additional ongoing maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, in the past, the State Legislature has provided grant funding for counties to upgrade local PSAPs, state funding has not existed in over a decade. The state currently assesses a \$0.75 monthly fee on landlines and a fee of \$0.38 on each retail transaction for prepaid wireless telecommunications plans for police and fire protection, but many people have abandoned landlines, resulting in decreased revenue available to pay for 911 service and these funds have been used to offset cuts to shared revenues; and

WHEREAS, the State currently has a fund—the Police and Fire Protection Fee—whose original intent was to fund county PSAP upgrades, but revenues from this fund is deposited in the state's general fund and has never been utilized for their intended purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dunn County Board of Supervisors hereby requests the Wisconsin Counties Association include support for allocation by the Wisconsin Legislature and the Governor of \$7 million annually through the existing Police and Fire Protection Fee to fund upgrades to local E911 centers to begin NG911 transition in its platform, and to actively advocate legislative action through its 2019-2021 Legislative Agenda.

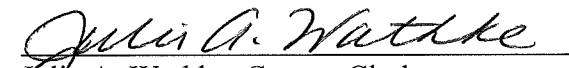
Offered this 19th day of June, 2019, at Menomonie, Wisconsin.

OFFERED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Adopted on: June 19, 2019


David Bartlett, Chair

ATTEST:


Julie A. Wathke, County Clerk

Approved as to Form and Execution:


Nicholas P. Lange, Corporation Counsel

Budget Impact: Approval of this resolution will have no impact on the 2019 budget.

Background Information: Upgrading E911 systems throughout the state to NextGen 911 systems and a statewide emergency services Internet Protocol network is a significant public safety issue of statewide concern.

The Judiciary and Law Committee supports this resolution being forwarded to the County Board of Supervisors by the Executive Committee. If adopted, this resolution will be forwarded to the Wisconsin Counties Association with a request that it become part of the WCA platform and 2019-2021 Legislative Agenda.