

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

West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center,)	
Applicant.)	
)	16-C-144
)	
Application for 9-1-1 Consolidation)	

RECOMMENDED DECISION

I. BACKGROUND

On June 28, 2016, West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center (the “Applicant” or “WSCDC”) 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 Applicant currently serves the Villages of the Village of Elmwood Park, Forest Park, Oak Park and River Forest. WSCDC also provides dispatch services for the Park Ridge Police Department.

Under Section 15.4a(a)(2) of the Emergency Telephone System Act (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 (“JETSB”), 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. Although each of the communities utilizes services of WSCDC, Elmwood Park, Forest Park, Oak Park, Park Ridge and River Forest each have continued operation of an ETSB. Each of the communities is required to consolidate to comply with ETSA. 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 May 4, 2017, Illinois State Police staff, Ms. Stacy Ross, issued a Department Review of Consolidation reporting on a technical review of the Consolidation Plan, , as required by the Section 1324.200(f)(1) of the Regulations, 83 Ill.Adm.Code 1324.200(f)(1).

A hearing was held before a duly authorized Administrative Law Judge, Daniel P. Schuering, on July 27, 2017. Mr. Brian Staunton, Executive Director for the WSCDC, appeared on behalf of Applicant. Ms. Ross, for the Illinois State Police, appeared on behalf of the Department. She 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. Ms. Ross indicated at the conclusion of the hearing that the Department recommends approval of the Consolidation Plan.

II. EVIDENCE

The evidence adduced at the Hearing is:

1. The Consolidation Application dated June 28, 2016;
2. The Department Review of Consolidation dated May 4, 2017 authored by Stacy Ross;
3. The testimony of Mr. Brian Staunton on behalf of the Applicant; and,
4. The testimony of Ms. Stacy Ross on behalf of the Department.

III. CONSOLIDATION PLAN

Each of the proposed members of the WSCDC JETSB have approved, by appropriate corporate action, and executed the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement which became effective on April 1, 2017 and upon his signature by all of its members.¹ In addition, each member community has adopted, by appropriate corporate action, necessary proceedings to dissolve the individual ETSBs.² No operational changes are required for consolidation because each community has, and continues to, utilize the services of WSCDC.

¹ West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch 9-1-1 System Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, p. 3, ¶ 11.

² See, Elmwood Park Resolution Number 670-17, Forest Park Resolution Number R-23-17, Oak Park Ordinance Number 17-205_X_041717 and River Forest Ordinance Number 3646.

IV. TECHNICAL REVIEW

The technical review performed by Ms. Ross 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; however, certain call handling agreements must be provided prior to the issuance of the appropriate order approving the consolidation plan.³

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;
 - d. 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

³ Call-handling agreements for Maywood Police, Cicero Police, Cicero Fire Department, Rosemont Public Safety, Melrose Park Police and River Grove Police must be provided.

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. Local ordinances that dissolve 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).
6. The Consolidation Plan does not incorporate a next generation (NG9-1-1) solution.

B. DETERMINED that:

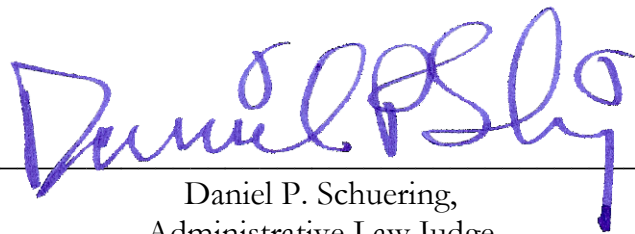
1. WSCDC JETSB has filed a 9-1-1 Consolidation Plan pursuant to 50 ILCS 750/15.4a of the Emergency Telephone System Act;
2. The WSCDC JETSB Consolidation Plan furthers the statutory goals of the Emergency Telephone System Act;
3. WSCDC JETSB Consolidation Plan meets the requirements of 83 Ill. Adm. Code 1324.200(c); and
4. The WSCDC JETSB Consolidation Plan should be approved upon receipt of the call-handling agreements required by the Statewide 9-1-1 Administrator.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that the WSCDC JETSB Consolidation Plan be approved upon receipt of the call-handling agreements by the Statewide 9-1-1 Administrator.

This Recommended Decision of the Administrative Law Judge is issued this 25th day of August, 2017.

BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Dated: August 25, 2017

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel P. Schuering", is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel P. Schuering,
Administrative Law Judge