



DU PAGE COUNTY

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

ETSB - Emergency Telephone System Board

Draft Summary

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

8:00 AM

Room 3500B

Special Call

1. CALL TO ORDER

8:00 AM meeting was called to order by Chairman Schwarze at 8:00 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

ETSB STAFF:

Linda Zerwin

Matt Theusch

Gregg Taormina

Eve Kraus

Brian Kopas (Remote)

Prithvi Bhatt (Remote)

COUNTY CLERK:

Adam Johnson, Chief Deputy Clerk

STATE'S ATTORNEY:

Mark Winistorfer

ATTENDEES:

Matt Baarman, DU-COMM

Jason Blumenthal, County Board Office

Chris Clark, Glen Ellyn Fire

Andy Dina, Warrenville Fire

Alan Emody, Bloomingdale Fire

Don Ehrenhaft, County IT

Pat Johl, Wood Dale Fire

John Kelly, DU-COMM

Nick Kottmeyer, County Board Office

Nicole Lamela, DU-COMM

Tom Ricker, County GIS

Mike Sampey, Village of Addison

Roy Selvik, Addison PD

Pat Tanner, West Chicago Fire

Karl Argast, Pleasantview Fire (Remote)

Kimberly Blair, DMMC (Remote)

Mark Bozik, Roselle Fire (Remote)

Kevin Dempsey, Addison PD (Remote)

Dick Dufort, Elmhurst Fire (Remote)
 Melanie Koga, County Finance (Remote)
 Brian Leahy, Clarendon Hills Fire (Remote)
 Bret Mowery, York Center Fire (Remote)
 Mike Rivas, Villa Park PD (Remote)
 Richard Sanborn, Jr., York Center Fire (Remote)
 Observer (Remote)
 Villa Park (Remote)

On roll call, Members Schwarze, Franz (Remote), Eckhoff, Guttman, Kramer, Maranowicz, Rauter, Schar, Srejma, Swanson, Tillman, and Yoo were present.

Chairman Schwarze said there was a request that was made to allow remote participation for Vice Chair Franz. Under Section 7a of the Open Meetings Act, If a quorum of the members of the public body is physically present as required by Section 2.01, a majority of the public body may allow a member of that body to attend the meeting by other means if the member is prevented from physically attending because of: (I) personal illness or disability; (ii) employment purposes or the business of the public body; or (iii) a family or other emergency. A motion was made by Member Rauter, seconded by Member Tillman to allow Vice Chair Franz to remotely participate via Zoom. On voice vote, motion carried.

PRESENT	Schwarze, Eckhoff, Guttman, Kramer, Maranowicz, Rauter, Schar, Srejma, Swanson, Tillman, and Yoo
REMOTE	Franz

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR SCHWARZE

Chairman Schwarze thanked the Members for their presence and stated he would like to keep the meeting to an hour to allow for the regular meeting to begin on time.

5. MEMBERS' REMARKS

There were no Members' remarks.

6. DISCUSSION

6.A. 23-3262

Future Growth

Chairman Schwarze thanked the Member for their presence and stated he would like to keep the meeting to an hour to allow for the regular meeting to meet on time.

Chairman Schwarze thanked the Member for their presence and stated he would like to keep the meeting to an hour to allow for the regular meeting to meet on time.

Chairman Schwarze turned the discussion over to Ms. Zerwin. Ms. Zerwin referenced the

materials the Members were given the ACT Initiative and service area maps. She said the discussion after Des Plaines approached the PSAPs for potential consolidation is future growth and how the Board would like to handle it and what the criteria would be. Ms. Zerwin said, in the last ten years the PSAPs have gone from 18 down to 2, and that the service area has always been expanded beyond the DuPage borders. She said that when Des Plaines approached DuPage, the Police Chiefs Association brought up questions regarding the future growth projection. DuPage County GIS (Geographic Information System) provided a dashboard of future growth projections to ETSB. Ms. Zerwin introduced the County GIS Manager, Tom Ricker, and turned the discussion over to him.

Mr. Ricker walked through the dashboard to show the Police and Fire municipal boundaries. He said they have a process called data enrichment which looks at the boundaries and through the GIS software (ESRI) they are able to look at certain demographic information involving census and population within those boundaries. The population from 2022 and 2027 were displayed through the ESRI information pulled into the dashboard. Mr. Ricker walked the discussion through total populations and specific breakdowns of Addison, as an example, and their population within police beats and fire area. Mr. Ricker asked if there were any questions. Member Maranowicz stated, nice job.

Ms. Zerwin said the overall data shows a decline in population, although not significantly. She said at the time GIS staff began assembling the dashboard, Naperville had been considering taking in the Bears. She inquired as to whether or not they could do a projection for this growth and GIS indicated there was not enough data to make a projection of the impact of the Bears going to Naperville. Ms. Zerwin said she asked because this type of entertainment venue would have an impact on service delivery. Ms. Zerwin summed up saying this gives the Board an idea of what the future growth looks like within DuPage County and that projections could be added into the policy or criteria.

