



DU PAGE COUNTY

ETSB - Emergency Telephone System Board

Draft Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, IL 60187
www.dupagecounty.gov

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

9:00 AM

Room 3500B

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87231766899?pwd=yLYzWCwpfx4cIW4trtxg8eHbQzsq1a.1>

Meeting ID: 872 3176 6899

Passcode: 508836

1. CALL TO ORDER

9:00 AM meeting was called to order by Chair Schwarze at 9:00 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

ETSB STAFF:

Linda Zerwin

Nate Krause

Gregg Taormina

Eve Kraus

Andres Gonzalez

COUNTY CLERK:

Chad Pierce, Deputy Clerk

STATE'S ATTORNEY:

Mark Winistorfer

ATTENDEES:

Eric Burmeister, ACDC

Don Ehrenhaft, County IT

Colin Fleury, West Chicago PD

Paul Hinds, County Deputy Treasurer

Nick Kottmeyer, County Board Office

Nancy Llaneta, County Finance

Ellen Smith, County Deputy Treasurer

Rachel Bata, Roselle PD (Remote)

Rich Cassady, Glenside Fire (Remote)

Ric Ciszewski, West Chicago Fire (Remote)

Jason Glaser, Downers Grove PD (Remote)

Suzette Quintell, DMMC (Remote)

Anthony McPhearson, County CIO (Remote)

Bret Mowery, York Center Fire (Remote)

Michael Rodriguez, Lisle PD (Remote)
Matt Theusch, Citizen (Remote)

On roll call, Members Schwarze, Franz, Eckhoff, Hernandez, Honig, Johl, Maranowicz, Markay, McCarthy, Schar, and Wolber were present. Member Robb was absent.

PRESENT	Franz, Eckhoff, Hernandez, Honig, Johl, Markay, McCarthy, McCarthy, Schar, Schwarze, Maranowicz, Wolber, McCarthy, and McCarthy
ABSENT	Robb

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS - CHAIR SCHWARZE

Chair Schwarze stated that, under Agenda Item 10, a standing line item for finance and revenue was added and will remain on the agenda indefinitely to provide an ongoing opportunity to discuss finances. He thanked Executive Director Zerwin for including the item and thanked Members for their comments during the prior month's discussion.

Chair Schwarze then congratulated Members Honig, McCarthy, and Wolber on their recent reappointments to the ETS Board and noted that the County Board also approved Member Maranowicz to return. He thanked the Members for their continued dedication and service. Chair Schwarze also noted that, at the prior month's meeting, the ETS Board approved the hiring of the Deputy Director of Operations and welcomed Mr. Nate Krause, who started on January 5, 2026.

Chair Schwarze congratulated TC Hawkins on successfully completing the APCO Communications Training Officer certification course. Chair Schwarze also recognized Telecommunicator William Kolberg, who received a note of appreciation from a member agency detective for his assistance and support to responders during critical incidents.

Chair Schwarze further recognized TCs Renee Calzaretta and Lindsay Bukovic for exceptional professionalism and teamwork during a high-risk incident in Bloomingdale on November 8, 2025. TC Calzaretta, serving as the call taker, remained calm and focused while gathering critical information and providing clear safety instructions to the caller, while TC Bukovic effectively managed radio communications and supported responding units by relaying updates, fulfilling operational requests, and maintaining radio channel clarity, ensuring responder safety. Chair Schwarze stated that their actions exemplified ACDC's mission and values and contributed to a safe and successful resolution.

5. MEMBERS' REMARKS

There were no Members' remarks.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Schwarze asked for a motion to combine Consent Agenda Items A/Monthly Report for January 14; B/Minutes Approval Policy Advisory Committee for December 1, 2025; C/ETSB Ad Hoc Finance Committee Minutes Approval for July 13, 2025; D/Minutes Approval ETS Board for December 10, 2025. Member Johl motioned, seconded by Member Maranowicz. On voice vote, all Members voted “Aye”, motion carried.

Chair Schwarze asked for a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A/Monthly Report for January 14; B/Minutes Approval Policy Advisory Committee for December 1, 2025; C/ETSB Ad Hoc Finance Committee Minutes Approval for July 13, 2025; D/Minutes Approval ETS Board for December 10, 2025. Member Johl motioned, seconded by Member Wolber. On voice vote, all Members voted “Aye”, motion carried.

