



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: Amanda Jennings, 9-1-1 Coordinator/Administrative Support Supervisor
DATE: August 22, 2025
SUBJECT: Galesburg/Knox E.T.S.B. Meeting Minutes Thursday, August 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Galesburg/Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E.T.S.B.) was held on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 09:00 a.m. in the Police Chief's office of the Public Safety Building, 150 S Broad Street, Galesburg, Illinois, 61401.

PRESENT: Galesburg Police Chief Kevin Legate- E.T.S.B. Chairman, Sheriff Jack Harlan- E.T.S.B Vice Chairman, Galesburg Fire Deputy Chief John Seitz, Galesburg Police Deputy Chief Ryne Sage, Richard Springer- G.H.A.S., Bill Stone- WIFA Representative, Nate Clark- Motorola Representative, Sid Carlson and Zachary Crowl- Members-at-Large, Raymundo Martinez- IT, Kerzi Peterson – IT, Amanda Jennings- 911 Coordinator, and Jenna Hunt – Records Clerk

ABSENT: Galesburg Fire Chief Randy Hovind, Jared Hawkinson- Knox County Board Member and Robin Davis- Knox County Treasurer

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 09:02 a.m. by Galesburg Police Chief Kevin Legate. Member Springer motioned to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2025 meeting. Member Crowl gave a second motion. Motion passed.

APPROVE:

FINANCIAL REPORT: The current fund balance is \$3,375,303.75

Liabilities:

Month	Bill Totals
July	\$758,449.91
August	\$43,108.04

There is a charge on the July accounts payable report for the Starcom project for the amount of \$151,278 that was voided. There was a kickoff meeting with Motorola around the time that the check was cut and the new project manager advised not to pay that bill. The report does not reflect that change. We recently just received a new bill from Motorola for \$518,238.19. There will be additional charges coming in for Valley Construction as they are nearing completion on the new dispatch center and then when the old is decommissioned. Member Crowl motioned to approve the financial report. Member Stone seconded. Approved.

REPORTS:

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

Month	911 & Admin Total	911 Calls	Cell	Landline	VOIP	Abandoned
June	7,796	2,119	1,791	55	266	176
July	8,160	2,309	1,989	57	252	178



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Amanda reported the following:

The call volume has been steady the last few months. There have been three dispatchers hired. There is one dispatcher that starts on the floor training at the end of the month. One dispatcher started this Monday and she comes with five years of dispatch experience from Whiteside County. The third new hire will start next Monday. We have several attending an APCO fall training in Plainfield which is the Denise Amber Lee training on domestic violence. There is a house and senate bill now for the surcharge increase.

NATE CLARK- Motorola

The Henry County Starcom project is going well and he believes they will be done by end of October. He has a few meetings with Motorola regarding Knox County Starcom next week. He believes they have the best project manager and team assigned to it. In one of the meetings with the project manager he will set a date for ISI to come out with him to go over the scope of tower work, put up the antennas and do the cable management. He advised we are ready for them to come out now. Equipment is already starting to come in slowly. He is trying to coordinate all the equipment so it can be done all at the same time. There was discussion about interference with Knox 911 for the rural departments.

JOHN SEITZ- Galesburg Fire Department

The department has three currently still on probation. They just hit their six-month mark and are all doing well. They are still down one and will be until end of the year. They are hoping to send one to the spring academy. Contracts are pretty much wrapped up and waiting for approvals. Valley started on the dorm remodel. There is a federal change in reporting, they are working to get up to speed before it goes live on December 18th.

BILL STONE-WIFA

The fire training school is set to begin on August 23rd. They have a full house burn in Altona. He has seen a good turnout for people signing up and expects a great turnout again this year.

JARED HAWKINSON- Knox County Board

Absent

RICHARD SPRINGER- G.H.A.S.

He did not have anything to report, things are going well.

SID CARLSON-Member-at-Large

St. Mary's Hospital is still dealing with high volumes of patients. They are doing the best they can.

KEVIN LEGATE- Galesburg Police Department

The department currently has two officers coming off of FTO and two that are graduating from PTI Academy today. There will be one resignation at the end of the month. There will be a lateral candidate getting sworn in on September 2nd so the department will still be at 53 with the resignation.

JACK HARLAN- Board Vice Chairman & Sheriff

They have onboarded two new deputies for the jail. The school resource officer for Abingdon has been approved. Things are going well. The jail is fully staffed, but two deputies will be away for about 15 months for military service. They are hiring to cover those absences and to address high turnover in the jail.

ZACHARY CROWL-Member-at-Large

School has started and the special needs school at 1172 Monroe Street is now open.



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OLD BUSINESS

The backup facility is operating well and has not been used for a few months. It was utilized a few times during the upstairs demolition. There have been ongoing issues with the door locks, which have now been resolved, but a new issue has arisen with the generator. While the generator remains operational, there is a problem with low gas flow that does not meet specifications. Staff are working with several companies to determine the cause. The current gas line appears to be undersized, and there have been delays in receiving consistent updates regarding the necessary corrective actions. A properly functioning generator is required by Motorola.

Chief Legate reminded the Board that the building is landlocked, with Thrive located on the east side and a private citizen owning the property to the west. Parking has become an issue. Chief Legate will work with both property owners to seek a resolution. The citizen to the west previously made an agreement with the City when the building was operated by FISH, which may provide potential options for parking or shared use of the surrounding area. Discussions have also taken place with the City regarding placing rock around the tower to reduce the need for mowing and trimming, thereby decreasing maintenance requirements.

Renovations at the new dispatch center are progressing very well. There was an issue with the countertops, as the company initially sent the wrong ones. Fortunately, the error was identified early, and the correct countertops were delivered earlier this week. The ceiling and tile work have been completed, and flooring installation is the next step. Amanda has ordered the appliances, and Office Specialist will be delivering the furniture previously ordered through them.

A kickoff meeting for the Starcom project was held in July. The tentative date for final console training and system installation—when the system will go live in the new dispatch center—is set for the end of May. Two bids were received for connection to the Starcom core network:

- Stratus: Three-year agreement at \$395 per month, no setup costs.
- Bluebird: Three-year agreement at \$1,580 per month, with a \$1,000 setup fee.

Following discussion, Member Springer made a motion to approve the Stratus bid for the three-year agreement at \$395 per month with no setup costs. Member Carlson seconded the motion. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill brought up that Henderson is looking at other options for the antenna on the Henderson water tower. There has been a lack of communication so they are wanting to get other options. They are hopeful that Brightspeed will run copper wire to the tower.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

Member Stone motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 a.m. Member Springer seconded. Meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Galesburg Public Safety Building, 150 South Broad Street, Galesburg, Illinois.

cc: Kelli Bennewitz, City Clerk
Media