Ms. Zerwin provided an overview of the PSAPs in terms of capacity and the criteria of either PSAP being able to house the other if something were to happen, then the PSAPs have five open positions each for consolidation to consider. Member Srejma provided a review the NENA staffing models and how ACDC is set up, that a larger agency may require one of those open positions but a smaller agency could be incorporated into an existing talkgroup. Member Srejma said in his opinion, they have room to grow. He thought they have to be careful about how far out they want to grow whether an agency might be cost prohibitive, but that there is room to grow outside the borders of DuPage, and that the PSAP already provide service outside the borders. He said it depends on staffing and the size of the agency that would wish to consolidate.

Chairman Schwarze asked Member Guttman if he had any thoughts on this as the DU-COMM Representative. Member Guttman replied, absolutely zero, that operations was not his place.

Ms. Zerwin said she imagined Member Rauter might have a few thoughts as he has run a

center. Member Rauter began by talking about the models for staffing and said there are many measuring sticks out there. He said his concern with NG9-1-1 coming there may be internal growth coming meaning if Telecommunicators or Officers must be brought in to watch on view crimes over video may take a few seats. He said in his experience with Text to 9-1-1 the impact was minimal however a growing deaf community may depend on that. Member Rauter talked about fusion centers as well as the potential impact of 988, 211, 311, etc. He said he wanted to ensure any discussion they have take into consideration internal growth and technology changes which may necessitate more personnel either by law or demand from agencies.

Member Tillman referenced the GIS information shared and asked what data what used to project a decline in population. Mr. Ricker answered that the ESRI data pulls from the census data. Member Tillman asked if it was trended by the US Census Bureau and that the assumptions being made are based off the history. Mr. Ricker confirmed, yes. Member Tillman talked about staffing levels within the PSAPs in the industry today and to outside jurisdictional boundaries becomes more complicated in terms of mutual aid and response plans. He talked about annexations and the developers coming in who charge impact fees for the various services and that if agencies consolidate into DuPage, ETSB needs to quantify what that impact fee looks like, that the PSAP Directors owe it to their agencies and ETSB to the citizens, whose surcharge pays for equipment within the PSAPs, what that fee looks like. He said he would be at an impasse to make a decision without seeing that information.

Member Guttman thanked Member Tillman for his follow-up questions, the latter of which was a concern to him, as well. He said the decision of one PSAP may adversely affect the other and they do not yet have a decision-making matrix to figure out what that looks like and that there needs to be compensation within the model and an establishment of criteria which needs to be in place prior to coming to a conclusion about what they want. Member Guttman said he has been verbal about DU-COMM's position, that they want to stay within DuPage, but to move from that position, those questions need to be addressed.

Member Kramer asked how it would impact the fire agencies and/or the citizens they provide services to.

Discussion ensued regarding criteria to consolidate outside agencies into DuPage, whether this discussion was a question of anticipated legislation and its potential effects, and the option to opt out of the consolidations in the 90s allowing Naperville/Aurora to form their own Joint ETSB.

Ms. Zerwin focused the discussion back to the intent of whether the Board is open to a policy that allows future growth.

The Members discussed the areas on the map on page 11 of the packet. The history and

authority of ETSB coming from legislation was reviewed by Member Tillman and how this led into his concerns of the State dictating consolidation and services they need to provide, such as 988. Member Maranowicz talked about his initial thoughts when Des Plaines came forward, which he said would have been simpler with a policy to answer some of the questions, technology and service levels from an operational perspective within the PSAPs, not ETSB, and other avenues to explore.

Chairman Schwarze said this leads to what they were there to discuss, a future growth policy which would address those questions to the best of their ability so when an agency requests to consolidate, the ETSB will have guidelines in place. He said the consolidation policy could be adjusted after they have a future growth policy.

Member Rauter talked about having upfront costs for requestors for ETSB to run the numbers and figure out what it would take to bring them in. He said a starting point for the policy would be the law, that if law does not allow an agency to come in, then the conversation is done. If there is an allowance, then the features can be changed. Member Rauter believed the next legislative cycle may contain changes that allow for these consolidations. He referenced Ms. Zerwin's memo regarding surcharge, that the \$1.50 was instituted in 2015 and his math shows that value today as \$1.05 so to break even surcharge would need to be at \$1.94 or \$2, which he is also looking at at the State level and should be brought into the document.

Vice Chair Franz concurred with Chairman Schwarze that this is a discussion they need to be having. He said first and foremost, this is not legal at the moment. He said they need to focus on what the policy would do for DuPage ETSB. He believed it critical to guide future requests and provide clear direction to the parties involved. He did not believe this would provide better service. Vice Chair Franz said the strategic plan had never identified the need for growth as a goal, consolidation was a goal based on efficiency. He believed there were communication concerns, talked about resource allocation for DuPage, he said staff should not be lobbying outside police and fire to come into the County, there are significant costs involved, and that the focus of funds should be on the businesses and residents of DuPage County. As a representative of the DuPage Mayors and Managers, he believed the consensus was big is not better and they should focus on providing the best service they can to the residents and businesses now and that the strategic plan should drive that decision.

