

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

**January 20, 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 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 7:05 PM.

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

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

**Absent:** Bill Bergen

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to approve the minutes for December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 with one correction. All in favor, motion carried.**
3. **Financial Reports Update/Approval:** Beckman and Boyd shared financial reports. The County Treasurer didn't have the month end reports as of this meeting, however the ETSB account balance as of 12/31/21 is \$442,722.66. The ETSB board reviewed the 911 payment report.
4. **Approval of Bills:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$8,577.40. Boyd read the mileage vouchers and other vouchers. Boyd reported he purchased eight batteries because there are two batteries at each of the 4 stations. **Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills in the amount of \$8,577.40 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **FLEX Update** Boyd reported all the police and fire agencies have paid their FLEX invoices except for Taylor Springs police and fire. Boyd said you can text 911 on your phone which has some advantages for someone that is deaf. We have to have it and it is in the works. Boyd said they are still having some trouble with LEADS and they continue to work on it with Motorola. Boyd said they still get the same requests from the State and Holliday will say something to them tomorrow. Discussions are still going on with the White Box. Boyd said he met with Raymond Harvel the other day and will meet with Shoal Creek regarding the Flex program.
  - **RADIO Tower Updates:** Boyd said IT manager Curt Watkins wants some say in the project with Christian County and it is moving forward. Boyd reported we hope to have the alarms set up at the twin towers by spring. Beckman said they are having some signal trouble in Fillmore. Beckman asked about the Microwave link payment and Boyd responded that he is waiting to hear something from Treasurer Lohman who contacted the Insurance about the overpayment.

- **One Call for Air Methods** - Boyd reported there was an incident when he called for a helicopter and Litchfield didn't have one so they offered to send one from another location. Boyd said he asked for a closer helicopter and spoke with someone today regarding sending the closest helicopter.
  - **C&K Communications COSS Contract** – Holliday said he talked with Chris Coss and he is looking to get out of the business. Coss has contracts from here to the River. Discussion took place regarding the ability to work with the price he originally asked for. Coss wants to be on the next agenda. Our goal would be to take ownership of the frequency.
  - **Community Emergencies and Support Act:** Boyd said met with the Health Department regarding the regulations and met with Ron Howard and the Sheriff. They don't know how it is going to work. Boyd said he had some objections due to how or where the patient is going to be transferred. Boyd said the Community Emergencies and Support Act goes into effect in July and that he will forward his email to the ETSB board members.
6. **New Business Update/Approval:** None
7. **Executive Session Update/Approval:** (not needed)
8. **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:**  
Open Discussion. Boyd said he will be out of the county the whole month of April. Boyd reported there is one KVM, keyboard video mouse device, that has been having intermittent problems, and that he would like to buy a spare that will cost about \$1,000. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to purchase a spare KVM. All in favor, motion carried.** Boyd stated that IT Manager Curt Watkins and staff have been doing a good job and saved \$130 for a half hour service call on the backup recorder. Boyd said the generator at the jail is on its last leg and they need an upgrade. The Sheriff is buying some lights for the work stations. The MABAS conference is coming up and the Sheriff approved sending two dispatchers to that conference in the next month. Boyd said there are now 10 Telecommunicators which will help alleviate the long shifts. There is one new hire in the works and one TC will retire by the end of the year. Discussion took place regarding working with the County to add a TC in next year's budget and split the cost with the Sheriff.
9. **Adjournment:** **Motion by Holliday and second by Huber to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.** Time: 7:40 pm.  
Next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2021.

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

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

**February 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 four members present.

**Present:** Darin Beckman, James Holliday, Don Huber, and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen and David Beal

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022** – Motion by Smalley and second by Huber to approve the minutes for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Financial Reports Update/Approval:** Beckman and Boyd shared the financial reports. The Financial outlook is steady and the account balance is like last month with a balance of \$442,722.66. There will be a \$185,000 payment to Motorola for next month. Things are on target and stable. The ETSB board reviewed the 911 payment report. **Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to approve the Financial Report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Approval of Bills:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$16,342.33 and stated he has the new mileage report forms. **Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to pay the monthly bills in the amount of \$16,342.33 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **FLEX Update** Boyd reported he did get one item off the punch list and they are down to four remaining items. Wireless evidence scanners, the text to 911 and some progress is being made to be 911 compliance by the first of the year. LEADS integration still in the works and progress is being made. There is not much movement on the White Box data conversion and not much success on the data conversion. Boyd stated he met with Raymond/Harvel the other day and will meet with Shoal Creek regarding the Flex.
  - **C&K Communications COSS Contract** – Coss was supposed to come tonight but didn't due to the weather. The best case scenario would be to purchase the frequency license from Coss. Smalley said we need to look at getting batteries replaced on a rotation basis. \$300 per year opposed to \$2100 is easier to budget. Boyd is concerned on the one in Nokomis failing. **Motion by Smalley and second by Huber to purchase the replacement batteries as an emergency repair.**
  - **Community Emergencies and Support Act:** Boyd reported he met with the Health Department and the Sheriff regarding the regulations for the Community Emergencies and Support Act and they don't know how it is going to work. Boyd had some serious objections

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like how or where the patient is going to be transferred. Boyd said this is well intended but there are some problems regarding this Act that goes into effect this July. Boyd will forward his email to the board members.

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

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

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

Open Discussion. Boyd said a new TC started this month and Stephanie got signed off this week so they are currently at ten TC's. Boyd reported he will be gone the month of April and discussion took place on not having a meeting in April.

