

STATE INTEROPERABLE & EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION  
VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 27, 2021

**CHELLIS:** Good morning, everyone. It's 10:00 o'clock. We're going to begin the State Interoperable & Emergency Communication Board meeting for the fourth quarter of 2021. We're going to go over a couple of the rules. This is a virtual meeting. If any of the panelists have any issues getting in as a panelist, please e-mail or contact Matt Delaney. He is our AV guy, videographer, tech guy, whatever you want to call him today, and he's going to handle any permissions and so on or any issues with the WebEx. Thank you, Matt, for doing that. And any issues with your WebEx, contact Matt. Basically, it's very important, especially in the virtual environment, that whenever you speak, please state your name and what city you are talking from for the record. Also, when you're seconding a motion or making a motion or just asking a question, please do that.

You can use the chat feature to get our attention or send us a note. Matt will be monitoring that. Also, please raise your hand if you want to speak. Matt, are there any rules or WebEx details that you want to go over that I missed?

**DELANEY:** Just use the chat feature if you need to. The hand raise feature has been turned off.

**CHELLIS:** Okay. If we're voting, please state your name before you vote. The other rules are, in a SIEC Board meeting, only the Board members may speak unless recognized by the Chair. If you are a committee member and you have a question or have something you want to contribute, you would need to address Matt in chat and he will address me for permission to recognize you. Those are the normal rules of a board meeting. I want to welcome you all and thank you for your participation. There is very important business of the SIEC Board and your total participation is appreciated and taking your time to carry out this important agenda. We have a few very important things to go over today and we have a special presentation. With that we will move on.

Let's go to the next slide, please. We'll start with the roll call and approval of the minutes and approval

of agenda. Could we have the roll call, please?

**WAIDELICH:** Good morning, everybody. Hopefully, you can hear me. I'm going to start roll call.

**Board Members Present:**

Brett Chellis  
 Mark Balistreri  
 David Kislowski  
 Jason Sellars  
 Timothy Morris  
 Brian LaFlure  
 Todd Murray  
 Ryan Greenberg  
 Brendan Casey  
 Michael Volk  
 Allen Turner  
 Juan Figueroa  
 Anthony Tripp

**Board Members Absent:**

Richard Anderson  
 Kimberly Beatty  
 Bob Terry

**GUESTS:**

Joann Waidelich  
 Matthew Delaney  
 Christopher Tuttle  
 Gerry Engstrom  
 James Callahan  
 Brent Rydel  
 Caitlin Wilson

**WAIDELICH:** We do have quorum.

**CHELLIS:** Thank you, Joann. Let me just ask counsel a question.

**TRIPP:** Joann, could you send me a text message with meeting number because I can't get on with my iPad without it, please?

**CHELLIS:** Next, we'll go with the approval of the minutes. The minutes were distributed. I hope you had time to review them. Do we have any discussion on the minutes or corrections?

(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Hearing none, do I have a motion to approve the minutes of the last board meeting?

**FIGUEROA:** I motion. Figueroa.

**CHELLIS:** Okay, we have a motion from Sheriff Figueroa. Do we have a second?

**CASEY:** I'll second, Brett. Brendan.

**CHELLIS:** We have a second by Brendan Casey. All those in favor, please signify.  
(Affirmative responses.)

**CHELLIS:** Okay. Anyone opposed? Please, you'll have to state your name for the record.  
(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** The motion is passed to approve the minutes of the August 4th, 2021 meeting.

Next, we will have a motion to approve the agenda, today's agenda. Do I have a motion to approve the agenda?

**TURNER:** Allen Turner. I make the motion.

**TRIPP:** Anthony Tripp. Second.

**CHELLIS:** We have a motion by Allen Turner and a second by Anthony Tripp. All those in favor of approving today's agenda?  
(Affirmative responses.)

**CHELLIS:** Are there any nay's?  
(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Hearing none, the motion is approved. Standing Committee reports. We have the 911 Advisory Committee up first today. And with that, we will have Allen Turner who's the committee chair present. Allen.

**TURNER:** Good morning, everybody. We did some work on the updated standards. We met at the 911 Coordinators Conference in Syracuse last month. We had some questions that we were not able to answer at that point, mostly procedural, just where the corrections that need to be done, need to be in the standards that have been printed so far. I was hoping we would have that information to everybody for this meeting. Unfortunately, that did not happen. We plan on calling the next meeting of the committee members sometime within the next couple of weeks so we can get things resolved and get it back to Mr. Callahan for legal review and then on to the full board hopefully at the next meeting.

**CHELLIS:** Thank you, Allen. Just to clarify for everyone, what Allen was referring to, as submitted by the committee, there was a number of items that said "shall" and "will" and then there were items that said "may" or "can". So, it's interpreted with a "may" or "can" that these are optional practices or recommended practices.

Per the counsel, the standards have to be minimum

standards for PSAP. Therefore, my understanding of this is that the standard itself, the body of the language, has to all be "will" or "shall". If there's something the committee recommends, then that's moved to a best practices or a guidelines type document that is referred to from the standard. That way, this would be a more dynamic document as well, which is an advantage to that. It can be amended as a guideline best practice. It's managed on the website. The Board would still approve it, but it would be managed without as much time and legal effort of having to go through the whole standards changing process. But it is not mandatory as well. So, it's very important that the committee review these one more time to make sure that's the intent of the committee as an optional item and, if so, begin building a best practice guideline. That's used by other agencies even in this agency, it works well out in the field. So that's kind of the talks on how we want to move forward with this.

So basically, we just need the committee to go through and look at those items, confirm and put them into a best practice guideline. Meanwhile, the counsel is working on continuing the legal review of the actual required minimum standards to ready them for the Board's consideration. I'm going to ask the counsel if he has anything he wants to add to that.

**CALLAHAN:** Nothing to add.

**CHELLIS:** Okay, thank you.

**CASEY:** Brett, it's Brendan.

**CHELLIS:** Okay.

**CASEY:** I have a question or at least comment for Allen and the 911 Advisory Committee. We received information that Frontier Communication is moving out of the 911 business. They're going to focus on fiber, I guess. I don't know what that means for us. Frontier is our phone company. They've been a failing company for the last several years. We've had outages and they're not upgrading their infrastructure; it's affecting our public safety down here.

I don't know where this leads with them or who's going to take that over. I didn't know if Allen was aware of that.

**CHELLIS:** I can let Allen speak, but Allen did contact me on that item. I can let Allen go ahead and explain what he knows about it.

**TURNER:** About a week ago, Mark Tuncanon (phonetic) from Frontier contacted myself and several other counties, in an e-mail that Frontier rather abruptly announced to

their employees, I believe it was, October 15th in a Zoom-type meeting that they would be exiting the 911 equipment business effective the end of this month. It came as a shock to all of us. At least in my county, and I think the western end of the state, our relationship with Frontier has been very good. They've been very proactive on maintaining their equipment. I passed it on to my boss, Sheriff York (phonetic), and asked him to pass it on to the State Sheriffs Association.

In my county, we have the contract until the end of 2024, so it gives us a little bit of time. But it is concerning. We went through this about seven years ago when Verizon got out of 911 for Western New York. Right now, we still use Verizon for the trunks, but we use Frontier for the equipment.

