



EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEMS BOARD

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Galesburg/Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E.T.S.B.) Minutes

TO: Galesburg/Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems (E.T.S.B.) Board Members
FROM: Jenna Hunt, PSB Records Clerk
DATE: April 19, 2024
SUBJECT: Galesburg/Knox E.T.S.B. Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 18, 2024

The regular meeting of the Galesburg/ Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E.T.S.B.) was held on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Chief Idle's Conference Room, Public Safety Building, 150 S Broad Street, Galesburg, Illinois, 61401.

PRESENT: Galesburg Police Chief Russell Idle- E.T.S.B. Chairman, Sheriff Jack Harlan- E.T.S.B Vice Chairman, Richard Springer- G.H.A.S., Bill Stone- Henderson Fire Chief/WIFA Representative, Police Deputy Chief Kevin Legate, Fire Chief Randy Hovind, Nate Clark- Motorola Representative, Jared Hawkinson- Knox County Board Member, Amanda Jennings- 911 Coordinator, Sid Carlson- Member-at-Large, Zachary Crowl- Member-at-Large, Ray Martinez- Information Systems Supervisor, Jenna Hunt- Records Clerk

ABSENT: Robin Davis- Knox County Treasurer

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Idle. Board Member Crowl motioned to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2024 meeting. Board Member Springer gave a second motion. Approved.

APPROVE:

FINANCIAL REPORT: The current fund balance is \$4,179,952.73

Liabilities:

Month	Bill Totals
February	\$121,146.37
March	\$31,959.50

The liabilities were reviewed. Items noted was the remaining portion of PSB CAD Project.

Member Carlson motioned to approve the financial report. Fire Chief Hovind seconded. Motion approved.

REPORTS:

AMANDA JENNINGS- Galesburg/Knox County 9-1-1 Coordinator

Month	911 & Admin Total	911 Calls	Cell	Landline	VOIP	Abandoned
February	8,617	1,730	1,351	110	261	152
March	9,944	1,964	1,591	93	261	139



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This week is National Telecommunicators Week and the theme is “We are Wild About You!” The annual banquet was held last night with a dinner from Cherry Street, awards, and a game. There were gifts given throughout the week as well.

Amanda shared the following staffing update:

- Three are on the floor training and will be released from training in 4-6 weeks
- One starts Monday

Dispatch Training:

- APCO EMD Manager Course – 1 attendee
- Crimes in Progress & Active Shooter – sent a few dispatchers for this round and will be sending more in May
- MABAS Conference- will be sponsored by WIFA & GFD and will have limited amount of spaces for attendees. We are sending several dispatchers.

NATE CLARK- Motorola

Nate advised that he is trying to get the radios that will be going into the new fire trucks when the trucks come in. There might be times where the department will be needing portable radios on those trucks until the radios come in. He also advised that he has been in contact with the tower group about the feasibility of the tower at Hawthorne. They have not sent him an official update but they told him that they didn't see anything wrong when they were there.

RANDY HOVIND- Galesburg Fire Department

Chief Hovind advised that the new fire trucks are coming in the next few months. Next week they are having the final inspection in Alexis for the truck replacing 52. The truck that is replacing 53 will be delivered around the first week of June. They are also looking at possibly replacing 55 as well, as it is not meeting life expectancy. There is a possibility that 55 will become a backup rescue and the department is looking at getting a Durango for main rescue calls.

BILL STONE-WIFA

Bill advised this is the slow time for area departments for training, but things will pick up once summer comes. There is a MABAS event on June 4th that is sponsored by WIFA and the Galesburg Fire Department. Brock Schmidt is setting up the event. Any questions will need to be directed to Brock.

JARED HAWKINSON- Knox County Board

Jared advised that the next county board meeting is next Wednesday, April 24th. He advised that the county board is approving additional revenue bonds totaling approximate 12 million dollars for the Graham Hospital construction project on Seminary Street. The county is in the process of purchasing the old Wells Fargo bank at 50 E Main St, Galesburg pending the survey results at the end of the month. The public will only have access to the lobby and there will be secure doors to the rest of the building. There will be departments from the courthouse starting to move into the building, pending the survey results, in June and it will be fully operational by the end of the year. Everything in there was less than 10 years old, so it is looking positive for the purchase and move.

In May the budget meetings will be starting. There are talks about a county wide transportation service with the City of Galesburg being involved as well, and it was mentioned that there is funding available for this service in the billions of dollars range.



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The Knox County Courthouse will be getting a new ADA wheelchair ramp at the southwest corner, which is where the old ramp is currently located. The old ramp is being ripped out, and while the new one is being installed a temporary ramp will be set up. They looked into putting the ramp at the main stairs location but that was quoted around 400 thousand dollars which was quite a bit more expensive and not as aesthetically appealing as keeping it in the same location. Jared also stated that since the ramp is being done at the same location, the courthouse will be getting much needed updates in other areas. There are also four different contract negotiations going on within the county that they are trying to resolve quickly.

