



TO: Galesburg/Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems (E.T.S.B.) Board Members
FROM: Amanda Jennings, 911 Coordinator
DATE: April 27, 2026
SUBJECT: Galesburg/Knox County E.T.S.B. Meeting Minutes on Friday, April 24, 2026

The regular meeting of the Galesburg/Knox County Emergency Telephone Systems Board (E.T.S.B.) was held on Friday, April 24, 2026 at 09:00 a.m. in the 911 Conference Room of the Public Safety Building, 150 South 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 Chief Randy Hovind, Bill Stone- WIFA Representative, Sid Carlson- EMS Representative, Zachary Crawl- Member-at-Large, Amanda Jennings- 911 Coordinator, Nate Clark- Motorola, Jenna Hunt- Records Clerk, Cameron Lemaster and Ray Martinez- City of Galesburg IT

ABSENT: Jared Hawkinson- Knox County Board Member, Richard Springer- EMS Member-at-Large, and Robin Davis- Knox County Treasurer.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 09:08 a.m. by Galesburg Police Chief Kevin Legate. Member Crawl motioned to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2026 meeting. Member Carlson gave a second motion. Motion passed.

APPROVE:

FINANCIAL REPORT: The current fund balance is \$1,298,215.73. Several larger bills are anticipated soon. Member Carlson motioned to approve the financial report. Fire Chief Hovind seconded. Motion approved.

Liabilities:

Month	Bill Totals
February	\$737,262.99
March	\$39,602.04
April	\$11,697.15

REPORTS:

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

Month	911 & Admin Total	911 Calls	Cell	Landline	VOIP	Abandoned
February	7,853	1,764	1,410	76	273	121
March	9,535	2,131	1,783	65	273	142

Amanda reported that Telecommunicator Week was celebrated the previous week and received a wonderful show of support from the community. Discussion was held regarding ways to better educate the community about the full scope of work performed by dispatch personnel.



Training continues to progress. One trainee is nearly complete but will begin maternity leave in May. The other is nearing completion of classroom training. Motorola provided training on the new dispatch consoles, which went very well and was described as user-friendly.

Amanda reported that the 911 Goes to Springfield event went well. Chief Legate and her met with four legislators who were supportive of the proposed surcharge increase; however, the issue has not yet gained significant traction. Additional outreach will be needed before the end of the year. A meeting is scheduled for Monday to discuss a strategy for the future of 911 funding.

NATE CLARK- Motorola

Nate reported that work continues on STARCOM. Radio testing has also been underway throughout the county to evaluate coverage.

RANDY HOVIND- Galesburg Fire Department

The department remains one firefighter short and received approval to fill the vacancy in September. Deputy Chief John Seitz retired in March, and the Deputy Chief vacancy is expected to be filled. Chief Hovind also discussed work involving emergency sirens.

BILL STONE- WIFA

Member Stone reported that WIFA elections remained generally unchanged, with a possible change in the secretary position. He also noted preparations for fall fire school.

JARED HAWKINSON- Knox County Board

Absent

SID CARLSON- EMS Representative

Member Carlson reported that call volume is up and emergency room activity remains very busy.

RICHARD SPRINGER- EMS Member-at-Large

Absent

KEVIN LEGATE- Board Chairman and Galesburg Police Department

Chief Legate reported staffing at 51 of 53 positions. Four recruits have graduated from the Police Training Institute and will begin work on Monday. Applications are currently open for the next hiring cycle, with approximately 20 applications received so far and testing planned for May.

JACK HARLAN- Board Vice Chairman & Knox County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Harlan reported that patrol and jail are fully staffed. Two vehicles have been received, and four additional vehicles have been ordered. Radios ordered in December are still pending. Discussion was held on the current condition of the Knox County Courthouse and potential future plans.



ZACHARY CROWL- Member-at-Large

Member Crowl reported on a meeting with police and fire leadership regarding reunification procedures with area schools. The goal is to use consistent language across participating agencies and schools. Schools in Knox County are expected to follow the “I Love U Guys” Standard Response Protocol/Standard Reunification Method framework.

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNICATION CENTER RENOVATION: The communication center move was delayed until May 11th. The open house will take place today from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

STARCOM: Work continues and implementation is anticipated soon after the communications center move.

FIRE SOPs & MABAS: Amanda and Chief Legate attended a WIFA meeting regarding streamlining fire SOPs. Four departments have submitted updated MABAS Box Cards so far.

FEIN: The FEIN process has been completed with assistance from the Knox County Treasurer’s Office.

NEW BUSINESS

CLEANING QUOTE: Cleaning of the new communication center will now occur weekly. The initial post-construction cleaning was completed for \$325 for approximately six hours of work. They will rotate cleaning between the dispatch room and remainder of the space.

FCC LICENSING: Several FCC licenses were identified as expired. The Board discussed that individual departments are responsible for maintaining and renewing their respective licenses.

RADIO MOU: Stark County has requested to enter into a mutual agreement regarding the use of our radio frequencies for interoperability.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Member Stone motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 a.m. Fire Chief Hovind seconded. Meeting adjourned.

The next regular meeting date is schedule for Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 9 a.m.

cc: Kelli Bennewitz, City Clerk
Media