

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
FOR
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE
OFFICE OF THE STATEWIDE 9-1-1 ADMINISTRATOR

South West Cook County Joint ETSB,)
Applicant.)
) 19-C-243
)
Application for 9-1-1 Consolidation)

RECOMMENDED DECISION

I. BACKGROUND

On November 15, 2018, South West Cook County Joint ETSB (the “Applicant”) filed a Consolidation Plan (“Consolidation Plan” or “Plan”) with the Office of the Statewide 9-1-1 Administrator pursuant to Section 15.4a of the Emergency Telephone System Act (“ETSA”). 50 ILCS 750/15.4a. The Applicants currently operate separate Emergency Telephone System Boards (“ETSB”) in four villages (Hillside, Forest View, Willow Springs and Justice) and one village, Westchester, is currently a member of another Joint Emergency Telephone System Board (Joint ETSB). The Plan proposes the creation of the South West Cook County Joint ETSB and dissolves the individual ETSB’S of the Villages of Hillside, Westchester, Justice, Willow Springs and Forest View. Additionally, South West Cook County Joint ETSB will be opting in the Village of Westchester from Proviso-Leyden and including them into their jurisdictional boundaries. Upon consolidation there will be two Public Safety Answering Points (“PSAPs”). The PSAPS will be located in Hillside (north) and Justice (south). The Hillside PSAP will handle 9-1-1 calls from the Villages of Hillside and Westchester. The Justice PSAP will handle 9-1-1 calls from the Villages of Justice, Willow Springs and Forest View.

Under Section 15.4a(a)(2) of the Emergency Telephone System Act, 50 ILCS 750/15.4a(a)(2) in any county with the population of at least 250,000 that has more than one ETSB, Joint ETSB, 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. The Hillside Village ETSB currently serves a population of 8,203. Forest view Village Serves 698, Justice Village serves 12,968 and Willow Springs Villages ETSB serves 5,482. The Village of Westchester (previously served by the Proviso-Leyden Joint ETSB has a population of 16,718, South West Cook County Joint ETSB after consolidation will serve a total population of 44,069.

The regulations promulgated pursuant to the ETSA specify the procedures and requirements of such a consolidation plan, 83 Ill. Adm. Code 1324.200, *et. seq.* (the “Regulations”).

On June 19, 2019, Illinois State Police (ISP) staff, Ms. Marci Elliott, issued a Department Review of Consolidation reporting on a technical review of the Consolidation Plan, as required by the Sections 1324.200(f)(1) of the Regulations, 83 Ill. Adm. Code 1324.200(f)(1).

An administrative hearing was held before a duly authorized Administrative Law Judge, Michelle Thielen, on July 11, 2019. Joseph Beckwith, Hillside 911 Director, appeared in support of the Consolidation Plan. John Flood, Hillside Village Treasure, Russ Wajda, Hillside Administrator, and Craig McDermott, Justice Police department were also present. Attorney Bond called Ms. Marci Elliot as a witness. Ms. Elliott testified she prepared the Department Review of Consolidation. Ms. Elliott indicated that no comments had been received by the Department regarding the Consolidation Plan. Neither the Illinois Commerce Commission nor the public had concerns or objections to the Consolidation Plan. Ms. Elliott stated there were no requests to speak

at the hearing. Ms. Elliott indicated the Department recommends approval of the Consolidation Plan without any alterations and without delay.

II. EVIDENCE

The evidence adduced at the Hearing is:

1. The Consolidation Application dated November 15, 2018;
2. The Department Review of Consolidation dated June 19, 2019, authored by Marci Elliott; and,
3. The presentation and explanation of the Consolidation Plan presented by Mr. Josephy Beckwith;

III. CONSOLIDATION PLAN

The Consolidation Plan and the testimony of the witness at the hearing established the following facts:

- A. All five villages were operating ETSBS.
- B. All villages have formed South West Cook County Joint ETSB by entering into an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to Consolidate.
- C. Contemporaneous with the formation of the South West Cook County Joint ETSB, the Villages of Hillside, Justice, Willow Springs and Forest View have terminated the operation of their ETSBs and South West Cook County Joint ETSB has entered into the IGA with Proviso-Leyden Joint ETSB to allow Westchester to leave the ETSB¹; and
- D. Upon approval and implementation of the Consolidation plan, there will be two Public Safety Answering Points (“PSAPS”) – one in Hillside and one in Justice – with all other PSAPS being closed.

