

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: 03/17/26
Hearing: 04/21/26
Action: Enacted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE 2026-12**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BOROUGH CODE, KPB CHAPTER 2.60,
TO ESTABLISH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMUNICATIONS AND SUNSET THE ADVISORY BOARD UNDER
KPB 2.60.040**

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) owns and operates the Soldotna Public Safety Communications Center (SPSCC) pursuant to KPB 2.60.010, and SPSCC provides 911 emergency dispatch services to multiple federal, state, and local governmental agencies and other non-profit entities; and

WHEREAS, SPSCC is administered by KPB employees and is recognized as a premier dispatch center in the state; and

WHEREAS, recognizing this vital public service as a department within the executive branch aligns with current operations and will establish codified powers and duties for the department; and

WHEREAS, the emergency communications system advisory board fulfilled its mission to advise on infrastructure needs of the 911 emergency services call taking system which is a fully functioning modern sytem established and updated to constantly evolving industry best practices and standards; and

WHEREAS, KPB wholly owns and operates the system, and proactively monitors and adopts emerging technologies and evolving industry best practices, ensuring SPSCC remains at the forefront of innovation; and

WHEREAS, KPB will continue to collaborative partner with cities, state, governmental agencies and other entities utilizing public safety communications and dispatch services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That this ordinance amends KPB Code and will be codified.

SECTION 2. That KPB Chapter 2.60 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 2.60. [EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM]
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS**

2.60.005. Established—Powers and Duties

- (A) There is established a department of public safety communications in the executive branch of the Kenai Peninsula Borough to operate and manage 911 dispatch services and other public safety communications. The principal executive of the department will be the public safety communications director who will be appointed by and serve under the supervision of the mayor and confirmed by the assembly. The director will administer the department, assume primary responsibility for managing and coordinating department responsibilities, and report to the mayor or designee.
- (B) The department of public safety communications will:
- (1) Implement and perform all functions, including 911 call-taking and other public safety communications, necessary for operations of the emergency communication system at the Soldotna Public Safety Communications Center; and
 - (2) Perform such other duties as may be required by the mayor or as prescribed by the assembly in borough code.

2.60.010. [SYSTEM ESTABLISHED—WHERE]Emergency communications system.

[THE MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO] There is established an emergency communication system throughout the borough outside of the cities to provide a 911[-TYPE] call-taking and other public safety communications system and to provide dispatch services both directly or through agreements.

2.60.020. Service provided where powers relinquished.

The services of this system shall be provided to the residents of any city which relinquishes its emergency communications powers to the borough. Relinquishment of such powers by a city shall not prohibit the automatic electronic routing of calls to such city

2.60.025. [ENHANCED] 911 standards.

That the [B]borough will utilize and adopt, to the extent technically and financially feasible, the most current nationally recognized national standards and recommendations as guidelines for the practices and procedures in the operation of

the [B]borough's [ENHANCED] 911 system. These shall include National Emergency Number Association (NENA), Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS), American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for [E]911 systems.

2.60.027. Designation of selective router demarcation points.

The Borough hereby designates 253 Wilson Lane in Soldotna and 107 South Willow Street in Kenai as the two 911 PSAP Selective Router Demarcation Points solely for the purposes of 911 call delivery by telecommunications carriers.

2.60.030. Surcharge on local access telephone lines.

A surcharge, in the amount of up to \$2.00 per month, shall be levied on each local exchange access telephone line within the Borough, and shall be billed, collected and remitted by each local exchange telephone company. All proceeds shall be utilized solely for funding of the [E]911 system. This surcharge shall be administered, applied and collected in strict compliance with all terms and requirements of AS 29.35.131.

2.60.035. Surcharge on local exchange wireless telephone numbers.

In addition to other surcharges authorized by law, a surcharge in the amount of \$2.00 per month shall be levied on each wireless telephone number that is billed to an address within the borough, and shall be billed, collected and remitted by each wireless telephone service provider. All proceeds shall be utilized solely for funding of the [E]911 system. This surcharge shall be administered, applied, and collected in strict compliance with all terms and requirements of AS 29.35.131.

[2.60.040. EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD.

