

## **Montgomery County 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes**

**January 19th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on January 19th, 2022 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman Darin Beckman at 7:07 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen, Don Huber and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, Chris Ginder, Chris Overbeck, Kelly Brewer, Doug Donaldson and Chris Coss.

1. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Darin Beckman
2. **Approval of the Minutes December 15th, 2022** –Discussion: Boyd stated Dylan Goldsmith didn't recall the conversation he had with him the month prior that was reported at the December meeting and he feels that should be stricken from the minutes. **Motion by Bergen and second by Sebeschak to strike the conversation of Dylan Goldsmith. Holliday votes No. All others in favor, Motion carried. Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to approve the minutes as corrected for December 15th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** Boyd reported Treasurer Lohman doesn't have the December 2022 financial info yet so there are no reports to review tonight. Boyd also stated they struck the language to sweep the 911 funds for the 988 system. The next Motorola payment of \$183,300 will be due in the next couple of months.

Holliday stated that according to the ETSB bylaws, there should be an election of officers each December and this wasn't done last month. The election should take place after the minutes and financial report approvals. County Board Chairman Doug Donaldson stated he read the agenda and the bylaws and knows it says in the ETSB Bylaws to have the election in December but nothing was said in December for this month to have election. It is on the January agenda, but nothing was said at the December minutes. Donaldson stated December has passed and it would be better to have them next month so proper notice is given so as to not open up to possible litigation. Beckman asks the board what they want to do and the consensus was to have the elections in February. By Laws should be say something about making a temporary change for this year to have elections in February of this year and then go back to December each year thereafter. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to change the bylaws to have the elections in February 2023 and then back in December each year thereafter. All in favor, motion carried.** Beckman thanks County Board Chairman Donaldson for that word of advice.

4. **Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$12,244.39. **Motion by Smalley and second by Huber to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of**

**\$12,244.39. All in favor, motion carried.** Holliday reported Chris Coss was called out to the Farmersville tower because GTSI didn't do the work properly. Holliday said he had pictures of the negligent work and that Walch Electric had to go out and fix it and a bill was sent to the County. Holliday asked if GTSI would pay for the repairs. Holliday also reported there was a \$450 bill for Chris Coss to go up there to do a service call. GTSI Chris Ginder said they are not taking responsibility of this work until they look at it. Kelly Brewer from GTSI stated they didn't do any electrical work up there.

**5. Old Business Update/Approval:**

- **Flex/NG911 Update** – Boyd said they still haven't signed off on the leads integration. Boyd said a new employee is handling this now and they got an earful about how long this is taking. Boyd said he is meeting with Motorola on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am and invited anyone from the board to come. Boyd reported they will also be talking maintenance costs and about the ARK GIS. The State has been moving slowly on NG911, they have about 7 – 911 systems on line and about 100 more this year. Boyd hopes we are on the agenda for some time this year.
- **Simulcast Radio System:** Beckman stated he called Bergen and Huber today to discuss that they were absent at the December ETSB meeting and he feels they should hear the informative conference call with Dave Dato from last month. Secretary Daniels will give them a flash drive after tonight's meeting because the file was too large to email. Beckman said he attended a meeting in Staunton last week where Chief Rick Hasse gave a presentation about the implementation of the box cards in Macoupin County. Chief Hasse gave high praise about their new Simulcast radio system in Macoupin County and he said it beats anything they have had in the past. Beckman said Girard Assistant Chief Craig Bridges also told him how good the Simulcast system is working there.

Boyd said that the next MABAS meeting is scheduled for February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Hillsboro Ambulance Garage to speak with responders from Macoupin and Montgomery County and members from ARCH medical. Boyd encouraged for people to attend. A meal will be served at 6:30 pm and the meeting will start at 7:00 pm.

Holliday stated we struck the Goldsmith comments from last month's minutes, and asked Boyd what Dylan Goldsmith told him. Boyd responded that he understood Goldsmith to say he works with Taylorville Fire Department and not with Christian County Simulcast, but from what he has heard about the system it works well. Holliday said he called and talked with Goldsmith after the last meeting and inquired about his conversation with Boyd. Boyd stated he spoke with Goldsmith after the November meeting. Holliday said Goldsmith told him and he has a text message that said all of his feedback to Boyd was negative. Beckman said he was at Taylorville Fire Department a few times and asked Chief Matt Adermann what they thought about the system and he responded that Taylorville runs on their own and at the beginning there were some adjustments and some bumps in the road but since then things are working ok and he hasn't heard of issues. Holliday read the text message from Goldsmith that stated he spoke with some in Christian County that have issues with the paging system

and that Chief Adermann believes it is due to lack of towers creating dead zones in the county and this information was related to Boyd. Holliday said he feels there was some misinformation from last month's meeting and said information was given that wasn't true.

Bergen stated he doesn't know anything about radios and looked up the definition of Simulcast. Bergen asked Chris Coss if his radio system was going to be Simulcast and Coss responded no. It is Multicast. Bergen asked GTSI why he hasn't given a price and Ginder responded he was waiting for the 911 board to send out an RFP. Holliday said we already discussed it and it was too much money for a consultant to do an RFP. Bergen noted that we received a proposal from Coss to improve the current system. Boyd said a strip down price for a consultant is \$10,000. Bergen said he is having a hard time making a decision and feels we need more information from GTSI. Donaldson asked what GTSI is proposing and they responded that it is a whole new system. Boyd said the Fire Departments are asking for a Simulcast system and explained the difficulties of paging off of different towers whereas with the Simulcast system you send one time and everyone gets it. Holliday said he hasn't heard of any fireman that said they want the Simulcast system. Coss said this is not an accurate statement and that the multi paging issues are due to using Store Forward. Boyd said that is how they were trained. Coss said that you could page everyone in the county by not using Store Forward and part of his package was to get rid of it. Boyd said the Simulcast system would prepare us for going digital and would be beneficial in the future for applying for grants. Bergen said Coss is providing a very good product and bid and didn't get much from GTSI on what they are going to do except for what is on a sheet of paper. There are two different systems and two different platforms. Beal said he goes to multiple districts in the County. If he goes to Nokomis he has to change his hand held radio to hit a different tower. Beal said every time he goes to a different area he has to change frequencies from tower to tower, whereas with the Simulcast system you don't have to change. On simulcast you are on one frequency and don't have to change. Bergen says we need more than one bid or bring in a consultant for \$10,000. Beckman said this won't work because you have two different systems and can't compare. Holliday said he has been in other places out of the county and has heard pages from in the county on the current system just fine. Ginder said fundamentally the board needs to decide what system they want. Does the board want a Multicast or Simulcast system. Coss and GTSI could both bid on a Multicast system. Holliday said we have a multicast system now and why would we want to change it. Beckman said this all came about last year when they had a mutual aid officers meeting we were talking about putting together some needs for ARPA funding. The majority said they would like a Simulcast system so they didn't have to change channels. Then it was talked about at an ETSB meeting and the board prioritized it as the top priority. Boyd was asked to get a price for a Simulcast system so they had figures for the County Finance Committee meeting.

Holliday said he talked with Adam Pennock and asked him if the Simulcast was better than what they have now. Pennock told Holliday they can't talk on the Interstate which they used to be able to and places that they could talk to before, you can't now. Beckman stated that Pennock didn't say that at last month's meeting and Holliday said Pennock wasn't happy

about the last meeting and said he won't be back. Holliday said the system we have now works and we can upgrade this system for \$50,000 or roll the dice with the Simulcast system when he has heard bad reports from Christian County and the cost is over \$350,000. Holliday says Boyd, Beckman and the Sheriff wants the Simulcast system with GTSI. Beckman said this is about public safety and he brought forward what the fire chiefs asked for. Huber said he hears the main concern is with the hand held radios which cost about \$2,500 to \$3,000 each. Beckman felt some fire departments would not be able to afford the new radios. Holliday said it could solve the problem if we buy new radios for the fire departments or fix them so you don't have to change channels. Beckman reported that Finance Chairman Andy Ritchie told him the ARPA money would pay for any system, however whatever money is left will go back into the pot. Discussion took place on the number of radios used by all the departments. Huber asked how GTSI is handling and controlling the overlap. Ginder replied by keeping the transmitters on frequencies which is the biggest expense on the Simulcast system. You have to have very stable clocks at the sites so when they drift, the clock adjusts and so would the overlap. Ginder says with recent technology and as long as the system is engineered properly the overlap is not a concern. Ginder offers taking board members to an existing system to show there is no overlap. Beckman said Macoupin County System has been up for 2 to 3 months and he keeps hearing the Simulcast System is working much better. Beckman said we are talking about public safety not vendors. Holliday stated he doesn't feel like the Simulcast system is for us and that he doesn't care about vendors. Sebeschak said she wants a list of counties that have the Simulcast product so she can check for herself. Boyd said he has a list of counties that have the system and can pass it along. Boyd suggests going to the MABAS meeting to talk with people using the system. Beckman said that Raymond Fire Chief Danny McCallum asks him each time he sees him when is the Simulcast system coming. Smalley said he gets good and bad feedback about the Simulcast system but is hesitant about spending a lot of money. Beckman said this was an option for the ETSB board due to the ARPA money being available. Smalley said he can't see our county becoming digital for another 10 to 15 years.

