RESOLUTION

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association

Endorse and Support Atlantic County Centralized Dispatch

WHEREAS, the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association, with a membership of the fire chiefs of forty-four fire companies in Atlantic County, New Jersey, is an organization dedicated to public safety; and

WHEREAS, the effort for creating a Central Dispatch in Atlantic County has been ongoing for in excess of thirty-five (35) years; and,

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of New Jersey has recognized and encouraged the consolidation of Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) through legislative updates including, but not limited to, N.J.S.A.52:17C-7 amended by P.L. 2007 c.56; and,

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services contracted with the John J. Heldrich Center For Workforce Development (Rutgers University) to create the “New Jersey 9-1-1 Consolidation Study” titled “Saving Lives, Increasing Value: Opportunities and Strategies for Consolidating New Jersey’s 9-1-1 Emergency Services” which cited Atlantic County as one of seven counties that may be candidates for targeted efforts to encourage consolidation and that cost savings alone are insufficient motivation to pursue consolidation and that the effort should also be driven by the interest in improved service and maintaining high standards of public safety; and,

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services contracted with the John J. Heldrich Center For Workforce Development (Rutgers University) to create the “New Jersey 9-1-1 Consolidation Study” titled “Saving Lives, Increasing Value: Opportunities and Strategies for Consolidating New Jersey’s 9-1-1 Emergency Services” which cited Atlantic County as one of seven counties that may be candidates for targeted efforts to encourage consolidation and that cost savings alone are insufficient motivation to pursue consolidation and that the effort should also be driven by the interest in improved service and maintaining high standards of public safety; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Atlantic contracted with L. Robert Kimball & Associates to create the “9-1-1 Consolidation Feasibility Study” from January of 2007 through the final report in April of 2008 which summarized that the consolidation of 9-1-1 and emergency dispatch services had become a national trend as more agencies recognized the benefits in terms of service improvements and potential long-term cost efficiencies with the conclusion that consolidation is an approach that is proactive and vision-centric for the good of the public and public safety service providers and that consolidation within Atlantic County is not only feasible, but highly recommended; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Atlantic contracted with L. Robert Kimball & Associates to create the “9-1-1 Consolidation Feasibility Study” from January of 2007 through the final report in April of 2008 which summarized that the consolidation of 9-1-1 and emergency dispatch services had become a national trend as more agencies recognized the benefits in terms of service improvements and potential long-term cost efficiencies with the conclusion that consolidation is an approach that is proactive and vision-centric for the good of the public and public safety service providers and that consolidation within Atlantic County is not only feasible, but highly recommended; and,

WHEREAS, the Atlantic County 2010 Regionalization of Services Committee recommended that the county help facilitate the establishment of a regionalized dispatch system; and,

WHEREAS, the Atlantic County 2010 Regionalization of Services Committee recommended that the county help facilitate the establishment of a regionalized dispatch system; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association of Atlantic County, New Jersey endorses and supports the ongoing effort to complete the construction of a countywide central dispatch facility and to consolidate the multiple PSAPs within the County of Atlantic.

This resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association on December 9, 2015 and shall take effect immediately.

ATTEST:

Charles E. Kisby III, President

CERTIFICATION

I, Robert A. Mellon, Secretary/Treasurer of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association Inc., certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association, at a regular meeting held on the 9th day of December, 2015, by the membership in attendance.

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary/Treasurer