RICHARD SPRINGER- G.H.A.S.

The quick response vehicle has the graphics on and will be staffed primarily by paramedics. This vehicle, with the other quick response vehicles, will follow BLS units for requested intercepts, as well as other calls within the city that can be handled without having an ambulance having to go to the scene.

SID CARLSON-Member-at-Large

No report, but wanted to mention that the quick response vehicles are a great resource for them, as well as other ambulance services.

RUSSELL IDLE- Board Chairman & Police Chief

There were two openings at the department but an officer was recently hired. The hiring eligibility list is now exhausted. There is a new testing cycle starting next week and the hope is to hire one on the new list and then they will hopefully be fully staffed. The license plate reader cameras are up and running in the city limits. As of today, three out of the five are fully up and operating. They have already solved cases and they are getting arrests off of them within the short amount of time they have been up. The city officers, as well as the county deputies have access to all of the cameras. Next year, the city is going to add another five cameras. The department is currently going through contract negotiations. Dispatchers are interested in going to 12-hour shifts, but the hang up is trying to figure out how to work out overtime with the federal labor law mandates.

JACK HARLAN- Board Vice Chairman & Sheriff

Sheriff Harlan reports that the county will be getting license plate reader cameras as well within the county, but they have to wait until after the county board meeting to get the cameras up and going. Knoxville Police Department/City of Knoxville might also be joining in getting the cameras as well. Sheriff mentioned that each camera costs approximately \$3,500 with an approximate cost of \$3,200 per year. The cost will be worth it in the long run. Also, if allowed access, any law enforcement agency in the nation can utilize the system.

Sheriff Harlan also wanted to thank the Galesburg Police Department with the drone assistance the past six weeks for several incidents. There was discussion about the city's drone and the process of getting the license needed to become a drone pilot and what drone the city has. The department also tested for two open positions for corrections. There were eighteen candidates that tested for the positions. There are three new lateral patrol deputies and they are doing great. They hope to get them on the road soon. Having the deputies in Abingdon is going great, and Sheriff mentioned that East Galesburg might also join in having the county patrol that area. The current jail population is still currently holding around fifty inmates.



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ZACHARY CROWL-Member-at-Large

Member Crowl reported that Abingdon-Avon school district might be moving students between the two towns for the next school year. In the Galesburg school district, there is a new private academic group called Menta Academy that will open next school year. They will be located in the old NAPA building on West Dayton St. This is a new school that will serve children of all grades and will have a no suspension policy. The old Galesburg Dental Building on Monroe Street will be opening in the 2025-2026 school year. There has been an increase in those needing special education which has created a need for additional classroom spaces.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held about the Chair and Vice Chair positions on the board. Historically, the Galesburg Police Chief is the chair and the Sheriff is the Vice Chair. Member Springer made the motion to keep the positions the same; Chair being Chief Idle and Vice-Chair being Sheriff Harlan. Member Hawkinson gave the second motion. All approved.

Amanda reported that the ESnet will go live next Wednesday, April 24th. Intrado had a technician in dispatch last week and we were told that we are good to go to go live. Amanda thinks that it will be a good switch and is optimistic.

Discussion was held about the back up facility for dispatch. We are waiting for Klingner and Associates to update the scope of work. They advised it should be available the first week of May and then it will be sent to the City Finance Department to be rebid. There was also discussion about potential communication problems. City radio and paging within the city would have no issues on the current setup, but there will be issues with the rural departments. Therefore, Nate is proposing the purchase of a jumbo switch, tower and telex radio software. The quote for the jumbo switch is \$84,014.75. Additionally, a tower and dispatch radio software will be required to be able to properly dispatch at the backup facility. The cost for the tower is \$12,063.91 and the software is \$19,192.99. Member Hawkinson made the motion to purchase the switch and Fire Chief Hovind seconded the motion. All approved. Member Crowl made the motion to purchase the tower and software, with Member Springer seconded the motion. All approved.

Discussion then transitioned to the Communications Center renovation project. Amanda notified the board that they had a kick off meeting along with three other meetings with Wold already about the project, and will have meetings every other week. As of now, the project is on target with the timeline. There is a meeting today via Zoom to prepare bid specs that they are working on. There is a committee made up of one dispatcher from each shift, IT, and support staff who meet to discuss the project. They will be going to tour other dispatch facilities to see their set ups to get ideas for our new center. The committee will be going to Henry County dispatch in Cambridge, Q Comm in Milan and Peoria County ECC. Kirsten from Wold is also going to try to attend the tours. Amanda reported that she is very impressed with Wold. Every interaction that she has with them has been positive and productive. The board mentioned that they would like to go upstairs to see how it looks currently before any construction begins.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to report.



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PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

Member Carlson moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Fire Chief Hovind at 10:26 a.m.
Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Galesburg Public Safety Building, 150 South Broad Street, Galesburg, Illinois.

cc: Kelli Bennewitz, City Clerk
Media