

Introduced by: Mayor at request of E-911 Board  
Date: 02/18/03  
Hearing: 04/01/03  
Action: Enacted  
Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
ORDINANCE 2003-07**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING KPB CHAPTER 2.60, EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, TO REVISE MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD AND CLARIFY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY**

- WHEREAS,** AS 29.35.130 authorizes the borough to establish by ordinance an emergency services communication center that may coordinate existing emergency services communication programs, operate a dispatch center to receive all requests for emergency services and dispatch those services, and provide additional related services and studies without voter approval; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1985 the assembly enacted ordinance 84-75, authorizing the mayor to establish an emergency communications system throughout the borough outside of the cities, and to extend the services of this system to residents of any city that relinquished its emergency communications powers to the borough; and
- WHEREAS,** all first class and home rule cities in the borough relinquished their emergency communications powers to the borough, but the ordinance does not make clear whether dispatch services are assumed by the borough or by the cities; and
- WHEREAS,** technology has significantly advanced since the enactment of Ordinance 84-75, and clarification is needed regarding the emergency communications powers; and
- WHEREAS,** currently all calls to 911 are received by the Alaska State Trooper E-911 office and, when the calls relate to an emergency occurring in one of the cities in the borough, the call is manually routed to the applicable city dispatch center; and
- WHEREAS,** under new technology, it is possible for land-based incoming emergency calls to be automatically routed through the Alaska State Trooper office directly to a city dispatch center, and some cities have informally expressed a desire to have calls automatically rerouted to their dispatch centers rather than first being answered by the central borough dispatch center and then forwarded to the city dispatch center; and

**WHEREAS,** the existing borough code does not clarify whether the emergency communications system that the borough is authorized to operate includes automatically routing calls to the cities and retention of dispatch service authority; and

**WHEREAS,** in Ordinance 2001-04, the assembly enacted KPB 2.60.040, which codified establishment of the E-911 emergency services communications center advisory board and identified membership, including a representative from the borough Office of Emergency Management; and

**WHEREAS,** due to concerns stemming from the Open Meetings Act, the Office of Emergency Management would prefer to not have a seat on the board so that board members may communicate with the office personnel without holding a public meeting; and

**WHEREAS,** in order to maintain an eight-member board, the E-911 board, at its meeting of February 5, 2003, unanimously recommended deleting the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator as a board member;

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

**SECTION 1.** That KPB 2.60.010 is hereby amended as follows:

**2.60.010. System established—Where.**

The mayor is authorized to establish an emergency communication system throughout the borough outside of the cities to provide a 911-type communications system and to provide dispatch services both directly or through agreements.

**SECTION 2.** That KPB 2.60.020 is hereby amended as follows:

**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.

**SECTION 3.** That KPB 2.60.040(B) is hereby amended as follows:

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, [THE BOROUGH OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT] and the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center located in the vicinity of Soldotna. 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 each city's chief of police, unless another member of each police department is appointed by each city's appointing authority in accordance with the law and any applicable interagency agreement. The Alaska State Trooper representative shall be the Commander of the Alaska State Troopers on the Kenai Peninsula or his designee, and in accordance with any applicable interagency agreement. 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.

**SECTION 4.** That KPB 2.60.050 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**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.

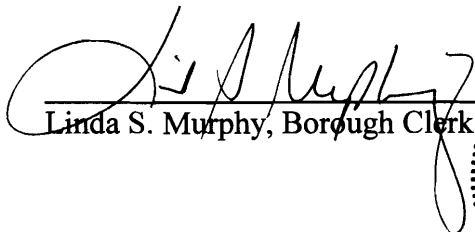
**SECTION 5.** That this ordinance shall apply within any city enacting an ordinance adopting the provisions in this ordinance regarding emergency communications systems.

**SECTION 6.** That this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its enactment.

**ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 2003.**

  
Pete Sprague, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk

