

DU-COMM

DuPage Public Safety Communications
420 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 260-7500 Main
www.ducomm.org



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – MINUTES Wednesday, January 28, 2026 – 7:30 a.m. DU-COMM, 420 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL

At 7:49 a.m. Mayor Levin called the meeting to order.

1. Roll Call

Administrator Evan Walter	Village of Burr Ridge
Manager William Holmer	Village of Carol Stream
Administrator Bryon Vana	City of Darien
Manager David Fieldman	Village of Downers Grove
Mayor Scott Levin (Chairman)	City of Elmhurst
Manager Mark Franz (<i>remote 8:00</i>)	Village of Glen Ellyn
Interim Manager Courtney Sage	Village of Hanover Park
Manager Kathleen Gargano	Village of Hinsdale
Manager Scott Niehaus (<i>departed 8:40</i>)	Village of Lombard
Administrator Jason Bielwaski	Village of Roselle
Fire Chief Steve Stapleton	Village of Villa Park
Interim Administrator Tia Messino	City of West Chicago
Manager Michael Dzugan	City of Wheaton
Administrator Al Stonisch	Village of Woodridge
President Jim McCarthy	Bartlett FPD
Fire Chief Keith Krestan (<i>remote 8:00</i>)	Lisle-Woodridge FPD
President Kathleen Perkins	Warrenville FPD
Trustee Jim Williams	York Center FPD

Absent: President Dan Gunsteen – Village of Bartlett; Manager Zachery Creer – Village of Clarendon Hills; Under Sheriff Eddie Moore – DuPage County Sheriff; Mayor Mary Jo Mullen – Village of Lisle; Police Chief Brian Strockis – Village of Oak Brook; Mayor Paul Esposito – City of Oakbrook Terrace; Mayor Andrew Johnson – City of Warrenville; Mayor Frank Trilla – Village of Willowbrook; President Carl Sorgratz – Village of Winfield

Staff: DD Benjamin, Finance Manager Athitakis, HR Manager Groves, Technical Services Manager Maplethorpe, MIS Manager Roberts, QA Manager Miller, OM Napier; Exec Secretary Regalado

Guests: Auditor Brad Porter – Lauterbach & Amen; Attorney John Kelly - Ottosen DiNolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd, Doug and Judie Brandow, Paul Stika (remote)

2. Approval of Remote Participation

Manager Holmer made a motion to approve remote participation as presented, and Manager Gargano seconded. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Comment

- None

5. Moment of Silence

- Honored the memory of President Deuschel, long-time DU-COMM member and treasurer.

6. Recognition

A. Wall of Life Honoree – TC Samantha Doron

Bartlett FPD • Bartlett PD • Bloomingdale FPD • Burr Ridge PD • Carol Stream FPD • Carol Stream PD • Clarendon Hills FD • Clarendon Hills PD • Darien PD • Darien-Woodridge FPD • Downers Grove FD • Downers Grove PD • DuPage County Sheriff • Elmhurst FD • Elmhurst PD • Glen Ellyn FC • Glen Ellyn PD • Glenside FPD • Hanover Park FD • Hanover Park PD • Hinsdale FD • Hinsdale PD • Lisle PD • Lisle-Woodridge FPD • Lombard FD • Lombard PD • Oak Brook FD • Oak Brook PD • Oakbrook Terrace FPD • Oakbrook Terrace PD • Roselle FD • Roselle PD • Villa Park FD • Villa Park PD • Warrenville FPD • Warrenville PD • West Chicago FPD • West Chicago PD • Wheaton FD • Wheaton PD • Willowbrook PD • Winfield FPD • Winfield PD • Woodridge PD • York Center FPD

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- The patient and his wife and the 9-1-1 caller/CPR provider attended the recognition to share their appreciation.
- B. NW University Command School Completion – Deputy Director Tyler Benjamin
- C. 20 Years of Service – Deputy Director Tyler Benjamin

7. Auditor Presentation

Brad Porter (Lauterbach & Amen) presented the FYE25 audit results:

- Issued an unmodified opinion (clean audit).
- No internal control deficiencies identified.
- Net position increased by \$3 million, ending at \$18.5 million.
- No auditor recommendations in Management Letter, but new GASB requirements for recommended continued financial transparency and planning will be implemented in future audits.

8. Consent Agenda

Minutes

- A. October 23, 2025 – Minutes
- B. October 23, 2025 – Closed Session Minutes

New Business

- C. FYE25 Annual Audit
- D. Semi-Annual review of closed session minutes pursuant to the (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 21

Manager Niehaus made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items A, B, C, D as presented, and Manager Fieldman seconded. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

9. Reports

A. Executive Director

Acting Director Benjamin reported

- The Personnel Manual is under review by the labor attorney.
- Proposal submitted to Argonne, awaiting their response.
- CommsCoach AI software went live on January 2; over 7,000 calls were quality-assured in two weeks.

B. ETSB

Manager Franz reported

- ETSB discussed creating a permanent Finance Committee; proposal lacked support.
- Monthly financial discussions will be on future agendas.
- Approved \$1.8 million for disbursement to the PSAPs under the IGA.
- Future topics: reserve policy, capital budget, 5-year forecast.
- The DU-COMM BOD discussed 9-1-1 surcharge debate for increases and questions where those funds will be allocated. Radio purchases are an authorized surcharge fee.

Manager Walter made a motion to approve drafting a resolution supporting the creation of a permanent ETSB Finance Committee for the April DU-COMM BOD meeting, and Manager Gargano seconded. Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

10. Old Business

- None

11. New Business

A. FYE27 Budget

- FYE27 budget presented with a 3.35% increase in operating expenses and 5.5% average increase per member agency.
- Executive Committee and Finance Subcommittee reviewed and recommended its approval.
- No additional reserve funds used, only what will not be used in the FYE26 budget.

Manager Niehaus made a motion to approve The FYE27 Budget as presented, and President McCarthy seconded. Motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

- B. Argonne
 - Awaiting federal review; no action required.

12. Executive Closed Session for the purposes of discussing:

- A. Personnel matters (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 1)
- B. Collective negotiating matters (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 2)
- C. Purchase or lease of real property (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 5)
- D. Pending, Probable, or Imminent Litigation (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 11)

At 8:40 a.m. President McCarthy made a motion to enter closed session to discuss Personnel matters (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 1) and Administrator Walter seconded. Motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.

The Board of Directors returned to open session at 8:51 a.m.

13. Other Business

- A. None

14. Adjournment

At 8:53 a.m. Interim Administrator Messino made a motion to adjourn, and Manager Gargano seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned.

The next Board of Directors meeting is Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at DU-COMM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Regalado
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