- **Fiber to Cress Hill Site:** Boyd reported we received one bid from CTI. Beckman read the bid to connect the Cress Hill Tower to fiber, 50 Mb up and down including the install fee in the amount of \$45,000. The monthly recurring fee is \$299 for 60 months. The total is \$62,940. The ARPA money has approved \$40,000. Boyd suggests that IT Manager review the bid. **Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to approve the bid from CTI to install fiber to the Cress Hill Tower site pending the review and approval of the specs by IT Manager Curt Watkins. All in favor, motion carried.**

#### **6. New Business Update/Approval:**

- **C & K Communications proposal:** Beckman asked if there were any questions for Chris Coss regarding the proposal he gave last month and stated he would like to wait to decide on this issue until next month. **Motion by Holliday to go with C & K Communications. There was no and second. Motion fails for lack of a second. Motion by Beal and second by Beckman to table this proposal until next month. Motion carried.** Beckman feels we should wait because Sebeschak wants to reach out state wide for more information

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and Huber and Bergen still need to listen to the tape from last month. Huber wants to see something in writing from GTSI because they have nothing to compare it to. Bergen said he doesn't think this needs to be bid out.

- **Beckman and Bergen were reappointed at the County Board meeting in January.**
- **County Contract:** ETSB Board reviewed the proposed changes for the ETSB contract with the Sheriff's Department. This issue will be tabled until next month.

**Open Discussion:** Boyd said he purchased a panel to block a computer screen due to some reporter coming in and recording on U Tube. TC Taylor is off until March and Wilma Graden is retiring in a few weeks. Three applicants took the test and one passed. Holliday reported that Litchfield Police Department gave them their encryption code so they can communicate together and that Sheriff Robbins still won't let the State Police have the County code.

7. **Adjournment:** Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 9:02 pm.  
Next meeting is scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by ETSB Secretary Christine Daniels.

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes**

**February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.                      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman Darin Beckman at 7:05 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen by phone, Don Huber and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, Chris Ginder, Chris Coss, Dan Hough, Dan Rogers, Dan McCallum, Mark Hughes, Sheriff Rick Robbins, States Attorney Affrunti, Kevin Schott, Don Keiser.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was led by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to approve the minutes as corrected for January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** The County Treasurer’s report was reviewed with a balance as of 12/31/2022 being \$499,904.62. **Motion by Sebeschak and second by Smalley to approve the Financial report. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of **Motion by Huber and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$12,244.39. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **GTSI** – Beckman reported he received a certified letter on Wednesday from Chris Ginder in reference to comments made last month regarding repairs needed at the Farmersville site. Ginder stated it was determined the condition was pre-existing and he wants the record to reflect that. Holiday asked Ginder what did he do to look into the situation and Ginder replied he interviewed the workers at the site.
  - **Flex/NG911Next Generation 911 Update** – Boyd reported there has been a little bit of movement. Part of the delay is the Leads upgraded to 3.0 during the project. Boyd stated the State employee has been corresponding with him regarding the update. Bond and Sangamon are working to re-charter through NG911 and others will transfer later this year. Boyd said he hopes we are connected by the end of the year.
  - **Simulcast Radio System** – Beckman shared some supporting documents submitted by various departments regarding the Simulcast system. GTSI shared a complete proposal

for the Simulcast system and Huber said he wanted to know why it has taken 6 months to get these documents from GTSI. Beckman replied they didn't put out more paperwork because if it went out for bid, they didn't want to release all the propriety information and that they are protecting their project and the design work. States Attorney Affrunti stated once the paperwork is presented to the 911 board in open session, the proposal documents are open to the public. The presentation of those proposal documents would have had to be done in closed session to keep the documents from the public. Huber said we would not have made a decision without more information. Beckman said we have a lot of visitors here and asked for comments. Dan Rogers from Witt said he has written several grants for fire departments and wrote the one for Macoupin County's Simulcast system. Rogers said he has no reason to judge the vendors and is here on behalf of the citizens of Montgomery County. Rogers asked how did we get to this point of having two vendors this far apart. Beckman replied we were instructed by the Finance Committee to find out what a Simulcast system cost and Boyd reached out to GTSI to find out what a system would cost so they could apply for ARPA funds. Beckman said the multicast system and the simulcast system is like comparing apples and oranges. Holliday said no one else can upgrade the multicast system because Coss has a maintenance contract for it for the next three years. Keiser asks what the 911 board wants to do tonight, if this will be bid or what. Beckman said we have not released anything for an RFP at this point. This process has been in limbo and the board would like to move forward. Holliday said that GTSI is five months late by submitting their proposal tonight and this has been discussed over and over. Holliday feels this is a big issue and they should have been here months ago and doesn't think any more discussion needs to be had. Dan Rogers said that this was discussed at MABAS with multiple people there. Rogers asked of these systems are P25 compatible and digital. The Sheriff's system is digital. Coss replied his system could be and GTSI said yes. Affrunti shared a concern if the pagers that were requested from ARPA funds would be compatible with the multicast and simulcast system. Rogers asked if this is violation of open meetings act because they approved the simulcast system. Holliday said he spoke with County Board Doug Donaldson and was told the county board would support whatever system they chose. Dan Rogers said he called Owaneco, Morrisonville and Taylorville and they had no issues. There have been some concerns in Christian County that there are some issues. Kevin Schott said that GTSI was at a MABAS 56 meeting to answer questions and not give a presentation. Discussion took place on making sure whatever system they go with, to make sure it is digital capable so as to not to spend more money later. Sheriff Robbins clarified that ARPA is separate money. Don Keiser stated he feels the Simulcast system is more user friendly and it would be considered an upgrade. He said he would like the county to go forward and not go backwards. A concern was shared if we have enough towers. Beal said GTSI's map stated this would cover 93% of the county on the hand held radios. Robbins said if a portable doesn't work, hit the repeater. Keiser talked about some of the problems and it might be not enough towers or vendors. Everyone agreed there needs to be accountability on the

Vendor before making final payment. Dan McCallum said he doesn't have an opinion one way or another and he talked with Pennock from Litchfield and how he can now reach certain areas. McCallum said we have an opportunity to improve our system and we need to follow up to do so. Danny Hough said at one time we were worried about keeping 911 in our County and he commended the board for being diligent on the decisions they are faced with. Hough said whatever choice you make, do it to have the communications go forward and not lateral or behind. Hough concluded by stating it is not easy to make decisions when serving on a board and asked they keep in mind the 29,000 county citizens. Boyd said firefights have thin red line and law enforcement is thin blue line. Communications have a thin gold line representing the connection with the responders. If a repeater site goes down, we lose that connection. Planning is important for when something fails and you can't open a pager. Fortunately AT & T is up so they contact first responders by phones. The simulcast will allow pages getting though even if a tower site is down. Huber said if a tower goes down it will be compromised no matter what. Beckman said every other tower will be lighting up to provide some type of service. Keiser said Nokomis tower needs to be higher. Dan Rogers asked GTSI what they propose to the tower height and Ginder responded they will put more sites out and not necessarily increase the height. Beckman said Pennock is looking to put up a higher tower and they will work out an agreement with AT & T for the higher tower. Beal said there have been a lot of improvements since he got on the 911 board nine years ago. Beal added we now have a new dispatch center and he wants new technology and feels Simulcast is an improvement to get one frequency for the whole county. Beckman said at a mutual aid officers meeting about a year ago where Dan Rogers also attended, they heard the county was going to get some ARPA money and they asked what would benefit the fire departments and Montgomery County citizens. Suggestions at that meeting were for a Simulcast radio system, fiber to the Cress Hill Tower and back up batteries. The Chiefs prioritized the needs with the Simulcast system being the top. **Motion by Beckman and second by Beal to move forward with the Simulcast radio system for Montgomery County. Roll Call: Voting No was Holliday, Sebeschak, Smalley, Huber and Bergen. Voting Yes was Beckman and Beal. Motion failed.** Smalley asked about seeing the GTSI coverage map and asked about the testing. GTSI used an industry's standard. States Attorney Affrunti said he hasn't seen the contract and is new to this. HE added the procurement process. Affrunti asks GTSI if there would be a separate maintenance contract from the system purchase and Ginder says yes. Optional but not required and it is not in the current proposed contract. Beckman said we are currently paying Coss a maintenance cost of \$5,000 per year. Holliday said we still owe \$15,000 to Chris Coss to complete the three years of his system. Huber asks GTSI what the maintenance cost is in their proposal and Ginder replied it is 6% annually of the equipment after the 3 year warranty. Huber said that is too much money and wonders how it will be paid for. Holliday said other counties complain that it is a costly system to maintain.



