



# **City of Grand Island**

**Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

**Council Session**

## **Item G-5**

**#2018-331 - Approving Resolution to Join East Central Regional  
911 Group**

**Staff Contact: Jon Rosenlund**

# **Council Agenda Memo**

**From:** Jon Rosenlund, Emergency Management Director

**Meeting:** November 6, 2018

**Subject:** 911 Telephone System Upgrade Purchase

**Presenter(s):** Jon Rosenlund, Emergency Management Director

## **Background**

As the Department prepares to upgrade its current 911 technologies, part of that proposal includes joining a shared 911 system managed by the East Central Regional 911 group. This is a collection of several Counties in East Central Nebraska who also use the Emergency Call Works 911 system for call taking. By sharing backroom equipment and distributing telephone calls to the various 911 Centers that have partnered together in this shared system, jurisdictions can save money and share costs of expensive backroom equipment, software and hardware maintenance. Joining this current interlocal agreement requires adopting the Addendum as attached.

## **Discussion**

As the State of Nebraska prepares to migrate to Next Generation 911 technologies, various jurisdictions are joining together into Regional 911 systems that include several counties sharing the costs of backroom equipment and maintenance agreements, all while operating their own 911 Centers. Calls are received by a pair of “hosts” that are placed in different parts of the region, and then distributed to the participating 911 Centers through a data network. Sharing “host” equipment allows counties to decrease initial outlays for expensive backroom equipment and provides redundancy since if a 911 Center is unable to take their calls, those calls can be distributed to a neighboring agency. Having two hosts also allows for “geo-diversification” of critical infrastructure so if one host is damaged or disconnected from 911 calls, those calls can all be routed to the other host until repairs or reconnection is made.

As Grand Island has already been using Emergency Call Works as our 911 System vendor, and the East Central 911 Region (EC911), comprising of Nance, Boone, Merrick, Polk, Saunders, Platte, Butler, and Hamilton counties, also uses Emergency Call Works, it is a natural fit to join with them as we plan our upgrades to the City Hall Center as well as equip our new facility on North Road. In this proposal, Hall County would join EC911 and become a full partner in their current interlocal agreement. Also, by joining in a regionalized 911 system, Grand Island Emergency Center becomes eligible for quicker

migration to NextGen911 with other East Central 911 Centers in the future as regional systems will be migrated by the State ahead of “stand alone” centers.

This proposal also includes moving 911 host equipment from Columbus, NE, to Grand Island. This provides us the chance to maintain this host inside City Hall where we would have direct connection to the host.

### **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

### **Recommendation**

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the Addendum Agreement to join the East Central Regional 911 System.

### **Sample Motion**

Move to approve the Addendum Agreement to join the East Central Regional 911 System.

**ADENDUM TO THE  
INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT  
EAST CENTRAL REGION  
911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT SHARING  
AGREEMENT ADDING HALL COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Counties of Boone, Butler, Merrick, Nance, Polk, and Saunders and the City of Columbus acting as the Platte County public safety answering point (PSAP) entered into an Interlocal Agreement for 911 Emergency Communications Equipment Sharing dated September 16, 2013, hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement"; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement created the East Central 911 Region, hereinafter referred to as the "EC911", administered by the EC911 Governing Regional Committee comprised of a representative of each member governmental party to the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, EC911 and its members share a 911 Customer Premise Equipment (CPE) system thereby enabling multiple PSAPs to share backroom equipment thereby decreasing equipment and maintenance costs that would otherwise be borne by the individual EC911 members; and

WHEREAS, EC911 shares two nodes where 911 phone calls for EC911 are received and distributed to EC911 members for PSAPs through a private and secure data network known as NRIN; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island and the County of Hall, through their Interlocal Agreement, established and operate the Grand Island Emergency Center hereinafter referred to as "GIEC," and

WHEREAS, GIEC currently hosts call routing equipment of EC911; and

WHEREAS, GIEC desires to become a party to the Agreement and a member of the EC911 Governing Regional Committee under such terms and conditions as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the member entities of EC911 together with GIEC desire to approve this First Addendum to the Agreement thereby admitting GIEC as a party to the Agreement and a member of EC911 and its Governing Regional Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and mutual benefits provided by the Agreement and this First Addendum, the EC911 members and GIEC agree as follows:

