# MINUTES OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY AUGUST 22, 2024

The Jefferson County Emergency Communications Authority ("JCECA") Board of Directors met via a virtual Google Meet.

Present: Director Alan Fletcher

Director Mark Goodell Director Dave Lester

Director Scott Eddy alternate for Director Kraft-Tharp

Attorney Ryan Tharp

Excused: Director Mike Kulp

**Director Tracy Kraft-Tharp** 

Also, Present: Jeff Irvin, JCECA Executive Director

Lane Bloomguist, Jefferson County Clerk to the Board

Mike Garcia, Pinnacle Consulting Group, Inc.

Jacinda English, Broomfield PD Jeff Streeter, Jeffcom911 Michael Brewer, Jeffcom911 Kevin Biegert, Jeffcom911 Ethan Honaman, Jeffcom911 Kinde Yetemgn, Jeffcom911 Sara Gallegos, Westy911

Director Fletcher called the meeting to order.

# PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

# **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The Board upon motion of Director Fletcher, duly seconded by Director Goodell and by unanimous vote, <u>approved</u> the Minutes of July 25, 2024.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Garcia presented the unaudited financial statements prepared by PCGI through July 31, 2024 (copy attached). Mr. Garcia advised revenue for the period ending 07/31/24 was \$11,917,373. The revenue was offset by expenditures through the same period totaling \$10,492,555. Through July, this left us with revenue exceeding expenditures by \$1,424,448. The ending fund balance was \$5,083,782.

The Board upon motion of Director Lester and duly seconded by Director Goodell and by unanimous vote, <u>approved</u> the Treasurer's Report.

Mr. Garcia then presented the cash encumbrance report (copy attached). Mr. Garcia advised that the projected cash position at the end of the year is \$5,382,270.

### **EXPENDITURE REQUESTS**

Mr. Irvin presented the expenditure requests for August 2024 (copy attached). The Board upon motion of Director Goodell duly seconded by Director Lester and by unanimous vote, approved the July 2024 expenditure requests in the amount of \$1,275,904.75.

# **ECC PARTNERS REPORT**

Emergency Communication Center partners reported the following:

- Broomfield ECC Ms. English advised things are going well at Broomfield. Yesterday
  they welcomed three new telecommunicators and had one temporary position transfer
  back to full-time. They are promoting an internal candidate to a vacant supervisor role
  the beginning of October. They're happy to be focused on training and almost fully
  staffed
- **Jeffcom ECC** Mr. Streeter advised that on July 30<sup>th</sup> Jeffcom went live with their new CPE (customer premises equipment) phone system Carbyne APEX. There was a lot of media attention. They're one of just a couple in the country that are using the APEX platform. Mr. Street enumerated a list of opportunities for expanded services presented by the new system. He has nine on the floor six weeks into training. Nine in the academy just about ready to finish up. They just closed applications for ECS for a November academy. He has asked for 18 additional positions in his budget for next year taking them up to 136 ECS and 18 supervisors. The new building is on track to be through construction and turned back to them by the end of October at the latest. He estimated it will take a month and a half for setup of the inside infrastructure then they will complete the move likely in January.
- **Westminster ECC** Director Lester advised that Ms. Mitchell will be out for an extended period. Ms. Gallegos is stepping up to cover her duties in the interim.

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Lookout Alert –** Mr. Irvin displayed the Lookout Alert Stats table he maintains (copy attached) noting a significant jump in opt-ins and advised that this month we've seen an increase of 13,995. This was likely due to the recent wildfire incidents.

Mr. Irvin advised the board of an upcoming Colorado Council of Authorities (CCOA) Statewide 911 Authority meeting on 09/24/24. He further mentioned that there had been discussion last month regarding consideration of restructuring how prepaid revenue is allocated to the authorities.

### LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

Mr. Tharp advised there are three PUC matters that are ongoing:

- The commission opened the annual 911 surcharge proceeding to change the cap on the surcharge. The cap is currently \$2.05. They are proposing to raise it to \$2.12. They have to consider inflation over the previous year and the needs of the 911 authorities. They have proposed to keep the statewide surcharge at \$0.09. There was a proposal to increase it by \$0.06 to \$0.15. The reason for this is to fund the following going forward:
  - 911 Enterprise Board
  - Century Link Tariff to provide additional services.

We have intervened and filed comments in this proceeding.

Mr. Tharp advised that if the board wishes to raise the ETC rate to the cap that decision should be made in October to allow enough time for required notice to the carriers.

Mr. Tharp then discussed the status of various matters listed in the DORA Summary update for 08/12/2024 (copy attached).

# **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Director Fletcher.



# Management Financial Statements

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

We have prepared the accompanying management financial statements for the periods ending as of December 31, 2023 and July 31, 2024.

These financial statements are designed for management purposes and are intended for those who are knowledgeable about these matters. We have not audited, reviewed or compiled the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or provide any assurance about whether the financial statements are in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Substantially all the disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been omitted. If the omitted disclosures were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the financial position and results of operations.

Pinnacle Consulting Group, Inc.

Trace L. Kaninshi

August 14, 2024

JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMM	UNICATION	S AUTHORIT	Υ			
BALANCE SHEET						
December 31, 2023 and July 31, 2024						
		Audited		Unaudited		
		Actual		Actual		
		12/31/2023		7/31/2024		
Assets						
Current Assets						
Cash, Checking	\$	551,005	\$	2,714,783		
Cash, Savings	Ψ	2,396,205	Ψ	1,190,839		
Accounts Receivable		1,659,260		2,265,348		
Prepaid Expense		301,822		110,574		
Total Current Assets	\$	4,908,292	\$	6,281,545		
Total Sulfolit Associa	Ψ	-1,000,202	Ψ	0,201,040		
Long-Term Assets			-			
Construction in Progress	\$	4,835,724	\$	4,835,724		
Infrastructure	Ф	25,895	Ф	25,895		
Right of Ways		568,082		568,082		
West Corridor Fiber Optic		865,614		865,614		
Accumulated Depreciation		(450,178)		(450,178)		
Total Long-Term Assets	\$	5,845,137	\$	5,845,137		
Total Assets	\$	10,753,429	\$	12,126,682		
Total Assets	4	10,755,425	Ψ	12,120,002		
11-1-190						
Liabilities						
Current Liabilities		4 0 40 0 50	_	4 407 700		
Accounts Payable	\$	1,248,958		1,197,762		
Total Current Liabilities	\$	1,248,958	\$	1,197,762		
		4 6 4 6 6 7 6		4 40= =00		
Total Liabilities	\$	1,248,958	\$	1,197,762		
Ford Familia			_			
Fund Equity		E 04E 407	Φ.	E 04E 407		
Net Investment in Fixed Assets	\$	5,845,137	\$	5,845,137		
Fund Balance		204.022		440.574		
Nonspendable		301,822		110,574		
Unassigned		3,357,512		4,973,208		
Total Fund Equity	\$	9,504,471	\$	10,928,920		-
Total Linkilities and Fred Farrity	*	40.752.400	¢	40 406 600		
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$	10,753,429	\$	12,126,682		
		=		=		

JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNIC	ATION	S AUTHORIT	Υ									
STATEMENT OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES \												
GENERAL FUND												
		(a)		(b)		(c)		(d)		(e)		(d-e)
		2023		2024		2024		Actual	Budget			Variance
		Audited		Adopted		Projected		Through		Through		Through
Revenues		Actual		Budget		Actual		07/31/24		07/31/24		07/31/24
9-1-1 fee (ETC)	\$	12,178,390	\$	18,153,248	\$	17,750,000	\$	10,390,112	\$	10,292,013	\$	98,099
9-1-1 fee (prepaid)		1,571,049		1,815,325		1,790,000		1,043,315		1,052,492		(9,177)
PUC Statewide 9-1-1 Trust Reimbursement		728,534		726,130		726,130		438,942		588,576		(149,634)
Interest Income		46,205		10,000		87,000		44,634		10,000		34,634
Miscellaneous Income		12		500		500		-		292		(292)
Total Revenues	\$	14,524,190	\$	20,705,203	\$	20,353,630	\$	11,917,003	\$	11,943,373	\$	(26,369)
Expenditures												
Administrative	\$	323,461	\$	307,153	\$	330,314	\$	203,922	\$	202,196	\$	1,726
Agency Operating Fund - BRO	Ψ	1,198,241	Ψ	1,377,977	Ψ	1,377,977	Ψ	803.820	Ψ	803.820	Ψ	1,720
Agency Operating Fund - WES		1,997,068		2,296,628		2,296,628		1,339,700		1,339,700		1
Agency Operating Fund - JEFFCOM		10,118,480		11.636.252		11.636.252		6,787,815		6,787,814		1
Disaster & Recovery Plan (DRP)		38.656		63.654		63.654		22.405		37,390		(14,985)
GIS System		196.766		190.962		190.962		22,400		-		(14,000
Line Charges		786,570		674,648		674,648		308,075		482.707		(174,632)
Notification Systems (ENS)		153,993		210,640		374,286		149,143		147,873		1,270
Special Projects		905,661		1,395,887		1,437,487		877,675		917,418		(39,743)
Total Operating Expenditures	\$	15,718,896	\$	18,153,801	\$	18,382,208	\$	10,492,555	\$	-	\$	(226,362)
Revenues over/(under) Expenditures		(1,194,706)	\$	2,551,401	\$	1,971,422	\$	1,424,448	\$	11,943,373	\$	(10,518,925)
Beginning Fund Balance		4.854.040		5,727,182		3,659,334		3,659,334				
						, ,		, ,				
Ending Fund Balance	\$	3,659,334	\$	8,278,583	\$	5,630,756	\$	5,083,782				
Components of Ending Fund Balance												
Capital Reserve	\$	750,000	\$	750,000	\$	750,000	\$	750,000				
Operating Reserve (25% of Expenses)		3,929,724		4,538,450		4,595,552		4,538,450				
Unrestricted		(1,020,390)		2,990,133		285,204		(204,668)				
Ending Fund Balance	\$	3,659,334	\$	8,278,583	\$	5,630,756	\$	5,083,782	Ì			
		-				-		-				

EFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNIC FATEMENT OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES				·ΔII								
ENERAL FUND	VVIII	BUDGETS -	DEI	AIL								
		(a)		(b)		(c)		(d)		(e)		(d-e)
		2023		2024		2024		Actual		Budget		Variance
		Audited		Adopted		Projected		Through		Through		Through
Administration		Actual	_	Budget	•	Actual	_	07/31/24	•	07/31/24	•	07/31/24
Accounting	\$	86,120	\$	84,500	\$	84,500	\$	55,046	\$	54,292	\$	75
Bank Charges Executive Director (ED)		1,316		7,416		7,416		4,764		5,326		(56
401k & Benefits		27,781		26,548		26,548		15,100		15,486		(38
Mileage Reimbursement		39		518		518		13,100		302		(30)
Payroll Tax		10,395		10,271		10,271		6,362		6,192		17
Wages & Salaries		134,124		128,510		128,510		81,708		80,466		1,24
Insurance		6,095		6,069		6,069		3,192		3,540		(34
Legal		25,928		31,827		36,827		26,063		28,066		(2,00
Meeting & Misc				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Admin Web/Listserve		833		484		484		_		282		(28
Meeting & Misc - Other		10,038		4,371		14,500		8,382		4,371		4,01
Phone/Web Conferencing		147		437		437		-		255		(25
Office Supplies & Postage		820		849		849		439		495		(5
Payroll Expenses		19,825		5,135		5,135		2,662		2,995		(33
Public Web		-		218		8,250		204		127		7
Total Administrative Expenses	\$	323,461	\$	307,153	\$	330,314	\$	203,922	\$	202,196	\$	1,72
Agency Operating Fund (AOF) Broomfield	\$	1,198,241	ď	1 277 077	Φ	1 277 077	\$	803.820	\$	803.820	\$	
Westminster	Ф	1,196,241	\$	1,377,977 2,296,628	\$	1,377,977 2,296,628	Ф	1,339,700	Ф	1,339,700	Ф	-
Jeffcom		10,118,480		11,636,252		11,636,252		6,787,815		6,787,814		
Total Agency Operating Fund (AOF)	\$	13,313,789	\$	15,310,857	\$	15,310,857	\$	8,931,335	\$	8,931,333	\$	
Total Agency Operating Fund (AOF)	Ψ	10,010,700	Ψ	10,010,007	Ψ	10,010,007	Ψ	0,001,000	Ψ	0,001,000	Ψ	
Disaster & Recovery Plan (DRP)												
SRBC Recurring	\$	38,656	\$	63,654	\$	63,654	\$	22,405	\$	37,390	\$	(14,98
Total Disaster & Recovery Plan (DRP)	\$	38,656		63,654	\$	63,654		22,405		37,390		(14,98
GIS System												
GIS System Support	\$	196,766		190,962	\$	190,962	\$	-	\$	-	\$	
Total GIS System	\$	196,766	\$	190,962	\$	190,962	\$	-	\$	-	\$	
Line Charges												
Line Charges Call Box MRC	\$	6,201	\$	9,888	\$	9,888	Ф	4,241	\$	3,368	\$	87
ESInet	Ψ	780,369	φ	659,610	φ	659,610	φ	302,735	φ	476,335	φ	(173,60
Other		700,309		5,150		5,150		1,100		3,004		(1,90
Total Line Charges	\$	786,570	\$	674,648	\$	674,648	\$	308,075	\$	482,707	\$	(174,63
	_		Т.	,	Т.		7		T	,	Т.	(,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Notification Systems (ENS)												
ALI Database Extract (ADE)	\$	10,542	\$	18,540	\$	18,540	\$	6,543	\$	10,815	\$	(4,27
ENS		126,900		188,387		227,883		142,601		134,892		7,70
VoIP Record Extract		16,551		3,713		3,713		-		2,166		(2,16
ENS Systems Support		-		-		124,150		-				-
Total Notification Systems (ENS)	\$	153,993	\$	210,640	\$	374,286	\$	149,143	\$	147,873	\$	1,27
Special Projects												
Call Box Project	\$	1,720	\$	6,896	\$	6,896	\$	140	\$	5,007	\$	(4,86
Fiber Special Projects	Ψ	462,281	Ψ	500,000	Ψ	541,600	Ψ	211,636	Ψ	233,333	Ψ	(21,69
Fiber Optics		1,779		-		-				-		(21,00
Last Mile Fiber Project		115,819		400,000		400,000		170,036		233,333		(63,29
North Metro		-,-:-		100,000		100,000		-,		-		(11,20
Equipment Refresh Project		344,683		-		41,600		41,600		-		41,60
J-FON O&M		60,424		494,400		494,400		352,989		443,900		(90,91
Smart911		89,161		94,591		94,591		52,011		55,178		(3,16
Special Projects Contingency		292,075		300,000		300,000		260,900		180,000		80,90
Total Special Projects	\$	905,661	\$	1,395,887	\$	1,437,487	\$	877,675	\$	917,418	\$	(39,74