I am concerned about the future, where it leaves us less choices. There are, I'm sure, qualified individuals, companies that can do the work, but the way it was handled by Frontier I don't think was very professional. Very short notice. Abrupt. And it's going to take some time for all of us that are affected by it to go forward and see what the options are in a few years. I know Wyoming County especially, they were just about to sign a contract for an upgrade.

I received word that they are going to be able to sign that within the next few days at their board meeting. Otherwise, they would have been completely out of the loop in a few months and trying to resolve a whole new phone system would have been a big issue to them.

**CASEY:** I'm a little unfamiliar with the process here. Is there something we can do as a state board to somehow weigh in on this or do we just let the private sector do what it's going to do or...

**CHELLIS:** I want to clarify for the Board members, my understanding from Allen of this, and that's one thing I'm going to get a hold of the Department of Public Service just to verify this, there's two different issues.

If they're doing what, say, Verizon did, quote-unquote, if they're just getting out of the call handling equipment, business like Verizon did in 2010, then that means that they're no longer supporting the call handling equipment or phone system so to speak that we take 911 calls from, those counties that use Frontier as the contractor for that.

So, what that would mean is when that contract is done with Frontier, you know, before that time, I recommend

you start searching for another maintenance contractor for that system that you currently have. If your system is end of life, you can't find support for it, then you have to consider purchasing a new system. That's what happened with Verizon. I went through that experience myself as a county in my previous position. Our stuff was both end of life and they were getting out of the business. We had to budget and we actually used the grant money to purchase new all handling equipment (CHE) that year. And we had to go out to bid and then seek a new contractor for call handling equipment. Now, that's a big, big difference from if a provider was getting out of the 911 business to me means they're no longer going to support 911 trunks and a selective router in our current E911 legacy system here. So that would be an emergency because, now, we've lost the select that's providing 911 service and that's under regulation in New York State by the Public Service Commission. So that would be a Public Service Commission issue.

As far as the CHE, I'm not sure that is. I will contact -- I don't know if -- Matt, do we have Mike Rowley or Peter or anyone from PSC on?

**DELANEY:** I do not see them on. I'll double check.

**CASEY:** I mean, we are more concerned with the -- we have Intrado, right, Greg? And we're going to replace that. We have a capital project coming up to re-do the 911 anyway, but we're just more concerned with, I guess, their switches and trunks. We've had 911 fail. We've had 7-digit lines fail. I don't know. I guess Western New York has a better experience.

Very nice people. Not investing properly in their system. Repeated failures down here.

We'd be happy to see somebody buy the whole thing up, but our concern is their actual day-to-day operations.

We don't buy our phone system from them, but they provide phone service into our building and that's failed repeatedly. I don't know...

**CHELLIS:** Do you have a letter or any official correspondence from them on that service being --

**CASEY:** Yeah, we've met with the Public Service Commission. We've corresponded. We've had hearings on it. We finally got them to agree to a secondary switch. We had a fire up in Middletown. They only had one switch. It shut the -- the generator didn't work. The battery backups weren't updated.

They took on the load, started to all gas, turned into a hazmat incident, entire system went down. Held a gun to

their head, they put in a second switch. And now our 7-digit lines have all kinds of problems. It's just been an ongoing nightmare with them. Their towers, they got rid of them. They weren't upkeeping the towers. So, you know, it's kind of -- I was kind of happy to hear they were -- I was hoping they were getting out of the communications business entirely, because I just don't think they're a very good company. But I just wanted to make sure we stayed on top of it. With this kind of out-of-the-blue announcement, I wouldn't be shocked if they just two months from now said, "You know what? We're going to start building cars. We're out of this communication business." I don't know who's running the operation over there, but it's kind of frightening.

**CHELLIS:** Okay. I believe this is an issue that the Board -- as Chair of the Board, I'll contact the Public Service Commission folks. The operation alarm for the Public Service Commission is Department of Public Service. It's a state agency.

As you know, Mike Rowley has been at many of our board meetings, longstanding servant with Department of Public Service. He's the chief of 911 reliability. And he is the person that I will defer this issue to.

I know they did a thorough investigation of the outage you're referring to, Brendan, down in Middletown and they did a full investigation, Public Service Commission did a full investigation of that. And I believe there was some type of action on some issues there by the Commission, but I'm not going to begin to speak for the Commission. But if there's still ongoing issues, you're saying you met with them, that's where the communications need to continue to go.

But as the Board, we're obviously concerned. Number one, I want to confirm it's the hardware only on the phone side, it's not the actual selective routers and trunks. Because if there's a sunset date on that, they have to notify the Public Service Commission of their intention. There's a whole process before that could be approved, from my understanding.

**CASEY:** Brett, I don't want to monopolize time. I just wanted to make sure people were aware of it and I guess we'll see as it develops.

**CHELLIS:** Okay. Well, thank you for bringing up the issue. It is important to the 911 service.

**TURNER:** Brett, this is Allen. I got an e-mail trail forwarded to me. I'll just briefly give a little bit about it and I will forward the full e-mail to you for

distribution to everybody else. This is from Patricia Iarato (phonetic).

"First, I want to apologize. It was not our intent to notify you of potential service changes in this manner. From Terry Merch (phonetic) from Chapter 11, this is a new company with laser focus on building high speed fiber to homes and businesses. This fiber solution will provide reliable access and connectivity to E911 service for our customers, both TDM pots-and-void (phonetic). We are committed to fully honoring existing E911 hardware agreements. As those agreements expire, we will be re-positioning our resources and focus on our fiber-based network and work with all our customers on a transition plan."

It doesn't really say yes that they're going to get out of it but to me doesn't say no, they're going to stay with it. But again, I won't tie up any more time in the meeting, but I will forward this to everybody

**CHELLIS:** Yeah, that's good. I think we need to look into that, because some of that language doesn't sound like CHE to me. We've got to find out for sure. I know Frontier in their consortium meetings out west, they mentioned they've already replaced and upgraded some selective routers to IP selective routers. So maybe they're talking about the actual trunks, but we certainly have to determine what's at issue and see if there's been any filings with the Public Service Commission on this, if it's affecting the actual delivery of 911 calls other than the equipment end on the CHE, which is more of a vendor relationship with the 911 center.

**CASEY:** Thank you, Brett.

**CHELLIS:** You're welcome, sir. Okay. Anything else, Allen, from the 911 Committee?

**TURNER:** No, not unless anybody has any questions.

**CHELLIS:** Okay, very good. The next group that we will address is the NG 911 Working Group. Basically, we had scheduled a brief out in September. We had to reschedule that, and it will be held in the coming weeks. I want to get it done before Christmas, hopefully, before Thanksgiving. We'd like to update the Working Group on the progress that's been made and where we're moving along and what the status is of our efforts in the proposal to move towards NG 911 in New York at the state level.

With that, that will be rescheduled. The Working Group can look forward to that. Next slide. Meanwhile, the team here at the 911 program at OIEC working with NYSTEC



and Joel McCamley from the 911. He was the TA special -- subject matter expert, the PA from CISA. Working with NYSTEC and Joel, we've come up with a concept of operations roadmap draft, which is nearly complete. Still going through some editing but we expect that to be done this quarter, we hope, at least the draft, and move that up into executive review as well. That is a more focused document than the higher level plan and talks in more detail about tasks and items and the status of the operations of PSAPs today in New York and how we foresee them operating under NG 911. That's a very important document and it's important in the process. We are making progress in terms of getting that. And a lot of that's based on data received from the counties and contributions from the counties and surveys that NYSTEC has made and our communications with that.