- **Fiber to Cress Hill:** Boyd reported that IT Manager Curt Watkins said the proposal looks good for the fiber to Cress Hill and that States Attorney Affrunti needs to review it. Boyd reported CTI will need the first invoice paid up front and the County approved paying \$40,000 of the bill with ARPA money. We can't do a county bank or credit card and Boyd is hoping to hear back by the next meeting.
- **C & K Communications Proposal: Motion by Sebeschak and second by Holliday to accept the C & K proposal to upgrade the radio system.** Discussion: Huber asks Coss if it can be digital and Coss said yes. Coss was asked if this would increase the cost and Coss replied yes. Beckman said we can't move forward and States Attorney Affrunti said the County would need to move to amend their previous motion to approve ARPA funds regarding the Simulcast system. Huber suggested moving forward with the C & K upgrade. Mark Hughes said the county board needs to review this. Dan Rogers said the County ARPA process was a complete wreck and the rest of the \$300,000 will be given back. Beckman stated the remaining funds may not go to public safety. Coss was asked about the repeaters and he replied that the repeaters will need to be upgraded and the radios could be compatible. Huber said a new system is going to be out of date in 10 to 15 years anyway. Sebeschak and Holliday amend their motion. **Motion by Sebeschak and second by Holliday to upgrade the current system if the county board gives the ARPA funding. Beckman and Beal voted no. Five members voting Yes and 2 members voting no. Motion carried.**
- **County Contract** – Robbins said Bergen was going to talk with County Finance Chairman Andy Ritchie and County Treasurer Nikki Lohman to see if the numbers were OK. **Motion by Holliday and second by Bergen to approve the County Contract. All in favor, motion carried.**

#### **6. New Business Update/Approval:**

- **ETSB Reappointments** – Smalley, Holliday and Beal were appointed by the full board in February. States Attorney Affrunti asks why appointments are happening in February. According to the bylaws, appointments should be in December and we need to look into the history of the terms to see who goes where. Terms should be staggered.
- **ETSB Amendments to Bylaws and election of Officers.** States Attorney Affrunti said he changed the bylaws to reflect the terms to 3 years per the State Statute. Nothing in the Statute to remove a board member so this board can't remove one if its own members. Members can only be removed by death, resignation or end of term, so Affrunti took it out of the bylaws. He also removed item 1-G neglect of duties. Affrunti presented the changes on the amended By Laws document for a 30 day review. We have to wait 30 days to vote on the Bylaws amendments.
- **Election of Officers:** is tabled until the By Laws are voted on.
- **911 Coordinator Position:** Sheriff Robbins reported 911 ETSB board hired their own Coordinator years ago. When the financial issues came up with the board, he got a Telecommunicator to be the 911 Coordinator at \$1.00 per hour or \$2,080 per year which is very cheap. Robbins said that the City of Litchfield needs to know by May what to budget to work out a deal with Litchfield for some of their dispatching. Robbins said there doesn't need to be a decision tonight; he just wanted to put it on their plate.

Beckman said ETSB is saving money by not having to hire a part or full time 911 Coordinator. Robbins said Boyd may retire in January 2024 and he has no replacement in mind. Robbins also reported they now have all TC positions filled and if they take on Litchfield, they will have to have 3 TC's during the day.

- **FEMA Natural Hazards Mitigation Projects.** Boyd said there is possible FEMA money for anything that could be a natural hazards and thinks the Cress Hill Tower building could be upgraded to replace the garden shed. Hough said with the Hazard Mitigation plan you have to have a plan for the county. It doesn't guarantee money for the County but it would be add the Cress Hill Tower in the county plan. **Motion by Smalley and second by Sebeschak to put the project of the Cress Hill Tower upgrades in the County Hazardous Mitigation plan. All in favor, motion carried.**

7. **Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

8. **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Chris Ginder asks if the current system will be bid out and stated he would like an opportunity to bid on the multicast system. Affrunti said it should go out for bid if the current contract says others can do upgrades to the system.

9. **Adjournment:** Motion Huber and second by Beal to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.  
Time 9:15 pm.

**Next meeting is March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 pm.**

# Montgomery County 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes

**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

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The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman Darin Beckman at 7:07 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen, Don Huber and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, Chris Coss, Mark Hughes, Sheriff Rick Robbins, Dave Loucks and Evan Young.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was led by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to approve the minutes for February 16th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** The County Treasurer’s report was reviewed with a balance as of 1/31/2023 being \$510,671.30. **Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to approve the Financial report. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$242,702.40. Boyd reported the 4<sup>th</sup> of 5 payments to Motorola is in the packet this month. **Motion by Smalley and second by Huber to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$242,702.40. Roll Call Vote: Voting Yes: Beal, Beckman, Holliday, Sebeschak, Bergen, Huber and Smalley. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Flex/NG911 Update** – Boyd said this is moving slowly however there have been some progress on the leads integrations. The State Police and Motorola have a connection and started working. Some systems are NG911 now and the state hopes others will be NG911 by the end of this December.
  - **Fiber to Cress Hill Site** – Boyd said they will get a payment to CTI and start pushing fiber. Young asked if CTI was paid out of ARPA funds and if the check went out. Daniels with check with the Clerk’s Office.
  - **Simulcast/Montgomery County ARPA for ETSB Communications:** Beckman said he knows this was voted down last meeting but left it on as old business for ARPA funding discussion.
  - **C&K Communications proposal:** Chris Coss asked about the fiber proposal from CTI that IT Manager Curt Watkins prepared. Boyd responded that he didn’t know what

Curt's proposal had in it. Coss said that in his multicast proposal, the Nokomis tower antennae will be raised at the city shed next to the water tower and that Witt and Coffeen will be getting new towers. Two frequencies will be added. The most difference will be in South Audubon Twp. Boyd asked if this will be digital compatible and Coss responded it will be digital, but not P25. The difference between the 3 dg and 6 db is that the 6 db is an improvement. VHS antennas have a 17 degree vertical beam width. Coss explained the signal is hitting the ground sooner and the higher the antenna the better the service. Coss stated that whatever it was receiving before, the signal will double coming into the receiver. The feed line is a 25% feed loss with the way the current system works. With the upgrade it will be 15%. The static on hand a held radio is the duplexer. You have got to have enough signal to get over the noise. Fillmore is the only store forward left. Coss said the upgrade will improve Shoal Creek area a little. He will take the Litchfield frequency and take it to Coffeen. **Motion by Bergen and second by Mandy to approve the estimate from C & K communications for \$83,620 to upgrade the current multicast system pending ARPA funding. All in favor, motion carried.**

- **Montgomery County Contract:** Sheriff Robbins stated he corrected an error on Contract for the Telecommunicators salary reimbursement and talked to Bill Bergen about it. Robbins also added verbiage regarding "Sheriff approved vendors". Robbins said they are up to the max point of 12 TC's and they should be OK. The eleventh TC is currently in trailing. Wilma Graden retired in February and he is hiring to fill that position. Robbins said they are negotiating with the City of Litchfield regarding dispatching for 32 hours a week, Monday thru Thursday. Robbins explained that Sheriff's Office Dispatch already covers her vacations, days off and holidays etc. Bergen said the Sheriff will receive money from Litchfield and asked if that will offset what is coming into the Sheriff's. Budget. Robbins replied no, that ETSB will be paying 42%. Robbins said the discussion can happen at this year's budget hearings with the finance committee. Boyd reminded everyone that before the coal mine shut down, there were 13.5 people. There was one part time secretary, one 911 Coordinator and 12 TC's.
- **ETSB Amendments to Bylaws and Election of Officers:** Beckman said according to the current bylaws, we need 30 days to vote on these amendments. We can wait until the regular April Meeting or schedule a special meeting. Bergen asked for some dates to schedule a special meeting. **Everyone checked their calendars and Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm was the consensus. Motion by Sebeschak and second by Holliday to schedule a special meeting on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 pm for the purpose of approving the amended Bylaws and having the election of officers. All in favor, motion carried.**
- **911 Coordinator Position:** Sheriff Robbins asked if there was any discussion regarding Coordinator Boyd's upcoming retirement and said there is \$28,000 budgeted for his salary. ETSB pays for the back fill when Boyd is off the counsel. Robbins said this works good if the right person is in the 911 Coordinator position and things work out well when the Coordinator is in house to field calls etc. Robbins said there are a couple

of employees that are potentially qualified and we need to find someone with the desire to learn the radio and computer technology. Robbins stated that Boyd had to learn a lot about radios and technology in order to communicate with our IT Director Curt Watkins when he took the position. Boyd stated he plans to stay with the county through the NG 911 update and he will help out the new employee and is committed to the cause. Beckman asks the board to give Robbins some direction on what to do to hire someone. Beal said look for someone internally. Holliday said he doesn't have a problem with him working on a replacement; however they want some input on it. Robbins said he will keep in conversation with Litchfield and look for a possible hire that could be a 911 Coordinator and he will keep the ETSB board informed.

- **FEMA Natural Hazards Mitigation Projects:** Smalley said he has been attending these meetings and Boyd said he would like to add the Cress Hill shed on the list for a county project. Young said he talked with Andy Ritchie and there will be a chance to open more submissions for ARPA money. Mark Hughes said he doesn't know yet how the Finance Committee will do this. Boyd received a quote for a structure in the amount of \$45,955. Coss said that Motorola is decommissioning some of those buildings for \$14,000 and Coss will find out. **Motion by Smalley and second Huber to add the Cress Hill shed on the County Hazard Mitigation Plan and also to the ARPA funding depending on how that opens up. All in favor, motion carried.**

6. **New Business Update/Approval:**

- **XYBIX proposal** – Boyd said he would like to add a panel to one of the walls to block and secure one of the monitors. **Motion by and second by Beal to approve the XYBIX quote for the panel to secure the monitor in the amount of \$1,305.83. All in Favor, motion carried.**

7. **Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

8. **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Holliday thanked the three county board members for showing up for tonight's meeting. Beckman said it is appreciated. Huber asked if they should be working on a 5 year budget. Boyd said he talked with the Motorola rep this month and we will need to re-up the ESRI contract. Boyd will try and get a ballpark cost.

9. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Sebeschak and second by Smalley. All in favor, motion carried. Time 8:25 pm.