# Jefferson County Emergency Communications Authority 2024 Cash Projection Report

	<b>Q1</b> Actual	<b>Q2</b> Actual	<b>July</b> Actual	August (Estimate)	S	eptember (Estimate)	Q3 (Estimate)	<b>Q4</b> (Estimate)
Cash on Hand	\$ 2,206,562	\$ 3,426,928	\$ 3,692,631	\$ 3,905,622	\$	<b>4,204,256</b>	\$ 4,204,256	\$ 5,083,644
Expected Inflows: 2024 Revenues (As projected, less paid) Total Expected Inflows	\$ 6,900,291	\$ 5,538,920	\$ 1,809,997	\$ 1,892,895	\$	1,892,895	\$ 5,595,787	\$ 5,678,684
Expected Outflows: 2024 Obligations (As projected, less paid)								
Administrative Total Agency Operating Fund (AOF) Total	\$ 82,160 3,661,292	\$ 88,811 3,827,714	\$ 22,151 1,275,905	\$ 22,964 1,309,189	\$	22,964 1,309,189	\$ 68,079 3,894,283	\$ 68,891 3,927,568
Disaster & Recovery Plan (DRP) Total	13,156	9,249	-	8,250		8,250	16,500	24,749
GIS System Total	11,286	-	-	35,935		35,935	71,870	107,806
Line Charges Total	169,007	170,690	58,645	55,261		55,262	169,168	165,793
Notification Systems (ENS) Total	13,098	-	-	71,495		71,495	142,990	214,485
Special Projects Total	 384,125	315,991	240,305	99,417		99,418	439,140	298,259
Total Expected Outflows	\$ 4,334,125	\$ 4,412,455	\$ 1,597,006	\$ 1,594,261	\$	1,602,513	\$ 4,793,780	\$ 4,791,051
Net Inflows/Outflows	\$ 2,566,166	\$ 1,126,465	\$ 212,992	\$ 298,633	\$	290,382	\$ 802,007	\$ 887,633
Estimated Cash Position	\$ 2,566,166	\$ 3,692,631	\$ 3,905,622	\$ 4,204,256	\$	4,494,637	\$ 4,494,637	\$ 5,382,270

JCECA - 2024	4 Aug Expend	diture Requ	uest Authorization 082024 1601		
Request Number	Date of Board Approval	Agency	Description	Expense Category	NTE Amt Requested
2024-020		Multi	ECC distributions for Sep 2024	AOF	1,275,904.75
				Total	1,275,904.75
			Expenditures Approved by Executive Director (signature):	Masses	

Lookout Alert Stats								
Date	Opt-In Recipients	+ / -						
01/25/2024	178,141							
02/22/2024	181,519	3,378						
03/28/2024	182,620	1,101						
04/25/2024	183,320	700						
05/23/2024	185,120	1,800						
06/27/2024	187,481	2,361						
07/25/2024	188,624	1,143						
08/22/2024	202,619	13,995						
Date	All Loaded Public Data	+/-						
01/25/2024	437,673	. , -						
02/22/2024	466,194	28,521						
03/28/2024	466,194	0						
04/25/2024	466,194	0						
05/23/2024	466,194	0						
06/27/2024	466,194	0						
07/25/2024	466,194	0						
08/22/2024	368,866	-97,328						



# [colorado911] Summary update for August 12, 2024

**Kirkland - DORA, Jennifer** <jennifer.kirkland@state.co.us> To: Jennifer Kirkland - DORA <jennifer.kirkland@state.co.us>

Mon, Aug 12, 2024 at 9:15 AM

Good morning, Colorado 9-1-1!

# **PUC and TASK FORCE UPDATE**

The ESINet Users Group meeting is this Wednesday, August 14 at 10a. Meeting access and materials can be found here.

The Task Force Prepaid/Collections Committee will meet tomorrow, August 13, at 9a. Meeting access can be found through the calendar at the same link as the ESINet Users Group link above.

Our August Lunch N Learn will be this Thursday, August 15 at noon, featuring Virtual Academy. Access can be found at the calendar at the same link as above.

<u>Heads up:</u> Over the next couple of months, governing bodies will start seeing bills for ECaTS, whether or not they have implemented the service and started using it. As a reminder, governing bodies have been receiving statewide surcharge distribution amounts in 2024 sufficient to reimburse for SIP sessions and ECaTS service. If you have questions, please reach out to me or Jeff Winkelmann at CenturyLink.

