

**MENARD COUNTY
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

August 21, 2023

The regular meeting of the Menard County ETSB was called to order by Mike Chandler at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: John Balster, Ron Cooley, Pat Rebbe, Mike Chandler, Ben Hollis, Karen Boensel, Daniel Schirding, and Kevin Standley

Members Absent: Mike, Burg, Dave King, and Rich Brauer

BOARD MINUTES

- A motion to accept the consent agenda of the August 21, 2023, ETSB regular meeting was made by Ron Cooley and seconded by Kevin Standley. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.
- A motion to accept the May 15, 2023, minutes, June 19, 2023, and July 17, 2023, as presented was made by Daniel Schirding and seconded by Pat Rebbe. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.
- A motion to accept the financial reports as presented with an explanation was made by Ron Cooley and seconded by Kevin Standley. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

911 COORDINATOR REPORT

- John, Ron, Rich, and Ben met with GTSI and took an inventory at all the tower sites. Everything is expired and aged out. Would like to put a committee together to review and make a priority list of what needs to be replaced first. Once we receive a spreadsheet report we will move forward to determine the cost.
- Ben and John were having tower issues at various locations and may need to purchase standby generators for these towers. We are waiting to hear from Ryan Electric, but they are backed up in work.
- Grant Money is taken care of. We have not received any money but should by the end of the month. Cindy has made this a better deal for us, and we should be receiving \$148,000.00.
- The June meeting, John, Mike Burg, and Sheriff Oller went to Cass County dispatch. They are going to have to spend an estimate of \$500,000.00 to \$750,000.00. They are arguing with StarCom and another company currently. They will need to add at least 2 more towers as they only have one. Logan County did a study between Simulcasting and StarCom with Simulcasting coming out on top as far as communication receiving and transmission. Sheriff Oller has StarCom.

Cass County is very outdated. We may need to send GTSI to update all equipment over there. Need those consoles updated in case Menard has an unforeseeable emergency. Should we be discussing a move from Cass County as backup to Logan County. We need to ask GTSI what their opinion is. We will need to check A T & T and everybody. We will need to know what kind of cost we are looking at. Ben would not estimate but he feels it will be a major change with a cost to match. John will look into talking with Logan County.

- Microwave dishes needs upgrades. We will also need a larger room for all dispatch equipment. Ben, Kevin, and John are waiting on A T & T to see what their options are.

- Mike Chandler recognizes John and Ron for all the time spent on getting our grant approved and we would like to thank them for all they do.

PSAP UPDATE

- Central Square will go live in December.
- Ben would like to hire a consultant as we have so many system vendors. Athens and Greenview have their own. We should be looking at one system and one channel.

OLD BUSINESS

- Ron asks about addresses. They held ours at the same rate and the new rate does not go into effect until December.

NEW BUSINESS

- None

HEARING OF CITIZENS

- None

SPECIAL COMMITTEES REPORT

- None

ADJOURN

- A motion to adjourn was made by Dave King and seconded by Ron Cooley. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Menard County Courthouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Boensel
Secretary/Board Member