10. **Next regularly scheduled meeting is April 20th, 2023**

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes**

**April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.                      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on April 6th, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman Darin Beckman at 7:10 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen, Don Huber and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Mark Hughes

**1. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Darin Beckman**

**2. Old Business Update/Approval:**

**ETSB Amendments to Bylaws:** Board members reviewed the amended by laws as prepared by States Attorney Andrew Affrunti last month. **Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to adopt the ETSB Amendments to the Bylaws as presented by States Attorney Affrunti. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Election of Officers: Nominations for ETSB Board Chairman – Motion by Sebeschak and second by Bergen to nominate James Holliday as the ETSB Board Chairman. Beckman asks a total of three time for nominations. Hearing none, Holliday is elected by acclamation.**

**Nominations for ETSB Board Vice Chairman - Motion by Holliday and second by Bergen to Nominate Sebeschak as ETSB Board Vice Chairman. Beckman asks a total of three times for nominations. Hearing none, Sebeschak is elected by acclamation.**

**3. Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

**4. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Beckman reported that County Board Finance Chairman Andy Ritchie called him regarding the county board vote to go forward with the multicast system. Ritchie wanted a new proposal submitted to the Finance Committee so that ARPA funds could be voted on for the revised request. Beckman stated he had Boyd draft a new proposal to submit to the Finance Committee. Discussion took place on doing a lottery for board members terms. Holliday stated he will check with Affrunti.

**5. Adjournment:** Motion Huber and second by Sebeschak to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Time 7:35 pm.

**Next meeting is April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 pm.**

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes**

**April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on April 20, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman James Holliday at 7:05 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen, Don Huber and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, Chris Coss, Sheriff Rick Robbins

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Holliday**

- **Approval of the Minutes for the regular March 16th, 2023** – Motion by Smalley and second by Sebeschak to approve the minutes for March 16th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Approval of the Minutes for the special meeting held on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.** Motion by Smalley and second by Sebeschak. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen shared the monthly Treasurer report. The balance as of 2/28/23 was \$521,471.13. Motion by Huber and second by Smalley to approve the Financial report. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$8,080.96. Motion by Beckman and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$8,080.96. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Montgomery County ARPA funds for ETSB:** Beckman reported the ETSB request was approved by the county board.
  - **C & K Communications Update**
    - i. **911 system** – Coss said he is negotiating with Panama. Frequency will be taken from Litchfield for Coffeen. Parts have been ordered. Coss asked when departments will get new pagers. Secretary Daniels reported the county board has the pagers considered in the ARPA funding distribution.
    - ii. **Payment Term/Invoices:** Discussion of one half of the payment in the amount of \$83,620 to C & K Communications. A voucher will need to be prepared and sent to the Finance Committee so an ARPA ordinance can be drafted for county board approval.
    - iii. **Farmersville Tower Issues:** Coss gave an update on the level of frequencies at

the tower and explained the issues of why some of the communications don't go through. The transmitting and receiving signals have issues and Coss will go up there on Saturday and talk with engineers to see what they can do. Some of the issues have to do with being 6 feet apart.

- **Montgomery County Contract-Agreement with Sheriff for Dispatching:** Sheriff Robbins and the ETSB board discussed the conditions of the Agreement for Dispatching services. Robbins said it was a flat fee at first which was the easiest but not the fairest. You have to take into account the Sheriff salary for supervising and the cost to do business and space etc. When Megan Beeler became the Finance Chairman, they then decided to do a percentage. The agreement now has that the ETSB would pay 42% of the Dispatchers salary. Discussion also took place on the Sheriff approving the vendors that come into the Jail building and language was agreed upon. Robbins gave an update on the dispatching staff and upcoming retirements. **Motion by Smalley and second by Huber to approve the Contract-Agreement with the Sheriff for Dispatching. All in favor, motion carried.**
- **ETSB Reappointments:** Discussion took place on the terms of the ETSB Board members and how the bylaws stated four years and the state statute says three year terms. As people have come off the ETSB board over the years through resignations, the terms of the appointments got out of whack. The board went over the current terms and ending dates of the members on currently. Holliday said he will have some discussion with the States Attorney to get the terms back on track with the state statute.
- **Flex/NG 911 Update:** Boyd reported more progress has been made and we should be online by the end of the year.
- **Fiber to Cress Hill:** Boyd reported the permitting and design phase is nearly done. Payment should go through and is in the work. Beal stated that CTI was been bought out but this should not effect our work.
- **New Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Coffeen and Witt Tower Site:** Discussion took place on finding Intergovernmental Agreements for the Coffeen and Witt Tower Sites. Boyd said he can't find any in the older records. We need to get a sample of an IAG and they will be taken to the tower sites. A time limit and opt out clause will need to be discussed. Years ago there may have not been written agreements, just verbal. For this reason, the board wants to get new agreements with all the tower sites. Holliday said he reached out to Chris Coss and he didn't have any IAG's.
  - **Tour of Cress Hill Tower/Sheriff's Tower:** The board members decided to have a tour of the Cress Hill Tower at 6:00 pm before the May 18th, 2023 meeting. Everyone will meet at the Sheriff's Office.
- **Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**
- **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:**
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Smalley and second by Beckman. All in favor, motion carried. Time 8:27 pm.
  - **Next regularly scheduled meeting is June 15th, 2023**



**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes  
#1 Courthouse Sq. – Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman James Holliday at 7:03 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen, Don Huber and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, David Loucks and Chris Coss

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Holliday**

- **Approval of the Minutes for the regular May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023** – Motion by Smalley and second by Beckman to approve the minutes for May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen shared the monthly Treasurer report. The balance as of 3/31/23 was \$343,009.40. Motion by Beal and second by Sebeschak to approve the Financial report. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$1,618.53. Motion by Huber and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$1,618.53. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **C & K Communications Update**
    - i. **Farmersville Tower Issues:** Ed Boyd said he would check with the Sheriff about putting in a filter at the Farmersville tower. Coss said Farmersville antennae is running at about 300 watts are we are licensed for 350 watts. Coss reported he and an engineer went go the Farmersville tower to look at some of the frequency issues. Everyone received a copy of the email correspondence from Doug Ferrini of EMR Corporation regarding the issues at the Farmersville Tower and suggestions on how to address them. Coss stated that he would start the Farmersville tower work first and do it at no charge. He also reported he has everything ordered and is waiting on one part to come in. When that part comes in, he will work on the tower and will avoid any unnecessary outages.
  - **ETSB Reappointments:** Discussion took place on the terms of the ETSB Board members. Holliday stated he reached out to States Attorney Affrunti regarding this issue however Affrunti has been too busy as he is down one assistant state's attorney. Holliday stated he will continue to work on this.

- **ARPA funding for Pager Purchases:** Discussion took place on whether the County's ARPA approval to purchase pagers for the agencies was going to be 100% paid or if it was a 60/40 split. Loucks and Bergen thought they were going to be paid 100% from the County ARPA money and will check at the next County Finance Committee meeting.
- **Flex/NG 911 Update:** Boyd reported the LEADS are finally working and they can run VIN's and plates. There have been 38 centers cut over to NG911. The deadline has been pushed back from December 2023 to the end of April 2024. Boyd said we will then be re-charted as an NG911.
- **Fiber to Cress Hill:** Boyd reported they need final permits and then they can start pushing fiber.
- **Intergovernmental Agreements:** Discussion took place regarding the need to have new intergovernmental agreements with all the tower sites where the antennas will be located. Previous agreements were not found. Agreements will need to be sent to: Cities of Coffeen, Nokomis and Witt. The Villages of Farmersville, Fillmore, Panama and Raymond. Coss requested a copy of all signed agreements.
- **New Business Update/Approval:**
- **Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**
- **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Boyd suggested that he, Bergen and Holliday should get together regarding the ETSB/911 budget sometime before the county budget hearings in August. Compliments were given to the 911 telecommunicators for their work on the I-55 Dust Storm incident. The Governor will be declaring a resolution regarding the incident at 10:15 tomorrow.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Smalley and second by Sebeschak. All in favor, motion carried. Time 7:57 pm.
  - **Next regularly scheduled meeting is August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes  
#1 Courthouse Sq. – Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman James Holliday at 7:10 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were six members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen & Don Huber

**Absent:** Mike Smalley

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Holliday**

**1. Approval of the Minutes for the regular May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023** – Motion by Sebeschak and second by Beckman to approve the minutes for May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

**2. Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen shared the monthly Treasurer report. The balance as of 4/30/23 was \$362,351.62. Motion by Huber and second by Beal to approve the Financial report. All in favor, motion carried.

**3. Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$27,113.49. Motion by Beckman and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$27,113.48. All in favor, motion carried.

**4. Old Business Update/Approval:**

**a. C & K Communications Update**

i. Farmersville Tower Issues: Holliday reported Chris Coss is waiting on a part to come in and once he picks it up he will work on the Farmersville tower and will try to avoid any outages. Coss is also waiting on the Intergovernmental Agreement.

- **ETSB Reappointments:** Discussion took place on the terms of the ETSB Board members. Holliday reported he has been in contact with States Attorney Affrunti regarding this issue however Affrunti said he was down one assistant and hasn't had time to look into the issue. Secretary Daniels reported she made copies of all the past ETSB board appointments and shared a spreadsheet to go over to help with identifying the appointments.

- **Flex/NG 911 Update:** Boyd reported they continue to work with Motorola to get things done and there is no criminal history info yet. LEADS are finally working and they can run VIN's and plates. There have been 48 centers/agencies cut over to NG911 and

Fayette County will be complete by the end of August. The deadline to become NG911 certified has been pushed back from December 2023 to the end of April 2024. Boyd said there are 80 agencies remaining to be re-chartered we will be re-charted as an NG911 by the end of April 2024. Network interface testing will take place on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

- **Fiber to Cress Hill:** Boyd reported that all the permits are in place and flags have been put on Route 16 to get this project started.
- **Intergovernmental Agreements:** Boyd reported the City of Nokomis has returned their signed Intergovernmental Agreement for placing an antenna on their tower. We are waiting on the following agreements: Cities of Coffeen and Witt. The Villages of Farmersville, Fillmore, Panama and Raymond. Boyd said everyone he talked to seemed agreeable.

