



# MINUTES

## QCOMM911 BOARD

### MEETING

Wednesday, October 22, 2025  
9:00 am

#### Present

City/Village Administrator: Steve Seiver, Milan  
Mark Rothert, East Moline  
Bob Vitas, Moline  
Jerry Leibovitz, Silvis

Public Safety Representatives: Chief Ramsey, East Moline PD  
Chief Johnson, Milan PD  
Chief VanKlaveren, Silvis PD (Absent)  
Chief Regenwether, Moline FD

QCOMM911 Director: Scott Ryckeghem (Absent)

Others: Margo Sparbel (QCOMM Deputy Director), Captain Radosevich (Milan),  
Captain Kratt (East Moline), Stacy Houzenga (QCOMM), Deputy Chief  
Copeland (Silvis), Mayor Dawson (Milan)  
(all departed at 9:27 a.m.)

Margaret Kostopulos

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**1. Meeting called to order** - Chairman Bob Vitas called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**2. Roll call of members** – Roll call was taken with Steve Seiver, Mark Rothert, Bob Vitas, Jerry Leibovitz, Chief Ramsey, Chief Johnson, and Chief Regenwether present. Absent: Chief VanKlaveren

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the September 10, 2025 Regular Meeting**– Jerry Leibovitz made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Rothert seconded the motion, all in favor, the motion passes to approve the minutes.

Mark Rothert made a motion to table the approval of the September 10, 2025 Executive Session minutes, due to the length. Steve Seiver seconded the motion, all in favor, the motion passes to table the approval of the minutes and bring them back at the November meeting.

#### 4. QCOMM 911 Expenses

Sparbel provided the expense report. Fourth quarter invoices have been sent.

Balances as of October 1, 2025:

Accounts Payable: \$200,00.00  
Insurance Claims: \$129,419.95  
Pooled Cash: \$1,232,955.31  
Total accounts: \$1,562,375.26

Rothert asked if the account payable is always \$200,000.

Sparbel explained that it is used as a working checking account and then reimbursed back to \$200,000.

Rothert asked if the cash on hand is the pooled cash.

Sparbel confirmed.

Steve Seiver made a motion to approve the expenses. Mark Rothert seconded the motion, all in favor, the motion passes to approve the expenses.

## **5. Executive Director Report**

### **Staffing:**

Sparbel reported that 21 of the 27 authorized positions are currently filled, with 20 employees fully trained. One employee completed training on September 12, and another is currently in training. She noted that one trainee left the program on September 21 due to personal issues that prevented her from continuing. She stated that one candidate completed psychological testing on September 30 and is scheduled to begin on October 27. Another candidate was lost during the background process, and she will be replaced with another candidate from recent interviews. Sparbel also mentioned that the agency has engaged Dr. Campion in Champaign to conduct upcoming psychological evaluations virtually. Additionally, background checks are being completed on two more candidates, which will bring the total to four trainees, the effective maximum at one time.

Regenwether asked if there are more applicants that background checks can be done.

Sparbel explained, there will need to be another round of testing after this round. The training program can normally accommodate four. The application process is always open.

Vitas asked if any of them are laterals.

Sparbel confirmed, none are laterals right now. There has been interest brought by word of mouth but no one has committed.

### **Operations:**

Sparbel reported on September activity. Total calls for service was 15,764, down 0.64% from 2024.

Sparbel reported the following updates:

There was a command meeting with police command staff on September 25. The meeting was productive, with issues discussed from both sides. All parties agreed to work collaboratively with shift commanders and shift leads to address issues as they arise. Bi-monthly meetings will be scheduled moving forward, with the next meeting set for November 20.

At the union's request, the October labor management meeting was postponed.

Two CTO meetings have been scheduled for October 27 and 28 to include all CTOs. With three trainees starting soon, these meetings will ensure everyone remains aligned moving forward.

On Wednesday, September 25, there was an unexpected county-wide disruption of Geneseo Communications internet service. The disruption, experienced as intermittent connectivity, began around 11:15 a.m. and full service resumed by approximately 1:00 p.m.

The outage affected administrative call delivery to all PSAPs. The cause was identified as a misconfiguration by Geneseo Communications, which resulted in a flood of traffic across the network. Once corrected, it took 20–30 minutes for network traffic to return to normal levels. The I.T. team addressed an issue with console 8 caused by a phone monitor malfunction. Rich and Wayne repaired the console and returned it to service. Additionally, they replaced the two center printers with newer models provided by the ETSB.

## **6. 2026 Budget –**

Vitas asked if the board would like to approve the budget at the November meeting. It includes a 4% increase as proposed.

Sparbel added, they are still waiting on the insurance numbers.

Leibovitz shared that it seems pretty basic and understands the 4% increase. He asked about the projected legal services and asked if it would be adequate going forward.

Sparbel explained, historically it has been more than adequate.

Rothert asked if Sparbel could create a document that compares last year, current, and next years proposed budget. He questioned if the fund balance is high enough to subsidize member fees for next year, as a strategy to reduce the government costs that go up every year.

Regenwether asked if the 27 staffing includes the Director and Assistant Director.

Sparbel explained, it does not, it includes the Training Coordinator but not Scott and Margo.

Regenwether asked about the 23 names listed for staffing.

Sparbel explained, when the report was ran, there were two additional staff.

Seiver noted, the wage increase is set by contract and asked what the wage increase would be for the following year.

Sparbel explained, it is 2.5% as well.

Vitas noted, the budget would be brought back at the next meeting for approval in November.

## **7. Other Business –**

Sparbel reported, Coal Valley is currently in discussions with the Sherrard Fire Protection District regarding handling ambulance calls in their area. Although no agreement has been finalized, they inquired about potential costs, as we do not currently dispatch for Sherrard. If the plan proceeds as anticipated, the start date would be January 1.

## **8. Public Comment –**

Stacy Houzenga, Training Coordinator, shared that she is working with Blackhawk College on a cooperative training program. It sounds promising and their building will be opening from remodels. You can rent a room and have stand alone trainings or an ongoing training program. The idea is to build a program for dispatchers in the counties and also to host workshops for the general public on what it would be like to be a dispatcher.

Houzenga also shared a report on CESSA. She shared that she modeled an operational structure closely to a risk assessment matrix that would triage the mental health crisis calls and send the appropriate resources at the most appropriate time. The goal is to have those processes already in so we aren't scrambling at the last minute. Overall

feedback has been positive and the dispatchers have been using it well over the last year. They are looking at a tentative roll out date of July 2027. Selected as the first round of cohorts in Illinois, QCOMM and County be able to share what has been done and what works and doesn't. It will be easy for the dispatchers to have the responses with the enhanced technology.

Sparbel gave Stacy kudos on the hard work she has put forward on this project.

#### **9. Executive Session –**

Vitas asked for a motion to go into executive session per section 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1) for appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and section 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(11) pending, probable or imminent litigation. Steve Regenwether made a motion to go into executive session. Jerry Leibovitz seconded the motion, all in favor.

**QCOMM911 Board convened in Executive Session at 9:27 a.m.**

**QCOMM911 Board reconvened in Open Session at 10:47 a.m.**

#### **10. Action from Executive Session –**

**11. Adjournment** - Having no further business to discuss, Mark Rothert made a motion to adjourn. Jerry Leibovitz seconded that motion, all in favor, the motion passes and the meeting is adjourned at 10:47 a.m.