

New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority

Board Meeting

July 28th, 2026

Montgomery County Public Safety Building – 4th Floor Training Room

Minutes

Attendees:

Members: Marc Verniel, Chair, *Town Manager, Town of Blacksburg*; Angela Hill, *County Administrator, Montgomery County*; Amy Orders, *Associate Vice President for Public Safety, Virginia Tech*; Kevin Foust, *Joint Member*; Kim Eagle, *Town Manager, Town of Christiansburg*

Staff: Jason Milburn, *Executive Director*; Derek Rogers, *Communications Systems Manager*; Valerie D’Intino, *Training Coordinator*; Amber Pratt, *Executive Assistant*

Guests: Michael Geary, *Chief, Montgomery County Fire-EMS*

Recorder: Amber Pratt, *Executive Assistant*

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair presented the agenda for approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Hill to approve the agenda and seconded by Dr. Eagle. All were in favor.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The Chair presented the minutes from the June 2nd, 2026 Board Meeting (*attachment a*) for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Foust to approve the minutes and was seconded by Dr. Orders. All were in favor.

4. Secretary/Treasurer’s Budget Report

Updated summaries of the revenues and expenditures for May and June were provided at the start of the meeting (*attachment b*). Mrs. Hill reviewed the reports and noted no items of concern.

5. Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Milburn presented the Executive Director’s report (*attachment c*).

6. Review of NRV 911 Performance Statistics for May & June 2026 (*attachment d*)

Mrs. D’Intino presented the statistics to the Board.

7. Old Business

None

8. New Business

None

9. Comments from Public

Mr. Geary provided an update from the July JAC meeting. He advised that, with the Fire/Rescue study officially released, attention has shifted to more targeted operational items that were identified for improvement.

Mr. Geary advised that one of the most significant changes being reviewed is the potential transition to common shared Fire/EMS operating channels. He advised that further coordination and discussion will be needed with the appropriate Fire/EMS groups due to the operational impacts of the proposed changes on both dispatch and responders.

Additional discussion included the potential implementation of unit-based dispatching and station alerting. Unit-based dispatching would prioritize the nearest available appropriate unit, while station alerting would reduce labor and response time by pre-alerting pending calls. It was noted that station alerting would have the highest associated costs for implementation.

Lastly, Mr. Geary advised that work is underway to review and adjust certain high-acuity call types to allow for more specific and accurate dispatching, as well as more appropriate unit response and allocation. Some of the call-type changes will have to wait to be implemented after operating/dispatch channel changes are achieved.

10. Board Member Comments

Dr. Orders brought attention to the United Responder Shield tour, which will be traveling through Virginia. Discussion was held regarding the appropriate chain of contact should a stop be requested in this area to allow participation from local agencies.

11. Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:38pm.