



Cook County Emergency Telephone System Board

**August 21, 2026
10:30 a.m.**

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in attendance;

Mr. John Cornier
Mr. Timothy Doherty
Mr. Thomas Gadomski
Mr. Michael Kuryla
Mr. John Matthews
Mr. Arturo Robles
Mr. Kevin Sisk

Staff and Guests in attendance;

Mr. Martin Bennett, Executive Director
Ms. Valerie Rhodes, Director of Administration
Mr. Brandon Guzzi, Lauterbach & Amen
Mr. Matthew Carlson, Director of Support Services
Mr. Chris Lienhardt, Director of Fire Operations

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

Attendance was taken.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Cornier made a motion, and Mr. Gadomski made the second to approve the Board meeting minutes of July 10, 2026, as presented.

Roll Call Vote;

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

Motion carried.

Cook County ETSB
August 21, 2026

911

Cook County Emergency Telephone System Board
9511 W. Harrison
Des Plaines, IL 60016

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – AUGUST 2026

Mr. John Kelly's report is as follows;

The legislature is not in session and will not meet until mid-November for the Veto Session. We do expect to seek a surcharge increase when the Spring Session begins in February of 2027. One bill of note, HB 4842 was signed by the Governor on July 31, 2026, and is now Public Act 04-0681. This bill expands the protections of the "First Responders' Suicide Prevention Act, to specifically include 9-1-1 personnel and increases the confidentiality provisions for peer-to-peer counselling. The Statewide 9-1-1 Advisory Board is scheduled to meet on Monday, August 17th. The focus of that meeting is finalization of the 9-1-1 Strategic Plan. A version of the proposed plan has been circulated to the members of the Advisory Board and will be discussed at the meeting. There has been no action in Congress on either the telecommunicator reclassification bill or federal funding for Next Generation 9-1-1.

Executive Director Bennett advised we hope for movement towards an increase during the fall veto session.

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER OPERATIONS

CONSOLIDATION UPDATES

Executive Director Bennett informed the Board that the Melrose Park IGA is due to be approved by the County Board. Des Plaines Fire will be cut over at the end of September, and the Leyden agencies will join us in November. Bellwood, Melrose Park, and Stone Park are tentatively scheduled for December. More agencies will join us throughout 2027.

ALARM REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Executive Director Bennett advised the Board that only one alarm company bid on the RFP and we do not find it to be a viable option.

We originally went to RFP because if we monitored our own alarms, including the maintenance of the alarms, we would generate revenue. The drawback is that our call-takers would have to field all the maintenance calls for these alarms. Currently, we accept alarms into a product called Comtech, but it is not integrated with CAD.

AUTOMATED SECURE ALARM PROTOCOL

There were issues discovered relating to alarm monitoring since posting the RFP. A lot of alarms use a mesh network collecting alarms and sending the data back and forth. We researched three different models used by surrounding PSAPs like ours. One issue that came up was if we select one alarm provider, several of our agencies may have to change their alarm equipment for compatibility reasons, but only after the municipal legislation approves the changes for the jurisdictions affected.

After further review of the RFP, Executive Director Bennett believes we should go in a different direction. He explored Automated Secure Alarm Protocol (ASAP), previously called ASAP-to-PSAP. ASAP covers approximately 80% of alarms. The data would get transmitted directly to us, we would accept the data, and it would come into the CAD system.

ASAP is supported by a group called Mission Critical Partners (MCP). They deal with 9-1-1 centers across the United States and are brought in to solve technology problems. The alarms are transmitted over a government cloud through Amazon so none of the alarm customers would need to make any changes. The alarms would come over the cloud-client that our call-takers sign into and would automatically generate in our CAD system.

Executive Director Bennett has received many inquiries about having alarms wired into our center, especially with the increased number of alarm calls resulting in gaming burglaries. We have processed over 5,000 alarm calls for the first six months of the year. As we expand fire operations, that number is going to grow dramatically.

