



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: August 16, 2024
SUBJECT: Galesburg/Knox E.T.S.B. Meeting Minutes Thursday, August 15, 2024

The regular meeting of the Galesburg/ Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E.T.S.B.) was held on Thursday, August 15, 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, Fire Chief Randy Hovind, Police Deputy Chief Kevin Legate, Richard Springer- G.H.A.S., Bill Stone- Henderson Fire Chief/WIFA Representative, Zachary Crowl- Member-at-Large, Sid Carlson- Member-at-Large, Ray Martinez- Information Systems Supervisor, Amanda Jennings- 911 Coordinator and Jenna Hunt- Records Clerk

ABSENT: Robin Davis- Knox County Treasurer, Jared Hawkinson- Knox County Board Member and Nate Clark- Motorola Representative

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 9:01 a.m. by Chairman Idle. Board Member Crowl motioned to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2024 meeting. Board Member Carlson gave a second motion. Approved.

APPROVE:

FINANCIAL REPORT: The current fund balance is \$4,232,248.64

Liabilities:

Month	Bill Totals
June	\$167,362.77
July	\$36,229.13

The liabilities were reviewed. Items noted was the charge for the switch that was discussed that the June meeting for the backup center.

Member Crowl motioned to approve the financial report. Member Carlson seconded. Motion approved.

REPORTS:

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

Month	911 & Admin Total	911 Calls	Cell	Landline	VOIP	Abandoned
June	10,416	2,283	2,049	31	170	151
July	9,830	2,081	-	-	-	121



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In July there was an issue with the Intrado phone system, specific call break downs are not available. Amanda is hopeful that it is now fixed, but believes that the call totals are close but will not be 100% correct. We are down call totals for the summer, usually we are around 11-12 thousand calls per month.

Amanda shared the following staffing update:

- One was released for independent work last Sunday on second shift
- One will be start classroom training on Monday

Dispatch Training:

- There were not many opportunities this summer, but planning on several classes coming up in September and October.

School Mapping Project:

We are in the process of adding school map drawings of the schools in the county due to the state giving out map grants. The maps have to be in a certain file format to be able to be uploaded to the CAD server. We currently have the drawings for Galesburg Junior-Senior High School, Knoxville schools, and Williamsfield. There are several schools that we either need the full plans, or plans just need room numbers updated on the drawings. Member Crowl mentioned he will talk to ROE#33 Superintendent Jodi Scott to see if they have these maps for us to use. Member Stowe mentioned that he believes ROWVA also has these ready to go. It was noted by Member Crowl that the Menta Group will need to be added to the list.

NATE CLARK- Motorola

Absent

RANDY HOVIND- Galesburg Fire Department

Was absent during this time due to a structure fire

BILL STONE-WIFA

WIFA will have their fall fire school on August 24th, and he is hopeful that it will have a good turnout again this year. Henderson and Oneida-Wataga Fire Departments are having issues with radio communication between the departments as well as with dispatch.

JARED HAWKINSON- Knox County Board

Absent

RICHARD SPRINGER- G.H.A.S.

GHAS has hired 3 new EMT's, with one going to paramedic school. They also got in one of their new ambulances. The timing to get ambulances are still going around 30 months for a new rig and around 24 months for a remount. Call totals have gone up between 9-1-1 calls and transfers. The EMT class has started and there are around 13 to 14 students taking the class, and there are several students who are interested in going on to paramedic school after the EMT class.

SID CARLSON-Member-at-Large

Member Carlson also mentioned that Tri-County Ambulance has also got their ambulance that they ordered two years ago. He also said calls wise, they are down from the normal numbers currently.



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RUSSELL IDLE- Board Chairman & Police Chief

Police department is currently fully staffed. The department will be sending two candidates to academy in January.

JACK HARLAN- Board Vice Chairman & Sheriff

On August 19th at 9:00 am in the KCSO conference room, Sheriff Harlan is going to have a meeting with his command and legal team about the new laws that have been put into effect regarding law enforcement involvement of mental health and suicidal patient calls. The new State legislation is known as CESSA. He has opened an invitation to GHAS, Galesburg Police, and Galesburg Fire as well. According to the new laws, if there is a barrier between the individual and law enforcement, and the individual is by themselves, law enforcement cannot breach the door to get to the individual, or make anyone go to the hospital. It was noted by both Chief Idle and Sheriff Harlan that they will not leave the scene on these calls until medical leaves the scene. Even though law enforcement's part of the law is now in effect, the dispatch side will not go into effect until July 2025. Dispatch will have a matrix of questions and answers that they will have to ask the caller, and this will decide what the call type will be and who to send.