6.A. Monthly Staff Report

6.A.1. 26-0165

Monthly Report for January 14 Regular Meeting

Attachments: [January Meeting Monthly Report.pdf](#)

6.B. Minutes Approval Policy Advisory Committee

6.B.1. 26-0132

ETSB PAC Minutes - Regular Meeting - Monday, December 1, 2025

Attachments: [12-1-2025 PAC Minutes Summary](#)

6.C. Minutes Approval Ad Hoc Finance Committee

6.C.1. 26-0264

ETSB Ad Hoc Finance Committee Minutes - Regular Meeting - Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Attachments: [2025-07-09 ETSB Ad Hoc Finance Minutes Summary.pdf](#)

6.D. Minutes Approval ETS Board

6.D.1. 26-0166

ETSB Minutes - Regular Meeting - Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Attachments: [2025-12-10 ETSB Minutes Summary.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA
MOVER:	Pat Johl
SECONDER:	Kyle Wolber
AYES:	Franz, Eckhoff, Hernandez, Honig, Johl, Markay, McCarthy, Schar, Schwarze, Maranowicz, Wolber, and McCarthy
ABSENT:	Robb

7. VOTE REQUIRED BY ETS BOARD

7.A. Payment of Claims

7.A.1. 26-0162

Payment of Claims for January 14, 2026 for FY25 - Total for 4000-5820 (Equalization): \$2,549,621.06.

On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [Payment of Claims 1.14.26 FY25.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Andrew Honig
SECONDER:	Pat Johl

7.A.2. 26-0163

Payment of Claims for January 14, 2026 for FY26 - Total for 4000-5820 (Equalization): \$710,418.65.

On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [Payment of Claims 1.14.26 FY26.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Pat Johl
SECONDER:	Joseph Maranowicz

7.B. Purchase Resolutions

7.B.1. ETS-R-0005-26

Recommendation to encumber funds in the County Finance software for electric utility distribution services through ComEd, for a contract total amount not to exceed \$20,000. Per 55 ILCS 5/5-1022(c) not suitable for competitive bids. (Public Utility)

On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [ComEd 926007 PRCC.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Kyle Wolber
SECONDER:	Pat Johl

7.B.2. [ETS-R-0006-26](#)

Recommendation for the approval of a purchase order to Propio, LLC, PO 926006, for language translation services for 9-1-1 Telecommunicators, for the period of February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027, for a total amount not to exceed \$30,000; pursuant to the Governmental Joint Purchasing Act, 30ILCS 525/2 (NASPO Valuepoint Master Agreement #40-00000-24-00076AK).

On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [Propio 926006 PRCC.pdf](#)
[Propio NSPO MSA Redacted.pdf](#)
[Pricing \(002\).pdf](#)
[NASPO Service Agreement \(002\).pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Pat Johl
SECONDER:	Marilu Hernandez

7.C. **Budget Transfer**7.C.1. [ETS-R-0007-26](#)

Transfer of funds for FY25 from 4000-5820-50000 (Personnel/Salaries) to 4000-5820-50050 (Temporary/On Call) in the amount of \$1,000, to account for end of fiscal year costs and accruals.

Chair Schwarze asked for any discussion, to which there was none and asked for a vote. On roll call, 11 Members voted "Aye", 0 Member voted "Nay" and 1 Member was absent, the motion carried.

Attachments: [BT 50000 to 50050 On Call FY25.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Pat Johl
SECONDER:	David Schar
AYES:	Franz, Eckhoff, Hernandez, Honig, Johl, Markay, McCarthy, Schar, Schwarze, Maranowicz, Wolber, and McCarthy
ABSENT:	Robb

7.D. Resolutions**7.D.1. ETS-R-0008-26**

Resolution declaring equipment, inventory, and/or property on Attachment A, purchased by the Emergency Telephone System Board of DuPage County, as surplus equipment.

On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [Surplus Attachment A.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Joseph Maranowicz
SECONDER:	Marilu Hernandez

7.D.2 ETS-R-0009-26

Resolution for approval of Milestone #3, the final monetary milestone for "Final Testing and Cutover Itasca Station 67" in the amount of \$990.00 in accordance with PO 7298-0001 SERV, between the DuPage County Emergency Telephone System Board and PURVIS Systems, Incorporated.