9. **Adjournment:** Motion by Holliday and second by Huber to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 7:29 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2021.

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

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

**March 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 March 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 five members present.

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

**Absent:** Mandy Sebeschak and Mike Smalley

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes February 17th, 2022** – Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to approve the minutes for February 17th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Approval of Bills:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month in the amount of \$188,501.08 and stated he has the new mileage report forms. Boyd stated \$183,700.58 payment number three of five was made to Motorola. **Motion by Beal and second by Holliday to pay the monthly bills in the amount of \$188,501.08 as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Roll Call. Voting yes is Beal, Beckman, Holliday, Huber and Bergen. Absent: Smalley and Sebeschak. Motion Carried.**
4. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
5. **COSS Contract:** Chris will be contacted to invite him to the May meeting. Discussion took place for the need to think of an amount to budget. The Coss ten year contract began on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and will expire in 2026. Holliday stated he will contact Chris.
  - **FLEX Update** Wireless evidence scanners have been set up and in place and they are down to three items on check list. Waiting on the State for the LEADS integration. They have everything. The Sub-Contractor needs to get their background info to the State and we have to submit them before the state will let them work on the LEADS. Equipment is connected to call works but it is still not complete and working. White Box data conversion is still not working. The City of Litchfield is wanting more for white box. Boyd stated the mapping is great on the Flex and they get good locates. Boyd reached out to Macoupin County to see if we can get their layers, but they are not as good. Boyd will work on getting good mapping data from Macoupin. Boyd said we received good data from Fayette and Bond Counties, however we can't get good date from Christian County as they have a different GIS person. Not good GIS data from Macoupin either. Boyd continues getting better mapping data from outside counties. Boyd said the data sharing is working really well.
6. **New Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Interagency agreement with Montgomery County.** This agreement was amended last

year and has now expired. The County Finance Committee will discuss and get back to ETSB.

- **PowerPhone Program:** The TC's need to be certified as an Emergency Medical Dispatch Unit and they all have to have an EMT license through the State with 12 CEU's each year. Twelve CEU hours are needed annually on top of the regular training. Purchasing individual training classes for everyone would be about \$5,000. They sell a program that can be installed on the PC so that everyone can take the classes anytime for \$4,179. No additional expenses and this expense is within our \$5,000 budget. This will be installed on 3 PC's and not 4 due to the additional \$1,300 expense. They can go to the program and take the CEU classes on online for more bang for the buck. **Motion by Holliday and second by Bergen to purchase the PowerPhone Program for \$4,179. All in favor, motion carried.**
- Health Department and Community Emergency Services and Support Act starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Hugh Satterlee approached Ed Boyd and asked if the Health Department responders can be notified by the Flex CAD. Motorola contract would need to be modified to add the Health Department agency and Hugh will pay the additional cost. Motorola is looking into modifying the contract. Discussion took place if we want someone that has been through the drug program, to have access to our Flex CAD data. The response was no. Don't give them the capability to log into Flex. Hugh doesn't want to be the middle man, let the Support Responders respond. Boyd suggested tabling this issue until he hears back from Motorola. Boyd wanted to let us know this was requested by the Health Department. Huber said that 911 will get called anyway and they can patch to the health dept.

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

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

Open Discussion. Boyd reported he will be gone the month of April and discussion took place on not having a meeting in April. **Motion by Holliday and second by Beckman to cancel the APRIL ETSB meeting due to no necessary business. All in favor, motion carried.** Boyd said the Sheriff is purchasing new chairs for the Dispatchers

9. **Adjournment:** **Motion by Holliday and second by Bergen to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.** Time: 8:00 pm.  
Next meeting is scheduled for May 19th, 2021.

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

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

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

**The ETSB Meeting was cancelled**

ETSB Secretary Christine Daniels.

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

**May 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 May 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 7:05 PM.

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

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

**Absent:** Mandy Sebeschak

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes March 17th, 2022** – Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to approve the minutes for March 17th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen reported we are down about \$19,000 but still at a good level. The radio expense was kind of high. Boyd reported the State wanted to sweep the 911 funds for the new 988 mental health number however the FCC found issues with that so the State will find somewhere else to get the money. **Motion by Beal 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 \$124,410. The payment was made to Pictometry in the amount of \$109,387 for the flyover that was covered by a grant. Boyd will file to the State for Reimbursement. **Motion by Beal and second by Smalley to pay the monthly bills in the amount of \$124,410 as presented. All in favor, motion carried. Roll Call. Voting yes is Beal, Beckman, Holliday, Huber, Smalley and Bergen. Absent: Sebeschak. Motion Carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **COSS Contract:** Chris Coss attended the meeting to discuss his ten year contract that began on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and will expire in 2026. Coss stated he doesn't want to continue the contract when it expires in 2026 and gave a brief history of how this contract got started in 2016. Back in 2016, the County couldn't get a main repeater license and Chris Coss obtained one for the County from the State. Coss said that as a business, he could hold the license for emergency centers so he licensed for the system and didn't charge for the first 10 years. Coss said that \$9,900 was charged for maintenance for the first 10 years. Chris Coss stated he has done radio work for Nokomis for 27 years and was involved with bidding on the new 911 system. There were sour grapes with what happened with the other vendor. Coss said we could get our own license however every radio and storm siren in the County would have to be re-programed at about \$130 per hour. If you change the frequency then you have to change the links and it could be costly. Coss said he checked and the licenses could be changed to the County. Boyd said he would like to work something out with Coss but there are limited