**24M-0329T** (**NEW**) Proceeding to Set the Annual Surcharge and Threshold Amounts. The proceeding is open to set the 2025 state surcharge, prepaid wireless surcharge, and local surcharge threshold amount. Proposed amounts are: statewide surcharge \$.09, threshold amount \$2.12, prepaid wireless surcharge \$2.06. The deadline to intervene or file as a participating party is August 21, 2024. Parties who wish to file comments may do so until August 20, 2024, with reply comments due by September 4, 2024. More information can be found here.

<u>23A-0197T</u> Proceeding for Network Reliability. Centurylink/Lumen filed an updated proposed network improvement plan. The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued a recommended decision approving the five proposed projects on August 7, 2024 More information can be found here.

<u>23R-0577T</u> Amendments to Emergency Service Outage Rules. ALJ Mirbaba issued a Recommended Decision on June 13, 2024. CenturyLink/Lumen filed Exceptions to the Decision on July 3, 2024. At their weekly meeting August 7, the Commissioners denied the exceptions. The final order should be issued shortly. If you would like to read all the documents filed in the proceeding, here is the link.

**23AL-0486T** Amended Tariff Letter. Centurylink/Lumen filed an amended advice letter on 2/14/23. Several parties in the proceeding have agreed to settle; we are awaiting next steps. More information can be found here.

As a reminder, all our current proceedings are listed on this page of the Colorado 9-1-1 Program page.

# FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AND FCC UPDATE

See the end of the email for an article on the FCC's decision to issue a new Emergency Alert System (EAS) missing and endangered persons (MEP) alert code

#### TELECOMMUNICATOR RECLASSIFICATION

The OMB has started the data-gathering process ahead of its next consideration of telecommunicator job classification. There are a couple of very important things you NEED to do to ensure we are successful in this endeavor!

1. UPDATE YOUR JOB DESCRIPTIONS to match the work performed in your PSAP every single day. This will ensure that if your PSAP is audited during the manual-update process, OMB will see that the work done is indeed public safety, not clerical. OMB can/may reach out to ANY PSAP in the country to gather this data, so it's imperative that everyone's job descriptions are up to date. 911.gov has a step-by-step reclassification toolkit that guides you through the process and even has some sample job descriptions.

### CO 911 IN THE NEWS

<u>Durango Appoints New 9-1-1 Dispatch Director</u>

If you have a news item you want to share, please send it to me!

# RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT

The Colorado Training Standards Institute will meet tomorrow, August 13, at 1p. ALL PSAPs are encouraged to attend these meetings, as we will begin discussing training standards. More information and a meeting link can be found at <a href="https://www.ctsi911.org/">https://www.ctsi911.org/</a>

We received the following email from United Way about 211 in Colorado:

We are grateful for Colorado Emergency and Non-Emergency Dispatches's continued partnership with 211 Colorado, a free and confidential statewide contact center that connects community members with health and human services across the state. Being a part of the 211 Colorado database is completely free and helps connect members of your community with critical services like food pantries, shelters, medical equipment, hospice and so much more!

Now we are making it easier than ever for agencies to review and update the information listed in the database by going online at <a href="https://example.com/211colorado.org">211colorado.org</a>. Regularly reviewing this information, which includes general contact, location, and service details, helps our 211 Colorado contact center to confidently provide community members with all the intel they need to access services, while ensuring that every referral made is to someone who is eligible to receive assistance from your organization. Using our Agency Portal, you can create an account for free, assess what's listed, and submit changes at a time that's most convenient for you.

To sign up for the portal, visit <a href="https://search.211colorado.org/users/agency\_sign\_up">https://search.211colorado.org/users/agency\_sign\_up</a> and follow the directions in this PDF instruction guide.