Meanwhile, NYSTEC continues to obtain data and work towards also building the information needed, the building blocks for RFPs should we move to that phase after an executive approval or not to the plan. That's what I have to report on the actual status there so far at this point.

When we get with the Working Group, the Working Group will have some different aspects and there are some things that we're going to run by the Working Group for discussion and finalization. Excuse me one moment. We have the GIS Subcommittee. This group, there was no pause due to the pandemic for them. They've been meeting regularly and I give them a lot of credit for that. They're IT folks, so they can make things happen. The co-chairs of that group are Gerry Engstrom from New York State ITS and also Chris Rado from New York City DOITT. Gerry is on here today. Gerry, I don't want to steal your thunder. Would you like to report out on what the GIS Committee has been up to?

**ENGSTROM:** Good morning, Brett, and the Board. Thanks for inviting. I do have a short update on what we've been up to. Currently, we are still working on pulling together all the data for PSAP boundaries across the state. We are also working on a shared editing environment so that we can bring everybody that's part of the subcommittee together in a single Cloud-based environment to work in.

The GIS program office of ITS has been working with Google to propose a shared Cloud environment. We haven't settled with them yet. The first quote came in a little on the high side, so we went back to Google and

we've been in discussions with them to stand this environment up. It's not active yet. What we've been focusing on is just keeping a line of discussion open between all of the participants. The group has expanded. As more counties and their GIS offices and their GIS staff for the PSAPs become aware of the GIS Subcommittee, there is a lot of interest in the group. So, we've expanded by, I'd say, probably five or six different counties or areas. We go over the ins and outs and what's going on.

I gave a short presentation as to some of the items of GIS nature that was discussed at the Statewide 911 Coordinators Conference in Syracuse. They were happy to hear that. And that's pretty much it.

**CHELLIS:** Thank you. I really want to thank the subcommittee for their hard work and their interest. It has been kind of busy, but I love to sit in on those meetings just to learn and to hear working group members share and exchange ideas. Having GeoComm work with New York City through a lot of this process is helping the statewide effort as well, their contributions there. They're a subcontractor to Motorola Vesta for the contract in New York City and they bring the GIS team to the table to work with DOITT and they've been participating as part of their process with the subcommittee enough that as DOITT moves along, DOITT is able to share with the subcommittee exactly a lot about the process and what needs to be done.

It's a lot more complicated than I ever thought it would be. You would think you take two maps, put them side by side and it wouldn't be too hard with a property line to match things up. But apparently, GIS is a little more complicated than I thought. You also have issues in certain aspects in New York where your property lines are split with county boundaries and so on. So, there are different things that have to be determined to actually correctly draw a PSAP boundary finite to a 911 address there, certain areas. So, thank you, Gerry. I hope I said that properly, but feel free to add anything, but it's quite a process.

**ENGSTROM:** Absolutely, and my pleasure and our pleasure to help. Just real quick to recap what you said, absolutely. Obviously, New York City is a little bit ahead of the rest of the state with their Next Gen 911 implementation and they have been very helpful and very forthcoming from both the GIS side and the technical side to help the rest of the participants in the GIS Subcommittee get a better understanding of what lies

ahead. And I think it's really well received. Everybody's usually all ears when the folks from New York City let us know what they're up to currently. And I really think that's going to help the rest of the state, all the rest of the counties and as a whole to move ahead as we get closer to starting to build things out.

**CHELLIS:** Right now, we have the National Association of State 911 Administrators' fall interim meeting that's going on in Los Angeles. I'm attending virtually. They're on Pacific time, so it actually doesn't start until this afternoon. But as far as GIS goes, it's often a topic of discussion and it's really a heavy load of work in terms of the full -- you know, to get to the end state of NG 911.

The core service is dependent on GIS for a number of functions, probably the most important of which is the routing of calls. To be fully NG 911 compliant, you've got quite a number of things that have to be in line and the GIS helps the brains of the system so to speak handle the core functions. And for routing 911 calls with NG 911, the big upgrades, one of the big features of NG is you're no longer routing calls based on an antenna sector that you're hitting. You're routing the call on the location of the device.

So, first of all, there's got to be location accuracy. That's on the technology involving the carriers and the FCC's regulations on that. Once you get a location and it's populated properly in the data flow for the NG 911 call and delivered to the ESInet and then to the core services, the call routing function is going to look at that and say, all right, you know, where is that caller? It puts it in the PSAP boundary and determines which PSAP to route to.

So, you have a lot less calls being routed to neighboring counties or cities and have to get redirected just because the cell tower you hit was across the river or in another jurisdiction which happens every day anywhere you have a border, things happen all the time and we hardly notice them unless there's an issue.

But to get more accurate call routing will speed up 911 response and dispatch and get first responders the information faster and get help faster.

It is a big improvement in emergency response and I don't mean to take a lot of time, but it's all based on GIS. And in hearing other states talk that are farther

ahead of New York implementing NG, many of them, they're quick on getting an ESInet in. They get the core services, but they don't have GIS to make it work. So, they're locked in the legacy routing, which means a lot of the legacy functions until the GIS is showtime ready. I'm glad that this group here in New York is working to get this stuff ready. It will probably be ready in time, if not ahead of the rest of what's needed. So again, thanks, Gerry and Chris, and all the team and all the counties that are participating and the City of New York. It's very, very helpful.

Okay. Anything last, Gerry, you want to mention before we move on?

**ENGSTROM:** I think we've covered everything, Brett. Thank you very much.

**CHELLIS:** Well, keep up the good work. Last thing I have to report on NG is last week, the Standards Council, I believe it's ANCI approved the NENA i3 standards for official standard. So that has been a controversial issue. Different organizations blasted have standard or blasted NENA, because the i3 standard isn't really a standard, it's just a proposal. Well, that's the way standards usually work is they have to go through a process to get approved and it takes a long time. And so that is good news, good news for NENA, but it's good news for everybody who's working on NG 911 or has already implemented it. Because now, it's the standard and it means companies providing NG 911 services as long as that's set as a minimum standard that they have to set, so it helps the interoperability tremendously that everybody's going to the same build, the same build diagram, let's say, and it helps solve interoperability and puts up a quality service for our citizens. That's good news. It's been a long time in the working, and happy to hear it. Other than that, there is some work going on with the FCC and NASNA on defining the -- NASNA actually submitted a week or so ago a request for rules to update the FCC regulations, make it similar to enhanced 911 where it gives a state or a regional network or whoever's putting together NG 911 system the ability to notify the OSPs, which are the carriers, that they are ready for a particular phase of NG and give a minimum time that the carriers have to provide that level of service and also define the big, big issue for them is where is the demarcation as far as cost of providing services and who's required to pay for what. What's on the carrier? Is cost recovery for them allowed? And if so, where is the demarcation and how is

that defined? And that's apparently not yet in the federal rules and that's something that NASNA is very involved in working with the FCC on. And that's important as well as we move forward to get that defined.

The understanding from the FCC is, yesterday, they reported that they're going to take that on and they agree it's important. Demarcation is working where the -- you know, NASNA and the other national groups to work that out but that they don't want to write it where it's going to circumvent what the states do. In other words, they'll make a minimum standard. The state can do something, add to it. The state can regulate from that point on if they want to, is the understanding from Deputy Chief Firth (phonetic) there yesterday in his presentation. There are some tidbits on NG and we'll move on from that.