funds at this time. There are two more payments to Chris Coss of \$5,000 per year. The committee discussed purchasing the license from Chris Coss. Coss also stated that if you go digital down the road, you can add narrow band. The board discussed having more money for this when the Motorola contract is paid off. Smalley asked if we want to look at digital now or later and Coss responded that you need to do it before renewing the license due to getting grandfathered in. Coss said he and ETSB board would sign the license paperwork to get it transferred. Coss said the license can have analog and it doesn't cost more to add all the platforms. **Motion by Bergen and second by Smalley to give Coss a \$500 allowance to update the license and include all the platforms. All in favor, motion carried.** Coss said the Sheriff has an antennae on the Nokomis water tower. We will need to look at a tower option in Nokomis. Boyd said he is encouraged to take ownership of the frequency and Coss is open to be bought out in two years.

- **Interagency agreement with Montgomery County.** This agreement was amended last year and has now expired. The County Finance Committee discussed and recommended the approval to the Full Board last week. **Motion by Beal and second by Holliday to approve the Interagency Agreement with Montgomery County for dispatching services as presented with changes. All in favor, motion carried.**
- **FLEX Update** Boyd reported they are making some progress State with the LEADS, and white box conversion. Boyd also reported Christian County got their charter amended to be the backup for Montgomery County and we don't have to pay anything. If we go down, we could be forwarded to Christian County and vice versa. Boyd said we did get certified as EMD Dispatch center that was approved by the State.

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

- **Cress Hill Tower Site Generator maintenance:** Boyd reported he tested the generator and it failed so he asked County Maintenance Tech Phil Ernst to look at it. Ernst had to call a Tech in Nokomis and they found out it hadn't been serviced in seven years. The generator needed a new battery and oil change. The board members discussed a maintenance agreement for monthly services and weekly test in the amount of \$1,000 and decided it was a lot of money and decided to wait a couple of years. Huber asked why the maintenance employees don't test or service the generators. Boyd asked if the ETSB board would consider paying for the service call this time and we could look at other issues on a case by case basis. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to pay for the service call, new battery and oil change on the generator at Cress Hill. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

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

Boyd reported new dispatcher Sara Saathoff is doing well and they should have the sign off for her next month. Boyd said there is trouble getting mapping submitted to the State for the NG911 and other counties are also having issues. Boyd hopes that County GIS Technician Kevin Brink can deep us compliant with GIS mapping data.

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

Next meeting is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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

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

**July 21<sup>st</sup> 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 July 21<sup>st</sup> 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 7:05 PM.

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

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

**Absent:**

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

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes June 16th, 2022** – Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to approve the minutes for June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen reported the savings on the balance sheet at of the end of May was \$189,000. Boyd reported the reimbursement was submitted for the flyover in the amount of \$109,000 and it will take about 3 to 4 months to get the money. **Motion by Beal and second by Huber to approve the financial report. All in favor, motion carried.**
4. **Approval of Bills Approval:** Boyd shared the bills for the past month and there were two reimbursements for him, one for \$36.00 and a storage rack was purchased. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **FLEX Update** Boyd reported the text to 911 is functioning and we are now compliant with NG911. The non-emergency numbers of 532-9511 and 532-9564 all rings in with the new calls works and are recorded. Boyd reported the Integrated LEADS is still in the works and is the only thing left in the contract so we haven't signed off yet. Motorola call works needs to be upgraded to the NG911. We are charted as an E911 and will need to re-charter as a NG911.
  - **ARPA Funding Update:** Beckman stated he submitted the ETSB ARPA suggestions to the County Finance Committee meeting and the highest priority was the Simulcast system. The Finance Committee recommended it to the full county board the funding was approved to move forward. Dave Beal, Ed Boyd and Darin Beckman had a meeting on Tuesday with GTSI about the next steps and frequencies to use. Another meeting is set next Tuesday at 11:00 am to go over some research they have been doing. There will be a total of 9 sites and the Litchfield system is moving into the County 911 system. Beckman stated there will be one master site like Christian County which will be Hillsboro. Litchfield has a master site and will be the backup. Hillsboro, Coffeen, Fillmore, Nokomis, Raymond, Farmersville and Panama are also sites. We are in the planning stage and will not have to be bid out as it falls under the Sheriff's

purchasing contract. Discussion took place on checking with the Attorney. Rick Robbins established the Coffeen site on the school. Beckman said that in the ARPA meeting he attended, it was asked how many of the other County fire and EMS agencies needed their pagers upgraded. Once we find out the number of pagers needed, it could possibly be funded with ARPA money if the agencies could pay 40% of the cost. ARPA would then pick up the 60% of the pager cost. Now is the time for any Fire or EMS agencies to get the pagers through ARPA. Beckman said he is willing to pay the 40% to get new papers. Discussion took place on getting a study done so that we know what we are getting on the Simulcast system. **Motion by Bergen and second by Smalley to accept the County ARPA money in the amount of \$345,000 to move forward with the plans for the Simulcast System. Roll Call Vote: Voting yes is Beal, Bergen, Huber, Holliday, Smalley, Beckman and Sebeschak. Motion carried.** Discussion took place on how 911 funds have been paying for R56 and we still don't have it. This is Motorola's grounding standard and the whole industry standard.