**5. New Business Update/Approval:**

- a. 911 consoles-redundancy, 911 priority and towers. Holliday said there isn't much to talk about. 911 doesn't have priority when they go to page right now. Holliday agreed with Boyd to get everything upgraded and we will fix this problem the right way. The backup will be in the dog house. Main repeater at Cress Hill. 911 doesn't have forwarding right now and it is an issue. Currently the repeater piggy backs off of a mobile. Beckman said another way to fix is to have a dispatch channel and talk channel. One frequency throughout the county. Beckman said that other agencies in the state have other frequencies to page out and this would be an expensive fix at about \$200,000.

**6. Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

**7. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Boyd stated a new Telecommunicator has resigned already and a new one was hired. There were five people tested. Boyd reported that TC Mary Shipman is talking about retiring at the end of July. Beckman said the County Board did approve to fund the pagers at \$500 each and this will be a reimbursement. The agreement verbiage was shared with the board members. Boyd offered to send an email out to all the fire chiefs about the agreements to be signed. Beckman and Huber took their agreements with them to be signed.

- a. Bergen gave an update on Holliday and Bergen reported they met with Boyd before tonight's meeting to go over the FY 2024 ETSB budget. A draft was shared with the ETSB board members and discussion took place. Bergen stated that last year the county board talked about a 40% increase on employee health insurance however that was reduced. This budget needs to be turned into the Treasurer's Department for the budget hearings that are scheduled for August.
- b. Boyd said there is a retirement party tomorrow night for Deputy Scott Woods at the Event Center.

**8. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Beckman and second by Sebeschak. All in favor, motion carried. Time 7:35 pm.

**9. Next regularly scheduled meeting is August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes  
#1 Courthouse Sq. – Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**July 20th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.                      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman James Holliday at 7:05 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were six members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen Mike Smalley

**Absent:** Don Huber

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Holliday**

- 1. Approval of the Minutes for the regular June 15th, 2023** – Motion by Sebeschak and second by Smalley to approve the minutes for June 15th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.
- 2. Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen shared the monthly Treasurer report and stated the County Board approved a 6% pay increase for non-union employees. Bergen suggests increasing the FY 2024 salary budget by 2% for a total of a 3% salary increase. Bergen said to leave the FY 2024 overtime budget the way it is hoping they will stay at full staff. The balance as of 5/30/23 was \$385,467. **Motion by Beckman and second by Smalley to approve the Financial report. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 3. Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$4,051. **Motion by Beckman and second by Smalley to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$4,051. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 4. Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **C&K Communication update** – Holliday reported that Chris Coss will complete the updates when all the parts are in. He is waiting on a duplexer.
  - **ETSB reappointments** – Holliday reported that States Attorney Affrunti has still been very busy and they haven't had a chance to get together regarding the ETSB appointments. Daniels stated she has a spreadsheet that may help figure out the appointment schedule.
  - **Flex and NG911 update – the state link is working.** Boyd stated that Motorola has pretty much filled their contract. Jeff Roach and Curt Watkins are working on everyone's computers. Boyd said that there are 79 remaining agencies to certify in the state.
  - **Fiber to Cress hill** – Boyd reported there is one permit outstanding and then they are ready to install.
  - **Intergovernmental Agreements:** Boyd stated we still need signed agreements from Panama and Witt. Farmersville agreements was modified a little. They had to pay for electric work and they were a little upset. Boyd stated Farmersville has been good to work with and suggests paying for the electrical work. The Walch electric bill was about \$300 to \$400. Holliday said the wire was running out of the box and Ginder said it wasn't their fault. The committee discussed not doing anything on this issue.

- Hold harmless language was amended and Holliday said he will take the agreement to States Attorney Affrunti to review. Boyd also reported the contract was reviewed by Insurance agent Eric Braasch and he is OK with the contract and they will add it to the county insurance. **Motion by Smalley and second by Sebeschak to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with EJ Cooperative for the water tower site contingent on the review and approval of the States Attorney. All in favor, motion carried.**

#### **5. New Business Update/Approval:**

• **FOIA officer for ETSB board** – Boyd said the office holders received an email communication from States Attorney Affrunti stating he is short staffed and doesn't have the time to do the FOIA requests and that every office now has to have a FOIA officer. Boyd said he did the on line FOIA training and received his certificate. **Motion by Sebeschak and second by Beckman to have Boyd be the designated FOIA Officer for ETSB. All in favor, motion carried.** Boyd said when he is off, Tyson Holhouser has Jeff Roach be the alternate if needed.

• **One Call** – Beckman said he brought this issue up a couple of years ago. Since then Madison County has voided their agreement with One Call and reaches out for the closest helicopter. It streamlines contacting a medical helicopter for our dispatch center. Although, after seeing how their system works, since Air Methods owns and operates the One Call system they often only contact Arch and very seldom reach out to any other medical helicopter.

For example: Fillmore used to get Air-Evac out of Effingham on occasions and we seldom ever see them. There is also an Air Evac Helicopter based out of Greenville and very seldom ever see them either in our county. Examples: 1. The crash in Coffeen in front of Dollar General – four helicopters from Arch with one of them coming all the way from Sparta, IL. 2. The I-55 crash from the dust storm – six helicopters from Arch. At times we have first responders asking dispatch if they would check with Air-Evac when Arch declines to fly. 3. Once a request (for any available medical helicopter) on a self-inflicted GSW when Arch declined due to the pilot needing to complete his pre-trip inspection.

When a helicopter is needed why should any agency have to wait an extended time (10-15 additional minutes) for an Arch Helicopter. Discussion: Boyd said it worked good during the dust storm. Smalley said Air Evac will fly in rougher conditions. Boyd said they always call Litchfield Arch first. Sometimes it takes time for them to call you back. It will create a little more burden on 911. Bergen said we aren't happy with the contract because they are not performing their duties. Boyd said he has already reached out to them a year ago and that's why we are getting reports. We were told they were doing what they are supposed to do. Holliday said we have reached out a couple of other times regarding their services. **Motion by Beckman and second by Sebeschak to have 911 Coordinator Boyd send a written notice to terminate the agreement with One Call effective 7-20-23 and resume finding the most efficient service our 911 Coordinator can put together. All in favor, motion carried.**

#### **6. Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

- 7. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Boyd reported Ashley Hernandez regretted resigning her position and Sheriff Robbins hired her back. She has been showing up and working her shifts. Boyd said that TC Emma Kenney is in training right now and both are doing well. Boyd said that Mary Shipman will retire on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and Andrew Roach hired. Beckman asked about new maps books being printed. Boyd replied that he talked to George Press asked them for a quote and didn't hear from them. Beckman said that each agency could pay something towards the map books so the expense wasn't all on ETSB. It may be possible to download the maps on flash drives so everyone can print their own or check with the Health Department to print and bind the books.

**Adjournment: Next meeting August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Motion to adjourn by Smalley and second by Bergen. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 8:05 PM**

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes  
#1 Courthouse Sq. – Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**August 17th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.                      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman James Holliday at 7:10 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were six members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Don Huber, Bill Bergen Mike Smalley

**Absent:** Mandy Sebeschak

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Holliday**

- 1. Approval of the Minutes for the regular July, 20th, 2023** – Motion by Smalley and second by Beckman to approve the minutes for July 20th, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.
- 2. Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen shared the monthly Treasurer report and stated he looked at an old report of Greg Nimmo’s five year projection that showed we would be \$155,000 in the red. Bergen said his projection showed that the balance would be \$138,000 to the good and we are actually about \$370,000 to the good. Boyd reported he also included a copy of the revised FY 2024 budget for everyone’s review and that he is trying to get information from Motorola for future maintenance costs. **Motion by Beckman and second by Smalley to approve the Financial report. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 3. Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$4,750.13. **Motion by Beckman and second by Bergen to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$4,0750.13. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 4. Old Business Update/Approval:**
- 5. C&K Communication update** – Holliday reported that Chris Coss sent him a text with updates on the antennae work to be performed at the towers. Farmersville tower is scheduled for August 25<sup>th</sup>, Raymond is scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup> and Fillmore is scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup>. Crews are scheduled for the Nokomis tower on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Beckman said Coss will send him some information on the frequencies and he will have to do some re-programming. The EJ agreement is dead in the water because it will cause issues similar to what they had in Farmersville. Chief Keiser will go and talk to M & M Elevator because they have some elevation. Beckman said he drove to Witt and who ever put the antenna on that tower is an issue. The top of that grain lay is considerably higher than the water tower and might be a possibility. Holliday reported all the parts are in for Farmersville and a new duplexer was put in at the Nokomis tower. Smalley said they equipment was installed however the new antenna has to be moved up yet. Holliday said that when the antenna is moved up and the new cable installed it should be much stronger. Boyd said County Maintenance Technician Phil Ernst found an old generator and got it running so he now has access to a generator with a 50’ extension cord that could be used anywhere in the County. Boyd said there was an issue in Farmersville last month and the repeater batteries were dead. Boyd doesn’t know why he wasn’t notified.

