

RESOLUTION 2018 - 61

Re: Funding for Next Generation 911 Upgrades

WHEREAS, modernizing Wisconsin's 911 system has been a priority for local governments, Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), law enforcement, and the telecommunications industry since the early 2000s; and ; and

WHEREAS, the 2017-19 state biennial budget provided funding for creation of a statewide emergency services IP network (ESinet), which is the first step in the transition to a digital Next Generation 911 (NG911) system; and

WHEREAS, a NG911 system utilizes advancements in technology to improve communication with 911 operators and provides greater efficiency in assisting individuals in crisis; and

WHEREAS, once the ESinet is operational, local 911 centers (PSAPs) will require NG911 capable equipment to connect to the digital system; and

WHEREAS, currently very few PSAPs have the equipment necessary to utilize the ESinet and transition from analog to digital systems; and

WHEREAS, the average cost for the necessary equipment upgrades will exceed \$250,000 per county in addition to ongoing maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, while the state has provided grant funding for counties in the past to upgrade local PSAPs, state funding has not existed in over a decade; and

WHEREAS the state currently has a fund the Police and Fire Protection fee of which the original intent was to fund county PSAP upgrades; and

WHEREAS revenue from the Police and Fire Protection Fee is deposited in the state's general fund and has never been utilized for its intended purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Vilas County Board of Supervisors in session this 23rd day of October, 2018, does hereby urge the Governor and Wisconsin State Legislature to allocate \$7 million annually for counties to upgrade local 911 centers to begin the NG911 transition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the \$7 million for county PSAP upgrades should be funded by the State through the existing Police and Fire Protection Fee.

Vilas County Supervisor
s/ Gerald Burkett