- Boyd said he got an update from CTI for the fiber to the tower and there was a 17% increase in one year. It went from \$36,000 to \$43,000. This will be submitted to the budget hearings. UPS upgrades to the transmitter building will also be submitted in the amount of \$29,742.

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

- **2023 Budget:** Bergen went over the FY 2023 budget. There were hardly any changes on revenue. Bergen went over the expense line items and explained any increases. Bergen said he and Boyd discussed going from 4.5 dispatchers to 5 in the expenses. The estimated revenue is \$564,000 and the estimated expenses are \$590,000. **Motion by Beal and second by Holliday to approve the FY 2023 ETSB budget. All in favor, motion carried.**
- **Simulcast System:** Discussion took place earlier in the meeting. Boyd said they had a Fire Chief and EMS meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and they were all in favor of the system.
- **I am Responding Contract:** Boyd has not heard anything back from them yet and will follow up. Boyd said this is a good product.
- **Cross Roads Contract:** Boyd said when we originally got it, it doesn't include maintenance of GIS data into the State data base. Cross Roads will do this for us and our current contract goes through the end of October and is handled through Motorola. Motorola will no longer be the intermediary and there will be no more costs this year. They do this for other agencies and they will be submitting the data to the state agencies and Kevin Brink is happy about it. Eventually we will all be integrated into one big state data base. Boyd stated we hope to be in compliance with no additional cost. The ESRI license will expire in 2023 and we will have to renew on our own.

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

**8. Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Discussion took place on the contract with Chris Coss and it is good until 2026.

**9. Adjournment:** **Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.** Time: 8:30 pm.  
Next meeting is scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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

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

**August 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 August 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 7:05 PM.

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

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

**Absent:** Mike Smalley

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, Kelly Brewer and Chris Coss.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Evan Young**
2. **Approval of the Minutes July 21st, 2022** – Motion by Beal and second by Bergen to approve the minutes for July 21st, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen reported the savings is starting to build up again and the balance sheet at of the end of June was \$323,424. **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 \$3,624.43. **Motion by Huber and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$3,624.43. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Flex/NG911 Update** – Boyd reported we are waiting on the state link for leads before we can sign off. They are working with Lee County and they finished the query only configuration and wanted to know if that was sufficient and Boyd said no that we are going with the original contract. Boyd said they are making progress. Boyd said we are still waiting on Motorola Call Works for their latest update that should be released by the end of September that will totally support the NG/911 and then we will get on the schedule for our charter modification. Text messages to 911 have been tested.
6. **ARPA update** – Beckman said that the Simulcast System money was approved by the County Board. The pager request purchase from ARPA funds will be discussed by the Finance Committee. Young said some of the fire departments might not have the 40% match but the Finance Committee will review. Boyd stated they also asked to upgrade the UPS at the transmitter building.
7. **FY 2023 Budget** – Bergen stated the employee health insurance is looking at 18.5% increase in premiums. Bergen reported Robbins asked if ETSB could pay anything additional for a dispatcher to bring it up to 12. Bergen said his proposal is to pay the 25% if the Sheriff's department gets 12

dispatchers. Discussion took place on paying for 50% of a dispatcher because the county has helped with other expense items. **Motion by Bergen and second by Beal to approve paying for 5/12 of the 12 member dispatching staff. All in favor, motion carried.**

8. **Simulcast Radio System** – Beckman reported that he, Ed Boyd, Dave Beal, Kelly Brewer, Chris Coss, Chris Ginder, and Chris Overbeck from GTSI (on Zoom), met and they presented them with some radio coverage maps to review. Beckman asked questions from his notes that he emailed everyone. One of the questions was, can there be a breakdown of the whole project instead of just the final price. They talked about coverage, hard wire sites versus them being on microwave link. Discussion took place on getting information of what to put on towers and frequencies and filtering to keep them from interfering with each other. The frequencies make the difference when designing the system. Boyd talked about re-routing to Litchfield and having redundancy if something happens. Discussion also took place in regards to talking with Nokomis about the equipment and options that could take place later.
9. **I Am Responding Contract** – Ed Boyd and David Beal worked on this. Boyd said in the packet is an addendum to include EMA in the contract. The cost is \$145 and was pro-rated. The annual fee is \$280. This will support EMA, Drone and dive teams and others. **Motion by Beal and second by Bergen to modify the contract to include Montgomery County EMA in the I AM Responding contract. All in favor, motion carried.** Boyd asked if the Sheriff's department can also be added to the contract and gave an example about an Active Shooter issue. **Motion by Beal and second by Sebeschak to include the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office in the I AM Responding contract. All in favor, motion carried.** Discussion took place on talking with EMA to reimburse ETSB for their portion.
10. **New Business Update/Approval:**  
Chris Coss asked if GTSI will move frequencies out before decommissioning. The frequencies are licensed to Chris Coss. Coss stated he is going to re-use the frequencies. Everyone agreed that we need our own frequencies. Kelly Brewer said an additional antennae would be nice up there.
11. **Executive Session Update/Approval:** (not needed)
12. **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Discussion took place
13. **Adjournment:** **Motion by Holliday and second by Sebeschak to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.** Time: 7:50 pm.  
Next meeting is scheduled for October, 20th, 2022.

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

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

**September 15th, 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 September 15th, 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 six members present.