If you've already signed up for our 211 Agency Portal, thank you! Log in at <a href="https://search.211colorado.org/users/sign\_in">https://search.211colorado.org/users/sign\_in</a> to update the information on behalf of Colorado Emergency and Non-Emergency Dispatches.

Please don't hesitate to contact us at 211database@unitedwaydenver.org or (303) 561-2112 with questions or to update your agency's information via phone/email.

Thank you!

Samantha Johnson, Manager, Data Quality

Office: 303-561-2102

Email: samantha.johnson@unitedwaydenver.org

# **LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

# **OTHER NEWS**

# **FCC Establishes Missing and Endangered Persons Alert**

The FCC today unanimously voted to establish a new Emergency Alert System (EAS) missing and endangered persons (MEP) alert code that will enable alerts to be delivered via TV, radio, and cellphones.

The agency stressed the importance of the action in helping missing and endangered adults who aren't covered by AMBER Alerts, which are for persons under the age of 18. In particular, Commissioners and advocates cited the benefits of the new alerts in helping authorities find members of tribal communities and others of color.

"In 2023, more than 188,000 people went missing who fall outside of the criteria for AMBER Alerts. The new alert code adopted today will be particularly beneficial to Tribal communities, where American Indians and Alaska Natives are at a disproportionate risk of violence, murder, or vanishing," according to a news release on the FCC, Public Draft on Amendment of Part 11 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Emergency Alert System, Report and Order, Dkts. 15-91 and 15-94 (July 17, 2024).

"The new missing and endangered persons alerts within the nation's Emergency Alert System and Wireless Emergency Alert system will help law enforcement agencies galvanize public attention to missing and endangered people of all ages who do not qualify for AMBER Alerts, including those who meet the criteria for Ashanti Alerts," the news release added.

"Today's decision will support efforts to raise critical public awareness of missing Indigenous persons. In particular, thousands of missing Indigenous women have disappeared from their homes never to be seen again—according to FBI statistics, in 2023, there were 10,650 reported missing American Indian/Alaska Native persons of which 3,269 were 18 years old or older. Likewise, the code adopted today can help mobilize public responses to missing Black persons who make up roughly 35% of missing persons over 18 years old despite being 12% of the U.S. population," according to the release.

"Missing and endangered persons alerts will be sent through the Wireless Emergency Alert system through the use of existing alerting methodologies, which will ensure a swift implementation of the new code. The FCC expects these wireless alerts will utilize the existing Imminent Threat class and the Public Safety Message WEA alert class," according to the release.

In March, the FCC unanimously adopted a notice of proposed rulemaking (89 Federal Register 27699, April 18, 2024) in PS dockets 15-91 and 15-94 proposing to establish the new MEP EAS code (*TR Daily*, March 14).

In comments filed on the NPRM, a number of entities expressed support for the proposal, while some parties urged the FCC to also establish a separate code for missing and endangered indigenous persons (*TR Daily*, May 21). For their part, some industry entities detailed what they said would be the financial burden of making necessary technical changes.

No significant changes were made to the item since it was circulated (<u>TR Daily</u>, <u>July 16</u>), according to Alejandro Roark, chief of the FCC's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau. He told a reporter after today's meeting that "some edit to the final draft occurred when it was on circulation, but none significant to note here."

"The Bureau of Indian Affairs estimates there are more than four thousand cases of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Natives that are unsolved," said FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel. "According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the numbers missing are more than two and half times their share of the United States population. While there are new methods to collect data on missing and endangered Tribal and Native people, the true magnitude of this problem is hard to capture through data alone."

"In developing this proposal, we received so many comments," Ms. Rosenworcel added. "The most powerful testimonies came from Tribal communities. Their input—including from government-to-government consultations held between Tribal communities and our Office of Native Affairs and Policy—provided a voice for the murdered and missing."