The county is fully staffed. The jail's population is around 70 inmates. They are taking inmates from Cook County, Warren County, Stark County will be starting soon, as well as Scott County in Iowa will also send inmates.

ZACHARY CROWL-Member-at-Large

Nothing to report other than school is back in session.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held about the back up facility for dispatch. There were 5 bids that came in and the lowest bid was CAD Construction, which came in at with a few additional allowances, was \$372,400. This is the scaled down version that we came up with. There was a meeting on Monday with the construction company, and they are working to get started. They got the permits that were needed with an anticipated completion at the earliest middle November to the end of the year, which is on target where we would want to be. The next big expense will be the generator, but this will come up to a vote in a future meeting.

Discussion was then turned to the communication center renovation project. The bids are planning on going out in late October/early November, which is on target. Estimated cost by third party estimator is approximately around \$1,526,195.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held on the Hawthorne Radio Tower Update. Amanda had the formal report from the company who did the structural analysis. The tower did pass to become a Starcom site with some reinforcements on the top section to clear for wind loading. The work needed is estimated to be twenty-five to thirty thousand dollars. Member Springer motioned to spend thirty thousand dollars for the reinforcement on the top section for the tower to clear for wind loading. Chief Hovind seconded the motion. All approved.

Around July 4th, Abingdon's repeater went down. Nate was able to get parts or borrowed parts from another county to get Abingdon first responders back up and running. Chief Idle had sent an email to the board about this issue, letting the board know it will cost around eight thousand to fix, and it is an emergency fix that needed to be done right then. Member Crowl motioned to pay the eight thousand dollars to replace the parts that we had borrowed. Member Springer seconded the motion. All approved.

Chief Hovind and Amanda discussed to the board about the company Locution and the benefits that the program will have, not only for Galesburg Fire, but the rural fire and EMS departments, as well as dispatch. The information brought to the board is mainly informational at this time, there are several technical questions that need to be answered before anything is brought to the board formally.

However, this program will help Galesburg Fire Department with direct dispatching to the different stations, rather than



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the whole department. This will be beneficial for calls at night, they will be able to send the calls to individual pod(s) to those who would be responding, so the other firefighters will not get waken up for a call they do not need to respond to.

Another main component to the program is automated voice dispatching, this will help across the board. There will be one voice that will be selected and the voice will be slow and precise. Once the call gets into put into the system, the page will automatically go out to the responding agencies. This will reduce response time and getting the calls to the departments, especially if the room is busy and the dispatchers are on calls regarding the incident or other emergency calls. The company will also set up addressing for every street in the county. Chief Hovind mentioned that the system will be able to see what units are available and what ones are not and know if one truck is still on scene, then it will automatically go to the next truck and page out to that station/truck. He mentioned for the rural departments, he believes if rural department is busy on a call, the system will automatically page who is next on the mutual aid list.

There was discussion about the quotes that Amanda received for just starting out with Galesburg Fire, adding a few agencies, to all agencies in the county with other expenses that will come with the program. These will be discussed later in a future meeting when more information is available.

Member Carlson reached out to Amanda about doing county wide lamResponding. The ETSB board would pay the bill for every agency in the county. Galesburg Fire Department and Abingdon first responders are not on lamResponding currently, and this also excludes GHAS. Amanda received different quotes on the number of agencies for this service. The first quote is for all 19 agencies, which includes Galesburg Fire Department and the Abingdon fire and first responders. Discussion was held and it was discussed that Galesburg Fire will have no use for this service with what they have currently. The second quote, which excludes Galesburg Fire Department, is for 3 years annual cost would be \$8,926 or paying upfront would be \$26,064. Five years annual cost would be \$8,233 or the upfront cost would be \$39,848. Elmwood Fire is going to be taken off the list and Knox County Search & Rescue will be added in place of Elmwood Fire. There was a motion for up to \$26,064, the payment for upfront for three years. Member Carlson approved the motion and Fire Chief Hovind seconded the motion. All approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

Member Stone moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Fire Chief Hovind at 10:20 a.m. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Galesburg Public Safety Building, 150 South Broad Street, Galesburg, Illinois.

cc: Kelli Bennewitz, City Clerk
Media