Are there any questions?

(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Okay. Hearing none, we'll move on to the next slide, the next group. We have the Communications Interoperability Working Group, and Jay Kopstein is our chair. Jay, take it away.

**KOPSTEIN:** Good morning. Because of the plague, CIWG hasn't done very, very much, but I can report out on SAFECOM. Is Chris Tuttle on the line?

**TUTTLE:** Yeah, Jay, I'm here.

**KOPSTEIN:** Do you want me to do regionalization and the like or do you want to do it?

**TUTTLE:** You can go. I'll start by answering at the end.

**KOPSTEIN:** Okay, thank you. All right. CISA's regionalization program moving into IOD and the like. It's been pushed back again. It requires DHS approval. Apparently, there are 20 ECD positions that are going to eventually move, perhaps. ECD is also looking to add additional positions within the new budget. ECD is looking to develop TICP's and FOGs for the tribes nationally. The NIC and the National Governor's Association are looking to develop guidance on integrating new technologies into NIMS and the like. EMI is looking to consolidate all of the new COMU positions into the (inaudible) of NIMS and ICS. New ITS classes are being developed by EMI to try to eliminate duplication and repetitiveness. The P25 Working Group is developing an LMR/LTA best practices document.

The infrastructure obstructions document has been

published. And the key issue with this document is when we have new buildings going up, especially when they put up temporary building structures, they can obstruct microwave signals and that's become a problem, especially out in the Midwest.

We're in the process of developing a new strategic national survey. The third-party dependencies document has been published and that's something we spoke about earlier today, reliance on Frontier Net, for example. John Miller retired at the New Jersey SWIC. There is a White Paper coming out on the Nashville bombing and a lack of rerouting capability by the vendor that ran that facility. That should be out shortly. The White Paper on the derecho from the Midwest is awaiting CISA approval.

There's an LMR security study being prepared after the incident in Ohio. NECP webinars continue to progress. The National NG 911 Working Group has published a Manassas, Virginia GPS document and there's a California GPS document that will be published shortly.

CISA Cyber is going to be producing a comprehensive document on incidents. The Communications Section Task Force has announced that the new ITSL has been approved and FEMA is coming out with a function guidance document. Resiliency issues and bandwidth are working remotely using public nets rather than public safety nets that have led to some problems and need to have revision continuity of operations plan if we're going to continue to work remotely.

The CISA Tribal Working Group is working on COMLs within the tribes. There is a new document in process called ICAR which will be used to gather information from the field at incidents. The AUXCOMM program is going to be updated.

And last, but not least, there's going to be another JamEx in April at White Sand, New Mexico. Joann has all of the information on it and I requested her to forward it out as the Acting Director deems necessary.

I'll be more than happy to answer any questions; otherwise, we can move on.

**CHELLIS:** Thank you, Jay. Any questions for Jay? A lot of information brought to the table.

(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Hearing none, we'll move on. Next slide. Okay, we have the New York State Communications Unit Program, COMU, from Mark Balistreri.

**BALISTRERI:** Thanks, Brett. Right now, in remaining of 2021, we just have one more COMT course in November and

then we are going to have an instructor meeting/exercise in December. And that's all that's left for this year. This basically, I presented this last time and I'm probably going to show it each time so we can see the progression of our credentialed folks. We had a few more in 2021 that completed the process in some of the subordinate positions. We now have 12 new credentialed folks across the board. Our total to date is 136 and I have five that are awaiting some documents to finish up here in the office. Next slide.

We continue to try and make up ground from the ones we postponed in 2020. We were hoping to make up quite a few and we're at 139 at this point. And again, we have the COMT course left with another 16 so we'll be right around 150 for the year and our total train since we started building again in 2018 is 321 added onto the 480 other ones we had. Next slide.

Just to touch on CASM quick. Next slide. We continue to work with the counties to enter and maintain their data in CASM. This entry and maintenance of it is a grant requirement. I just want to keep reminding counties of that. They can hire a contractor. It is an allowable expense under the SICG formula grant. So please work on CASM and get that information updated. All our COMU folks would be a lot better off if that information was current in the system and it would be a much better tool for all of us to use. Next slide.

As far as the CASM, once a month, we have a training WebEx that we do. We had to cancel October's. We do have one more left this year in November and then we'll put out the schedule for next year. We generally try and have at least eight to ten a year. Next slide.

I just want to touch on the new LMS system. Next slide. If you haven't already gotten into LMS, this is the new training portal and you want to get in there and make sure that you have an account in there. That's going to be how you register for any courses across the spectrum, whether it's OFPC, OEM, DCJS or OIEC. There's a lot of different academies out there.

If you haven't already done this and you need to do a new user request form, this is the address you need. You can also, if you have any questions, direct them right to us at [oiec.training@dhhs.ny.gov](mailto:oiec.training@dhhs.ny.gov). Next slide. That's what the new user request form looks like. You'll click the web forms and then you can do that. Next slide.

That's all I have. If anybody has any questions.  
(No response.)

**BALISTRERI:** Thanks, Brett. Back to you.

**GREENBERG:** Brett, can I ask Mark a question?

**CHELLIS:** Sure, go ahead.

**GREENBERG:** In regards to the Learning Management System, do we know what kind of enrollment has been, kind of people taking it on, how it's been going?

**BALISTRERI:** Yeah, it's been going great. Once people get into the system and register for the courses, it's a lot smoother process. If you're searching for communications-based courses, your best bet is to change your filter to the OIEC Academy and it'll list all the courses, COMU courses, coming up.

We're hoping to have our new courses for 2022 in there possibly, mid-December. The purpose of that meeting we're having is to go over the schedule for next year and collect any best practices from the year and any comments or suggestions to improve the process for 2022. So, it seems to be working really well, but people need to get in and make sure their account's updated and accurate and they have a way to register.

Does that answer your question, Ryan?

**GREENBERG:** Yeah, no, that was perfect. Thanks so much.

**BALISTRERI:** Okay.

**CHELLIS:** Thank you, Ryan, and thank you, Mark, for that and thank you for your due diligence in getting the COMU training back up and running to the point it can be. I know you're monitoring closely the recommendations working with SPTC on what the rules are over there to keep people as safe as possible but still be able to conduct training.

To be able to get 150 through post pandemic so far is pretty good, very good. If I'm reading your numbers right, you're at 480 including the 150, you know, you've been able to add about a third, 33 percent upgrade, in numbers despite everything. So that's pretty good. You and your team, thank you.

I know that's a shared effort. People assist in that program and the instructions and so on. You do a good aggressive job on that, although you do it with a lot of thought.

**BALISTRERI:** Thanks, Brett. And as you stated, it is a team effort. All our partners in the field and the office staff here have been a great asset to help push that process. Chris Tuttle as well and CISA ECD.

Thanks, Brett.

**CHELLIS:** Sure thing. Okay, Public Safety Broadband User Group. Matt Delaney's up.

**DELANEY:** Good morning, everyone. Thank you, Brett. A



couple of updates on the AT&T FirstNet side and AT&T construction update. This is data as of July. It just has to do with the way that they report out, contractually report out to the federal government their updates. This is dated as of July.