On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [DUPAGE PROJECT MILESTONE 3 SIGN OFF FORM](#)
[ITASCA STATION 67 OPTIONAL 12232025](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Pat Johl
SECONDER:	Kyle Wolber

7.D.3. ETS-R-0010-26

A Resolution approving the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Emergency Telephone System Board of DuPage County and the DuPage Public Safety Communications (DU-COMM) PSAP for the development of an interface and connection to the 9-1-1 System for an AI Automated Quality Assurance software per DuPage ETSB Policy 911-013.1: 9-1-1 System Interface Access and Fees.

On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [MOU between ETSB and DU-COMM](#)
[CommsCoach_Redacted.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Kyle Wolber
SECONDER:	Marilu Hernandez

8. DEDIR SYSTEM UPDATE

In the absence of Chiefs Selvik and Clark, Executive Director Zerwin provided an update on the DEDIR System encryption project. Executive Director Zerwin noted that Chief Fleury was present if needed. She reported that progress continues to go well and that the team is approximately two thirds of the way through updating police agencies. Executive Director Zerwin stated that coordination with the Sheriff's Office has allowed on-duty officers to report to site locations for updates and that approximately 75 officers have been completed to date. She thanked the Sheriff's Office for their coordination and noted that the overall encryption work plan is being finalized.

Executive Director Zerwin explained that the upgrade places the required hardware into the radios and that Motorola will need to complete additional background work on the consoles and the STARCOM system before encryption can go live. She stated that the target is to go live by the end of March, noting that schedule may be impacted by operational realities. Executive Director Zerwin also reported that there are a couple of open items on the AXS consoles being worked on and that the PAC is reviewing several policies that will be brought to the ETS Board at a later date.

Chief Fleury thanked the Board for its support of the encryption effort and provided a recent operational example to emphasize its importance. He stated that a shooting occurred in West Chicago the prior evening and that information broadcast over the radio was quickly shared publicly, contributing to community concern and potentially compromising scene safety and tactical details. Chief Fleury stated that encryption is critical in preventing suspects from monitoring law enforcement operations and ensuring officer and public safety.

Chair Schwarze thanked Chief Fleury for sharing the example and asked whether all officers were safe. Chief Fleury confirmed they were safe.

9. DU PAGE ETSB 9-1-1 SYSTEM DESIGN

Executive Director Zerwin reported that, other than what was included in the monthly report, there were no additional updates. She thanked the Board for approving CommsCoach and noted that, while the approval has been a work in progress, thanks to the technical team under Deputy Director Taormina, CommsCoach successfully went live for DU-COMM on January 2, 2026. She said that this was an "after the fact" update because of remaining administrative and technical considerations regarding whether the solution would be asynchronous or real time, and confirmed the system is now live and operational.

10. FINANCE AND REVENUE

10.A. Revenue Report 911 Surcharge Funds

10.A.1.26-0164

ETSB Revenue Report for January 14 Regular Meeting for Fund 5820/Equalization

Member Johl made a motion to approve, seconded by Member Hernandez. Chair Schwarze opened the item for discussion.

Executive Director Zerwin stated the revenue report presentation was revised based on the Board's prior meeting discussion and that the Finance and Revenue section was structured as proposed to create a standing monthly opportunity to discuss finances. She explained that the Revenue Report, which had previously been included under the Consent Agenda, was moved under this section. Executive Director Zerwin noted for this meeting, prior fiscal years under the Equalization Surcharge were expanded to provide additional historical context, particularly for newer Members, and to show how revenues have evolved over time.

Executive Director Zerwin further reported that, following the Board's request to include interest income, Deputy Treasurer Ellen Smith and the County Treasurer's Office backfilled interest for FY25 and included FY26 December interest, and will continue tracking interest going forward. She stated the report also reflects investment interest in a clearer format, with the final page showing how investment interest is tied to the underlying investment accounts. Executive Director Zerwin noted that according to last year's Treasurer's Office report, fluctuations are expected as balances change due to project expenditures and declining interest rates.