- **ETSB reappointments** – Holliday reported that he will review a spreadsheet listing the past appointments with secretary Daniels before the next meeting to see if we can figure it out. There was a problem over the years where when someone left, members were appointed to four year terms instead of three like the bylaws indicate. Discussion took place that we may have to start over since there were so many different ways the appointments took place over the years. We will have to check with States Attorney Affrunti to see if we can do this.
- **Flex and NG911 update** – Boyd reported that Deputy Roach and IT Manager Watkins are working with agencies to finish getting things set up with the State. The NG911 is progressing slowly and there was no State call this month.
- **Fiber to Cress hill** – Boyd reported the crews are currently installing fiber.
- **Intergovernmental Agreements:** Received Panama agreement for signature tonight.
- **ARPA Letter from the County:** Daniels reported the County has the priority list and some projects came in at less money, so the Finance Committee sent a letter out to the remaining agencies to see if their needs were the same or changed. There are three small projects requested by the ETSB and if still interested the feedback will be given to the Finance Committee. Budget hearings were held today and once the remaining agencies reply, we will know how far down the list we can go. After some discussion, the board decided they would still request the data room work and the map books. The board said they don't need the first item regarding the UPS. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to request the data room work as priority number one and the map books will be number two. All in favor, motion carried.**

**6. New Business Update/Approval:**

- **911 map books** – Boyd reported that he emailed Health Department Director Hugh Satterlee regarding the map books and he hasn't heard anything yet. Boyd will follow up with Hugh and can check with Plunkett at the Journal News for a proposal. Smalley and others discussed emailing the file out to the chiefs so they have a copy. Boyd said the file is small enough to email. Boyd said it is the same file data that is on the Beacon county web site and he can get an updated file whenever from GIS.

**7. Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

**8. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:**

Boyd said he talked with Curt Watkins one of the 24' monitors is starting to flicker. Boyd would like to get a spare monitor and sound bar to have on hand. Boyd stated he can't think of anything else that needs to have a spare part around. Beckman said discussion had taken place regarding Air Method. Boyd said he did send a cancellation letter to Air Method and shared the correspondence with board members.

**9. Adjournment: Next meeting is scheduled for September 21st 2023 – Motion to adjourn by Smalley and second by Huber. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 7:40 PM**



**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes  
#1 Courthouse Sq. – Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**September 21st, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman James Holliday at 7:06 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Don Huber, Bill Bergen, Mandy Sebeschak and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd and Chris Coss

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Holliday**

**1. Approval of the Minutes for the regular August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Motion by Beckman and second by Smalley to approve the minutes for August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**

**2. Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen stated the employee insurance renewal came in at 29% increase and he is hoping the final is a much lower amount. Boyd said he is getting payments in for the Flex program. The current balance as of 6/30/23 is \$369,660.74. **Motion by Huber and second by Beal to approve the Financial report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

**3. Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$14,053.91. **Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$14,053.91. All in favor, motion carried.**

**4. Old Business Update/Approval:**

**5. C&K Communication update –** Chris Coss reported Farmersville antennae upgrade is complete and they took the GFI out because it kept tripping. They also got a new generator because the old one went out. It runs the firehouse and water tower. The Raymond and Fillmore antennae upgrades are complete. The cabinet in Raymond and Fillmore were replaced. The Nokomis antennae was moved up to 180' and they are getting good results. Coss said there is a spare antenna at 145' in Nokomis and they did the same in Fillmore. They are going to work on the Panama site this Saturday. Farmersville is happy with the results and they had good tests. Coss said a site in the county with radios that are 23 years old have been identified and needs to be addressed. Coss said he hasn't heard any complaints on the upgrade work. Smalley said he and Coss talked about the open mic issues and Coss said he thinks this may be intentional because when emergency traffic starts they quit doing it. Beckman said it may be someone leaning against their mic. Beckman wonders if they could tell who is using their mic. Boyd said if it is programmed in their counsel it will show up. This could result in a \$1,000 per day fine. A letter should go out warning of the consequences of this interference. Coss said the main part that bothers him is when the mobile is talking to the repeater, it is difficult to page. Beckman said the TC could say you have an open mic, but they won't be able to hear it and the County can't over ride it. Push to talk is priority and shuts off the receiver. Holliday said we don't have a place to put the Witt antennae and it isn't need now because Chief Keiser is getting pages off the Nokomis tower now that it was moved to 180'. Holliday said that Coss suggested using the repeater that was paid for to use at the Witt site in the dog house, to go directly in the back of it to bypass the issues

with the ICOM. GTSI would have to deal with it. This may fix the problem of 911 not having priority of everyone else. Smalley suggested waiting to use the extra equipment until there are no issues anywhere else. Holliday reported he received a call from Chief Webb and he is extremely happy with the update and wants to thank the board. Beckman said he tested in Fillmore and they are readable and are better than what they were even at seven to eight miles. Coss said they hope to be done by November 7<sup>th</sup>. 2023. Coss said they are going to Shoal Creek to do upgrades if the weather is good and the hornet problem is gone. Discussion took place on bidding out for a spare repeater to have on the shelf due to supply issues.

6. **ETSB reappointments** – Holliday reported that he thought secretary Daniels was going to email him the spreadsheet of past appointments to review but there was a miscommunication. There was a problem over the years where when someone left, members were appointed to four year terms instead of three like the bylaws indicate. Discussion took place that we may have to start over since there were so many different ways the appointments took place over the years. We will have to check with States Attorney Affrunti to see if we can do this.
7. **Flex and NG911 update** – Boyd reported that Motorola gave them updated software and text to 911 doesn't work. The state link was working and then wasn't and now working again. Boyd said there have been some issues with Motorola but they are still making progress. On the FLEX Call Works, Boyd has been trying to get some answers about updating the maintenance agreement. The 2019 prices for the four year agreement is \$76,757 which breaks down to just under \$20,000 per year. Boyd is hoping they don't say the contract is up in 2024. Boyd is trying to get an answer. The FLEX part is about \$45,800 and good through 2026. The FLEX part of the contract will need to be paid in 2025. Boyd said there been about 47 agencies or 1/3 of the State that is now compliant with NG 911. It might be April or May before Motorola can get us to the point of being switched over. The NG911 is progressing slowly. Boyd is looking for a possible break in cost and some money back for services not received. Boyd is trying to find out if Flex still needs a contract for next year.
8. **Fiber to Cress hill** – Boyd reported the fiber is in place and they are going to be working on the devices.
9. **ARPA:** Boyd reported the County Board did approve up to project number 29 on the ARPA priority list so the data room will be upgraded for \$25,000 to have a dedicated UPS. Boyd said he will be working with Curt Watkins on the upgrade for battery backup for the servers in the data room. Boyd reported servers last about five years and we will need to look at replacements in the future and suggested having conversations next year.
10. **911 Map Books Approval:** Boyd reported that he talked with Galer at the Journal News for a quote for 50 maps books, 3 hole punched for \$1,450, There is \$7,218 left over in the mapping line item. Boyd said this would allocate two books per agency and they could make their own copies as needed. Sebeschak suggested making 100 copies because there is money in the budget. **Motion by Beckman and second by Beal to order 100 map books from the Journal News. All in favor, motion carried.**

**11. New Business Update/Approval:**

- **911 Consoles** – Holliday said he and Beckman had a discussion on the back ground noises on the 911 consoles and at times, the voices are not audible. Smalley said it is quite often. Holliday said we can reach out to GTSI to check on level adjustments. Discussion took place on the amount of noise activity and channels going which is an issue. A new repeater will clean up a lot. Boyd wondered if sound proofing on the walls would help.

- **Christian County Backup:** Boyd said IT Manager Curt has a big concern on network security. Curt wants to build an independent radio network to keep cross contamination and malware out of our system. Boyd said there is a little bit of an overlap and he reached out to Amy in Christian County and found out she is gone and they have another person. Boyd said the Sheriff doesn't want interference with access to the jail doors. Everything is networked and Boyd is trying to get a plan with Christian County to have a solid back up system. Boyd said we are trying to get the pagers right and keep Curt happy. Smalley suggested calling the Christian County Sheriff to work out these issues. Coss had a complicated technical suggestion to address the issue and will email it to Boyd. Boyd hopes to make some progress on this backup issue concerns with the new Christian County 911 Coordinator.

**12. Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

- 13. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Bergen said that he read the St. Louis dispatching department has been having issues and at time it takes 20 minutes to answer a 911 call. Beckman shared concerns with the beep, beep, beep sound on the pagers when they are on monitor. Coss said it is there because some of the people have vote scan radios. Beckman said he doesn't know of anyone that has vote radios and would appreciate it being taken off. Coss said he can take it off, but it allows him to keep track of who is on the vote radios. Coss said that Raymond doesn't like it either and he can take it off. Beckman also said we have AirEvac some more and asked Boyd to encourage the dispatchers to ask the department if AirEvac is available. Beckman said he doesn't have to give the TC permission to call a certain helicopter if Arch isn't available, just get the closest one. If anyone calls for a helicopter, just get one. Holliday stated that some of the departments Raymond is working off of Hillsboro tower and it doesn't make sense. Each town should be working off their own tower. Some of the problem is the system and old equipment that needs to be upgraded.

- 14. Adjournment:** Next meeting is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Motion to adjourn by Smalley and second by Beckman. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 8:15 PM

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes  
#1 Courthouse Sq. – Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on October 19, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Chairman James Holliday at 7:05 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were seven members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Don Huber, Bill Bergen, Mandy Sebeschak and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd. Chris Coss by phone.