As part of the state's opt-in, AT&T had committed to building 100 FirstNet sites specifically under the FirstNet project. This was in addition to their commercial sites. Of those 100, 61 sites are on the air and 17 have started construction. Then, in commercial new sites, these are standard AT&T build but also available to FirstNet users, in 2020 and 2021, so far, there's 171 new sites on the air upstate and 41 new sites are on the air downstate. And they've added 188 generators since 2018 with another 241 still in the process to be added.

And then specifically, I want to focus on Adirondack for a moment, because that was one area that we had specifically indicated to AT&T during the opt-in discussions that we wanted to have improved coverage capability. So just since 2020, they've added 8 new sites in Essex County and a total of 14 new sites in the Adirondack Park boundary.

In preparation for and then during the landfall period of Tropical Storm Henri in August, OIEC held several cellular coordination calls. This is something that we started during the COVID response and we found it to be very beneficial. We hold these calls with each of the three carriers separately, one after the other, to discuss network status, outages, requests from state or municipal agencies.

It's really a two-way flow of information. We learned from the carriers what their networking status is. Are they responding to requests for assets? But they also hear from us about the state's current status. What's our response look like? What are we concentrating on? Where are our needs or where are we hearing that there are needs? It is a really good two-way flow of information and it works very well. You know, we're doing this in the virtual format. We started during COVID and, Henri, we did it virtually.

I would think in most cases, this would probably continue even in an in-person environment, these will probably continue to be virtual, because they do have members of their team who are scattered throughout both the region and also nationally working on their response efforts. All the carriers really operate on a national framework.

And then just on the broadband side, we continue to test, our office continues to test High Power User Equipment, HPUE. This is a FirstNet Band 14 specific item. We've done some drive testing. We've provided some feedback back to the manufacturer about some issues we saw with that. We continue to test it and continue to look forward to that being a way to improve FirstNet coverage for primary user agencies. We also worked with AT&T and Cradlepoint to do a detailed analysis of our support from the NASCAR Watkins Glen race in Schuyler County earlier this summer. This was done to better understand how a large event and large crowds in a rural area impact FirstNet.

The area is served primarily by one main site and it is a rural area in most cases, but this was a large event with a large crowd and a number of FirstNet users there who were there both as participating in the event from the public safety side but also interest in the crowds. So it's a good study to see how it impacts FirstNet and also optimization that we can make to some of our equipment to better take advantage of some of those situations.

Any questions on FirstNet and Public Safety Broadband?  
(No response.)

**DELANEY:** Brett, would you like me to move along?

**CHELLIS:** Yes, Matt, go ahead. Channel Naming and Use Working Group.

**DELANEY:** Okay, thank you. I just have one thing to mention here. CISA has released NIFOG Version 2.0. It's the national interoperable field operations guide, version 2.0. It's available online. The website is on there. I think if you just search NIFOG, you can find it as well. The SmartPhone app will be updated by CISA, I'm hearing, this winter. But there are a number of new items in there on IT, cyber security, unmanned aerial systems, encryption and interference. This is a printed copy and as you can see, it's got quite a bit of new information in it and it's really a good guide to have. Any questions?

(No response.)

**DELANEY:** Moving along, Citizens Alerting Committee. The FCC has released a public notice setting the deadline for filing of state EAS plans in their alert reporting system as July 5th, 2022.

The New York State Association of Broadcasters and the State Emergency Communications Committee, the SECC, is working on these along with DHSES. This is an effort led by New York State Association of Broadcasters and we

do have a number -- there are several state agencies that have input on this as well. We are updating the plan, the current EAS plan. It's available online. If you search for it, you can find it on their website. It's from 2011. So, there are a number of technical, procedural and just administrative type changes that immediate to be made to the plan. And this is currently a work in progress.

The FCC does have a checklist of certain minimum items that the plan now must have. That's something we have to also crosswalk and verify that the plan in New York meets all of their requirements. Every state has to have an EAS plan and SECC. And over the years, there's been a whole variety of different types of plans and processes and involvement from states. The FCC is trying to streamline this a little bit and make a little more consistency to how each state's plan looks compared to the other states.

And then the other thing is, I'll just mention, FEMA alert and warning webinars. There are two webinars coming up. There's one for Region 2 in November. This is actually a workshop. It's limited to two participants per jurisdiction. It's a pre-work webinar meeting on November 2nd, and then two days on the 16th and 17th. And this is a workshop to document communications channels, features, protocols, case studies, have peer-to-peer learning and group discussions. And I mentioned this is limited to two participants per jurisdiction.

There is also in January a two-hour webinar. This is an update webinar, innovative programs update, alert warning research, how it can help you in your program and then just updates from IPAWS. This one's available; there's no limit for the number of participants. This is a national webinar. You can contact our office if you need the registration links for either of these. That's all I have barring any questions on any of those.

**CHELLIS:** Any questions for Matt on any of his reports? (No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Thank you, Matt. Thank you for your due diligence on that. We'll move on to State Agency Communications Working Group. Next slide, please. The group met in September. First meeting in a while. Basically, there's been some changes in representatives from different state agencies. We had a few of the agencies present and we were able to basically brief each other on the status of projects. A couple agencies reported they're working to upgrade some of their 911

radio systems and reported on the progress thereof. We talked about any unmet needs and basically discussed what their funding options were and where the funding was coming from and the status of. It was a good meeting and it's good to get that group together, because there's stuff going on and we look forward to meeting again here shortly to work some of these topics. Next slide, please.

Is there any questions on State Agency Working Group?  
(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Okay. PSAP, SICG and Targeted Grant updates. Larissa is actually on the road. She's performing presentations in Buffalo today for the grant workshops that are moving around the state. Tomorrow, she'll be in Syracuse handling that with the office and she asked me to cover this, so I'll do the best I can on it to move forward. Next slide.

The first one will be the formula grant, that's the SICG. That's the regular grant, annual grant program. Basically, we're at Round 4 you see here on the chart in front of you. Then, you have the years from '16, '17, '18, '19, and '20. The 4 and '16 are closed. The end date for 2017 is December 31st of this year. Most of it, they're up to reimburse 39.8 out of 45 million.

That one, they're basically working with -- any requests are going to be reviewed very, very strictly for the red ones. I'm sorry, I said they were closed. That's inaccurate. These are targeted to be closed on December 31st and any requests -- you see there's not much, 43.3 out of 45, 46 out of 50.

There's not a lot of work to be done still on them. But because of the length of time these things originated, six years ago, six and seven years ago, extenuating circumstances would be required and they will be strictly reviewed, individual basis.

The 2017 grant is a little newer. We're reviewing that one as well and what monies are outstanding. They're about six million, a little over five, actually. That's going to consider whether or not we will do an extension or individual like the others once we continue grants, working with the counties, determine exactly, drill into some of the delays.

The other three, two of them expire this year and one, the next. We anticipate probably there will be extensions on those. Still got quite a bit to spend. All we can say is we understand there's a lot of circumstances involved, especially in the last couple years. But please, do your due diligence, talk to your

grant folks. Keep your projects rolling. Make sure you get the approvals ahead of time and not after. That can really put a snag in your whole timeline or it may result in not getting the approval on a particular expenditure or if you don't get the proper approvals for purchasing, any of the other things required, historical, environmental, other signoffs you have to get. So please work closely with your reps and do due diligence. Just follow the rules and keep moving. Because the more efficient we are at getting these things completed, it shows, basically, the approvers that there's need for the money and it's really needed, because we're using it quickly. It's not lagging out there for years.

