

**GALESBURG/KNOX
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEMS BOARD
(ETSB)
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 15, 2007**

A meeting of the Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems Board (ETSB) was held on Thursday, March 15, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in Police Chief David Christensen's office at the Public Safety Building.

Those present were: ETSB Chairman John Cratty, Police Captain Andrew Tolle, Knox County Ambulance Association Representative Sid Carlson, Western Illinois Firefighters Association Representative (WIFA) Tim Robbins, Knox County Board Member Wayne Saline, Terry Pool, Cottage Hospital EMS Administrative Director, Knox County 9-1-1, Data Communications Coordinator, Vicki Miller and Margo Davila, Secretary II.

Those absent were: ETSB Vice-Chair David Christensen, Knox County Sheriff James Thompson and Robin Davis, Knox County Treasurer

Also present was John Rhea, Motorola Representative

Chairman Cratty called the meeting to order, with quorum present. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, February 15, 2007 were reviewed and approved for motion by Wayne Saline, and seconded by Tim Robbins, carried by viva voce vote.

The Treasurer's Report for March 15, 2007 was presented by Chairman Cratty, in the absence of Knox County Treasurer Robin Davis. Current balances include; \$25.00 in the checking account, an investment of \$300,000.00 (due 03/20/07 @ 4.40 %) another investment of \$250,000.00 (due 09/20/07 @ 5.55%) and a money market variable rate of \$58,375.14. The check register history dated March 15, 2007 totaled \$125,106.14. Included in the check register was a loan payment in the amount of \$114,049.88 (note from F & M Bank) for the final loan payment of the CAD System. A recommendation was discussed that after the loan payment is paid in full, that the balance of the funds be deposited into the checking account until investment options may be determined by the board. Robin Davis will be sent an e-mail in regards to the loan payment discussion by Secretary, Margo Davila. A motion to approve the Treasurers Report and pay bills as presented was made by Sid Carlson, seconded by Terry Pool, carried by viva voce vote.

Vicki Miller submitted her 9-1-1- report; the month of February 2007 totaled 2,152 calls; of those calls; 1,238 were cellular and 232 were county.

There were 460 incoming calls for service during the ice storm weekend of February 24-25, 2007. The communication personnel at PSB did an extremely well job, as extra manpower was requested for poor weather related circumstances in addition to the power outages.

The transfer bypass switch to Warren County wireless trunks was successfully tested and completed by Supreme Radio on March 6, 2007 and Monmouth PD is now receiving the transferring of all the wireless calls.

Livingston County will be getting rid of their outdated Motorola equipment. A resolution process must be initiated as a first step, prior to distributing the equipment that will be identified. John Rhea of Supreme Radio will be selecting the equipment that will be used as back ups (telephones and controller) on April 4, 2007. The cost of replacing equipment has significantly increased (approximately \$975.00 for a used telephone) and by obtaining the Livingston County equipment, it will be a cost-saving strategy for ETSB.

Dahinda Fire Station is experiencing problems with their antenna but has the capability to still receive pages.

Under the Wireless Communication Report; Sprint/Media is delivering 911 VOIP calls similar to the 9-1-1 landline calls. Simmetry Communications has turned their project management over to Intrado for Phase I and Phase II implementation. Phase I should be completed by June and Phase II by September. Knox County will be the first on the list for Simmetry. Currently, the router is connected to TCS and Intrado would like to install their own port. The equipment is limited and can only support one port so they are forced to work off of the TCS backbone. Century Telephone from Louisiana has purchased Gallatin River Communications. Currently, there are no known changes that will affect our telephone service at this time.

John Rhea reported that the database controller back up for the alley computer clone hard drive is not in the critical stage for replacement. The new telephone system is no longer supported by Motorola.

Vicki Miller's 9-1-1 report displayed a table for the current and NG 9-1-1- System capabilities as compared to the envisioned future which depicts voice calls via telephones vs. voice text or video from many types of communication devices, minimal data versus advanced data capabilities and local access, transfer and back up versus long distance access, transfer, and backup.

Cellular companies are opposing bill HB827; the opposition revolves around allegations of misuse on 911 and the multiple operating PSAP's. Representatives for the Illinois NENA and APCO groups are meeting with the carriers to resolve differences prior to the hearing. Lobbyist is working very hard on the behalf of NENA and APCO and 911 regarding the bill. A table was provided for the systems capabilities of today's 9-1-1 vs. the Future 9-1-1 telephone data.

The Homeland Security Advisory System threat level is currently at yellow.

Discussion was held regarding the Motorola STARCOM 21 System that would have the reliability to provide the capability to talk anywhere in the county providing mobile radio contact with entities of police, fire, public health as well as dispatch centers throughout the state of Illinois.

John Rhea reported that the license for 4.9 has been approved by the county with phone lines linked to Henderson county and Public Safety allowing for high speed mobile data to monitor water levels.

Tim Robbins, WIFA representative reported that there was discussion of a stolen mobile radio in Victoria, Illinois. He also reported that a generator was a vital component during the severe storms that monitored the water system.

Chair Cratty discussed the possibility of applying for a regional grant that requests 20% match. There is a timeline deadline approximately one month to complete with a narrative and list of the improvements regarding radio equipment and pagers to meet the standards of Apco 25 narrow band.

Knox County Board Member, Wayne Saline had no significant matters to report.

Terry Pool, EMS Administrative Director reported that there is an ongoing vehicle inspection that is currently taking place and in-service communication to providers.

Sid Carlson, EMS Member-at-large had no significant matters to report.

Police Captain Andrew Tolle discussed the back up generator in regards to the power outages, as the equipment is protected by UPS. Testing is also initiated once a week (Wednesdays) to ensure and monitor efficiency.

There were no significant matters, due to the absence of Sheriff Jim Thompson.

Under Old Business; discussion was held by the ETSB and voted by members to accept the nomination of Tim Murphy as a recommendation to the Knox County Board. A motion was made by Sid Carlson and seconded by Terry Pool, carried by a viva voce vote to recommend Tim Murphy as a general public member-at-large to the Knox County Board. Mr. Murphy is an EMS instructor at Carl Sandburg College and has vast experience and working relationships with EMS, EMT's GHAS, Deputy Coroner matters and involvement with Disaster training. He is a resident of Knox County Illinois. A letter will be developed to address the recommended board member position to Knox County Board Chair Alan Pickrel and to Knox County Clerk Scott Erickson as a submitted item on the Knox County Board Agenda.

Under New Business; a grant proposal was submitted by Altona, Oneida and Wataga Ambulance for the request of replacing portable radios and narrow band pagers. Based on the Board's decision and the decline of revenues on the current ETSB Budget that has impacted funding grant proposals, the Board regretfully was not able to approve the grant request. A letter will address the denial of the grant to Ms. Bea Huls, Chief Executive of the Altona, Oneida and Wataga Ambulance Service.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Chair Cratty , and seconded by Sid Carlson, carried by viva voce vote.

The next ETSB meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.**