



Cook County Emergency Telephone System Board

May 16, 2025
10:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in attendance;

Mr. John Cornier
Mr. Thomas Fleming
Mr. John Matthews
Ms. Elizabeth Ryles

Staff and Guests in attendance;

Mr. Martin Bennett, Executive Director
Ms. Valerie Rhodes, Director of Support Services
Mr. Evan Stahlman, Lauterbach & Amen
Mr. Brandon Guzzi, Lauterbach & Amen
Mr. Timothy Doherty, Des Plaines Police Department
First Deputy Chief Arthur Jackson, Cook County Sheriff's Police Department

Executive Director Bennett called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Attendance was taken. Executive Director Bennett introduced guests that are in the process of being appointed Cook County ETSB Board Members by the Cook County Board.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Cornier made a motion, and Mr. Matthews made the second to approve the Board meeting minutes of April 25, 2025 as presented.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Yes
Ryles	Yes

Motion carried.

Cook County ETSB
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9511 W. Harrison
Des Plaines, IL 60016

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – MAY 2025

There was a substantial amount of people that attended the “9-1-1 Goes to Springfield” event to support a surcharge increase. There has been no legislative change to surcharge funding.

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER OPERATIONS

CONSOLIDATION UPDATE

Executive Director Bennett meets with the Village Manager and Chief of Olympia Fields often. Southcom can hold Olympia Fields until their contract expires in October, even though Olympia Fields prefers to leave now and pay out the remainder of their contract.

The Village of Riverdale’s IGA was approved by the Cook County Board. There is discussion between Riverdale and EComm regarding the timing of their withdrawal.

BYLAWS UPDATE

Adding Riverdale as an agency served by the Cook County ETSB to the bylaws was discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Fleming asked which radio band they would be added to. Executive Director Bennett answered that they would be added to the MetroSouth radio band, shared by Blue Island, Hometown, and Merrionette Park. Olympia Fields will be added to MetroFarSouth, joining Chicago Heights and Prairie State College.

Mr. Fleming inquired about the status of Robbins’ overdue balance. Executive Director Bennett advised that meetings are scheduled with ETSB State’s Attorney (SA) Brian Tracy, Robbins’ new police chief, Robbins’ village manager, and their accounting department to determine the best practice to remedy the situation. The sheriff’s legal is also involved.

Mr. Fleming made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cornier to adopt the bylaws as presented.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Yes
Ryles	Yes

Motion carried.

CRESTWOOD BUILDOUT

The Crestwood facility is an existing building that is being redesigned, including a second floor being added onto it. The Village Manager of Crestwood will be the project manager so while the ETSB will oversee the buildout of the center, the Village of Crestwood will facilitate the project. After discussing with SA Tracy, the Village of Crestwood will bill ETSB directly for costs rather than individual vendors or contractors. The Village employees handle a lot of the work inside, but larger parts of the project will need to be contracted out. Executive Director Bennett is requesting authorization for 50% of the full generator and UPS cost to place the order for the natural gas generator. This will lower on-going costs by eliminating the delivery of diesel fuel to replenish the generator.

Mr. Matthews inquired as to what the plan is if there is a natural gas interruption. Executive Director Bennett advised that the Des Plaines center operates 24/7 and runs on diesel. The employees would be relocated there. Mr. Matthews suggested having somewhere to plug in a temporary generator at the Crestwood facility.

Mr. Matthews made a motion, and Ms. Ryles made the second to authorize payment of \$53,350 to place the order of a natural gas generator and UPS for the Crestwood facility, 50% of the entire cost.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Yes
Ryles	Yes

Motion carried.

LIVE911

Currently, Blue Island is being trained to utilize the technology. Meetings are scheduled with the vendor to address issues the officers have been experiencing in which they receive calls that are out of their geofenced area. These issues should be resolved prior to rolling out to Sheriff's Police.

Executive Director Bennett revisited the success stories discussed in previous meetings. Ms. Ryles asked what the training for Live 9-1-1 consists of. Executive Director Bennett explained that one of the supervisors provides the officers with their credentials at roll call then rides around with the officers to address any questions or concerns that arise while they utilize the technology.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES: COMMSCOACH

Executive Director Bennett explained that the technology is a quality assurance (QA) product for the 9-1-1 center. It is hooked into the recording system to access phone and radio audio, as well as the CAD. There is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) feature that studies all the data and rates how the employee performed. QA evaluations are currently completed manually by the supervisors. This technology will complete and send QA evaluations automatically to the supervisors for review. The center determines what percentage of calls get assessed. This will be helpful in analyzing more call data to identify any issues or concerns and correct performance with more training.

