

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE**

<b>MUNICIPAL CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH</b>	)	
	)	<b>Case No. 16-C-167</b>
<b>Application for 9-1-1 Consolidation</b>	)	

**RECOMMENDED DECISION**

By Administrative Law Judge Donald W. Seasock:

**I. BACKGROUND**

On January 30, 2017, Municipal Consolidate Dispatch filed an application for approval of a Consolidation Plan (“Consolidation Plan”) pursuant to Section 15.4a of the Emergency Telephone System Act (“ETSA”). 50 ILCS 750/15.4a. Municipal Consolidate Dispatch (“Applicant” or “MCD”) is being created to include the municipalities of Schiller Park, Norridge and Harwood Heights. Upon consolidation the Emergency Telephone System Boards of these three municipalities will be dissolved.

Under 50 ILCS 15.4a(a)(2), in any county with a population of at least 250,000 that has more than one Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB), Joint Emergency Telephone System Board, or qualified governmental entity, any 9-1-1 Authority serving a population of less than 25,000 shall be consolidated such that no 9-1-1 Authority in the county serves a population of less than 25,000. In 2015, Schiller Park served a population of approximately 11,806, Norridge served 14,621, and Harwood Heights served 8,635. As a result, all three ETSBs are required to consolidate. After consolidation, MCD will serve a combined population in excess of 35,000. On February 17, 2017, Illinois State Police staff, Ms. Marci Ross, performed a technical review of the Consolidation Plan, as required by 83 Ill.Admin.Code 1324.200(f)(1).

A hearing was held before a duly authorized Administrative Law Judge, Donald W. Seasock, on March 10, 2017. Mr. Peter Chiodo, Vice-Chairman of MCD, appeared on behalf of Applicant. Mr. John Hosteny, Legal Counsel for the Illinois State Police, appeared on behalf of the Department. Mr. Hosteny stated that no comments had been received by the Department regarding the Consolidation Plan and that there were no requests to speak at the

hearing. Mr. Hosteny indicated at the conclusion of the hearing that the Department recommends approval of the Consolidation Plan.

## **II. EVIDENCE**

**Exhibit 1.** Technical review report dated February 17, 2017, authored by Marci Elliott.

**Joint Exhibit 2.** February 22, 2016 Village of Norridge Resolution dissolving its ETSB.

**Joint Exhibit 3.** November 17, 2016 Village of Schiller Park Resolution dissolving its ETSB.

## **III. CONSOLIDATION PLAN**

Schiller Park, Norridge and Harwood Heights intend to consolidate their individual ETSBs with one another and form a new ETSB called Municipal Consolidate Dispatch. MCD will be the 9-1-1 Authority responsible for the 9-1-1 system and receive and spend 9-1-1 surcharge funds in support of a single remaining public safety answering point (PSAP) under its control, located at the Harwood Heights Police Department. The dissolution and consolidation of these three ETSBs will result in the creation of a single joint ETSB serving a combined population of over 35,000 residents. The target date to switch over to the Harwood Height's dispatch center is June 22, 2017.

Nearly all of the present communication equipment located at the three existing PSAPs is at the 'end of life'. With the consolidation into a single PASP it is the intention of MCD to upgrade and replace the present legacy 9-1-1 Harwood Heights equipment with an NG9-1-1 capable system. The goal is to prepare for NG9-1-1 implementation by the year 2020.

MCD has a written back-up and overflow reciprocal agreement with the Village of Rosemont.

## **IV. TECHNICAL REVIEW**

The technical review performed by Ms. Elliott concludes that the Applicant's consolidation plan generally meets the requirements for a consolidation plan as prescribed

by Section 1324.200(c) of Illinois Admin. Code Part 1324.200 – Consolidation of 9-1-1 Emergency Systems.

## **V. RECOMMENDED DECISION**

I find that the Consolidation Plan furthers the statutory goal of ETSA to establish 9-1-1 as the primary emergency telephone number for use in the State of Illinois. ETSA further states the statutory goal that “it is in the public interest to shorten the time required for a citizen to request and receive emergency aid.” 50 ILCS 750/1. This goal will be furthered with the approval of this Consolidation Plan.

