

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

**JUNE 16, 2025**

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

Meeting was held at the Menard County Courthouse Board Room and was called to order by Chairman Mike Chandler at 18:04.

Chairman Chandler presented the Consent Agenda, Motion to accept agenda passed.

Chairman Chandler presented the meeting minutes from April 21, 2025, Ben Hollis motioned to accept, Daniel Schirding seconded. Motion passed to accept minutes from April 21, 2025 with no changes.

Chairman Chandler presented the cancelled meeting of May 19, 2025 and motion to approve by Ben Hollis, second by Daniel Schirding, motion approved.

Chairman Chandler presented the Financials and Expenditure report for May 2025. There was a short discussion on CD rates and terms of length. Mike Burg motioned to accept report, Ron Cooley seconded. Motion passed. Motion to reinvest \$50,000 CD at Alliance for 12 months at 4%, by Ben Hollis, second by Ron Cooley, motion passed. Motion to reinvest \$100,000 CD at Middletown State Bank for 9 months at 3.85% by Ron Cooley, second by Daniel Schirding, motion passed.

911 Update:

John Balster reports awarding of a \$15,100 grant for reimbursement of EMD trainings. John is also working on another grant from ISP that may be awarded with surplus funds. No other 911 information to report.

PSAP Update:

Ben is checking with GTSI about the STARCOM radios to be installed at dispatch. He checked with Athens FD and Menard EMS about their channels for the radios. Ben and John will be on a conference call on Thursday June 19, 2025, about cyber security for sensitive information that

involves the FBI and law enforcement. Hanson Information will also be involved in the call and how it will affect the county. Ben Hollis reported that the jail/dispatch is now at full staff and there will be some personnel going to EMD training. Ben also spoke about the Nelson recorder at jail the was installed in 2019. We may need to investigate upgrading that.

Hearing of citizens: No citizens present at meeting.

New Business: None.

Old Business:

Quote was received from Mission Critical for the Radio Needs Assessment. Amount was \$35,154. TUSA quote was \$32,400. Discussion on having both vendors present a 10-15 minute presentation about their services. Ben will contact Mission Critical and have them present by ZOOM or Teams on August 18, 2025 at 6:15. Mike will contact TUSA and have them present on the same date at 6:45. Board can then discuss the proposals.

Special Committees: There was a short discussion on what county be should have as 911 backup. Decision was made to not attend the Logan County ETSB meeting until our Radio Needs Assessment was complete.

No other 911 business noted and Jason Huffman motioned for adjournment, Ron Cooley seconded. Meeting adjourned at 18:40. Next meeting August 18, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Burg, Secretary