

RESOLUTION

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Endorse and Support Atlantic County Centralized Dispatch

WHEREAS, the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association, with a membership 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 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 County of Atlantic conducted a baseline survey that procured the interest, and intent, of the majority of municipalities to support, and join, a centralized dispatch followed by the County of Atlantic and The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey (now Stockton University) reaching a preliminary agreement for the construction and operation of a countywide central dispatch facility in December of 2013 and moving forward with that plan since;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Atlantic County Firefighters' 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 Firefighters' Association on November 18, 2015 and shall take effect immediately.




Amor Portale, President

ATTEST:


Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I, Robert A. Mellon, Secretary of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association of the State of New Jersey Inc., certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association, at a regular meeting held on the 18th day of November, 2015, by the membership in attendance.



Robert A. Mellon, Secretary