

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Natchitoches Parish Communications District

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9-1-1 Communications District Holds Regular Meeting

Mayor Lee Posey makes announcement ...

Natchitoches, LA., November 22, 2013 — The Natchitoches Parish Communications District held its regular meeting on November 19, 2013. Mayor Lee Posey addressed the Commission and announced that the City of Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Department has officially named the street leading to the future site of the new Public Safety Emergency Communications Center as “Public Safety Boulevard” and assigned the official address for the facility as “911” Public Safety Boulevard. Commission Chairman Larry Atteridge thanked the City of Natchitoches, on behalf of the Communications Commission, for all of the City’s support for the project.

In other business, 9-1-1 Director Willis Carter updated the Commission on the progress of a number of projects and initiatives. Work continues with the Geographic Information System (GIS), which supports location identification for emergency first responders. This work includes connecting the GIS system to the city and parish public safety network, which will allow the 9-1-1 District to share updated mapping data with the computer-aided-dispatch system, which supports both the Natchitoches City Police and the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff’s Office. Carter also shared a draft version of a “Basic Training” curriculum, which when finalized, and if adopted by the respective public safety agencies, can help to ensure that all call takers and dispatchers are trained to the same level of competency and in accordance with national standards. Consistency in training is critical in providing the same level of care for all callers to Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 system.

The Commission also provided unanimous support for Resolution Number 12 of 2013, which allows the repurposing of approximately \$4,000 of authorized, but unused funding for the purchase of a laptop computer, associated hardware and software to support field addressing work.

The next scheduled meeting of the Commission will be held on Tuesday, December 10th, 2013, at which time, a Public Hearing will be conducted on the proposed 2014 Operating budget. Additionally, the District will select an auditing firm to perform an external financial audit for the District.

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About the Natchitoches Parish Communications District (Natchitoches 9-1-1) *Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 is committed to providing fast, efficient and effective access to emergency public safety services for all the citizens and visitors to Natchitoches Parish. Since 1988 the “District” has served in a pivotal role ensuring the safety of residents and visitors to Natchitoches Parish by providing the support services, which connects the citizens experiencing emergencies with emergency services via the use of one, easy to remember and simple to use 3-digit number, 9-1-1. The Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 District provides the equipment and systems necessary to receive 9-1-1 calls from the nearly 40,000 residents of the parish, as well as the ever-increasing numbers of visitors to the area. We are proud to serve as “Natchitoches Parish’s Gateway to Public Safety Services”.*

Find out more at www.natchitoches911.org.