Member Srejma said he believed it was clear that both PSAPs are interested in growth outside of the County; that both put in offers to Des Plaines. He said just like a business, the PSAP would scale their size depending on the services needed and that ACDC was prepared to hire additional personnel, and that neither of the PSAPs' agencies would be affected. Member Srejma talked about the services and technology provided by DuPage County that agencies such as Des Plaines want and cannot find within their county. He said if DuPage is able to provide those services without a negative impact to their agencies, then he believed they should go with that growth model.

Chairman Schwarze said he did not want the discussion to be a focus on Des Plaines, but instead a policy of future growth.

Member Schar spoke saying the opinion of the majority of the police chiefs and agreed that DuPage is a model, but that if agencies come asking, they do not have to let them in, that bigger is not always better, that there are concerns that when you are bigger there may be staffing difficulties or technology issues and the PSAPs have to share for a period of time. He understood a decision did not have to be made today, but if there was, he knew where his membership stood.

Member Guttman wanted to correct the record that it was one individual who made the decision to make an offer to Des Plaines and not DU-COMM or the DU-COMM Executive Board, who said no. He said that was a mistake they have to bear. Member Guttman said DU-COMM is not interested in going outside of DuPage County, they want to serve within which includes their fire districts which cross the border.

Chairman Schwarze said how people feel this year may not be how they feel next year which is why they need a policy.

Member Rauter wanted to clarify a previous statement about agencies who are not providing even baseline services that the State advocates and in the spirit of the Emergency Telephone System Act (ETSA). He would like to see that issue resolved as opposed to them leaving their county to come to DuPage for us to fix.

Member Kramer questioned the why, do we have to do this or do we not? He questioned how it benefits the end users and the purpose of growth. He said, as an end user, it has never been discussed with them why they should be in agreement with growing.

Chairman Schwarze asked Ms. Zerwin to summarize the discussion for direction. Ms. Zerwin said what she hears them saying is while it is not allowable by law at this point to take an agency in from outside the County, they would like to have a future growth policy as a guide for the next opportunity if it should arise and criteria that includes baseline language to address impact fees, service level and a growth analysis, and resource allocation meaning how it impacts the overall structure of both PSAPs which would be developed with the PSAP Directors, as a baseline for the Board's next discussion. Ms. Zerwin believed a future growth policy separate from the consolidation policy was the best avenue to start fresh and the consolidation policy could be rescinded or amended as it is more operational. She asked the Board if that was a good summary of where they are in this discussion.

Member Guttman suggested a straw poll to see if the Members were interested in expanded outside of DuPage County and if the consensus was yes to future growth then what Ms. Zerwin identified would be a logical next step. If the answer was no, then they

have their answer on what they are doing next. Ms. Zerwin asked if the policy would then reflect the current point of the Board. A short discussion ensued on the “straw poll”, contiguous versus non-contiguous agencies completely outside the borders of DuPage County, and the benefits of growth, if there are any.

ASA Winistorfer was consulted to clarify the straw poll question of whether they are in favor of a future growth policy at all or providing direction to staff? Member Guttman clarified his suggestion, are the Members interested in giving direction to staff for allowing agencies outside of DuPage County to be part of a future growth model or the thought of if you are in DuPage, even if you are also outside of DuPage, that is something that would be considered.

Chairman Schwarze said a future growth policy does not automatically mean an agency will be let in. He said the policy dictates the parameters of whether someone may be able to apply.

ASA Winistorfer asked if the straw poll question was to establish the consensus to provide direction to the staff for a future growth policy. Chairman Schwarze confirmed with ASA Winistorfer that this was just a straw poll, that no action was being taken. Chairman Schwarze asked for those in favor of creating a future growth policy to raise their hands. Six Members raised their hands. When asked for those not in favor, the opposing six Member raised their hands.

Member Rauter asked if the Board could clean up the language in the current policy and then create something that targets future growth because the consolidation policy was old and needs to be addressed. He said he thought that was what they were doing today, that he had no notion they would be creating a second policy for future growth. Member Rauter said he would like the current policy cleaned up and then revisit the question. Vice Chair Franz concurred.

Ms. Zerwin stated that in the memorandum included in the board packet, question 2.b. was “Create a Future Growth Policy” as part of the discussion today. She said she would take the direction of Board, but that the consolidation policy is a process of how to without criteria. Ms. Zerwin continued saying, a policy that tries to do too many things is where the policy is today and that it does need to be refreshed because of where they are. She said do they keep redlining it until they get to where they need to go or start fresh based of today’s discussion.

A brief discussion ensued regarding one cleaned up policy versus a separate future growth policy.

Chairman Schwarze wrapped up the discussion saying they would have another but in the meantime, he would have Ms. Zerwin begin working on language from today’s meeting to incorporate into the current consolidation policy for further conversation.

- Attachments:**
- 1 Future Growth Memo.pdf
 - 2 ACT Public Safety Consolidation - DuPage ETSB FY21.pdf
 - 3 New_System_v2.pdf

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Schwarze asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Tillman motioned, seconded by Member Yoo. The meeting of the ETSB was adjourned at 9:11am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Kaczmarek