I find that the Consolidation Plan meets the requirements for a consolidation plan as required by Section 200(c) of Part 1324. In particular, the Consolidation Plan includes a completed application consisting of the following documents: A) contact and 9-1-1 system information; B) notarized statement of truth regarding information provided in the plan; C) a letter that is sent to the 9-1-1 system provider with a copy of the plan; D) a detailed summary of the proposed system’s operation, including, but not limited to, a five-year strategic plan for implementation of the consolidation with financial projections and information as to how the plan will assist with achieving the statutory goals enumerated in ETSA Section 5.4b(a). 83 Ill. Adm. Code 1324.200(c)(1).

The Consolidation Plan includes the financial information required by Section 200(c)(1)(E) of Part 1324. The Consolidation Plan will result in a decrease in the number of answering positions from 7 to 4 after the consolidation. The number of dispatchers will be reduced from 20 full-time dispatchers and 5 part-time dispatchers to 17 and 2 respectively. After consolidation the network costs will be reduced from \$48,820 to \$16,072. The total reserved funds estimated to be transferred from the individual ETSBs being dissolved to the Applicant is \$178,835. AT&T will remain as the service provider to the single PSAP in Harwood Heights. AT&T’s review of the network diagram has determined that the five 9-1-1 trunks now in place at Harwood Heights will adequately serve the three communities with P.01 level of service. The eight trunks to the Schiller Park PSAP and the six trunks to the Norridge PSAP will be eliminated. The financial information provided by the Applicant is complete.

In addition, the Consolidation Plan provides the following in compliance with Section 200(c)(1)(F)-(I) of Part 1324: a list of all communities that are served by the 9-1-1 system; a list of public safety agencies that are dispatched by the 9-1-1 system; a list of the public safety agencies that are adjacent to the 9-1-1 system's geographic boundaries; and a list of the carriers and interconnection VoIP providers that are known by the Applicant to provide service within the jurisdiction of the 9-1-1 system. The Applicant has attached to the Consolidation Plan the following documents as required by Section 200(c)(1)(J) of Part 1324: i) any local ordinances that dissolve an existing ETSB or create a new ETSB ( the Consolidation Plan was supplemented at hearing by the admission of Norridge and Schiller Park Resolutions dissolving their respective ETSBs); ii) any intergovernmental agreements or memorandums of understanding creating a Joint ETSB or any other agreements pertinent to the 9-1-1 system consolidation; iii) any contracts with a new 9-1-1 system provider; iv) the backup PSAP Agreement that established backup and overflow services between 9-1-1 authorities or PSAPs within those authorities; v) the network diagram that is provided by the 9-1-1 system provider; and vi) call handling and aid outside jurisdictional boundaries agreements. Finally, as required by Section 200(c)(1)(K) of Part 1324, the test plan, which is the 9-1-1 system's overall plan detailing how and to what extent the network and database will be tested, is properly included in the Consolidation Plan. The Consolidation Plan does not incorporate an NG9-1-1 solution.

Based on a review of the record, I recommend the Consolidation Plan be approved because it furthers the statutory goals of ETSA, meets the applicable grade of service and satisfies the requirements of Section 200(c) of Part 1324.

## **VI. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION**

The undersigned Administrative Law Judge, having reviewed the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, is of the opinion and finds that:

- (1) Municipal Consolidation Dispatch has filed a 9-1-1 Consolidation Plan pursuant to 50 ILCS 750/15.4a of the Emergency Telephone System Act;
- (2) the Municipal Consolidation Dispatch Consolidation Plan furthers the statutory goals of the Emergency Telephone System Act;
- (3) the Municipal Consolidation Dispatch Consolidation Plan meets the requirements of 83

III. Adm. Code 1324.200(c).

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that the Municipal Consolidation Dispatch Consolidation Plan be approved.

This Recommended Decision of the Administrative Law Judge is issued this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017.

(SIGNED) Donald W. Seasock  
Administrative Law Judge