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Holliday**

**1. Approval of the Minutes for the regular September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

**Motion by Beckman and second by Beal to approve the minutes for September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**

**2. Financial Reported Approval:** Boyd shared the balance is \$412,393 as of 8/31/23 and he anticipates the next few month reports being higher due to limited spending and cost-share deposits. Boyd reported he is waiting on seven agencies for the cost share payments. Farmersville PD, Irving PD, Nokomis PD, Raymond PD, Witt PD, Nokomis/Witt Ambulance, and Raymond Harvel Ambulance. \$33,032 has been invoiced and \$28,770 has been collected, leaving a balance of \$4,262 to be collected. Taylor Springs PD has paid the initial \$750 but hasn't paid the annual fee of \$350 for four years, therefore they owe \$1,400. **Motion by Smalley and second by Huber to approve the Financial report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

**3. Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$3,222. **Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$3,222. All in favor, motion carried.**

**4. Old Business Update/Approval:**

**5. C&K Communication update** – Chris Coss was absent and Holliday reported everything is done except the Panama tower and that is because of the issue with the hornets. They need to wait for a freeze. The FCC license needs to be transferred and the balance can be paid to C & K Communications at the next board meeting. Boyd reported the final invoice was forwarded to the County for payment from the ARPA funds and will be addressed at their November full board meeting. Boyd stated he has a spot for spare parts. Coffeen is done and Holliday reported it sounds goods and the range and clarity are good. The background noise is not as noticeable. Boyd reported Farmersville, Raymond, Nokomis, Fillmore and Coffeen sites have been completed. The Witt site has not been implemented. Panama project is waiting for colder weather due to the hornet issue. Other pending items on this project are the comprehensive list

of frequencies and tones and the FCC license. The warranty info from C & K Communications is as follows: Repeaters and link radios for two years; power supply is one year; batteries are one year; duplexer is for five years, amplifier is one year and install warranty one year if something we did caused the failure.

- 6. ETSB reappointments** – Holliday reported he spoke with States Attorney Affrunti regarding the ETSB appointment list. Affrunti was able to figure out everyone's appointment according to the history of appointments. Affrunti provided the following list of term expirations: Huber: 1/1/24, Smalley: 1/1/25, Holliday: 1/1/26, Beckman: 1/1/26, Sebeschak: 1/1/24, Bergen: 1/1/26 and Beal: 1/1/25. Discussion took place regarding the bylaws stating that elections are held in December when the above terms are in January. Holliday will check the bylaws. Huber and Sebeschak will need to be re-appointed by the County Board in December. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to approve the appointment list as presented by States Attorney Affrunti. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 7. Flex and NG911 update** – Boyd reported the Callworks maintenance contract expires in 2025 and Flex in 2026. The original five year contract for Flex was \$229,170 which equates to \$45,834 per year. ETSB is responsible for the full amount of the Callworks contract and the pricing for both contracts is \$61,185.40 per year. Boyd recommends replacing the Flex and Callworks servers and pcs in 2025.
- 8. Fiber to Cress hill** – Boyd reported there is a problem of an easement for running the fiber from Cress Circle to the tower because the County site is landlocked by Cervi property. The County Clerk's office pulled a number of easement documents for the Cervi property, but there was no clear easement to the tower site. Options to address the issue include having a title company do a search for an existing easement, pursuing a new easement for the fiber, or the County offering to purchase a strip of land from the Cervi trust.
- 9. Christian County Backup:** Boyd reported he met by phone with Christian-Shelby County 911 Coordinator Kim Curl on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Curt Watkins and GTSI participated as well in reference to the Christian County backup. GTSI can set up a Zetron portal to connect the two consoles together over the fiber on a secure private network. This is a robust connection that will give the opportunity to add or delete all Zetron functions including the doors. There could also be a redundant air-to-air backup in case of a Zetron failure. Boyd said it will be a shared cost and he is waiting on the proposal.
- 10. New Business Update/Approval:**  
**County Contract:** The committee reviewed the three year Intergovernmental Agreement Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center contract with a couple of changes in red. Crisis Training was added to the contract and the effective date is from 2023 to 2026. **Motion by Sebeschak and second by Beckman to approve the three year County Intergovernmental Agreement Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center Contract as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Motorola NG911 ESINET proposal:** Boyd submitted a quote from Motorola in the amount of \$16,574.30 for the Operational Readiness for NG911. Boyd stated he is challenging this quote because it exceeds the scope of what is needed from Motorola and has forwarded it with his concerns to State 911 Admin Cindy Barbera-Breele. Cindy is in the process of scheduling a call

with Motorola to address the concerns in the quote. Boyd also reported that Cindy said the State might provide some grant funds for the Callworks agencies. Boyd recommends no action at this time on the current proposal. Boyd said the 48 psaps have transitioned to NG911 and there are 82 to go. There are 57 scheduled to transition over by April 2024 and the remainder will be after. Montgomery County is not scheduled on the list yet. Boyd also shared the open Motorola tickets.

**Taylor Springs PC Flex Account:** Boyd reported that initially Warren Hall wanted to sign up for the Flex account and then when it became available, he didn't want it. TS dispatches through Hillsboro and pays a fee. Boyd reported that Hall contacted Deputy Roach and is interested in the service. Discussion took place that Hall benefited through Hillsboro and it is only fair that the Village of Taylor Springs pays for the four years of service.

**11. Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

**12. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Beckman said he brought up our I AM Responding County wide paging at a MABAS Meeting. No one knows how the all-county tone will work so he wants to check with Chris Coss. Boyd said if we have an all-county page countywide, that wouldn't take long to page. A service call will be placed to GTSI to program Montgomery and Christian County consoles.

Boyd reported on October 4<sup>th</sup> he called GTSI for a pc that shut down due to overheating. Other pcs were found to have fan failures as well due to dust. Boyd approved a GTSI proposal of \$834.80 to replace the cards in all four pcs so they should last another four years. Boyd is now vacuuming out the data cabinets monthly. Boyd also recommends the Zetron server and pcs be replaced in 2025 or 2026.

Boyd said that under the Safe-T Act, inmates are now released or held without bond. The Jail population is substantially lower, meaning less Corrections functions for Dispatch. There may be a large uptick in FTA no bond warrants in a couple of months. The population may go back up in six months. Boyd said that trainees Emma Kenny and Andrew Roach are doing well and he anticipates Kenny being signed off soon.

**13. Adjournment: Next meeting is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Motion to adjourn by Beckman and second by Beal. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 8:00 PM**

**Montgomery County 9-1-1  
Emergency Telephone System Board Minutes  
#1 Courthouse Sq. – Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.      Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Historic Court House**

The following are minutes of a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Emergency Telephone System Board held at 7:00 pm on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the County Board Room on the second floor of the Historic Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro, IL.

The meeting was called to order to by ETSB Trustee Darin Beckman at 7:06 PM.

**Roll Call was taken:** There were five members present.

**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, Don Huber, Bill Bergen and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** James Holiday and Mandy Sebeschak

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd.

**Pledge of Allegiance was led by Darin Beckman**

**1. Approval of the Minutes for the regular October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to approve the minutes for October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.**

- 2. Financial Reported Approval:** The committee reviewed the financial reports for September and October. Boyd's report stated that the balance as of September 30, 2023 was \$426,675.50. The October balance was \$476,649.05 which is up \$49,973.55 from September due to limited spending and the cost-share deposits. Boyd shared that the October 2023 balance is down \$49,480.69 from the October 2022 balance that was \$526,129.74. Boyd said we received a State surcharge bonus check in the amount of \$93,764.43 so the November balance should have a significant increase. There are five agencies that need to pay their cost-share and Boyd sent out reminders. Boyd reported \$33,032 was invoiced and \$29,320 has been collected. Boyd has not heard back from Taylor Springs Police Department. **Motion by Huber and second by Beal to approve the Financial report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**

- 3. Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$8,074.45. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$8,074.45. All in favor, motion carried.**

**4. Old Business Update/Approval:**

- 5. C&K Communication update** – Boyd reported Chris Coss will transfer the license as soon as the project is completed. Coss is willing to continue working on the system, but once the transfer is complete the board can choose a vendor. Huber suggested that Coss put together an annual plan and submit it for the board to review. The Panama site is the last site to work on due to the issue of the hornets. Coss has sent the updated list of frequencies and tones. Discussion then took place on the email Coss sent about the batteries. Coss wanted everyone to be aware that if the batteries are pulled down too far it can cause system problems. The solution to avoid these problems would be to put a generator on as soon as the outage occurs or put low voltage disconnects on the site to shut it off when the voltage is low to avoid system problems. Beckman asked how much low voltage disconnects would cost and Coss will be asked for prices.

**6. ETSB reappointments and By Laws Changes:** – Discussion took place on amending the By Laws. Don Huber and Mandy Sebeschak are nominated to be reappointed for a three year term. **Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to recommend the changes to the By Laws. All in favor, motion carried.**

**7. Flex and NG911 update:** Motorola Operational Readiness for NG911 quote of \$16,574.30. Boyd reported he spoke with Indigital representatives at the IPSTA conference and they believe the Motorola proposal duplicates much of what they already do. The State 911 Admin had a call with Motorola and there will be updated quotes. Boyd said the State Admin will be scheduling a follow-up call with the 17 CallWorks sites, and he hasn't heard on when this will happen. Boyd also reported that 52 psaps have transitioned to the NG911 with 78 remaining. Montgomery County is not yet on the schedule; however Livingston County is scheduled for February 2024. The state 2025 NG911 grant program included CAD to CAD integrations for backup psaps. Boyd said he recommended pursuing this grant for integration with our backup psap Christian-Shelby 911 to develop a true continuity program. Discussion took place and Boyd will talk with Christian County Coordinator. Boyd said that County IT Manager Curt Watkins would like to see an independent system between the two counties for security.