I know these projects are very complicated. Believe me, I've been involved in them, you talk land acquisition, so on and so forth.

In theory, we say these projects should be shovel ready. Obviously, not every project can be by nature unless you know you have the money. But they are reimbursement grants and, you know, a lot of it has to do with project management and the ability to keep contractors working, get them scheduled, get (inaudible). Somebody's unmuted. Okay, next slide, please.

Operations Grant, PSAP. These jobs are a little bit more smooth. Most counties have things identified that can be turned around fairly quickly. They're just a one-year period. We did make an exception to that due to the delay in rolling out these last two. The '19 to '20 was extended and is going to sunset on 12/31/21. We do not anticipate extending that. That was extended one year already. Three counties still have balances that need to be spent by 12/31.

I would say if you have major issues, you better get hold of us quick, but we do not anticipate extending these at all. Again, we recommend on this one that you have these things, a lot of the counties do telecommunicator salaries or other support salaries that are approved or contracts that are just easy to cut the check and pay once you get the grant award in contract. So, that's our recommendation on the way to roll, but if you have a project that was approved and you can get it done, so be it. If you have issues, talk to your grant people immediately. Next slide.

All right, the SICG Targeted Grant. That one is a project where there's a lot involved in terms of reviewing project proposals and review them very closely, working with the awardee to get the proper

project coordination and move them along. The first phase was rolled out and expires on 11/30 of '22 and 1/31/25. Many of these projects, as you can see, are nowhere near complete as far as the work to be done on them. We do hope to get another year started here and catch up this program as soon as possible, but these are very complicated or major projects. So, this one is going to, by nature, roll at a slower pace. With that, we'll go back. I'll make a couple general statements. We'll go to the next slide, see if there's anything else that Larissa had here. Overview. Okay, good.

This will probably cover what I wanted to say. As far as the '21-'22 PSAPs, we've now completed at least getting the awards out on the Formula PSAP for '20, which was delayed due to the pandemic. Now, we are on to '21-'22. We are looking at some ways, options whether we can speed up the process here to get caught up and weighing some of those internally and hope to try to move in with some of the discussions we've had with recipients and groups on some of the ideas.

Right now, I can't say we have anything concrete that's approved that we're going to roll out an announcement on as far as changes or modifications, but we do anticipate there will be some at least to try to move along.

The RFA they prepared. Larissa's been working on them for both the Formula and Targeted for the '21-'22 cycle. The PSAP grant RFA is being prepared as well.

We hope to get them rolled out or announced at least so that we can get working on proposals and get this year's grant cycle going.

Overall, there's been a total of 622 million dollars in grants and please visit the website, the grants tab for additional information on that. Most of all, please submit your vouchers. We say that at the end of every presentation. The sooner you get them in, the sooner the grants people can do their part so that that is ready for closing out your county from that particular segment, and you're not holding up everybody and you'll get your money faster. There's no reason to wait until everything's done to submit your vouchers.

In general, thank you for your patience to everybody in terms of this year and getting things caught up. Again, we are looking at workflow and processes to see if there's any way we can improve the grant program, but we do anticipate attention to it. We have a new administration. There's change going on at three levels here, folks, and that's not an excuse for anything.

It's just saying this is the reality in addition to four declared disasters and a pandemic. New York is in transition both with a new Governor. As many of you know, our Commissioner left the agency, Commissioner Murphy, and the Governor has announced her appointment which will take place later this month. We have the Director of this office and the Chair of this Board, I'm putting the duties up. So, you have me until a new Director is appointed. But one thing is assured and it's assured from our Deputy Executive Commissioner that the offices here, we're not going to have a hiccup because of this transition.

Just because we have some openings doesn't mean the workers all sit on their hands and wait for a new boss. Everything moves along. You keep the work going. I have a great staff here at OIEC. We have great support from legal and grants and everyone else here on the team. And we're lucky to have active board members that are interested and we have a lot of stakeholders out there that turn around information to us and keep us informed. So overall, the impact of particular changes along these lines is not, I feel, going to have an impact on slowing these things down.

And that's thanks to the hard work of everybody involved. I just wanted to kind of throw that out there so there isn't a lot of -- I've been hearing things about, you know, oh, gosh, it's going to cause even more delays and all that. And I'm just trying to say that I don't see that and I have total confidence in the teams at hand to keep things moving for you.

All right. Moving on to the next slide. We have old business. And long anticipated here, I know many of you are looking forward to this, but the first item I'm going to bring up under old business -- oh, I'm sorry. That's under new. I'm sorry, the FEMA thing is under new business, isn't it? Okay, I messed up.

All right. Does anyone have any old business?

(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** All right, we're done with that. Now, the new business. We'll start this over again. The biggest item under new business today will be that FEMA has asked us to start working with them on a Communications Annex update. The last time that was done in New York is 2008. A lot has happened since 2008. You look back, it doesn't seem like it's that long ago, but it's quite a while ago. And this agency, this particular agency wasn't even around in 2008. So, a lot's happened. And FEMA has asked us to work on updating this and I'll let

them explain what it is, how it's used and how it benefits both you and the federal stakeholders. We're happy to have them here and move ahead to our folks here to introduce themselves.

**DELANEY:** Brett, this is Matt, I'm just making them panelists right now. I just want to note they a little out of order here on the slides. You want me to jump ahead to that?

**CHELLIS:** No. Joann's trying to tell me in the background, too. Thank you, Joann. She wants me to go over the board meetings.

All right. We'll do the board meetings. I kind of wanted to get FEMA through, because I know a lot of people have been waiting for that to get through the other business.

The board meetings for 2022 are February 2nd, May 18th, August 3rd, October 26th, all at 10:00 a.m. to noon. This is what we've scheduled. I guess for right now, we'll just throw it out there. If there's any major issues that anybody's aware of that we missed. We always check these against conferences that we know of that different other statewide organizations schedule. We can't necessarily pick dates that everybody can make, but we try to ensure that we can get a quorum and we don't have a major conflict.

I didn't have a Vital Signs thing, Ryan, but I don't know what time of the year you handle that or how that's being handled, but we were able to check some of the other services.

**GREENBERG:** Yeah, that's in October. I actually think it starts the day after this, but I should be able to attend, if that's the Wednesday. Is that a Wednesday?

**CHELLIS:** Yes.

**GREENBERG:** Yeah, so it shouldn't conflict with that. It would be the day before.

**CHELLIS:** Okay, great, thank you.

**GREENBERG:** Thanks for always thinking of us, Brett.

**CHELLIS:** No problem. Okay, we plan on doing all these in person, Joann wanted me to say, at this point. Today, I made the decision to do it virtual based on some feedback on individual members' ability to travel. We wanted to ensure we had a quorum and so on. We've still got a little fluctuation in the procedures and so on out there with the variant. So, we wanted to make sure it was a smooth meeting. So next year, we definitely want to try to do these in person. And barring any major changes in the trajectory of this, we will plan on in person. So, please plan on time to



travel and so on. And if you have questions for the new members on costs and all that, please see Joann. Symposium 2022. All right. We have saved the dates of May 2nd through May 5th. It's going to be a joint effort like we did last year with the New York State 911 Coordinators, and we plan to do that in person as well. We have moved it from February or, I'm sorry, from March to May in terms of feedback on -- first of all, to give us a little more time on the pandemic issues but mostly because of the concern for travel in March for people going all the way across the state. It is kind of on the edge, but we wanted to go to Niagara Falls. Niagara County has been big on posting it and following Director Sprague's plan to move it around the state, it was agreed the next one would be in Western New York. So, we're going to have it in Niagara Falls and we've got to move it further east after that. Anything else, Joann, on the symposium?