Executive Director Zerwin further explained that certain line items reflected reimbursements that are budget neutral, including items such as PRMS reimbursement and other pass-through payments such as optional equipment or additional licenses associated with the Hexagon contract where the ETSB pays and agencies reimburse later. She stated staff is working with Ms. Llaneta and Mr. Packard from the County's Finance department to evaluate how best to present those items because they are reimbursement and are not revenue in the traditional sense. Executive Director Zerwin said Deputy Treasurer Ellen Smith was present for questions.

Vice Chair Franz stated he appreciated the revised format and the inclusion of interest income and asked about the prospects for a surcharge increase over the next year, whether the ETSB has or will adopt a position statement, the timing of state activity, and what projections might look like if an increase were enacted. Executive Director Zerwin responded that the State 9-1-1 Board is engaged in strategic planning and is developing a survey instrument to collect data from 9-1-1 systems and PSAPs to support a plan forward prior to pursuing any surcharge increase. She noted prior discussion referenced a potential increase from \$1.50 to \$2.50 but that the concept did not advance last session because there was no bill number to support legislative outreach and there was a bill in the veto session that did not move.

Executive Director Zerwin stated the County had not adopted a position because the matter was not moving, and that if the issue gains traction, coordination would occur with the County Board Chair and the County's legislative process. She also provided a high-level estimate that, at current distribution levels, a \$2.50 surcharge could represent a significant increase to DuPage's distribution, while noting variability based on recent year-over-year changes.

Member Markay stated that any surcharge increase will require a State 9-1-1 Board recommendation and a clear, unified rationale, noting the telecom carriers typically oppose increases. She said that the effort must clearly answer "why" the increase is needed and cannot be framed simply as a request for more money. Member Markay added that an election year is not conducive to advancing the issue and suggested 2027 may be a more realistic window once the strategic plan is completed, emphasizing it will require statewide partner alignment and cannot be done by DuPage alone.

Executive Director Zerwin added that the State 9-1-1 Board includes General Assembly members who traditionally carry the Board's legislative package in sunset years, and that the Board also includes telecom industry representation, making broad alignment important for any surcharge proposal. She explained that the survey effort is intended to better document statewide funding realities, including the extent to which general fund resources support 9-1-1 costs in many jurisdictions, so the General Assembly can understand that residents may be paying both the surcharge and general fund-supported PSAP costs.

Vice Chair Franz requested that the ETSB and PSAPs work collaboratively toward a position statement for Board review and asked to see the draft survey to ensure the ETSB and County are aligned for what is being advocated. Chair Schwarze asked when the sunset occurs, and Executive Director Zerwin responded that the sunset date is December 2027, and stated the strategic plan is intended to position the State Board to be prepared.

Chair Schwarze thanked Vice Chair Franz for raising the discussion and noted the value to DuPage ETSB of having Executive Director Zerwin involved at the State level and having legislative experience represented on the Board. Member Eckhoff referenced the County's Legislative Committee meeting and noted that if this becomes a priority, it could be incorporated into legislative planning. Vice Chair Franz also asked follow-up questions regarding the ETSB's grant eligibility and historical success rates, and commented on the prior surcharge increase and how additional revenue has been allocated, including future radio funding.

Chair Schwarze stated that a motion and second were on the floor and asked for a vote, noting the Board would continue broader finance discussion. On voice vote, all Members voted "Aye", motion carried.

Attachments: [Revenue Report Regular Meeting 1.14.26.pdf](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVED:	Pat Johl
SECONDER:	Marilu Hernandez

10.B. Budget Detail

10.B.1. [26-0203](#)

FY26 Expenditure vs Budget

Executive Director Zerwin stated that the referenced form was provided for the Board's review. She noted the form is routinely included within the Payment of Claims materials but was also placed under the Finance and Revenue category to increase visibility and support the Board's ongoing monthly financial discussions. Executive Director Zerwin explained the form is essentially the ETSB's balance sheet reflecting the fund's expenditure position throughout the year after monthly bill payments and noted the report has been provided consistently over the last seventeen years, with minor formatting evolution. Chair Schwarze, without objection, received the report and placed it on file.

