

**ARKANSAS BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON LOCAL 911 SYSTEMS
(ACT 1171 OF 2013)**

**DECEMBER 30, 2014
MINUTES**

The Arkansas Blue Ribbon Committee on Local 911 Systems met Tuesday, December 30, 2014, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 130, State Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Members present: Senators Linda Chesterfield, Senate Chair, and Jonathan Dismang; Yell County Judge Mark Thone, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management Director David Maxwell, Consumer members Joel Hoggard and Todd Woerpel, and Association of Arkansas Counties Executive Director Chris Villines.

Other legislators present: Representatives Scott Baltz, Charlotte Douglas, Jon Eubanks, Jeremy Gillam, and Betty Overbey.

Senator Chesterfield called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve Minutes of the October 31, 2014, Committee meeting [Exhibit C]
Minutes of the October 31, 2014, committee meeting were approved without objection.

Opening Comments by Senator Chesterfield and Representative Wren

Senator Chesterfield thanked Representative Wren for the leadership he provided to the committee. Representative Wren credited Senator Chesterfield in leading the committee as it held meetings across the state. The committee heard presentations, toured emergency dispatch centers, obtained information and recommendations from first responders, emergency center directors, city and county officials.

Review of Draft Final Report of the Local 911 Systems Blue Ribbon Committee [Exhibit D]

Representative Chesterfield asked if there were objections or questions by committee members regarding the acceptance of the Draft Final Report, Exhibit D. Senator Chesterfield stated that as there were no objections, the Draft Final Report is accepted.

Senator Chesterfield recognized Representative Jeremy Gillam. Representative Gillam asked what remains to be studied should the committee be reauthorized in the next biennium. Senator Chesterfield responded and stated there is not a statewide plan in place. She also stated that 911 systems relates to more than law enforcement, first responders and fire departments. She believes a statewide plan is a critical piece missing for the state, particularly should there be a catastrophe. The committee learned a number of a number of elements that are needed, but the development of a statewide plan to include, cities, counties, and agencies has yet to be developed.

Senator Chesterfield recognized David Maxwell, who stated that funding is still available for future study of the 911 systems. He said the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management supports the work of the committee should a decision be made to continue its work. Yell County Judge Mark Thone was recognized for comments. Judge Thone stated the study determined existing problems and future work should seek solutions.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.