MEETING MINUTES
Emergency Telephone System Board
Thursday, May 22, 2014, 5:30 P.M.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Ave., Aldermanic Library

Members Present: David Blatt, M.D., Community Representative, 9th Ward Alderman Coleen Burrus, Police Chief Richard Eddington, Division Fire Chief Tom Janetske, Fire Chief Greg Klaiber, Perry Polinski, Communications Coordinator

Members Absent: 7th Ward Alderman Jane Grover

Staff Present: Deputy Police Chief Aretha Hartley, Assistant Communications Coordinator Matthew Theusch

Presiding Member: 9th Ward Alderman Coleen Burrus

Declaration of Quorum
With a quorum present, Chairman Burrus called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES of October 7, 2010
It was moved by Dr. Blatt and seconded by Alderman Burrus that the minutes of the September 23, 2014 meeting be approved. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved as written.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Introduce new Assistant Communications Coordinator Matt Theusch – Mr. Polinski introduced Assistant Communications Coordinator Matthew Theusch who joined the Department in March and came to us from North Suburban Emergency Communications Center (DesPlaines/Park Ridge) where he was a supervisor.

B. FindMe 911 – At the January 23rd meeting, Mr. Polinski shared with the Board the objective of the FindMe 911 coalition, which was formed to address the issue of inaccurate wireless enhanced 9-1-1 location information after the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) was provided with data indicating that nearly half of the calls received in several states didn't include accurate location information. Mr. Polinski went on to report that, in response, the FCC, who estimates that more than 10,000 lives could be saved each year if accurate location information was required on all wireless calls to 9-1-1, recently sought public comment on the proposed rule to improve wireless 9-1-1 location accuracy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (LEGISLATIVE UPDATES)

A. HB4230 – Poison Control – Mr. Polinski reported that the original author sponsored another bill that would move 1.3 million dollars to Poison Control from the General Fund to keep the Poison Control Center operational and without
touching 9-1-1 funds. The bill passed the Senate on May 14th and moved to the Human Services Committee meeting which is scheduled for May 27th.

B. HB5722/SB3393 Wireless Carrier Surcharge – Mr. Polinski reported that these two bills reallocate the wireless surcharge, increasing the PSAP share to $.63 or $.65 (from its current $.57), instead of the originally proposed $.70 and is still being compromised.

C. SB2599 Wireless Carrier-No Fund Sweep – Mr. Polinski reported this bill would prohibit sweeps from the Wireless Emergency Service Fund, is still pending and will probably be rolled into the aforementioned bills.

STAFF REPORTS

A. 911 Services Advisory Board Expense and Revenue Report – Mr. Polinski reviewed the 911 Services Advisory Board, which was established by law to determine the costs necessary for every 9-1-1 system to adequately function and to make recommendations to the General Assembly on whether there is a need to consolidate functions (also discussed at the meeting on January 23rd), requirement to submit an expense and revenue report which was completed and filed by the deadline of March 21, 2014. PSAPs were given only two weeks to provide the information which is why we opted for the one page summary form. This also was more in line with our G/L Budget Detail Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. New Fire Station Tone Alert System – D/C Janetske reported that a contract has been signed with Chicago Communications, LLC for purchase of the new emergency tone alerting system for the Fire Department after it was approved at the February 10, 2014 City Council meeting. Additionally, fire station site evaluations were conducted on April 18th and a Gantt chart is forthcoming. Finally, equipment has been ordered and will arrive at the vendor’s facility where it will set up and staged for a site visit prior to installation.

B. EMD – Mr. Polinski shared a copy of the final “white paper” draft and that Chief Klaiber and Chief Eddington are currently planning discussions with Manager Bobkiewicz to address any potential questions regarding staffing ramifications.

C. Discontinuation of Alarm Monitoring Services – Mr. Polinski advised that this item (covered in detail at the July 25, 2013 meeting) has been scheduled for the May 27th City Council meeting and reminded the Board that it is being proposed for reasons of cost savings, liability, and practicality as the number of connections continue to drop due to more cost appealing alternatives.

D. Text-to-911- Mr. Polinski reported that, as of May 15th the four major U.S. wireless carriers (Verizon, AT&T, Sprint and T-Mobile) support the new functionality in “all areas served by their networks where a 9-1-1 call center is prepared to receive texts. The Four have met a voluntary deadline for putting into place technology that enables subscribers to send text message to 9-1-1 dispatchers, but few states have the infrastructure in place to receive the texts. (Just 16 states, in limited areas, have call centers ready to field 9-1-1 texts.) At
this time, PSAP participation is not mandated by the FCC. However, the Evanston PSAP continues to work toward accepting 9-1-1 texts.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Mayor’s 911 Funding Resolution – Mayor Tisdahl proposed a Resolution “Supporting Adequate and Fair Funding for Illinois 9-1-1 Systems” which was approved at the City Council meeting of May 12th. The Resolution expresses the need for action at the State level to revisit the current funding model that supports 911 services.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Burrus moved and D/C Janetske seconded to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry J. Polinski
Communications Coordinator, Police Department