Attachments: [FY26 Expenditure vs Budget.pdf](#)

10.C. Discussion of Radio Funding - Short and Long Term

Chair Schwarze opened the item for discussion, noting the item was added at the request of Chief Schar, and turned the discussion over to Executive Director Zerwin.

Executive Director Zerwin provided background on radio replacement planning and stated that radios are reflected on the asset list with a 10-year life cycle, noting that the APX7000 series radios operated 5 years beyond that timeframe. She explained that radios were not included as a continuing budgeted replacement line item because the Board had previously determined the ETSB would not fund radios again after the most recent replacement. Executive Director Zerwin discussed the historical context of surcharge levels and prior FCC guidance regarding allowable uses, noting that portable radios were the subject of prior interpretation and that guidance has shifted over time. She stated the current radio replacement was only feasible because of the increase to the \$1.50 surcharge and significant savings achieved through negotiation of contract discounts, incentives, and change order management, and referenced the memo previously provided with a summary of change orders, cost impacts and savings.

Executive Director Zerwin explained that the ETS Board was able to complete the radio procurement using a payment plan for four years at approximately \$6.5M and noted that, while certain credits were applied under the Motorola contract, there remains a capital outlay associated with replacing mobiles to complete the system. She stated that the Capital Contingency, commonly referenced as the 54199 line item, is used to plan for replacement or upgrade of 9-1-1 system core components and that the fund is managed to reduce stress on the operating fund by saving over time based on expected replacement timing, often driven by contract renewal cycles. She provided examples including Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Customer Premise Equipment (CPE), noting that the CPE approach changed from a shared

system model to separate PSAP systems, which increased costs and impacted the Capital Contingency, and that a grant reimbursement was secured to offset a portion of those costs.

Executive Director Zerwin stated that if agencies were advised after the initial purchase that radio replacement would be their responsibility, agencies should have been saving locally. When ETSB decided to fund another purchase, agencies were told ETSB would not be purchasing again, so they should have begun saving in 2022 if they were not previously setting aside funds. She discussed potential future options such as cost sharing structures or IGAs that could allow the ETSB to facilitate a joint purchase without fully depleting Capital Contingency but that the Capital Contingency structure has restrictions and that radio technology and pricing are uncertain over a 10 to 15-year horizon, making long-range projections challenging.

Chair Schwarze asked whether the Board should expect that the prior multi-year Motorola obligation would become available funding going forward, referencing the approximate \$6.5M annual payments. Executive Director Zerwin responded that appropriations and savings plans are built around forecasted replacement needs for 9-1-1 system core systems, and that prior obligations do not automatically convert into new discretionary money. She stated that, for assets such as CAD, savings were established based on anticipated replacement cost divided over useful life, and that line items in the capital contingency rise and fall as specific replacements are funded, completed, and then restarted for the next lifecycle. Executive Director Zerwin noted that savings estimates are typically based on contract pricing at the time of purchase and may vary, citing examples where vendor changes can produce savings, while other areas can increase.

Vice Chair Franz asked whether the capital budget information was included in the meeting packet. Executive Director Zerwin stated it was not included in that day's packet but had been part of the budget process. Vice Chair Franz stated that the capital budget is what the Board needs to review and, since it was not in front of them, the discussion should not proceed. He stated the topic should be placed on a future agenda so the Board can walk through the capital plan, develop a forecast, and evaluate future replacements. Vice Chair Franz stated he believes the ETSB may be overly conservative in its capital planning and noted that evaluating it during the meeting without the supporting materials was not sufficient.

Chair Schwarze stated he respectfully disagreed and believed the Board could still discuss the topic based on the information available. Vice Chair Franz reiterated that Members need time to evaluate the information and stated it should have been included in the packet. Chair Schwarze then asked whether any other Members had discussion.

Member Eckhoff said he thought the Board had this discussion before and stated his understanding was that the ETSB saves for specific capital needs, completes the purchase, and then begins saving for the next set of capital items. He asked whether that same cycle would apply when radios come due again, and whether the future responsibility for radio replacement should then rest with the PSAPs and municipalities or with the ETSB. Executive Director Zerwin confirmed that was the central question.

