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## FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

December 13, 2019



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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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### IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — DECEMBER 2019

**Meeting.** The Iowa 911 Communications Council met on November 14, 2019, at the Des Moines Parks and Recreation Board Room in Des Moines.

**911 Program Financial Reports and Program Update.** Blake DeRouchey, 911 Program Manager, provided the Council with the following updates on the 911 Program and its current financial standing:

**GIS Grants Update.** In November 2019, 11 counties received Geographic Information System (GIS) grants totaling \$84,000. Funding is contingent on verification that the applicant possesses 98.0% match rates with GIS and 95.0% match rates with Automatic Location Identifier (ALI). Year-to-date for FY 2020, 54 counties have received GIS funding for a total of \$360,000. This level of funding is similar to the level of funding at the same point in FY 2019, where 57 counties had received a total of \$390,000 in funding. December 31, 2019, marks the end of the first grant application period. The second grant application period will begin in January 2020, at which time all counties will be eligible to request funding.

**Personnel Update.** Mr. DeRouchey introduced Allie Bright, who was recently hired for the position of Program Planner III at the Department of Homeland Security And Emergency Management (HSEMD). Ms. Bright will be assisting Mr. DeRouchey in his duties as Administrator of the Iowa 911 Communications Council, as he takes on various duties with the HSEMD at the beginning of the 2020 Legislative Session.

**911 Council Travel, Public Education, and Training Fund.** Mr. DeRouchey shared that as of November 14, the Council has approved a total of \$52,544.60 to be distributed from the 911 Council Travel, Public Education, and Training Fund. Approximately \$100,000 is allocated toward the Fund annually. A total of \$36,744.04 has been expended this year, and the remaining Fund balance totals \$1,211.43. At the November 2019 meeting, the Council was reminded that the following two requests for funding remain outstanding:

- National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Spring Conference: \$5,000
- Association of Public Safety Communications (APCO) Post Spring Conference: \$5,000.

Additionally, the Council discussed updating internal rules regarding funding travel and education requests. Several suggestions were made with regard to updating the funding mechanism, including updating current internal processes to reflect a 25/75 match program for funding. This process would require individual requestors to commit 25.0% of the funding request using their own funding, while the Council would match the remaining 75.0% of the funding request. No votes were taken on a proposal, and Council Chairman Rob Rotter requested that members of the Committee continue to research ideas to update existing internal funding processes.

**Zetron Mission Critical Communications Solutions Contract Update.** Cody Brink, Zetron Area Sales Manager, discussed Zetron's work in updating the 113 existing Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in delivering the Next Generation 911 (NG911) solution to enhance public safety services across the State. The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management awarded Zetron an NG911 contract in December 2017. Zetron provides a call-taking system that offers CAD, 911 mapping, and emergency medical dispatch software in implementing NG911 protocols and systems. Mr. Brink

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shared that the Iowa Department of Public Safety, located in Des Moines, in conjunction with the Johnston Armory, successfully completed the deployment of this technology in December 2019.

**Statewide Interoperable Communications System (SWIC) Board Update.** Chris Maiers, SWIC Coordinator, provided an update on the Board's activities, stating that the Board is continuing to work with counties across the State to update existing PSAP equipment to improve emergency communication technology. Mr. Maiers shared that the SWIC Board continues to provide test calling to individual PSAPs that have recently received updated dispatch equipment. As of December 11, 2019, only 17 of the 113 PSAPs have not been able to participate in the test calling process. Equipment training sessions are scheduled across the State, with the next training to take place January 8, 2020, in Hiawatha and January 16, 2020, in Decorah.

**Next Meeting.** The next Council meeting will be held Thursday, January 9, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. at the Des Moines Parks and Recreation Board Room, 1551 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway in Des Moines.

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