- A. A EIGHT-MEMBER 9-1-1 INTERAGENCY ADVISORY BOARD IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED TO GOVERN THE EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNICATION SYSTEM INCLUDING PROVIDING LONG-RANGE PLANNING FOR 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICES CALL TAKING SYSTEM. THE BOARD MAY ADVISE THE BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AND ADMINISTRATION REGARDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS TO EFFICIENTLY OPERATE THE 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICES CALL TAKING SYSTEM. SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAW, AN INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT MAY BE ENTERED BETWEEN THE BOROUGH AND AFFECTED AGENCIES WITHIN THE BOROUGH WHICH SHALL GOVERN THE MEMBERSHIP AND OPERATION OF THIS BOARD.
- B. MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD SHALL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY SERVICE AREA, THE NIKISKI FIRE SERVICE AREA, THE CITY OF HOMER POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE CITY OF SEWARD POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE CITY OF KENAI POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE ALASKA STATE TROOPERS, AND THE BOROUGH'S 9-1-1 DISPATCH CENTER. THE MAYOR SHALL APPOINT AND THE

ASSEMBLY SHALL CONFIRM BY MOTION OR RESOLUTION INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS FROM THE BOROUGH TO THIS BOARD, INCLUDING THOSE FROM THE SERVICE AREAS AND THE 9-1-1 DISPATCH CENTER. THE MAYOR SHALL CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE APPLICABLE SERVICE AREA BOARDS WHEN APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES FROM SERVICE AREAS. CITY MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY EACH CITY'S APPOINTING AUTHORITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW AND ANY APPLICABLE INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT. THE STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY WILL DESIGNATE THE ALASKA STATE TROOPER REPRESENTATIVE ON THE BOARD. ONE OR MORE ALTERNATE MEMBERS MAY ALSO BE APPOINTED FOR EACH LISTED SERVICE AREA AND AGENCY IN THE SAME MANNER DESCRIBED ABOVE FOR EACH BOARD MEMBER. THE BOROUGH MAYOR, OR A DESIGNEE, MAY SERVE AS AN ADDITIONAL EX OFFICIO MEMBER AND SHALL HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR BUT MAY ONLY VOTE IN ORDER TO BREAK A TIE.

- C. APPOINTMENTS SHALL BE FOR AN INDEFINITE TERM, PROVIDED THAT THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY MAY TERMINATE AN APPOINTMENT AT ANY TIME, WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE, IN THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY.
- D. THE BOARD SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE MOST CURRENT VERSION OF ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANNUALLY ELECTING A CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR. FIVE MEMBERS SHALL CONSTITUTE A QUORUM. MEMBERS MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF LAW. THE BOARD MAY ADOPT BY-LAWS GOVERNING ITS PROCEDURES CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER.
- E. A VACANCY SHALL OCCUR IF A BOARD MEMBER:
 - 1. IS REMOVED FROM OFFICE BY THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY;
 - 2. IS NO LONGER EMPLOYED BY THE AGENCY, SERVICE AREA OR DEPARTMENT HOLDING A SEAT ON THE BOARD AS DESCRIBED ABOVE;
 - 3. IS PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY UNABLE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF OFFICE;
 - 4. MISSES THREE CONSECUTIVE REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS UNLESS EXCUSED;
 - 5. RESIGNS AND THE RESIGNATION IS ACCEPTED; OR
 - 6. IS CONVICTED OF A FELONY WHILE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD.
- F. VACANCIES IN BOROUGH SEATS ON THE BOARD SHALL BE FILLED BY MAYORAL APPOINTMENT AND CONFIRMATION OF THE ASSEMBLY. VACANCIES IN NON-BOROUGH SEATS SHALL BE FILLED IN THE MANNER PROVIDED ABOVE FOR CITY AND STATE MEMBERS.

- G. BOARD MEMBERS SHALL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION BUT ARE ENTITLED TO PER DIEM AND TRAVEL EXPENSES PURSUANT TO ALASKA STATUTES FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE EMPLOYERS.]

[2.60.050. DEFINITIONS.

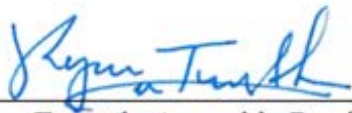
FOR PURPOSES OF THIS CHAPTER, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS SHALL APPLY UNLESS THE CONTEXT NECESSARILY REQUIRES A DIFFERENT DEFINITION:

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IS DEFINED AS A SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATICALLY OR MANUALLY ACCEPTING AND ROUTING EMERGENCY 911 CALLS TO THE AUTHORIZED POLICE, FIRE, OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDER. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS POWERS RELINQUISHED BY THE CITIES DO NOT INCLUDE DISPATCH SERVICES.]

SECTION 3. If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances will not be affected.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall become effective immediately.

ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 21ST DAY OF APRIL, 2026.



Ryan Tunseth, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund, Eicher, Griebel, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth
No: None
Absent: None