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

**Absent:** Mike Smalley

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, Chris Coss, and GTSI personnel Chris Overbeck and Chris Ginder

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes August 18th, 2022** – Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to approve the minutes for August 18th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen reported the revenues will come in better that what was budgeted and the Health Insurance is looking OK. The balance as of July was **\$334,317**. Boyd reported the \$109,000 grant was paid in August and will appear on those reports. **Motion by Huber 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 \$15,386.23. The good news that the health insurance might not go up as much as previously anticipated. **Motion by Beal and second by Sebeschak to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$15,386.23. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Flex/NG911 Update** – Boyd said we are still waiting on Motorola Call Works for their latest update that should be released by the end of September. This update will totally support the NG/911 and then we will get on the schedule for our charter modification. Boyd said they are in pretty good shape and the cost share invoices have been sent out. Boyd reported they are using the actual flyover maps when they get a call and they are working well.
6. **ARPA update** – Boyd reported the County Board had a special board meeting to discuss the many ARPA request submitted by County Departments and other County agencies. Boyd stated he prioritized the 911 requests for the UPS to transmitter building and Fiber out to Cress Hill Tower site.
7. **Simulcast Radio System** – Boyd shared a Price Quote from GTSI regarding the Simulcast System. Holliday said Board Chairman Evan Young told him adamantly if there is any cost over \$50,000 it has to be bid out. Evan Young told Holliday there has be to an RFP and he was not happy about this

not being bid out. Bergen said with that large amount of money, it should be bid out. Huber says Evan Young discussed the same thing with him that was told to Holliday. Beckman asks how do we move forward when we have a vendor with a bid we received and it is out in the public. Holliday said we need to be good with the people's money and that he mentioned at the last meeting the Simulcast Radio System should have been bid out. Boyd said we brought a vendor here is good faith. **Motion by Holliday and second by Bergen to do a Request for Proposals and bid out the Simulcast System. Discussion:** Beckman stated now we have the problem of finding someone to write the bid specs for the Simulcast Radio System. Boyd suggests having another motion to delay this process until consulting with the States Attorney, citing that he doesn't want to deal in bad faith with this vendor. Beckman says this might be a good idea considering we have something out in the public. We got ahead of the game and now what do we do. Holliday said the last consultant failed us miserably. Bergen said Boyd's suggestion is feasible and gives time to look for a consultant. Huber stated we never really had specs on this system. Ginder says if you did have a detailed break out of what they were getting on the pricing, would it clear this issue? Holliday says not in his opinion and that is needs to be put out for bid. Holliday said that Young thought it was bid out already. Holliday says his opinion won't change based on what the States Attorney says. Huber says we need to see if it is OK to piggy back on the Sheriff. Beckman thinks the States Attorney needs to take a look at this but it doesn't answer the question on what the specs should be on what we need or want. Ginder stated there is infinite combinations of specs and he strongly suggests getting a detailed spec by a consultant that would be hired to do a needs analysis and conduct a study and develop an RFP and then probably hire them to oversee the project. There are a large number of consultants and you could probably add about 1/3 to the project cost for consulting fees. Ginder says Coss is on record saying he wouldn't bid on this project. Each manufacturer has their way of doing the work to get to the end result/project. Holliday said the price could change drastically and we owe that to the county to see if we can get the best price. Boyd said there is value in having a single vendor for all the radios. Ginder asked how the 911 console / CAD was purchased. Beckman said there were 3 different bids and presentations, but no RFP. No consultant was hired at that time. Beckman said we are going to have to have someone draw up an RFP and the cost may be about \$100,000. Holliday said if we tell a few vendors to draw up a system and put it on paper, with a cost and present it to us and then the ETSB Board makes a decision. Holliday says we really don't need to pay for a consultant. Beckman says we need to do specs so we can compare apples to apples and radios to radios. We need to specify what product we want. Holliday thinks if the end result is the system works like we want then what does it matter which radio we get. No one wants to spend money on a consultant to make up an RFP. Beckman said he contacted someone last time and that's all he knows. Check with States Attorney and if we do our due diligence and put out an invitation to vendors to submit a proposal to present to the ETSB board. Beckman wants the States Attorney to say this invitation to vendors would be sufficient to the County Board. After all the discussion, the prior motion was rescinded. **Motion by Holliday and second by Huber to speak with the Board Chair, Finance Chair and States Attorney to see if would be sufficient and legal to invite vendors to submit a proposal and presentation for a Simulcast Radio System. All in favor, motion carried.** Chris Grinder stated FIDICUARY due Diligence. Ginder said the number he submitted was based on the equipment and needs as previously discussed and as the scope changes,

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his price may go up or down. Their numbers are out there and competitively vulnerable. Holliday said we didn't decide as a board to go to GTSI for a number and was done prematurely.

8. **I Am Responding Contract** – Ed Boyd said this was taken care of and approved. EMA and Sheriff Department and all law enforcement agencies are all signed up for I AM Responding. This will save a lot of time for dispatchers. Boyd said within a few seconds they can notify all responders in the county. This was used for the Nokomis active shooter drill. This could be used for Amber and weather alerts.

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

- Have been contracting though Motorola. Crossroads, top notch. They have been getting spot on locations. Crossroads has taken over what Kevin Brink couldn't do. Proposal for a 2 year contract with Crossroads in the amount of \$30,000. **Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to accept the Crossroads GIS contract in the amount of \$30,000 for 2 years. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

11. **Open Discussion/Other Business Update/Approval:** Holiday asked about the power failure in Panama and wondered why it took so long. Boyd stated the TC should have called him sooner. Boyd miss understood what had happened. Boyd said there was power to the building. Moving forward, let the TC's know when then hearing of any power failure they are to notify Boyd as soon as possible.