There is also a built-in AI training simulator that comes with pre-loaded scenarios. The 9-1-1 center can upload their own custom scenarios or upload a real call for service received. The AI will redact any personal identification information (PII) from the call to use appropriately. This portion of the product will be extremely beneficial to the training process, especially for Metra-related incidents that are different than other calls for service, and for implementing new procedures.

The vendor is on one of the Cook County contracts with a company called SHI, which meets the County's procurement requirements. Executive Director Bennett had a meeting with Sheriff's Office IT and Security Team to discuss the AI portion of the product. The Chief Information Officer will follow the appropriate chain to have the contract approved and fully executed.

The demonstration video from the last meeting was replayed for the members that were absent.

Ms. Ryles confirmed that the cost is \$42,000 annually, then inquired as to how long the contract will be and how much of an increase will be applied throughout the life of the contract. Executive Director Bennett advised it is a five-year contract, and that the first 2 years are the same cost (\$42,000), and there's a cap of a 5% increase per year for contract years 3-5.

Mr. Matthews asked if there is a cap or limit on storage listed in the contract. Executive Director Bennett advised the storage is unlimited.

Mr. Fleming made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ryles to enter a contract and the authorization of \$42,000 for CommsCoach, contingent on the contract's approval by the Sheriff's Office IT and States Attorney Brian Tracy.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Yes
Ryles	Yes

Motion carried.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES: RAPIDSOS

A technical issue surrounding the implementation of the technology has come up between the vendor and cell service provider that has put us into a holding pattern. Mr. Cornier had asked for a demonstration of this AI product that assists with call summaries and language translation. A demonstration will be requested from the company once the issue has been resolved.

GRANT UPDATES

Executive Director Bennett informed the Board that fiscal year (FY) dates related to grants are all reference the State's FY that begins July 1st each year; July 1, 2025 starts FY2026. In FY2025, ETSB was awarded grant funding for two projects: school mapping – phase 1 and CAD-to-CAD.

The first phase of the school mapping project has been completed. The ETSB was awarded \$146,621 in grant funding for the second phase of the school mapping project, which will kick off at the start of FY2026. Once this phase is complete, all the schools in the ETSB's jurisdiction will have been mapped.

The other project the ETSB was awarded grant funding for in FY2025 is the CAD-to-CAD project. This is a cloud-based solution that allows 9-1-1 centers to see each other's incidents and to share information. Unfortunately, there has been very little progress between the two vendors involved – Motorola and Central Square. The seven agencies included in this project continue to meet with both vendors to push meeting grant performance milestones.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FY2026 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR SALARIES

Executive Director Bennett is requesting a 3% increase for the four ETSB directors in FY2026. He provided the Board with a list of executive director salaries from surrounding centers. Executive Director Bennett discussed these salaries in comparison to the Cook County director's salaries, as well as how the additions of more agencies will continue to increase ETSB annual revenue.

The reason an increase has not been proposed in the last few years is because there were increases for union employees that the County also applied to exempt employees. This has not always been the case. Previously, the union employees experienced an increase while exempt employees remained stagnant.

Mr. Fleming made a motion, and Mr. Matthews made the second to approve the FY2026 budget adjustment of 3% for exempt position salaries (Executive Director, Director of Operations, Director of Administration, and Director of Support Services).

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Yes
Ryles	Yes

Motion carried.

MAY BILL PAYMENT RESOLUTION

The May Bill Payment Resolution is attached for the Board's review.

The significant items to report are;

- Cook County Sheriff \$403,237.74 – Pass through for Des Plaines Dispatch Services
- County of Cook \$962,974.75 – Final payment for FY2024 ETSB Salaries
- Village of Crestwood \$53,350 – 50% Payment for Generator and UPS

Total Bills \$ 1,534,135.27

Mr. Matthews made a motion, and Mr. Cornier made the second to approve the May Bill Payment Resolution as presented in the amount of \$1,534,135.27.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Yes
Ryles	Yes

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Stahlman from Lauterbach & Amen presented the financials for April.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Hopefully, the new members will be formally appointed by the Cook County Board for the next meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Matthews made a motion to adjourn the meeting of May 16, 2025, seconded by Mr. Cornier.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Yes
Fleming	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Yes
Ryles	Yes

Motion carried.

The May 16, 2025 Cook County Emergency Telephone System Board meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting

July 18, 2025

10:30 a.m.

9511 W. Harrison, LL11

Des Plaines, IL 60016

Valerie Rhodes, Director of
Administration

Date

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