

MENARD COUNTY
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 18, 2025

Members Present: Jason Huffman, Mike Burg, Ron Cooley, Ben Hollis, Daniel Schirding, Dalton Whitley, Chris Henderson and 911 Coordinator John Balster.

Meeting was held at the Menard County Courthouse Board Room and was called to order by Vice-Chairman Ron Cooley at 18:02.

Vice-Chairman Cooley presented the Consent Agenda, motion to accept by Huffman, second by Schirding, motion passed.

Vice-Chairman Chandler presented the meeting minutes from June 16, 2025, Huffman motioned to accept, Henderson seconded. Motion passed to accept minutes from June 16, 2025 with no changes.

Vice-Chairman Cooley presented the cancelled meeting of July 21, 2025 and motion to approve by Huffman, second by Schirding, motion approved.

Financial report was tabled until later in the meeting to accommodate speakers for the 2 bids received for a radio assessment.

Bud Hicks from Mission Critical Partners (MCP) was present and presented a bid for a Radio Assessment Study. He explained that the Radio Assessment is Phase 1 of building a radio system. It entails engagement of all public safety partners, study of the coverage of the system, inventory of current equipment and what the County's needs are for the new system. The current VHF system was last upgraded in 2010. They identify gaps in the system and how to address further issues. The project is done in phases and MCP can provide all other phases of the project if needed. Their employees are well versed in public safety. MCP provided a bid of \$35,154. They have a current lead time of about 4 months. His presentation ended at 18:39. Chris Henderson left the meeting.

Alan Talkington from TUSA was present by ZOOM call to present their bid. He explained that they were finishing up a similar project for Sangamon County. He presented similar information on the phases of the project and explained that they would provide a project manager and

engineer for the project. Their bid was \$32,400 and was a not to exceed price. Their lead time was 90 days.

There was discussion on what bid and company would be best for the County. Whitley made a motion to proceed with Mission Critical Partners for the radio needs assessment for a price of \$35,154. Schirding seconded and motion passed. Hollis will contact them.

Vice-Chairman Cooley presented the Financials and Expenditure report for July and August 2025. Burg motioned to accept report, Schirding seconded, motion passed. Discussion on checking account balance and Balster suggested investing in another CD due to high balance in checking. We have no other CD's that come due in August. Hollis motioned to put \$75,000 in CD at Middletown State Bank for 12 months at 4 ¼%. Huffman second, motion passed. Huffman left meeting at 19:51.

911 Update:

John Balster reports awarding of a grant reimbursement of \$31,473. No other 911 information to report.

PSAP Update: Nothing to report.

Hearing of citizens: No citizens present at meeting.

New Business: None.

Old Business: See minutes on radio assessment.

Special Committees: Nothing to report.

No other 911 business noted and Whitley motioned for adjournment, Burg seconded. Meeting adjourned at 20:10. Next meeting September 15, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Burg, Secretary