Motorola open repair ticket: Boyd reported they have a station down since October 17<sup>th</sup> waiting on Motorola to ship a new Audio Interface Unity (AIU). Boyd stated they have had trouble with AIU devices before and they are covered under the Motorola contract; however it takes so long to get one replaced. Boyd would like to check into purchasing one to have a spare on hand. **Motion by Smalley and second by Bergen to have Coordinator Boyd purchase a spare AIU for an amount not to exceed \$500. All in favor, motion carried.**

**8. Fiber to Cress hill** –Boyd reported he found easement information on the side of the driveway and forwarded the information to CTI. Bobbie Dean from CTI replied that they have ordered a survey based off the attached easement to help guide them so their lines are ran in the appropriate location. The survey should be done this week and once completed they should be good to move forward with the installation.

**9. Christian County Backup:** Boyd reported Coss' list of frequencies and tones was forwarded to GTSI and he is waiting for a proposal. Boyd is working with Crossroads and the new Christian County 911 Coordinator who is trying to attempt to arrange a data swap with the Christian County mapping vendor to get Christian/Shelby Fire and EMS / GIS layers.

#### **10. New Business Update/Approval:**

#### **11. Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

**12. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Boyd shared that on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, Chris Coss reported they were getting some kind of digital interference on the Nokomis input and you can't page while it's there. He is trying to find the source. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, several radio channels on the Zetron console went down and repeaters were engaged with the handheld radios. Power supply was reset and radio channels were restored. GTSI and Curt Watkins spent the day chasing problems with switches and modules until the network was stable. GTSI is ordering some new modules and Curt is setting up a monitor on the network. During this time, radio communications were maintained with



handheld radios. Boyd spoke with Hillsboro Electric Russ Jones who is working on quotes for the NCH line to the transmitter building and the ETSB UPS in the NCH data room.

Boyd also reported that he is waiting on map books from the Journal News and that Sheriff Robbins would be interested in talking about a cost-share for a new Cress Hill communications building in 2025. Boyd said the TC's would like some new headphones and they are checking on models that are better at mitigating background noise. New TC trainees Emma Kenny and Andrew Roach are both doing well.

Boyd said he learned about COMSYS' ASAP to PSAP (Automated Secure Alarm Protocol). They work with Motorola to facilitate alarm companies importing alarm info directory into CAD. This would provide accurate information and save time. Boyd also learned that the State of Illinois is working on TC and Supervisor training standards and certification. He forwarded this info to the Power Phone rep and hopefully they can incorporate the State mandates into the existing curriculum.

Beckman stated that after seeing the unexpected \$93,000 from the State Surcharge bonus, he was wondering if the board could give each of the TC's a \$100 gift card. Other board members thought it was a good idea. Some checking will need to be done to see if this is allowed.

**13. Adjournment: Next meeting is scheduled for December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – Motion to adjourn by Smalley and second by Huber. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 8:25 PM**

**Emergency Telephone System Board Agenda**  
**Thursday, December 21st, 2023**  
**Board Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Historic County House**  
**#1 Courthouse Sq. Hillsboro, IL 62049**

1. **Call the Meeting to Order:** Meeting was called to Order by James Holliday at 7:08 pm.
2. **Roll Call was taken:** Members Present - There were six members present.  
**Present:** David Beal, Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Don Huber, Bill Bergen and Mandy Sebeschak.  
**Members Absent:** Mike Smalley
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Was led by James Holliday
4. **Approval of the Minutes for: November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** **Motion by Beal and second by Beckman to approve the Minutes for November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Financial Reports Update/Approval:** The finance reports were received from the County Treasurer as follows: The 2023 ending balance was \$592,044.07 which was up \$115,395.02 from the 10/31/23 balance. Boyd reported on the cost share and is still waiting on the NK/WT Ambulance. Mayor Goldsmith told him Joletta Hill was notified. Boyd said \$33,032 was invoiced and \$32,832 has been paid, leaving a balance due of \$200. Nokomis City sent the Nokomis Police department check to the County Treasurer's Office instead of the ETSB office so it was deposited in another account. Treasurer Lohman will transfer that payment to the ETSB line item.  
Boyd also reported the County Board and the Dispatchers Union have a tentative new agreement with pay increase of approximately 16 percent over the three year contract. There is also an additional \$.25 per hour shift differential and a \$.15 per hour for the Coordinator position and the Training Officer. **Motion by Beal and second by Huber to approve the Finance Report. All in favor, motion carried.**
6. **Approval of Bills:** Coordinator Boyd presented the monthly bills. **Motion to approve the bills by Beckman and second by Sebeschak. All in favor, motion carried.**
7. **Old Business Update/Approval:**  
**C & K Communications update:** Boyd reported that C & K Communications finished work on the Panama tower on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The employee did encounter some hornet stings. The final invoice for \$2,000 was forwarded to the County Board for payment. Boyd's reported stated that someone has attached a VHF yagi antenna to the 911 DB-224 mount at the Coffeen tower site. This will cause catastrophic damage to the 911 equipment and cut the range of the paging transmitter. The yagi needs removed and a site inspection done. Chairman Holliday is in contact with the mayor. The City of Coffeen will call EJ water company and will take down the antenna and wants to work with the ETSB.

**FLEX and NG911 Update:**

**Motorola Operational Readiness for NG911 quote of \$16,574.30: No update.**

Boyd reported there have been 65 psaps that transitioned to NG911 with 65 remaining.

48 more are expected to transition by May 2024 and Montgomery County is not on their schedule yet. Motorola CallWorks has an upgrade to support NG911 with anticipated release date in January 2024.

The Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Protocol Upgrades to an Integrated CAD Solution. Upgrade of current guide cards to an EMD protocol software required to be integrated with your CAD. The State is not currently mandating integrated protocols but is encouraging the funding integration. Boyd checked with PowerPhone for this CAD integration. This will be helpful in meeting the Illinois specific protocols that are in the works for 988 and the Mental Health Matrix. The integration proposal from PowerPhone is \$56,599.00 for PowerPhone for the initial cost and an increase of \$7,750 in annual fees. Grant application are due February 20<sup>th</sup> and awards will be posted June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ETSB reappointments:** Sebeschak and Huber were re-appointed by the County Board at their December meeting.

**Flex and NG911 update:**

**Fiber to Cress Hill**

**Christian County backup**

**Bylaw changes:** Discussion took place on the few changes that were discussed last Month and presented for review this month. **Motion by Bergen and second by Beal to approve the amendments to the Bylaws. All in favor, motion carried.** Secretary Daniels will make the changes to the document.

#### **8. New Business Update/Approval:**

**Motorola Audio-interface unit proposal:** Coordinator Boyd reported that it takes Motorola a long time to send replacement parts and at the November ETSB meeting, the Board discussed purchasing a spare AIU. Motorola quoted a price of \$1,336.50. This is much higher than the anticipated cost of up to \$500 as was discussed. The Board may consider replacing Motorola servers, pcs and AIUs in 2025 as a routine update of equipment. Boyd stated there are some spare used units at that time, so he doesn't recommend this purchase.

**Xybix filter frameworks proposal:** Coordinator Boyd stated the Xybix data cabinet filters were delivered, but they don't fit the current configuration of the data cabinets. Boyd said these filters are washable and reusable for four cabinets which is a good long term solution. Boyd could make them work somehow or Xybix has filter frameworks available with proposal for \$957.83. Xybix knows what kind of cabinet configurations we have and could have advised before selling the filters. Boyd reported they said the filters could be returned. This brings the data-cabinet filter project much higher than originally anticipated. Boyd does recommend this purchase and the board agreed to spend the \$957.83.

**I Am Responding proposal:** Boyd reported the current IAR contract is expiring. IAR sent a proposal of three years at \$8,649 per year or five years at \$7,955 per year. The previous three year contract was for \$7,630 per year. The ETSB has budgeted \$8,500 for FY2024 for the response app. Boyd said he recommends locking in the rate at the five year option. **Motion by Beckman and second by Beal to approve the 5 year contract with IAR in the amount of \$7,955. All in favor, motion carried.**

**C&K Communications low voltage disconnects proposal:** Boyd reported the following information is from Coss with C & K Communications regarding the low voltage disconnects. The sites have group 27 Deep cycle batteries on them. They have an RC (reserve capacity) of 175 minutes, which means they can discharge 25 amps for 175 minutes. This figure depends on the

temperature where the batteries are stored and the amount of discharge they have had. Anytime you discharge more than 50% you are going to lose capacity. Coss said he has two of them in parallel so that doubles the 175 minutes. There are 30 amps of draw in transmit. The amount of time you have battery power is up in the air with all the variables. If it pulls the batteries down too far it can put the link by itself on the air causing system problems. The best way to avoid such problems would be to put a generator on as soon as the outage occurs or put Low voltage disconnects on the site to shut it off when voltage is low to avoid system problems. Coss gave a proposal for the disconnects in the amount of \$2,190 and it includes the labor. Boyd stated he recommends approving this proposal. **Motion by Beckman and second by Huber to approve the purchase of the disconnects from C & K Communications in the amount of \$2,190. All in favor, motion carried.**

9. **Executive Session Update/Approval: (not needed)**

10. **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:**

11. **Adjournment:** Motion by Beckman and second by Beal to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.