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## FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

October 4, 2023



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### IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — SEPTEMBER 2023

**Meeting.** The 911 Communications Council met on September 14, 2023, at the Dallas County Human Services Campus in Adel. A recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

**911 Program Financial Report and Program Update.** Blake DeRouchev, 911 Program Manager and State Administrator at the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD), provided the Council with the following updates on the 911 Program and its current financial standing.

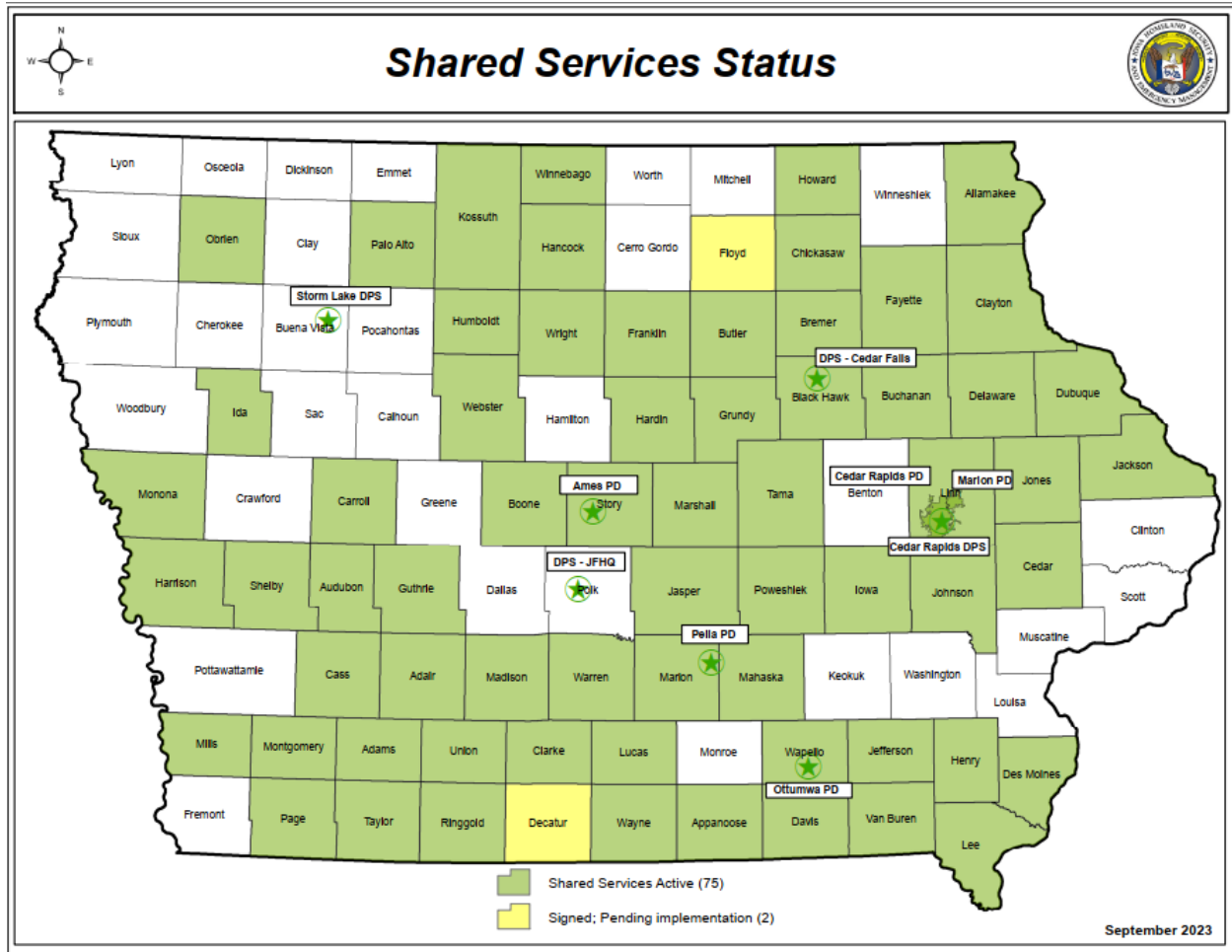
- **Boards and Commissions Review Committee Recommendations.** The recommendation from the Boards and Commissions Review Committee on August 29, 2023, is to eliminate the 911 Communications Council.
- **Annual Forms.** Information on the annual public safety answering point (PSAP) forms are scheduled to be sent out. These forms include the Expenditure Collection form, Service Board Membership form, and the contact form.
- **Geographic Information System (GIS) Grants.** The Council is working with GIS specialists to update Next Generation 911 (NG911) GIS Data Standards. In FY 2023 Q4, counties received a total of \$327,000 in funding. Funding is contingent on verification that the applicant possesses 98.0% match rates with GIS and 95.0% match rates with the Automatic Location Identification (ALI) system. In August 2023, all counties met the benchmarks. Data is now updated/uploaded monthly.
- **Training Fund Requests.** The Council receives \$100,000 annually from the 911 Wireless Surcharge Fund to cover travel costs for the Council and to assist with public education and training costs for PSAPs. Three training applications were approved, which included:
  - Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Fall Conference: Back to Basics in the Comm Center — \$5,000
  - National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Fall Conference: How to Create a Positive Work Culture — \$5,000
  - Fayette County: Fire Dispatch Training — \$180

As of August 2023, there is approximately \$86,000 remaining in the training fund. After approval of the three applications, there will be approximately \$76,000 remaining.

- **Shared Services Update.** The HSEMD awarded Zetron Next-Generation 911 (NG911) contracts in December 2017 and in July 2022 for shared 911 call-handling equipment. Zetron also provides a call-taking system that offers computer-aided design (CAD), 911 mapping, and emergency medical dispatch software in implementing NG911 protocols and systems. Harrison County deployed the system on September 13, 2023. Floyd and Decatur counties are also anticipating upcoming call-taking system deployments.

**Figure 1** displays the current number of active shared services locations in the State by county.

Figure 1 — Current Active Shared Services Locations (by County)



Source: HSEMD

**Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) Board Update.** Haley Nichols, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), reported on several items.

**Emergency Communications Coordinator Report.** Chris Maiers, Emergency Communications Coordinator, of the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) reported on the following items:

- The SAFECOM nationwide survey is underway. The webpage [CISA.gov/SNS](https://www.cisa.gov/SNS) has information about accessing the survey.
- The SAFECOM Writing Guide for Standard Operating Guidelines was released in September 2023.
- The Open Source Software Security Roadmap was released in September 2023. The Roadmap lays out CISA's path forward to help ensure a secure open-source software ecosystem.
- An information sheet on deepfake threats was released in September 2023 by CISA, the National Security Agency (NSA), and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).
- The following regional news was reported:
  - An interoperability markers meeting is ongoing in Region 7.
  - Recent CISA's Communications Unit (COMU) training courses:
    - Communications Unit Leader (COML): September 26-29, 2023, at Fort Leonard Wood, MO
    - Incident Tactical Dispatcher Training (INTD): September 12-15, 2023, in Dodge City, KS

**Next Meeting.** The next Council meeting will be held on October 12, 2023, at the Dallas County Human Services Campus in Adel.

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