**WAIDELICH:** No, that's it right now. We'll start registration as soon as we have everything else organized.

**CHELLIS:** Okay. I can say that I was concerned that I felt this last one, we had such good feedback on it from everybody in participation despite having to have it virtually, people seem very happy with the content. So I said how are we ever going to match that? I was happy last week -- well, unfortunate circumstance, but 911 coordinators had an emergency meeting and with that, we were talking at the end of it and I just brought up to them that we'd like their ideas for content, we want to brainstorm content ideas with them for the new officers there. And they were very receptive to that, thanked us for that and a lot of ideas came forward just in a few minutes with that and we had quite a few ideas here in-house in internal meeting.

I'm no longer worried about those ideas, but we welcome any of you, whether you're a board member listening and so on, if there's some topic out there that you'd like to see us consider, go over and present, please let us know and we'll try to take a look at it. Okay, next slide.

Now, we're at the Communications Annex Kick Off which technically is under new business. Matt, are we ready on all the permissions?

**DELANEY:** Yes, we are.

**CHELLIS:** All right, thank you for that. Brent Rydel is the State Planning, he's the RECCWG Support, Disaster Emergency Communications Division at FEMA. And we want

to introduce Brent, thank him for coming and he will do a presentation on the annex, what it is and what FEMA needs from us. Go ahead, Brent.

**DELANEY:** Thank you. Brent, I'm going to transfer over the presentation ability to you and you can take it away.

**RYDEL:** Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Chellis, for letting us do this kick off here and thank you, Matt, for coordinating. This is the New York Emergency Communications Annex to the Region 2 Emergency Communications Plan. So, like Brett said before, we did this last time in 2008. It's been a very long time since we've been in New York. FEMA's excited to be able to come back and do this again and update their information. I'll explain what the annex is.

But first, I don't think we have Josh Green, he's the regional emergency communications coordinator for FEMA, I don't think he's on this meeting, but I will give -- Scott Hansen's on or Mr. Cohen, DEC group supervisor, if someone's there and has the ability to, you're welcome to say good morning, but I just want to say that this is our FEMA staff. And my colleague, Jessica DeRose, is on with me and she'll be helping me write this annex and interview the agencies in New York. And the other person is Larry Lavigne. He's the mobile emergency response support. Adam Maynard, he's telecommunications manager and another contact for you. We'll kind of explain who everybody is and what all these roles are. If anybody's on and can speak, feel free to say good morning. This is just from the previous slide. Okay, I'm going to move on.

So, we typically -- normally, we don't do a kick off at a meeting. This is a great way to do it, but this is sort of a preliminary list of stakeholders that we normally would speak to pretty much in every state that we go to. We talk to State Police, technology, IT people, Department of Health, anyone who has a role in emergency communications in the state. And then as we move through our conversations over the sort of next month with everybody, we will gain some more agencies and some more points of contacts to talk to and sort out the remaining information. So this list will grow as we go through the next month or so.

The Regional Emergency Communications Plan, this graphic is just to show that New York is essentially one quarter of the Region 2 plan. Of course, Region 2 is unique because of the Island territory, but the four in every single region, the state annexes are what feed into the

Regional Emergency Communications Plan and that's what helps FEMA understand the communications systems in use in a state and be able to respond with the right solutions in terms of communications.

So we look at several things, and we'll talk about what's in the annex here in just a second.

I'm not going to read off all this stuff, but the FEMA Division who I'm a contractor for, they are a part of FEMA's response -- under FEMA's Office of Response and Recovery. they support preparedness efforts and response and through the mobile emergency response, a MER group. So the state annex is kind of a read ahead and it gives them an understanding of what to expect when they come down.

It began after Katrina with just the hurricane from the states and it was a really successful effort and it grew into a national effort. So most of the site, we hit on already a little bit except for the fourth one. Just recently, over the last couple years, the annexes were written into SAFECOM grant language and so anything that's denoted along the way as a potential communications requirement, the document will be support for your grant request.

Some of the places where the annexes have been used or can be used just ahead of a storm that's coming, FEMA can pre-position things. They've been used in multiple different disasters across the country. The annex is not shared outside of New York or outside of FEMA. It's for official use only, it is password protected. And the reason I make that statement is because a lot of times, we'll be asking for information on operations centers or infrastructure locations and things like that that FEMA keeps in their database. So, everything that goes into this annex is also not subject to Freedom of Information Act requests.

So, in a perfect world, the annex would be updated every three to five years, that's the target. Obviously, it's been thirteen for New York, so there's a lot of work to do. That's so FEMA can keep a current sort of understanding of how public safety responders communicate in the state at the field level and at the operational level at your headquarters.

Some of the items, this is kind of all the stuff that's in the annex. I'm not going to go through it all, but it sort of begins with a summary of the hazards in New York. And we look at your hazard mitigation plan and see what the state considers to be high risk hazards. And then we look at the communications system, that's

the next major section of the annex. And then the next major section will be the infrastructure, which would include your operations, your agency headquarters and operations centers. And then it moves into communications near the end, which we sort of frame the question at the end of every interview with state agencies as, you know, if all your systems are down, what could you imagine FEMA bringing to help you, not as an exact solution but sort of a capability? In other words, you know, some solution to support so many responders in this area. Maybe some place that doesn't have good public safety communications or something that you could foresee needing.

So that gets written up as a potential need at the end and then, of course, the appendices are the useful information for contacting people in New York and if you have a FOG or other plans and resources that we use to develop the annex, everything is listed.

So that's kind of a snapshot of what's in it and it'll probably be around 80 to a hundred pages. So, this is kind of the first section that we look at and update. Nothing new here, but these are just some examples of the hazard zones that we look at.

Obviously, for earthquakes, the data source would be USGS. And then tornados I know is high up there on New York hazard mitigation plan list and wind events. I put those two together here, but this is the historical view of that; obviously, no way to predict that.

We are only looking at hazards that could have a direct impact on telecommunications infrastructure. So, for instance, a drought wouldn't really qualify. There are only a handful of hazards that we kind of keep in the annex as potentially harmful to emergency communications.

Then, we'll look at infrastructure, which can be mapped against the hazards. And we'll have a small demonstration of what FEMA does with the information in the portal in just a minute. But these are some of the open source things that we can collect from high field database and as we talk to New York's agencies, we'll ask for specific information about their operations centers. But this happens to be public information. It's all a piece of the bigger picture of how communications is either directly or indirectly supported, all the way from the power distribution down to the PSAP level. So we kind of take all that into account and the annex sort of tells the story of that. These are examples of open source data that we would

include. All these apply to New York. This is something that in every state, we would go look for these things and this infrastructure gets entered into the database. And then the next slide is what really we're talking to you for. And we're looking at things we can't really know about by what we read online. So for instance, where your operations centers are and where you would go if those were down, what medical facilities the state considers critical, the points of failure for a state data network that we'd be able to map that aren't secret, so staging areas and your LMR sites which I think the FCC lists most of those but it's much easier to get a list from you if there are larger systems or state systems that we can put on a map and show a visual representation of.