1. EC911 and GIEC acknowledge that pursuant to this First Addendum, GIEC is being added as a party to the Agreement and therefore being granted membership in EC911.
2. GIEC will purchase and install upgraded equipment in both its main and alternate PSAP facilities for call taking. It is anticipated to occur in the spring of 2019, upon completion of the new GIEC PSAP facility.
3. GIEC will pay for moving an EC911 communications node and circuits from the Columbus Water Tower to GIEC and house the node in the Grand Island City Hall (GIEC's alternate PSAP). Calls coming to the nodes, including this new location, will be distributed to the new GIEC PSAP facility and all other current EC911 system partners through routing via NRIN.
4. GIEC will pre-pay for its own multi-year maintenance contract with CallWorks. This contract will be independent of the current EC911 maintenance contract and expiration date. The original

EC911 counties, whose current agreement with CallWorks expires in 2022, may enter into a separate, independent renewal agreement with CallWorks or a joint renewal agreement with GIEC, provided GIEC is credited with the cost for years already paid on its agreement.

5. When the GIEC PSAP has been fully integrated into the EC911 membership and system, the current contract between EC911 and GIEC for telecommunications equipment hosting shall be terminated by mutual agreement.
6. In the event that the EC911 agreement is terminated, dissolved or expires, all equipment purchased by GIEC will remain property of the GIEC, including but not limited to, distribution equipment, and workstations. It is acknowledged that the node and common CPE equipment is a shared property among all participants.
7. GIEC shall be a member of the EC911 Governing Regional Committee and its representative shall be designated in such manner as determined by the City of Grand Island and the County of Hall.
8. Paragraph 2 of the Agreement is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SEPARATE LEGAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY; DLEGATION. This Agreement will establish an East Central 911 governing committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Governing Regional Committee"). The Governing Regional Committee will be comprised of one representative from each of the agencies making up the East Central 911 Region. Each Agency's respective representative will be appointed by the entity's governing board or, in the case of a joint or cooperative city-county agency, in the manner determined by the agency's members. The clerk of each appointing authority will maintain a letter of appointment designating the agency's representative. The City of Columbus, serving as fiscal agent by execution of this agreement, will maintain a copy of each letter of appointment for each representative appointed to serve on the Governing Regional Committee. The Governing Regional Committee shall administer this Agreement. If any other PSAP should join the EC911 Region at a later time, their governing board shall appoint a representative to the Regional Governing Board."

9. This First Addendum shall be attached to and shall become a part of the Agreement and shall be effective as of the date hereof.
10. Nothing in this First Addendum shall imply or prohibit the addition of future members to EC911 pursuant to the terms of the Agreement and this First Addendum.
11. This First Addendum may be executed in several counterparts, each of which will be an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
12. In the event that any of the terms, covenants or conditions of this First Addendum or their application shall be held invalid as to any person, entity or circumstances by any court having jurisdiction, the remainder of this First Addendum and the application and effect of its terms, covenants or conditions to such persons, entities or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

RESOLUTION 2018-331

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, operates an emergency 911 call center through interlocal agreement with Hall County; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Island Emergency Center, managed by the Grand Island Emergency Management Department is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for all of Hall County; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, the East Central 911 Region (EC911) has maintained an Interlocal Agreement to jointly purchase and operate a shared 911 system (Call Works) in order to decrease costs, increase redundancy and share resources through statewide networks; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Island Emergency Center has an opportunity, through the upgraded 911 Call Works system provided by Motorola Solutions, to join the EC911 Interlocal group and benefit from the shared technology as well as prepare for migration to Next Generation 911 technologies with the EC911 group, and

WHEREAS, members of the EC911 Committee have approved Grand Island Emergency Center joining the group as a full member by Interlocal Agreement and will forward the Addendum Adding Hall County to their respective County Boards for approval, and

WHEREAS, the Grand Island Emergency Center will purchase and maintain its 911 equipment in the new and alternate 911 facilities in Grand Island, as well as move the 911 host to City Hall for better redundancy and security, with the option to join EC911 in the common software maintenance contract in future years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to approve entry of the Grand Island Emergency Center into the East Central 911 on behalf of the City of Grand Island and the Grand Island Emergency Center.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, November 6, 2018

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Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
November 5, 2018	☐ City Attorney