Cook County
Emergency Telephone System Board

March 30, 2026
10:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE
Board Members in attendance;
Mr. Timothy Doherty
Mr. Thomas Gadomski
Mr. Arthur Jackson
Mr. Arturo Robles
Mr. Kevin Sisk

Staff and Guests in attendance;
Mr. Martin Bennett, Executive Director
Ms. Valerie Rhodes, Director of Administration
Mr. Evan Stahlman, Lauterbach & Amen
Mr. Brandon Guzzi, Lauterbach & Amen
Mr. Chris Lienhardt, Director of Fire Operations
Mr. Ryan Kelsey, Astound Business Solutions

Guests in attendance virtually;
Mr. Brent Baccus, Mitchell & Titus
Ms. Bolanle Babatunde, Mitchell & Titus

Executive Director Bennett called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

Attendance was taken.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES
Mr. Robles made a motion, and Mr. Jackson made the second to approve the Board meeting minutes of January 16, 2026, as presented.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – MARCH 2026

Mr. John Kelly's report is as follows;

The Legislature has resumed the 104th Legislative Session. The House and Senate have generally not been in session at the same time. They will be in session together the final week of March. The Senate has advanced 149 bills out of committee while the House committee deadline is March 27th. The surcharge increase legislation drafted by INENA and ILAPCO, House Bill 4066 and Senate Bill 2670, has been introduced and a 9-1-1 Goes to Springfield event on February 24th gathered additional sponsors for the bills in both the House and Senate. There has also been discussion on changes to the CESSA Act, HB 5468 and SB 3798 which would place increased requirements on 9-1-1 center personnel regarding training and the use of specific mental health protocols. The Joint INENA/ILAPCO Legislative Committee has offered input on these changes. There is also a bill requiring mobile panic alert systems in schools. INENA and ILAPCO have also proposed language to make sure the funding for this bill does not come at the expense of the 9-1-1 surcharge.

The Statewide 9-1-1 Advisory Board is scheduled to meet on March 23, 2026. The Board is still working on strategic planning for the Illinois 9-1-1 system. There has been no movement on the federal level for the reclassification of telecommunicators or the funding of NG9-1-1, although there is pending legislation in Congress on both of these topics.

Executive Director Bennett advised that the surcharge increase has been stalled. We will meet with our NENA and APCO groups to prepare to revisit this issue in the fall.

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER OPERATIONS

BYLAWS

Executive Director Bennett advised that the Village of Bellwood was added to our bylaws, as discussed at our January meeting. We will likely have two more to add at our next meeting. The Village of Stone Park and Palos Fire Protection District have both signed IGA agreements, which are pending with the County Board. The Village of Melrose Park has sent a letter of intent but has not yet signed.

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sisk, to approve the bylaws to include the Village of Bellwood.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

CRESTWOOD BUILD

Executive Director Bennett advised the project has been progressing nicely. The outside of the building is almost complete, and they have moved to working on the HVAC and plumbing inside.

DES PLAINES EXPANSION

Executive Director Bennett advised the flooring is complete and the consoles are in, which brings us to a total of 44 positions at our Des Plaines center. They positions can be used for police or fire operations.

Executive Director Bennett requests purchase of 8 additional phone positions for the expansion into the old kitchen. The total cost is $352,285.84.

Mr. Gadomski made a motion, and Mr. Robles made the second to approve $352,285.84 to Mercury for the purchase of 8 additional phone positions for the expansion.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

Executive Director Bennett is requesting to purchase 16 Busy User Display (BUD) lights for the expansion area at a cost of $41,103.36.

Mr. Sisk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Robles, to approve the purchase of 16 Busy User Display (BUD) lights for the expansion with the cost of $41,103.36.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

DIGICOM USDD ALERTING

Executive Director Bennett is requesting fire station alerting equipment for 9 stations – Franklin Park (stations 1, 2, 3), Northlake FPD, Leyden FPD, Bellwood FD, River Grove FD, plus 2 additional for the Village of Melrose Park at a cost of $301,329.90. Having all this equipment and networking complete will allow for early testing before bringing these agencies on.

Mr. Gadomski made a motion, and Mr. Doherty made the second to approve purchasing fire station alerting equipment from Digicom Installations at the cost of $301,329.90 for a total of 9 fire stations.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

GEOCOMM

ETSB management has had multiple GIS projects with GeoComm and would like to add services. NG911 uses geo-spatial routing which is much more accurate than how calls were routed using cell-towers.

Executive Director Bennett is requesting a 5-year maintenance agreement of $348,798, which would be spread yearly over the 5-year agreement. He requests authorization for the first payment of $91,785 to include year one of services for $56,791 and one-time service fees of $34,994. There can be additional one-time fees as new agencies are onboarded into the Cook County ETSB.