12. **Adjournment:** **Motion by Holliday and second by Sebeschak to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.** Time: 8:20 pm.  
Next meeting is scheduled for October, 20th, 2022.

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



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

**October 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 October 20th, 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, Don Huber, Mandy Sebeschak, Bill Bergen and Mike Smalley

**Absent:** None

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

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
- 2. Approval of the Minutes September 15th, 2022 – Motion by Holliday and second by Sebeschak to approve the minutes for September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 3. Financial Reported Approval:** Bergen reported not that much changed since the last report. The HRA is starting to hit now. Bergen pointed out that the Vendor Warrant List from the State has some monthly receipts that do not show up on the August revenue report. The balance as of 8-31-22 was \$424,993. **Motion by Beal and second by Huber 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 \$3,880.80. **Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$3,880.80. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 5. Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Flex/NG911 Update** – Boyd said they did get the latest version of the Call Works Program and it is working well. The new NG/911 will be sometime next year. Boyd stated Christian County is our back up and we could look at Macoupin County as an option for an alternative back up. We don't have to have two backups, but now is the time when we go for the NG/911 Charter to have an alternate backup. Beckman asked when you have multiple calls, do they roll over to Christian County. Boyd responded that if ten lines are tied up, then additional calls roll over to Christian County. With the new updates, Boyd would like to see that number set at anything over 6 calls would roll over to Christian County. When this issue was tried in the past, Boyd stated that Motorola couldn't get it to work, however he is hoping with the updates, they can get it to work. Beckman said that text messaging is working and wanted to know when it will be used more. Discussion took place on to not publicize texting to 911.

6. **ARPA update** – Beckman stated the County Board Finance Committee discussed the top 18 requests for the County ARPA money and the ETSB requests for the Fiber and New Pagers for all departments was among the top requests. Bergen said the County Board hasn't approved them yet and there is a special Finance Committee meeting on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
7. **Simulcast Radio System** – Beckman reported he received an email response from States Attorney Affrunti that says the ETSB board can purchase off the Federal Contract and that the Simulcast Radio System does not have to be bid out as suggested last month's meeting. At last month's ETSB meeting, it was reported that Board Chairman Evan Young said this project had to be bid out. Beckman said that the ETSB Board a few months ago agreed that the Simulcast Radio System was to be a top priority on the ARPA requests to the County Board. Beckman said we needed a starting place to get a cost to submit to the County Board to plug a cost in for the system. Beckman gave Boyd the OK to get an estimate of what a Simulcast Radio System would cost so we could submit that for the ARPA money request. Beckman said that Chris Coss had approached the ETSB board to purchase his franchise license and we couldn't afford to do that. Mr. Coss made the statement that it only makes sense not to have two radio companies trying to do the same job. Boyd reached out to our current vendor GTSI per the OK from Beckman. Beckman said they took GTSI's estimate to the full board for the ARPA money request and as a result, this is how the GTSI bid happened. Beckman asks for suggestions on how to move forward. Holliday asked what is the advantage of Simulcast from what we have now. Beckman responded you have all the channels on one system to get better coverage throughout the county. We need to do something with all the repeater frequencies in the County. We need better communications without changing channels. The Simulcast System would streamline things significantly. Holliday stated he did his research and doesn't think it is the best system for us as it is best for an urban setting, not rural. Holliday said he didn't know what the Simulcast System was when it was first brought up. Boyd said he talked with the Fire Chiefs said they said the Simulcast System is the best way to go. Huber said there is numerous ways this could be done and thinks we should put out an RFP out for a radio system and present to the board the benefits and pros of each radio system. Smalley said he is leery about spending this much money without checking out more systems. Beckman said this system helped Litchfield Fire tremendously and they can hear and talk better. Beckman said we don't have to approve anything tonight. Coss said he feels spending \$350,000 on an analog system isn't good and Beckman said that it would have the ability for digital. Ginder from GTSI said the building of the fundamental system needs to support the radios we have and then move forward with digital. The expense is putting the digital equipment in the field. GTSI just put a Simulcast system in the Sheriff's vehicles as an analog system to make things work now and it was upgraded to digital later. With the Simulcast system, all the channels in the county are on the same system. The second benefit is constructive interference. It causes the transmitted signal to be greater. Simulcast will cover the whole county when getting pages. Coss said the only way to get more coverage is to go up. Holliday asked Ginder if he has read the State evaluation. Boyd said there was a consulting company that reached out to them and asked if he should contact them. Beckman said I Am Responding works well if you have good internet service. Bergen proposes looking at this further. **Motion by Bergen and second by Smalley to have Boyd bring back a cost to have consultant Mazzitello analyze our radio system**

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**and tell us what radio system is better for the rural area and to improve communications in Montgomery County. All in favor, motion carried.**

8. **I Am Responding Contract** – Ed Boyd said this was taken care of and approved. EMA and Sheriff Department and all law enforcement agencies are all signed up for I AM Responding. This will save a lot of time for dispatchers. Boyd said within a few seconds they can notify all responders in the county. This was used for the Nokomis active shooter drill and it could be used for Amber and weather alerts.