Member Maranowicz stated that, based on discussions held several years prior with PSAPs, the understanding communicated at that time was that future radio replacement would be the

responsibility of the municipalities and PSAPs, and that they were advised to begin saving accordingly. He stated that the Village of Addison has started setting funds aside with a 10 to 15-year horizon based on that guidance, and that he believes each municipality also needs to plan and save for future radio replacement. Member Eckhoff added that the broader intent is to ensure municipalities are also saving for other major system needs so that, when items such as CAD come due for renewal or replacement, the cost does not require borrowing. Executive Director Zerwin agreed.

Vice Chair Franz stated he agreed that local saving was the decision made years prior but emphasized that the PSAPs' current savings will not be sufficient to cover the future radios replacement cost, and stated it is the ETSB's responsibility to identify every feasible funding source to assist the PSAPs over time. After apologizing for losing his patience, he asked for development of a multi year forecast for operating, revenue, and capital to understand future exposure, reserve posture, and potential flexibility. Vice Chair Franz said the PSAPs are asking for our help.

Chair Schwarze asked the Board whether it is the goal to fund radios again in 10 to 15 years, acknowledging uncertainty about future technology and costs. Member Honig stated that he viewed the issue similarly to paying off a major expense, noting that once an obligation ends, the funding does not automatically become available for a future purchase that does not yet exist and must instead be balanced against other ongoing needs and depreciation. He expressed concern that setting aside significant funds for a radio replacement 10-15 years in the future could negatively impact nearer-term capital priorities, particularly given uncertainty at the federal and state levels and the absence of a statewide strategic plan.

Member Honig stated that the PSAPs' role and municipal realities must be considered and suggested engaging municipalities and PSAP stakeholders to understand what 10 to 15-year saving is feasible. He noted that many communities are simultaneously managing major capital projects such as new or renovated police and fire facilities and cautioned that placing too much emphasis on a recently completed radio purchase could cause the Board to lose sight of other essential projects and immediate needs. Member Honig stated he supports continued financial discussions and planning but emphasized the importance of balancing 10 to 15-year planning with current municipal priorities and constraints.

Member Wolber stated that, if the PSAPs are expected to be short on future radio replacement funding, the Board should receive data to support an informed discussion. He asked that the PSAPs provide information on what they have saved to date, what shortfall they are projecting, and the assumed timeline, so the Board can evaluate what level of savings would be needed and what direction to pursue.

Member Maranowicz stated that their PSAP has taken the ETSB IGA funding portion and set it aside in a dedicated account intended for future radio purchases, with unanimous agreement among their member agencies. He acknowledged that, while they expect to be short, the magnitude of any shortfall is difficult to quantify because future radio technology and pricing are unknown, including the possibility of cellular-based solutions or recurring monthly costs. Member Maranowicz stated his preference would be to focus less on a 10-year forecast and more

on whether the ETSB can provide additional annual support to the PSAPs through the IGA, if feasible, recognizing the limits of long-term projections. He also stated he appreciated the addition of the Finance and Revenue discussion to the agenda and indicated it may reduce the need for a separate finance ad hoc committee.

Member Wolber asked whether the PSAP's set-aside funds includes contributions from member agencies in addition to the ETSB IGA portion. Member Maranowicz responded that they are only setting aside the ETSB provided portion. Member Wolber then asked whether, if the ETSB provides additional funding to PSAPs, it could be structured so the funds must be reserved for radio replacement, expressing concern that without such structure the funds could be used for other needs and the PSAP could later return requesting additional radio funding. Member Maranowicz agreed the concern was valid. Chair Schwarze asked if such a restriction would likely be addressed through IGA language.

ASA Winistorfer explained that the current PSAP funding structure is for authorized uses such as salaries and training, and that the appropriate way to support future radio replacement is for surcharge funds to offset an authorized budget line item, thereby allowing the PSAP to retain and set aside local funds it otherwise would have spent. He stated this approach preserves compliance by ensuring ETSB-disbursed funds are spent on authorized purposes while the PSAPs' internal savings strategy is maintained separately.

