

JO DAVIESS COUNTY EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD

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MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 4, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Emergency Telephone System Board was called to order by Bill Kimball at 7:07 PM in the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Conference Room, 330 North Bench Street, Galena, Illinois.

ROLL CALL: Board Members Present: Bill Kimball, Jeff Wood, Kevin Stewart and Diane Allendorf were physically present. Helen Kilgore and Steve Birkbeck were present electronically.

Board Members Absent: Lucas Bourquin

Others Present: Sgt. Amy Gonzalez and LaDon Trost were physically present.
Tessa Moore was present electronically.

A quorum was established.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

LEGISLATION: There is no legislation outside of the Safe-T Act stay.

MEETING MINUTES: The December 7, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes were filed for audit as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: November financial reports were reviewed. The Monthly Financial Statements were reviewed and filed as presented to submit for audit. The total accounts payable claims for December 2022 is \$130,749.19. We have asked to remove the \$45,000.00 for a full-time IT Technician for the ETSB, because there isn't one employed yet in that new position. That item was removed and will be withheld. The revised accounts payable claims amount for December 2022 is \$85,749.19. **Kevin Stewart made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims for December in the amount of \$85,749.19. Motion was seconded by Helen Kilgore and motion carried. Ayes - 6: Bill Kimball, Jeff Wood, Helen Kilgore, Steve Birkbeck, Kevin Stewart and Dianne Allendorf. Nays - 0. Absent – 1: Lucas Bourquin**

REPORTS:

- A. Sheriff's Report:** Sgt. Gonzalez had an update on Starcom. The fire departments continued to test. So far, Stockton FD has completed theirs and Warren is now in possession of the Starcom radios for testing. We are still waiting on a final contract from Starcom and the Sheriff is exploring some alternative funding options.
- B. Coordinator's Report:** Sgt. Gonzalez commented that we have an update in terms of our 911 capabilities. We went live with text-to-911 on the 28th. We were able to test with all of the carriers and go live prior to the January 1st State deadline. We are one of the very few counties that made that deadline. She said how proud she is of her team for that and very happy that testing went so well. We haven't announced it yet – we wanted to give them the holiday weekend to get through and work with the technology. We have already started receiving text-to-911 calls. Gonzalez said that there was one call so far and it was a home invasion type of call, where the person didn't feel comfortable making a voice call, so they hid and texted that they believed someone was in their house. Kimball said he gave them credit for thinking they could do that and actually text in and said how incredible it is. He

congratulated Amy and her team for the great accomplishment, and especially making the deadline. Something else going on is the situation with Solacom. We did receive a letter back that was touched on in the last meeting. We have gone back to the attorney at this point and he suggested that as a group of NINGA counties, we come up with some milestones to present to Solacom to address the issues that we listed in our letter. This is to allow them to try to make right by the contract before pursuing any further legal action. She has a meeting January 12th with the other 911 Coordinators to sit down and talk about those milestones together and present them officially to Solacom. Conditions have slightly improved with Solacom and after our last meeting, service has been expedited since our last failure. Gonzalez reminded of the issues they had last month with the hard drives failing. She mentioned other coordinators have also had issues with their hardware. We will talk more about that next month.

C. Assistant Coordinator's Report: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action on approving a 12 month, 24 hour, Maintenance Agreement with Nelson Systems in the amount of \$4,528.68 for maintenance and support for our Eventide Recorder. If approved, invoice to be paid from Maintenance Service Account 007-41128-701. (Currently support is billed at \$265 an hour for remoted support and more if a technician needs provide on-site support.) Sgt. Gonzalez mentioned how this service won't give us what we are looking for. She got Admin access to their system and to the configuration tools and something that we wanted to use this for was to reconfigure the system for texting. Gonzalez has since been able to figure this out on her own and get our system configured to record and retain texts, so we will no longer require this contract for that purpose. No further action will be taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and possible action on approving funds in the amount of \$87.50 to be paid to DeKalb County ETSB from the Professional Service Acct (007-41128-702) to reimburse them for legal work done by the law firm of Ottosen-Dinolfo-Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd., for NINGA in implementing NG-911. (Note: The total bill for the legal work is \$787.50 to be split among nine NINGA Group Counties with each County ETSB's portion being \$87.50.) **Jeff Wood made a motion to approve funds in the amount of \$87.50 to be paid to DeKalb County ETSB from the Professional Service Acct (007-41128-702) to reimburse them for legal work done by the law firm of Ottosen-Dinolfo-Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd., for NINGA in implementing NG-911. Motion was seconded by Dianne Allendorf and motion carried. Ayes - 6: Bill Kimball, Jeff Wood, Helen Kilgore, Steve Birkbeck, Kevin Stewart, Dianne Allendorf. Nays - 0. Absent – 1: Lucas Bourquin**

CLOSED SESSION: None.

BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS: Kimball said the only concern he had was already mentioned and that was the \$45,000.00 in the claims for the IT Tech that we do not have yet. Stewart asked if we knew yet what we can spend funds on and what we cannot, as far as 911 Funds. Kimball replied that they haven't done anything else and they're still working on it. They're still revising the rules. The last official word we heard from them was that we cannot use ETSB money for radios for Law Enforcement, Fire or EMS. County Board Chairman, LaDon Trost, asked if there was a statue about that. Kimball said that there isn't a statute, but there is a statue that says what you can spend money on. There are some rules in place that have been in progress for over three years and they're more specific than the statute itself. Allegedly, radios do not meet the criteria on what we can spend that money on. We will update as we get any additional information.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m. following a motion made by Jeff Wood and seconded by Dianne Allendorf.

Next meeting date is Wednesday, February 1, 2023 in the Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Conference Room.