"Today's Order closes this critical gap in our public safety infrastructure," echoed Commissioner Geoffrey Starks. "By establishing a dedicated Missing and Endangered Persons event code, this Order will assist law enforcement in disseminating critical information to the public to aid in the safe recovery of missing or endangered persons. This three-letter 'MEP' event code harmonizes emergency alerts nationwide to ensure that the public is alerted and prepared to respond during these emergencies. Put simply, this Order will help save lives."

"Our goal in establishing the Missing and Endangered Persons alert code is to help families that unfortunately experience the anguish of not knowing where their loved ones are," said Commissioner Anna Gomez. "I also hope that this new emergency alert helps address the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples that has afflicted Native communities for far too long."

"We should not have a system where we allow people to fall through the gaps," said Commissioner Brendan Carr, adding that he was pleased that the agency was "making sure that we have an alerting system that works in the modern era."

Commissioner Nathan Simington had no comment on the item.

Advocates of the FCC's action praised the agency for adopting its order today.

"This action is historic," said Loris Taylor, president and chief executive officer of Native Public Media, which Ms. Rosenworcel credited with helping bring the alerting issue to the Commission's attention. "The new MEP event code symbolizes hope and a commitment to leveraging modern communication tools to protect those most at risk and underscores the importance of community involvement in ensuring public safety for

Native Americans. With the new MEP event code, our nation's ability to alert the public effectively about missing and endangered persons has become a reality. Our shared values of saving lives have been the north star of our collective efforts."

Lavina Willie-Nez, the AMBER Alert coordinator for the Navajo Nation Department of Police, told Commissioners in remotely delivered remarks that Amber Alerts had been used by the tribe to successfully recover eight missing children. "We can apply this same approach to locate missing persons who do not meet the AMBER Alert criteria," she added.

In a joint statement, CTIA and the National Domestic Violence Hotline said, "We commend the FCC's action today to enhance the WEA system to aid missing and endangered persons. Using existing alert classes to transmit these messages will speed implementation, while education for alert originators and consumers will promote consistent usage and help prevent alert fatigue. Wireless providers understand how crucial these life-saving messages are, including in Tribal communities, for survivors of domestic abuse, their families, and communities, and support the Commission's work on this important public safety issue." —Paul Kirby, paul.kirby@wolterskluwer.com

TelecomRegulation: FCC FederalNews PublicSafety

Have a great week!

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# NOTICE OF MEETING FOR THE JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY ("JCECA") SEPTEMBER 26, 2024, AT 9 A.M.

# THIS WILL BE A VIRTUAL MEETING ONLY

There will not be a physical meeting. The virtual meeting can be attended via Google Meet at the link below or by calling in via telephone.

https://meet.google.com/viq-cvys-edu. Use of computer audio (headset/mic) works best or join by phone: 413-459-4200, PIN: 669 173 972# - press \*6 to mute/unmute your phone.

- 1. Call to Order.
- Public Comment.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:
  - i. August 22, 2024, Monthly Meeting.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. Financial Reports Pinnacle Consulting Group, Inc.
    - i. Financial Statements.
    - ii. Cash Encumbrance Report.
    - iii. Discuss 2025 budget draft.
  - b. Expenditure Requests Executive Director.
    - i. Presentation re: 2024-022 JCPS Department of School Safety dispatch center funding assistance request.
- 5. Emergency Communication Center (ECC) Partners Reports:
  - a. City and County of Broomfield (Broomfield PD PSAP).
  - b. Jeffcom 911 (Jefferson County Communications Center Authority PSAP).
  - c. City of Westminster (Westminster PD/FD Communications PSAP).
- 6. Executive Director's Report
  - a. Lookout Alert stats.
  - b. Director nominations received.
- 7. Legal Counsel Report
  - a. Lobbyist activity report.
  - b. PUC matters in process or pending.
- 8. New Business
- 9. Adjournment.

For Information regarding the Jefferson County Emergency Communications Authority (JCECA) please visit the website <a href="https://jceca.org/">https://jceca.org/</a> or contact: Jeff Irvin, Executive Director, 303-539-9410, jirvin@jceca.org.