IV. TECHNICAL REVIEW

The technical review performed by Ms. Elliott concludes that Applicant’s consolidation plan meets the requirements for a consolidation plan as prescribed by Section 1324.200(c) of the Consolidation of 9-1-1 Emergency Systems Regulations. Cost Projections, Network Costs, Back-up PSAP Agreement or Call-Handling and Aid

¹ Proviso-Leyden Joint ETSB has filed a modification plan consistent with this IGA and the Standards of Service Applicable to 9-1-1 Regulations, 83 III. Admin. Code 1325.205.

Agreements have been supplied to the Statewide 9-1-1 Administrator. The Technical Review indicates that the proposed South West Cook County Joint ETSB complies with necessary requirements for approval of the Consolidation Plan.

V. FINDINGS OF FACT AND RECOMMENDATION

HAVING REVIEWED the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, it is:

A. FOUND that:

1. 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.
2. The Consolidation Plan meets the requirements for a consolidation plan as required by Section 200(c) of Part 1324 of the Regulations.
3. In particular, the Consolidation Plan includes a completed application consisting of the following documents:
 - a. Contact and 9-1-1 system information;
 - b. Sworn statement of attesting to the truth of the information provided in the Plan;
 - c. Letter that is sent to the 9-1-1 system provider with a copy of the Plan; and
 - d. Summary of the proposed system’s operation, including 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).
4. In addition, the Consolidation Plan provides the following in compliance with Section 200(c)(1)(F) -(I) of Part 1324 of the Regulations:

- a. List of all communities that are served by the 9-1-1 system;
 - b. List of public safety agencies that are dispatched by the 9-1-1 system;
 - c. List of the public safety agencies that are adjacent to the 9-1-1 system's geographic boundaries; and
 - d. 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.
5. The Applicant has attached to the Consolidation Plan the following documents as required by Section 200(c)(1)(J) of Part 1324:
- a. A local ordinance that dissolves an existing ETSB;
 - b. An intergovernmental agreement creating a Joint ETSB or any other agreements pertinent to the 9-1-1 system consolidation;
 - d. The network diagram that is provided by the 9-1-1 system provider; and
 - e. The Call Handling and Aid Outside Jurisdictional Boundaries Agreements, 83 Ill. Adm. Code 1324.200(c)(1)(J).

B. DETERMINED that:

1. The South West Cook County Joint ETSB has filed a 9-1-1 Consolidation Plan pursuant to 50 ILCS 750/15.4a of the Emergency Telephone System Act;
2. The South West Cook County Joint ETSB Consolidation Plan furthers the statutory goals of the Emergency Telephone System Act;
3. The South West Cook County Joint ETSB Consolidation Plan meets the requirements of 83 Ill. Adm. Code 1324.200(c);
4. The Proviso-Leyden Joint ETSB has submitted the required IGA and Modification Plan; and
5. The South West Cook County Joint ETSB Consolidation Plan should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that the South West Cook County Joint ETSB Consolidation Plan be approved.

This Recommended Decision of the Administrative Law Judge is issued this 12th day of July 2019.

**BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE
HEARINGS**

Dated: July 19, 2019



Michelle Thielen,
Administrative Law Judge

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
CMS BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE**

South West Cook County Joint ETSB)
)
Application for Consolidation Plan)

Case No. 19-C-243

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing Recommended Decision was served upon the parties of record to the above cause by electronic mail on July 19, 2019, addressed to such parties as shown below. The original was filed with the Bureau of Administrative Hearings as a part of the permanent case file, currently in the possession of the Hearing Officer and to be delivered to the Department of State Police upon the conclusion of this matter.



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Administrative Law Judge

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