Mr. Sisk asked about the 20% alarm calls not supported by ASAP. Executive Director Bennett answered that those would continue to come via telephone call, and others may come in over RapidSOS, like Honeywell that has an agreement with them. MCP would use our CAD geofile to iron out the geographical area to verify no areas are missed and correct any discrepancies. There would be no additional fees as we continue to grow.

Mr. Robles asked if there would be a fee for transferring the alarms to which Executive Director Bennett replied there would not. The traditional alarm boards and other solutions are phasing out while alarms continue to transition to cloud solutions.

Mr. Sisk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Robles, to approve the one-time implementation cost of \$10,720 to Mission Critical Partners for managing the ASAP project.

Roll Call Vote;

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

Motion carried.

There will be an integration cost of \$26,521 to Motorola for the interface with ASAP. Once the integration is complete, there will be no additional fees. We would only pay on-going maintenance for the CAD integration, which costs approximately \$3,000 annually, and will be added to our maintenance contract.

Mr. Cornier made a motion, and Mr. Kuryla made the second to approve the cost of \$26,521 for the CAD integration with ASAP.

Roll Call Vote;

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

Motion carried.

FIRE OPERATIONS RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Director Bennett advised that as the 9-1-1 Center takes over dispatch services for several departments in Division 20, we have been asked to be the MABAS Division when Norcomm closes. The start date is estimated to be in December of 2026. Executive Director Bennett is recommending a build-out of VHF capabilities to the Melrose Park radio tower for the Interagency Fire Emergency Radio Network (IFERN) to transmit and receive, as well as receive only on fire ground red and fire ground white. The cost for the expansion is \$99,762.78. This will give the 9-1-1 Center ample coverage for the area. As fire operations expand to different areas of the county, it may be necessary to add this capability to additional radio towers in the future.

Mr. Matthews asked if MABAS would be paying anything towards this expansion to offset some of the costs, and Executive Director Bennett advised they would not.

Mr. Kuryla made a motion, and Mr. Cornier made the second, approving \$99,762.78 for the VHF capability build-out of the Melrose Park radio tower.

Roll Call Vote;

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

Motion carried.

CRESTWOOD BUILD

Executive Director Bennett advised the console furniture and flooring have been installed in Crestwood. The current focus will be on the IT room and wiring infrastructure to connect the 37 installed consoles. Crews are currently working on the drywall to the first floor and finishing insulation and drywall on the second floor.

NICE RECORDER UPDATE

Executive Director Bennett informed the Board that the integration between GovWorx, Motorola, and Nice is ongoing for Assist and Discovery. The Nice system was purchased in 2019, and our maintenance contract expires in the summer of 2027. A lot has changed since 2019 so it may be a good time for a needs assessment to see what other solutions are available that would support our growing PSAP. There is potential grant funding for a project like this that we can explore.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lauterbach & Amen presented the July 2026 financial report.

AUGUST BILL PAYMENT RESOLUTION

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

The significant items to report are;

- Cook County Sheriff for \$1,185,471.94 – Pass through to the Sheriff for Dispatch Services
- Dick Buss & Associates for \$184,500.00 – Flooring for Crestwood Build
- GovWorx for \$20,625.00 – CommsCoach Discovery
- Insight for \$35,759.00 – Majority is equipment to on-board agencies joining ETSB
- Mercury Systems for \$352,439.14 – Majority is grant-funded invoice for Des Plaines Expansion
- Motorola for \$336,476.97 – Pass through order for Des Plaines Fire
- Village of Crestwood for \$128,952.00 – Materials and Labor for the Crestwood Build
- Watson for \$221,521.80 – Grant-funded invoice for Des Plaines Expansion

Total Bills \$ 2,555,636.28

Mr. Cornier made a motion, and Mr. Robles made the second to approve the August Bill Payment Resolution as presented in the amount of \$2,555,636.28.

Roll Call Vote;

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

Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Cornier made a motion to adjourn the meeting of August 21, 2026, seconded by Mr. Sisk.

Roll Call Vote;

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

Motion carried.

The August 21, 2026 Cook County Emergency Telephone System Board meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Next Meeting

October 2, 2026

10:30 a.m.

13820 S. Cicero Avenue

Crestwood, IL 60418

Valerie Rhodes, Director of Administration

Date