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

- MABAS Contract – Bergen reported the MABAS Master Agreement was approved yesterday. Beckman said that the final revised version is in his vehicle and will be emailed to everyone. We have until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to get this agreement signed by their entities or they will not be a member of MABAS. This is an action item for all the fire departments in the State of Illinois.

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

11. **ETSB Terms of Office Update:** Bill Bergen and Darin Beckman's terms are up in January. Smalley, Holliday and Beal's terms expire in February 2023. Mandy and Huber's terms expire at the end of 2025.

Boyd reported the UPS for the Communication tower building was not approved for ARPA funds. Boyd would like circuits ran to each of the data racks. Boyd said he will look up the costs and bring them to the next meeting.

12. **Adjournment:** Motion by Holliday and second by Sebeschak to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 8:32 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for November, 17th, 2022.

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

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

**November 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 November 17th, 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 7:05 PM.

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

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

**Absent:** Bill Bergen

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

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
- 2. Approval of the Minutes October 20th, 2022 – Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to approve the minutes for October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 3. Financial Reported Approval:** Boyd reported the State is starting a new payment process and we will get one payment per month instead of two. The balance as of 10-31-22 was \$526,129.74. Boyd reported we still owe Motorola two payments for about \$366,760 over two years. Also in the packet is the FY 2023 budget that includes 12 Telecommunicators. **Motion by Beal 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 \$11,672.97. **Motion by Huber and second by Beal to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$11,672.97. All in favor, motion carried.**
- 5. Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Flex/NG911 Update** – Boyd said they there is some movement on the LEADS system and there is a Conference on the 28<sup>th</sup> and they are moving forward. Boyd said he is still waiting on some cost sharing payments and has deposited about \$20,000.
- 6. ARPA update** – Beckman stated he has not been at the last couple of ARPA meetings. Boyd said the County Budget was approved this past Tuesday and the top 18 projects were put in the budget. There was \$40,000 for the Fiber project that was approved.
- 7. Simulcast Radio System** – Beckman said we just listened to consultant Mike Mazzitello regarding his quote for preparing an RFP for a Simulcast System. We have an analog system and have an option to put in a P25 digital system down the road. Holliday said he talked to the fire chief of Morrisonville who voiced displeasure of their Simulcast radio system. Some of their guys get the page but can't hear. Holliday played a recording of one of their pages that is not audible and everyone agreed this was unacceptable.

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

- **Mazzitello Consulting Agreement**
- **Fiber to Cress Hill Site:** Boyd reported the ARPA money was approved for the Fiber install to the Cress Hill Site. IT Manager Curtis Watkins recommends that if we put out this project for a bid, we should stipulate a five year no increase on monthly services. Sparklight was cheaper but was \$800 per month. **Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to have Boyd put a notice in the papers to bid the fiber project being ran to the Cress Hill Tower. All in favor, motion carried.**
- **Transmitter Building Electric Upgrade:** Boyd said we have 5 racks that are all ran on one circuit and he presented three proposals. Boyd recommends doing the \$4,478 or 6811 project with the network. Boyd said this project has been put in the new budget and will give us robust electrical service for the building. **Motion by Huber and second by Beal to move forward with the \$4,478.74 option. All in favor, motion carried.**

**9. Executive Session Update/Approval: Motion by Holliday and second by Smalley to enter into executive session to discuss a consultant contract. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 8:00 pm. Motion by Holliday and second by Sebeschak to come out of executive session. Time: 8:12 pm.** Beckman said the total contract is for \$39,900 for the full package and \$19,800 for services to get us to the RFP stage. **Motion by Smalley and second by Holliday not to move forward with Mazzitello Consultant agreement. All in favor, motion carried.** Beckman said he knows a couple of other guys that may be able do some consulting on a radio system. Dave Nato and Thorp. Holliday wants to know if there should be a meeting for the fire departments to come and talk about the radio issues. Boyd recommends Dave Nato and has had good feedback about him. Huber suggests that Beckman call Dave Nato to see if he recommends another consultant so we can get a direction of where to go. Boyd said the new radio system at the Sheriff's Office is working well. **Motion by Huber and second by Sebeschak to call Dave Nato to get some direction. Holliday votes no. Motion carried.**

**Open Discussion:** Chris Coss said he wants to talk about the current contract they have.

**Motion by Smalley and second by Sebeschak to enter into executive session regarding the current C & K Communications contract. Time: 8:50 pm. MOTION by Holliday and second by Huber TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. Time: 9:06 pm.** No action was taken

**10. Adjournment: Motion by Holliday and second by Beal to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Time: 9:10 pm.**  
Next meeting is scheduled for December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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

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Closed Session: Time 8:00 pm.

Beckman said this is a lot of money for a consultant. Holliday and Smalley stated they have talked with some other counties that have Simulcast System and they are not happy with it. Beckman said he hasn't heard of any issues from the deputies. Doc says the people he talks to would go back to the Multicast System. Boyd feels this is a lot of money, but we need some outside help. Doc thinks \$20,000 is also too much. Boyd recommends going with the consultant. Doc also thinks going with this consultant is not fair because they work with GTSI.

2<sup>nd</sup> closed session.

Time: 8:50 pm. Chris Coss said the current contract is \$5,000 per year and it expires in 2026. Coss wants to know if the board would consider his proposal of upgrading the system now and the remaining \$15,000 would go away, the licenses would be signed over to the 911 board and the antennae at the Nokomis site would be moved up from 130 feet to 180 feet. This would also increase the power at the same time. This would also fix the problems with the Fillmore tower. SEE PROPOSAL from CHRIS COSS. Upgrade the system we have now for a cost of less than \$50,000.