Member Wolber asked what happens if a PSAP does not ultimately set the freed-up funds aside for radio replacement. Vice Chair Franz noted there are only two PSAPs and stated he did not believe the Board needs to "babysit" the funds. He stated that, given legal ambiguities, maintaining flexibility for PSAPs is appropriate, while also acknowledging the need to be clear about the problem being addressed. Vice Chair Franz stated that, in his view, the current structure provides approximately \$1M per year to the PSAPs and, over time, that level of support will not fully address a future radio replacement cost that could be significantly higher. He stated that the ETSB is not required to solve the problem entirely, but should pursue all reasonable ways to assist, including re-evaluating the legal framework if a surcharge increase occurs. Vice Chair Franz expressed frustration with the premise that radios could be considered ineligible for surcharge support and stated the Board should continue to address the legal ambiguities.

ASA Winistorfer stated he had been confident that the prior approach was authorized, but cautioned that federal interpretations could change, and that Congress or the FCC could determine radios are not allowable, creating risk if agencies rely on that framework over an extended period. Vice Chair Franz stated he agreed with the strategy.

Executive Director Zerwin added that the underlying statute's intent originally focused on the phone network and that, over time, Illinois has worked to expand allowable uses as technology evolved, but federal guidance has at times constrained that expansion. She stated that, while the operational value of radios is clear, legal interpretations may narrowly focus on 9-1-1 call receipt and dispatch delivery. Executive Director Zerwin referenced historical interpretations supporting CAD as an allowable surcharge use in consolidated systems and stated the broader policy objective is to ensure 9-1-1 system core systems are adequately funded and replaced, with any remaining capacity potentially supporting PSAPs consistent with adopted policies. She cautioned

against expanding recurring PSAP funding without safeguards because surcharge revenue is finite and can fluctuate; she stated that if PSAPs build expectations around levels of ETSB support and the ETSB later must reduce payments due to revenue shortfalls, it can create cascading impacts. Vice Chair Franz stated he did not believe PSAPs would budget ETSB support as guaranteed revenue.

Executive Director Zerwin stated that, unlike member-funded organizations where costs can be allocated back to members, the ETSB operates within a fixed revenue stream and must maintain a capital contingency to plan for high-cost system replacements, including CAD and call handling equipment. She stated that long-term planning is necessary given the scale of replacement costs and noted that consolidation has enabled more effective system wide investments than would be possible in a more fragmented model. Executive Director Zerwin acknowledged that the capital detail referenced earlier was not included in the packet and stated the Finance and Revenue section was a first iteration and “test drive” for how the Board would like to structure ongoing financial discussions. Vice Chair Franz thanked staff for the information provided and stated that walking through the capital plan in greater detail over multiple meetings would help the Board understand what flexibility may exist.

Chair Schwarze asked whether other ETS Boards provide radios to their users. Executive Director Zerwin stated that some do and some do not. Vice Chair Franz added that the County also has a stake in the outcome, including similar long-term exposure for the Sheriff’s Office, and stated the discussion should remain partnership focused rather than an “us versus them” approach. Chair Schwarze agreed and stated that all parties are on the same team. Chair Schwarze stated the Board could bring the item back the following month if Members agreed, and asked whether there were any additional questions.

Executive Director Zerwin asked for clarification on what the Board wanted prepared for a continued discussion. Vice Chair Franz stated the next step should be an overview of the ETSB’s current financial position, reserve fund policies capital and operating, cash position, and any flexibility within the capital plan, supported by forecasting on both the operating and capital sides, before further decisions or direction are considered.

10.D. Discussion of Finance Committee

Chair Schwarze opened the item for discussion. Vice Chair Franz stated that the current Finance and Revenue discussion format is working and that further discussion of the Finance Committee was not necessary.

11. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Schwarze stated that an Executive Session will be held in February for the semi-annual review of Executive Session minutes. He noted that future meetings may run longer because of the ongoing Finance and Revenue discussions and asked Members to allow sufficient time to ensure the Board can convene Executive Session and complete the review.

Executive Director Zerwin stated the review process is coordinated with the State's Attorney's Office and includes review and recommendations and noted that the process is organized and can be completed efficiently.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

13.A. Minutes Review Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) (21)

13.B. Personnel Matters Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) (1)

13.C. Security Procedures and the Use of Personnel and Equipment Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) (8)

13.D. Pending Litigation Matters Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) (11)

14. MATTERS REFERRED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

15. ADJOURNMENT

15.A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 11 at 9:00am in 3-500B

Without objection, the meeting of the ETSB was adjourned at 10:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kaczmarek