

DU-COMM

DuPage Public Safety Communications

420 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187

(630) 260-7500 Main

www.ducomm.org



FIRE OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE NOTES

Thursday, February 19, 2026 – 8:00 Hours

DU-COMM, 420 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, IL 60187

1. Call to Order

Chief Fors called the meeting to order at 08:01 hours.

DC Brian Becker	Bartlett	Chief Johnny Turkovich	Oakbrook Terrace
Chief Matthew Beyer	Bloomingtondale	Chief Tim Smeltzer	Roselle
Chief Dave Godek	Clarendon Hills	DC Matt Coppock	Roselle
Chief James Lahanis	Darien-Woodridge	DC Brandon Mitsuka	Villa Park
DC Jamie Tunk	Darien-Woodridge	DC Frank Reposh	Villa Park
Chief Scott Spinazola	Downers Grove	Chief Jeffery Keefe	West Chicago
Chief Richard Dufort	Elmhurst	Chief Robert Brill	Wheaton
Chief Chris Clark	Glen Ellyn	Chief Steve Evans	Winfield
Chief Rich Cassady	Glenside	DC Tim Roman	Winfield
DC Jeff Buccola	Glenside	Chief Rick Sanborn, Jr.	York Center
Chief Eric Fors (Chair)	Hanover Park	DC Bret Mowery	York Center
DC Scott Gray	Lisle-Woodridge	AC Tim Leidig	York Center
Chief Rick Sander	Lombard		
Chief Kevin Fleege	Oak Brook		

Absent: Chief Rob Schultz – Carol Stream; Chief J. Pindelski – Hinsdale; Interim Chief Joe Levy – Warrenville

Staff: Deputy Director Tyler Benjamin, SMO Steve Pirog, Training Manager Amanda Schretter, QA Manager Ryan Miller, MIS Manager Eric Roberts, OM Donna Napier, Executive Secretary Kim Regalado

Guests: ETSB Executive Director Linda Zerwin; ETSB Deputy Director Gregg Taormina

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

A. October 16, 2025

Chief Keefe made a motion to approve the October 16, 2025 minutes, and DC Becker seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

3. Peer Review

- None

4. Report

A. ETSB

Deputy Director Benjamin noted

- Discussion on finances and the creation of a standing Finance Committee was defeated; instead, a standing agenda item for finance will be included at each board meeting.
- Future radio replacement planning remains uncertain; ETSB cannot forecast funding due to unpredictable surcharge revenue.
- Legislative efforts to increase the 9-1-1 surcharge will be discussed in Springfield next week.

ETSB PAC Report

Chief Clark reported

- Board members expressed interest in long-term planning for radio replacement.
- ETSB funding challenges noted; surcharge revenue has declined, creating stress for planning.

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- Recommended future meeting agenda item for Police and Fire discussion.

B. Staff

Deputy Director Benjamin reported

- **Alarm & Key Holder Discussion:**

- Renewal with Johnson Controls (JCI) signed in 2025; contract valid until 2028.
- Concerns raised about lack of vendor choice and poor service from JCI.
- Some jurisdictions exploring alternatives (e.g., Norcom) and ordinance-based flexibility.
- Financial, logistical, and technology implications require further review by the Finance Subcommittee and Executive Committee.

- **CommsCoach Update:**

- AI-driven QA and training software launched January 2, 2026.
- Over 19,000 calls quality-assured since launch (vs. ~3,000 manually last year).
- System calibrating to DU-COM policies; expected to improve training and detect trends.

C. MABAS Divisions (1, 2, 10, 12, 13, 16)

- No updates.

5. Committees

A. Fire Standardization Committee

- No Update. Meeting is scheduled after the current meeting.

B. Fire Focus

- Preparing programming for mobile radios; DU-COM has received equipment, ETSB pending.
- Encryption rollout for police radios ongoing; fire radios will require updates.
- Mobile radio installation will involve antenna and wiring changes; agencies should locate prior install receipts for reimbursement.

6. Old Business

- None.

7. New Business

A. W.D. 14.05.00 Emergency Fire Communications Policy (formerly Mayday Policy):

- Emergency operations will be initiated regardless of channel (not limited to main fire dispatch frequency).
- Purpose patch will be disabled during mayday events; notification sent via manual message.

Chief Cassady made a motion to approve the W.D. 14.05.00 as amended, and Chief Keefe seconded. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

B. Mayday Checklist

- Draft presented; edits required to align with amended policy.
- Feedback welcomed via email.

8. Other Business

A. LiveMUM question and answer

ETSB Deputy Director Taormina noted

- LiveMUM project underway; agencies asked to review unit and station data for accuracy.
- Goal: Clean up configurations before deeper process changes.
- Agencies encouraged to update mutual aid vehicle identifiers for clarity.

ETSB Director Zerwin noted

- Command Central Aware update:
 - Agencies will eventually have internal access for mapping and after-action reviews; policy development ongoing.

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B. National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (NPSTW) 2026

- Coordination underway; contact HR Manager Christine Groves for contributions.
- Appreciate the generosity of the Agencies.

C. GEMT Billing

- Discussion on GEMT billing for CRC transports; agencies shared varied approaches (billing vs. alternative transport).
- Concerns about turnaround times and reimbursement limitations noted.

9. Adjournment

Chief Lahanis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Chief Keefe seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 08:42 hrs.

The next Fire Operations Subcommittee meeting is April 16, 2026 – 8:00 a.m. at DU-COMM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Regalado
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