**CORRECTIONS:** Two minor corrections others present. **Toni Ginder.** Open Discussion. Beckman. Sheriff Robbins was not in attendance at the Dec. MABAS meeting.

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

**December 15<sup>th</sup>, 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 December 15th, 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 five members present.

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

**Absent:** Bill Bergen and Don Huber

**Others Present:** 911 Coordinator Ed Boyd, Chris Ginder, Chris Overbeck, Toni Grinder, Adam Pennock and Chris Coss.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Darin Beckman**
2. **Approval of the Minutes November 17th, 2022** – Motion by Smalley and second by Beal to approve the minutes for November 17th, 2022. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Financial Reported Approval:** Boyd reported the State went to the new system of making payments and there were no payments received for November. The balance as of 11-30-22 was \$508,108 and last year it was \$430,000. We are up about \$78,000 from last year. Boyd noted that \$80,000 was also received from the State in 2022. **Motion by Holiday 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 \$22,634.94. **Motion by Beal and second by Sebeschak to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$22,634.94. All in favor, motion carried.**
5. **Old Business Update/Approval:**
  - **Flex/NG911 Update** – Boyd said the leads coordinator was sick so the Conference call that was scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> was rescheduled. This should be ready sometime next year (2023). Boyd said all the cost sharing payments have been collected. Beckman stated we can revisit the cost share when contract is up.
  - **Simulcast Radio System:** At the beginning of the meeting, Beckman introduced Dave Dato who joined in via conference call. Currently, there are six different tower sites with six different repeater frequencies. Beckman said the area Fire Chiefs wanted to move everything over to one frequency, one platform to eliminate guessing which tower to hit. Discussion took place on moving everything over to one frequency and addressing the pros and cons for

the Simulcast System. Dato gave his background said he is with a consulting firm that does work for the federal government. He stated he has looked at our map and topography. He said operational assessments and coverage studies should be done ahead of time. Dato said that Simulcast has evolved significantly over the past 25 years and there is a coordination that occurs and improvements came with GPS. If done correctly it is like a finely tuned watch. The user doesn't have to think about what tower or frequency to use. Dato stated if you purchase the correct equipment to build the base station, you can add more base stations and combiners. Dato also said the Simulcast is a very good effective system if built correctly. The nice thing about Simulcast is they will hear each other if overlapped which is minimized by the GPS. Pagers may have to be reprogramed and will get better. Beckman said the majority of the Fire Chiefs voiced their choice of the Simulcast system at a meeting last spring. Fire departments can't page every mutual aid department out on the box card without changing frequencies, whereas you could make one page with Simulcast. Dato asked what is the current power backup and Beckman replied we have battery backup and a few sites have the capability for generator back up. Dato said there are 12 Volt and 48 Volt backup systems and asked what was proposed. Dato suggested the vendor give consideration on the cost between the 12 and 48 volt backup. The Sheriff uses the Tate TB 9400 and Dato said this is a solid system. Beckman stated we have the licensing for our current sites through our multicast system. Beckman said that the plan was to go with the current 911 frequency simulcast. Dato advises making sure all your sites are licensed so that the frequency, height and power are known before you buy equipment for those sites and have something worked out with the vendor to that effect. Chris Coss does maintenance semiannual on our current system. Dato also suggests at some point a backup base station or repeater for redundancy for the "what if" scenario. Boyd explains what we have for backup and what is planned for redundancy.

- Beckman stated he spoke with county dispatchers and found one (Stephanie) with 20 years' of experience from different counties, who wrote a support letter regarding the Simulcast system that Beckman shared with everyone. Beckman also stated he spoke to two or three people in Christian County since the November meeting and one was Dylan Goldsmith from the Taylorville Fire Department who listens to other radio traffic and he had all positives about their system. Beckman also talked to MABAS Division 50 Secretary/Treasurer, Stonington Assistant Fire Chief Cory Bailey who monitors their Simulcast system all day long at work in the vehicle and portable radio and he stated the system works the way it should. Dave Beal reported he reached out to a couple of ambulance districts in Christian County and Montgomery County and they do not have any problems with the simulcast system. Adam Pennock with the Litchfield FD was in the audience and he said the coverage area in Litchfield has improved with the Simulcast system and it is easier for them and volunteers by using one frequency. Pennock stated they handle the Walshville area and just conducted a positive successful test by having someone in Walshville on a hand held and they communicated with someone in the middle of Lake Lou Yeager. Beckman said that two members of the 911 board are absent tonight and he would like their input before moving forward.



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- **Fiber to Cress Hill Site:** Boyd reported he put an ad in the newspaper to run two times and sealed bids are due by January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The bids will then be opened at the January ETSB meeting.

**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 next month when all the board members are here for input. **Motion by Beal and second by Beckman to table this proposal until next month. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Open Discussion:** Beckman reported the Sheriff is reviewing application for T/C and will test after the holidays. Wilma Graden is set to retire in February. Mike Smalley reported I AM Responding set up a group within the command staff. Boyd suggested setting it up under the EMA account. Beckman reported Sheriff Robbins was at the MABAS meeting last night and Smalley added they learned there are extra tools to use on the I AM Responding app.

7. **Adjournment: Motion by Holliday and second by Sebeschak to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.** Time: 8:47 pm.  
Next meeting is scheduled for January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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