So I'll pause here and if we could just hand over the control to Caitlin for a second and she'll just give a demonstration of our GS portals. Caitlin is our GS lead for state annexes, also a contractor for FEMA.

**DELANEY:** Sure. This is Matt. I'm just passing it right now.

**WILSON:** Thank you. I'm sharing my screen now. Okay, so you should be able to see here, we have a map of New York. So as Brent mentioned, what we're doing during this annex process is collecting critical infrastructure data from you all relative to communications as well as some hazard information.

So right now, you're looking at your public safety answering points as well as live radar. So the great thing about this tool is that you're able to not only look at static datasets but interact with live datasets as well. So you can turn on current wildfires, for example. There's often traffic layers if you need to look at evacuation routes for any particular areas after a disaster.

So we recognize that New York already has a very extensive GIS program, a lot of great state data. So really what this is is to be a collaborative tool to enhance anything that you all may need so that you're able to customize this tool and can benefit not only as a state but the region as well during any sort of response.

So right here, you'll see we have some layers preloaded in. We can look at submarine communication cables that may be coming off of the state or interact with data compared to, let's say, earthquakes. We can give this layer a second to load. We can interact with points that may be most at risk to any particular hazard.

So we can look at a point here and this will show you any information about that point, including addresses, phone numbers, anything else you may need in preparation for an event. This tool is really functional. You can share all of this with just a single link. Right now, we have this limited to state-approved users. And you can look at this data on a cellphone, a tablet, your desktop or a laptop. So it's a great tool to switch from office to fieldwork. You can also print so that you have static versions of anything you're looking at as well.

So there, I will pause for any questions. And then if there are none, I will turn it back to Brent.

**TURNER:** This is Allen Turner. I have a question.

**WILSON:** Yes.

**TURNER:** When you say state-approved agencies or users, who do you mean by that?

**WILSON:** Sure. So we work with the state to identify several users that they would like to gain access to this data. So that could be a variation of stakeholders or FEMA or local New York employees. So we leave that up to them and we will identify that during the annex process.

**TURNER:** Okay, thank you.

**WILSON:** Okay, I'll stop sharing and pass it back to you, Brent.

**RYDEL:** Okay, thank you. I will start sharing my screen. I've just got a couple more slides and then I will give everyone their day back. Hopefully, everybody can hear me. Okay, so this is some additional information that we're looking to validate in our conversations with state agencies. Keep in mind, typically, FEMA only goes down to the state level when they talk, but there are cases when, for instance, if there's a county system that's used by a wide area, and lots of users, including state users, we might ask for a point of contact for that.

But we'll be looking at the first section, SEOC Communications, it's basically what we'll learn from a conversation that we've already had one with OIEC and probably OEM. So we'll be looking for that information when we talk to them.

Other types of information we look for with every agency are, for instance, who your commercial contracts are with, what your backup power looks like, what fuel source are you using. And then other data really depends on the situation. If, for instance, New York has a special program for access control into restricted

areas after a disaster, if there's a printing program or something that could print placards, some states have a statewide program for that, and other times, in fact, most times, it's controlled at the local level.

But we'll ask about various things like that to try to get an understanding of how FEMA can respond.

Hopefully, everybody can still see my screen. This is the last slide.

Communications needs, I already explained that a little bit, but this is sort of what we're trying to capture as we go through and FEMA really wants to know how they can support you better. So it's not sort of a report card or anything like that. It's voluntary information from agencies who may -- in some cases, the need might be filled by another state agency. And that's why we try to get everybody together at the end after we've collected all the information and everyone in the same room together and go over what we've learned. That meeting usually takes about an hour and a half and it used to be in person, but under the current circumstances, it sounds like it'll be virtual.

But we try to get as many people as we can in the same room and ensure that what we collected is correct. And the reason this graphic is up here is because we look at everything in terms of pace. Primary, obviously, under blue skies, what are you using to communicate when there's no emergency and then all the way down to your emergency systems; how would you be communicating when all of your -- most of the communications systems are down, the terrestrial sites are saturated or gone, and everything's on generators? What does it look like for New York?

This is sort of the context for the questions we ask and, usually, we spend about 30 minutes with each agency and that's pretty much all the time commitment that we would ask from anyone in New York until we can get everyone together in the same room, which might be a virtual one.

In terms of what we're asking of stakeholders in New York, it's hopefully a small commitment. I know 30 minutes is a huge commitment for some people, for some agencies, but that's what we're looking for to talk to you about your agency, about state agencies.

I'm going to go to the last slide and this is kind of the typical timeline of a typical annex. This is over a pretty quick schedule. This is about six weeks. It can go up to ten. But hypothetically, if we're starting today, we would spend the next sort of three to four

weeks reaching out directly after working with Matt to determine who from each agency we should be reaching out to. But we'll do that soon, over the next month or so, and then we would have a data validation meeting. So pay attention to the date. That's obviously right next to Thanksgiving, if not Thanksgiving, but this is just what a six-week schedule would look like.

We are hoping to finalize everything before the holidays. So that's quite a bit of stuff we're packing into next month. But again, we're asking for 30 minutes of each agency's time. I hope we can make all that happen and I think that's the last slide there.

Are there any questions for me regarding this process or what FEMA's trying to accomplish here?

(No response.)

**RYDEL:** Okay, I moved through that pretty quickly, but I'll make sure to get this presentation out. And anyone, feel free to e-mail me with questions and we'll be looking forward to speaking with everyone here in the next couple of weeks, I hope. So again, Mr. Chellis, thank you so much for giving me the time here and thank you, everyone, for listening. I'll go ahead and hand back over control to you.

**CHELLIS:** Thank you, Brent, and team and thank you for bringing this presentation. We look forward to working with you. I know we have the Deputy Director from State OEM listening and a couple others from over there and we have Peter from New York City OEM. We certainly look forward to working with you and getting this updated. It's important to us. It makes it easier for us all working together in the same box.

I certainly encourage everybody to work with us and work with FEMA in getting the answers to information and, you know, a good process to be able to take a look at your stuff while you're doing it. I'll be working some of those items shortly. We look forward to working with you and thanks for coming today.

Any questions from anybody to me or to the FEMA team before we release them?

(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Okay, thanks again. Next slide. Closing summary and closing remarks. I want to thank everybody for attending. It was productive. We got business done. And we look forward to meetings next year and projects and moving forward. Any last comments, Joann, anybody else, that we've got to do? Counsel?

All right. Any last remarks for the good of the order from any of the Board members?



(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Okay. Hearing none, I will ask for a motion to adjourn.

**TURNER:** Allen Turner. I make the motion.

**LAFLURE:** Second.

**CHELLIS:** Motion by Allen Turner. Was it Brian? Were you the second?

**LAFLURE:** Yes, sir.

**CHELLIS:** You're always second on that one. Good deal. We have a motion by Allen Turner, a second by Brian LaFlure. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you, folks, and we'll see you next year. Thank you.

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, **THERESA L. ARDIA**, Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of New York, do hereby CERTIFY that the foregoing record taken by me at the time and place noted in the heading hereof is a true and accurate transcript of same, to the best of my ability and belief.

**Theresa L. Ardia**

Theresa L. Ardia, CSR, CRR, RPR, RMR

Dated: November 2, 2021.