

# **MINUTES**

## **WINNEBAGO COUNTY EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD**

Rockford Fire Headquarters, 204 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Rockford, IL 61104  
September 13, 2022

### **I. Call To Order**

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a. m.

### **II. Roll Call**

Present: Todd Stockburger, Chairman, Joe Corl, Vice Chairman, Adam Truman, McCammond, Michele Pankow, E.J. Dilonardo and Don Carlson

Guests: See Attendance Signature Sheet (Sandy Stansell also present)

Absent: None

### **III. Minutes**

**Motion:** Joe Corl made a motion to approve and Michele Pankow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **IV. Financials**

Chairman Todd Stockburger advised that a short version of the financials was provided a long version was not printed. If anyone has questions, Elizabeth Russell can be contacted but she is out with a family emergency. **Motion:** Don Shoenlin made a motion to approve the financials followed by a second from Adam Truman. Motion carried and financials were approved.

### **New Business**

#### **September – Annual Elections for Chairman and Vice Chairman Positions**

ETSB Chairman Todd Stockburger reminded the ETSB that the annual elections are held each September at this meeting. The election was opened for nominations.

**Motion:** Todd Stockburger made a motion to nominate Gary Caruana for the position of Chairman. Mike McCammond seconded the motion. Gary Caruana was voted in for the position of ETSB chairman by a unanimous vote. Next up was the position of Vice Chairman. **Motion:** A motion was made by Don Carlson to vote Michele Pankow into the position of Vice Chairman. That motion was seconded by Gary Caruana. Michele Pankow was voted into the position of Vice Chairman by a unanimous vote.

**August Call Volume and Answering Report – No comments**

### **Discussion on SAP**

Joe Hallstrom commented that the ETSB needs to take action on what they need to do with Rock Com. Chairman Gary Caruana stated that the ETSB needs more information and possibly get a study done to see what business models have been done on this issue. Todd Stockburger said that Elizabeth Russell was working on financial information to present to the board. Joe Corl advised that he had spoken with Elizabeth Russell yesterday who said she has a meeting on Friday to get information on phones and the network as well. She said the phones would be the cheaper part but getting the network over there, like iFiber to and in the building are some of the big cost items. Chairman Caruana said we have to gather all of that information to see what makes the best sense all the way around and what would be beneficial for the quickest response along with the best cost moving forward. Chairman Caruana asked board members to consider reading a book that he encountered in Corporate called, *Who Moved my Cheese*. He stated that this book might help to open minds to change instead of the thought of that's how it has always been done. We need to go off a business model to help the decision, Caruana said. It suggests following a business model instead of following emotions. He requested that everyone take a look at that book before the next meeting.

Don Shoefflin asked who would be the point of contact with the state. He doesn't want to see any ramifications especially with something that is currently working. Chairman Caruana asked if Don Shoefflin wanted to take on that role of contacting Cindy Barbera-Brelle. Don Shoefflin agreed.

### **Appointment of Attorney Kelly**

Todd Stockburger advised that Attorney Kelly needed to be specially appointment by State's Attorney Hanley to work in the position of Winnebago County ETSB Attorney to keep it consistent. ETSB members were provided copies of a letter or approval written to Attorney Kelly by Hanley. Stockburger stated that Attorney Kelly has been doing a good job but this is just a formality.

### **Old Business**

#### **ETSB Salaries**

Joe Corl advised the ETSB that during an auditing process it was found that the ETSB overpaid the County \$197K for salary reimbursement. He also indicated that the ETSB overpaid the City \$50K in which the city has paid back. Corl asked if this should be discussed since the city paid back 100% Corl advised that they have been speaking with County finance about the reimbursement over a 10-year period for 50% of the amount. The auditing and invoicing process has been correcting to avoid problems in the future. Dave Rickert advised that this has been an ongoing discussion for some time and because of the length of time this has happened over a 10-year period in the spirit of cooperation that County agrees to pay 50% of the amount. Mr. Rickert advised that he and Elizabeth Russell have put safe guards in place to avoid this in the future. EJ Dilonardo would like to see something in writing stating this action by the ETSB does not set past practice or precedence that this would be the standard as to how we would handle any similar issues that would come up in the future. Michele amended her motion that the ETSB invoice the county for \$98.5K with the understanding that it won't set past practice or precedence for any future

situations of this similar nature. The motion was seconded by EJ Dilonardo. A roll call vote was taken. All present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **Fiber Route and 911 NG Project**

Sandy Stansell advised that they are still awaiting word from Solacomm on the sharing of 50% of the cost for the redundant fiber pathway. As far as the project, DeKalb is on the calendar for an October cutover. Once they cutover there will be a 2-week period between each of the counties thereafter. Winnebago County was looking at a November cutover but if AT&T continues with their delays then we will be pushed into Q1 of 2023.

### **CAD to CAD Interface – No report**

### **Rural Fire Mobile Licenses and RMS Interface**

No report –

### **CAD/RMS Governance and CAD System Management Committee**

No major updates on the governance. Per Todd Hughes with integration of CAD & RMS we need to stay side by side on the updates. They will be working with city and county on technical issues in the future. A lot going on with the Safe T act coming out in January 1. This is going to cause issues with getting CAD and RMS on the same version. We will work with Elizabeth Russell and County 911 to get that tested. There is also a new mobile client that has quite a few new enhancements and features that responders will like. We have vendor concerns with the Safe T act and the way NTA's are handled.

### **Mental Health Grant**

Michele Pankow reported that currently Pro QA is on site providing training which is the software as part of the mental health grant. Currently we follow EMD but this allows the Telecommunicator a much more efficient way to provide EMD. Right now, we are in phase 1 through next week. Stakeholders are lined up through next week to meet regarding the program.

### **Public Comments:**

#### **Dr. John Pakiela: (Mercy MD.1)**

- Rock Com dispatches for 8 fire districts and private ambulances
- Rock Com is trusted because of efficiency
- Rock Com is able to pass cost savings down to agencies
- If not designated they would continue as a com center
- Mercy's commitment to Rock Com - \$600 K last year. On target to spend another \$110 K this year
- Rock Com is fully staffed
- All employees are Apco certified
- In 30years of operations Rock Com has never asked for funding from ETSB
- Rock Com wants to continue dispatching and continue as a SAP
- Dr. Pakiela asks that the ETSB support Rock Com as a SAP

**Kurt Ditzler: (Durand Fire)**

- Been with Rock Com since 2016
- \$7K savings through Mercy
- Durand Communications are completely handled by Mercy
- They choose to remain with Rock Com
- Mercy is their Resource Hospital
- Happy with their service

**Chief Kirk Wilson: (Rockton Fire)**

- Rockton has been with Rock Com for 20 years
- They do a great job!
- Rockton made a verbal agreement to go with Rockford Fire for dispatch last year
- Rockton wants their calls to come direct from their dispatch center. Rockton wants to be able to be simul cast on major fire calls with their neighboring fire district.
- Rockton supports Rock Com as a SAP

**Next Meeting and Adjournment:**

Prior to the adjournment, long time and original member of the Winnebago County ETSB, Don Carlson announced that he will be resigning from the board. His final meeting will be December. Don Carlson said he was appointed to the board in 1997 by Kris Cohn. Mr. Carlson expressed to the board his thanks and said it has been a great ride and he has had a wonderful time. Chairman Gary Caruana thanked Don Carlson for his service. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 9am at Rockford Fire Headquarters at 204 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Rockford, IL 61104. A **Motion** was made by Todd Stockburger to adjourn and was seconded by Michele Pankow. Motion carried.