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sisk, to approve the first payment of $91,785 being made to GeoComm, which includes year one of services and one-time service fees.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FY2025 AUDIT DRAFT REPORT

Mr. Baccus from Mitchell Titus (MT) started the FY2025 audit results presentation. Mr. Baccus advised that MT performed the audit in accordance with government auditing standards for fiscal year ending 11-30-2025. The scope of services is to express an opinion, and report to the Board the results of the audit. The ETSB's internal controls are appropriate; reasonable judgements and consistency have been used. No actual or suspected fraud was identified. There were no uncorrected adjustments and no audit adjustments noted; however, there were six client adjustments that resulted in an increased net position of $115,971. This was a significant improvement from last year. The ETSB will return the prepared management representation letter, as done in previous years.

Ms. Babatunde from MT continued with the financial statements and supplementary information part of the presentation. She highlighted that a GAGAS audit was performed this year due to the ETSB receiving more than $750,000 in grant-funds awarded by the State this year. It is required to have this extra report completed, which called for digging deep into the ETSB's internal controls and how the grant funding was utilized. Ms. Babatunde advised the remainder of the audit report is like last year; she encouraged the Board to review the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A).

Mr. Doherty made a motion, and Mr. Gadomski made the second to approve releasing the FY2025 audit draft report to Cook County.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

Executive Director Bennett pointed out the $459,567 due from County relating to ETSB salaries that has been sitting on the ETSB's books since FY2018 and FY2019. The County went to an Oracle payment system during that time. There was a lot of movement during the transition and the ETSB was not notified when the County moved positions around to the different budgets. Now, we have visibility of a position as soon as a new employee is tied to a JDE number upon hiring. We have visibility of all our positions through the system that was implemented during 2018-2019.

Mr. Stahlman added that this amount is made up of two major parts, one from FY2018 and the other from FY2019. The salaries for that time were paid; the discourse is, should these salaries have been paid by the ETSB or by the County? The request is to write off the balance because we are having a difficult time locating the support in 2026 to prove the validity of the amount owed to ETSB for the County to agree to pay.

Executive Director Bennett advised that each time an issue is raised during an audit, we adjust how we handle things on our end. One example of this is the pass-through Motorola radio orders that we would place on behalf of outside agencies. Motorola was unable to fulfill orders and issue invoices before entering a new fiscal year, causing a large liability to sit on our books that should not have been. Additionally, we now receive automated salary reports every six months. Occasionally, we get billed for items we should not be charged for. For these types of discrepancies, Executive Director Bennett goes directly to the Budget Director for the County to address and correct. It is typically simple to resolve an issue that arises year-to-year, but nearly impossible to prove from 2018 and 2019.

Mr. Jackson asked what the amount of the adjustment is and how many employees there are involved. Mr. Stahlman replied that of the $459,567 total due, $253,000 is related to the cost-center allocation piece for which approximately 7-8 employees were reported on the ETSB audit as being funded by ETSB, but that we believe should have been funded by the County.

Mr. Sisk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve writing off the amount due from Cook County balance of $459,567.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

MARCH BILL PAYMENT RESOLUTION

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

The significant items to report are;

- Cook County Sheriff for $805,372.92 – Pass through to the Sheriff for Dispatch Services
- Dick Buss & Associates for $125,000 – Final payment for the Flooring Project
- Digicom Installations for 301,329.90 – Add additional agencies for Fire Station Alerting
- Mercury Systems for $41,457.14 – Majority is for the Flooring Project
- Prime Electric for $104,461.00 – Majority for the Des Plaines Expansion and Flooring Project
- Public Risk Underwriters for $31,429 – Annual Insurance Renewal
- Village of Crestwood for $1,248,146 – Crestwood build costs

Total Bills $ 3,015,877.58

Mr. Sisk made a motion, and Mr. Robles made the second to approve the March Bill Payment Resolution as presented in the amount of $3,015,877.58.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lauterbach & Amen will present the March 2026 financial report at the next meeting, which will include the audit adjustments that were posted.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER
Executive Director Bennett congratulated Chief Jackson and Chief Robles on their promotions.

Executive Director Bennett then shared another Live911 success story that took place in Lyons.

MOTION TO ADJOURN
Mr. Robles made a motion to adjourn the meeting of March 30, 2026, seconded by Mr. Gadomski.

Roll Call Vote;

Cornier	Absent
Doherty	Yes
Fleming	Absent
Gadomski	Yes
Jackson	Yes
Kuryla	Absent
Matthews	Absent
Robles	Yes
Sisk	Yes

Motion carried.

The March 30, 2026 Cook County Emergency Telephone System Board meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Next Meeting
April 17, 2026
10:30 a.m.
13820 S. Cicero Ave
Crestwood, IL 60418

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Valerie Rhodes, Director of Administration   Date