

**Jersey County ETSB/E911 Meeting Minutes for
Wednesday, May 20, 2026**

Members Present: Kevin Hamilton, Heidi Carter, Mark Wagner, Jeff Jorden, Kevin Klaas, Joe Travers, Shane Winters, Alec Bowman, Rhonda Wilson

Members Absent: Steve Pohlman, Dave Womack

Public Present: None

Mark opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Rhonda did a Roll Call:

Jeff Jorden	- <i>Present</i>	Kevin Klaas	- <i>Present</i>
Mark Wagner	- <i>Present</i>	Shane Winters	- <i>Present</i>
Heidi Carter	- <i>Present</i>	Alec Bowman	- <i>Present</i>
Joe Travers	- <i>Present</i>	Rhonda Wilson	- <i>Present</i>
Kevin Hamilton	- <i>Present</i>		

Absent: Steve Pohlman, Dave Womack

Mark asked for approval of the March 18, 2026, Regular Business Meeting Minutes, and Executive Regular Business Meeting Minutes. A motion to approve said minutes was made by Jeff Jorden and seconded by Kevin Klaas.
Motion passed.

Comments or Concerns from the Public

None.

Treasurer's Report

Each board member was given a copy of the Monthly Budgetary Status Report dated May 18, 2026, for period ending April 30, 2026, reflecting a current fund balance of \$868,916.38. The remaining percentage for line-item, titled hospital insurance, is lower than expected. We were advised by the Treasurer's office that a discrepancy was found in that 911 was overcharged in our portion of insurance premiums, which was corrected as noted in the revenue line-item titled miscellaneous income. If there continues to be an issue regarding the insurance expense, we will address it later in the year. Additionally, it was noted that the State is currently behind three months, which is normal. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Jeff Jorden and seconded by Kevin Hamilton.
Motion passed.

Director's Report

Alec reported as follows:

- We now have hired three per diem employees, Jenna G., Jocelyn K., and McKenzie S.
- Jenna will begin training next week and start the EMD course on 5/24/26, which goes through to 6/2/26. Since the other two per-diem employees do not have any dispatching experience, Alec wants to wait and see if they like the job before

enrolling them in any of the classes. All three have stated they are excited to begin their training and becoming familiar with the job.

- Since we are ready to train three new employees, Alec has spoken with the current trainers, and he wants to add another trainer. Kaitlin is third on the seniority list. Alec would like to have her become another trainer. Alec has spoken with Kaitlin, and she is interested in giving it a try.
- On April 2nd, there was an Active Shooter Training, wherein we had three dispatchers and Alec in the center. Kelly was originally asked to come in to handle the training scenario and Kaitlin and Megan would handle all the other everyday matters. However, once the training began, all three were very busy and involved in every aspect of everyday occurrences as well as the training exercise. Alec was glad he was in the center to observe. Afterwards, he and the dispatchers talked about how chaotic and confusing everything was. It was good exercise and it pointed out the severity of how things could be/go. They learned a lot from the event.
- We've had a lot of issues go wrong in dispatch within the last month. We lost radio transmissions; our 911 lines were down and being sent to the backup phones and had memory failures on the computers which affected the reporting systems. Everything has been fixed and/or replaced and is currently working.
- Our PSAP has now implemented and is fully compliant with the Community Emergency Services and Support Act (CESSA). On May 11th we went live. Alec prepared and has implemented a new SOP, which has been distributed to all personnel in dispatch and the Sheriff's department. Alec is required to send in weekly reports to the Statewide 911 Administrator's office as well as the University of Illinois Chicago that is handling the documentation and analytics regarding behavioral/mental health calls that are transferred to 988. Alec reports that as of today we have received 14 calls, wherein none of them qualified or met the criteria as outlined by the new law.

Mark wanted to add that today, he met and spoke to Keith Norman, the ESDA coordinator, regarding the recent tornado damage done in Grafton. Keith is wanting to get a tornado siren installed in Grafton. Eventually, Keith would like to see sirens installed in Elsau, Fieldon and so on. He realizes this could take up to 5 years or so, and then there is the cost of said sirens. All this would have to be discussed with Grafton to see what they could pay, and then possibly getting Public Safety funds to help with the expenses. Alec was amazed at the number of 911 calls that came into the dispatch center after the City of Jerseyville sounded the tornado sirens. So many people wanted to know why the siren was activated. Where was the tornado? It is believed that the public is not fully aware of what the meaning is behind the siren alarms. It was suggested that Keith may need to put out a press release on what/how sirens are used during storms/tornados/etc.

Mark also advised the board that a claim was submitted to the County's insurance regarding the recent hail damage done to Alec's company car. The County had several claims for hail damage.

Mark wanted to know if there was any damage done to the Grafton tower? Alec did not know. Mark suggested Alec check it out. Mark also wanted to know if there was any need for maintenance work at the Grafton tower? Were the weeds/grass being

taken care of? Kevin Klaas advised that Sheriff had hired an individual to take care of the groundskeeping at the tower, however, Alec was asked to drive out and check on the tower.

Also, Kevin Klaas advised the board about the damage done to the tower here in town. Recently, when the radios went down, it was determined that a squirrel had eaten through the coax wire. This has happened before - a few years back. So, hopefully the issue has been fixed. A wire cage has been put around the wire to help keep the squirrels out and the coax wire has been repaired.

Mark stated, as far as the job goes, Alec is doing well.

A motion to approve the Director's Report was made by Kevin Klaas and seconded by Jeff Travers.

Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Finance Report

None.

Personnel Report

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Miscellaneous

Open Meetings Act Training Reminder

Reminder given to the present board members that the Open Meetings Act needs to be taken. Be sure to turn in your Certificate upon completion.

Mark let the ETSB members know about the passing of Gary Krueger, Jersey County's board Chairman. Mark is now Jersey County's Chairman and Kara Ontis is the Vice-Chair. Mark doesn't plan on giving up his position on the ETSB or the Jersey County Health Department's board. He is vested in public safety matters for Jersey County and wants to continue being involved.

Next Regular Meeting is **Wednesday, July 15, 2026.**

A motion to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting was made by Jeff Jorden and seconded by Shane Winters.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.