
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

November 9, 2021



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IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — NOVEMBER 2021

Meeting. The 911 Communications Council met on November 8, 2021, at the Joint Forces Headquarters of the State Emergency Operations Center in Johnston.

911 Program Financial Report and Program Update. Blake DeRouchey, 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:

Quarterly Report. The Council received \$7.6 million in total revenue and expended \$7.2 million in the first quarter of FY 2022. Expenses included a once-yearly payment of \$250,000 for management and administration of the Program.

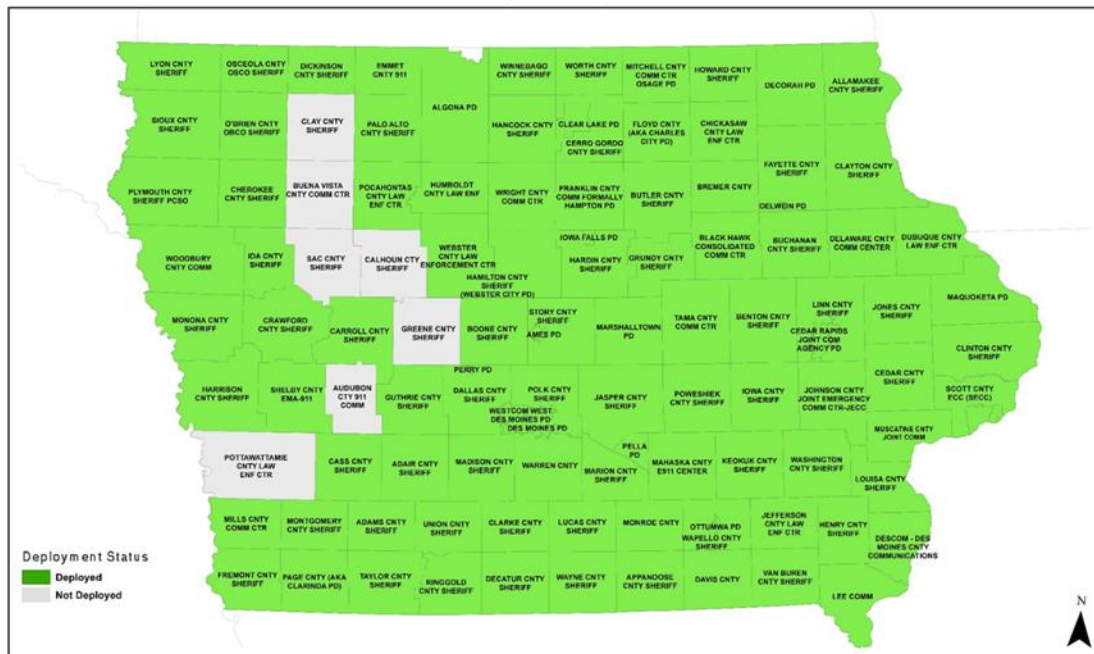
National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA). The NASNA filed a request with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide guidelines for the demarcation point of cost responsibility for service providers and guidance on phases for a Next Generation 911 (NG911) registry. The request also suggested NG911 phases for the registry.

Training. A newly developed 911 Leadership Training program will be offered to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) starting in November 2021.

Wireline Migration Update. As of November 8, 2021, 106 Iowa PSAPs have successfully completed the wireline migration process that merges the existing wireline 911 network with the NG911 network to produce a single 911 system. The merging process was implemented by 2018 Iowa Acts, [HF 2254](#) (911 Emergency Telephone Act), which required elimination of the wireline network and the creation of a shared service environment that the HSEMD would operate and maintain, with the benefit of automatic call rerouting in the case of an outage or maintenance. Specifically, the Act required the HSEMD to establish a virtual consolidation plan that would merge the legacy wireline 911 network with the NG911 network to allow Iowa PSAPs to share emergency communication services.

The chart below provides the most recent update on the Automatic Location Identification (ALI) system deployment in the State of Iowa. The ALI system automatically relays a caller's address when a call is made to an emergency responder service. The relay to the statewide ALI system occurs at the same time as the wireline migration.

State of Iowa ALI Deployment and Wireline Migration (by County)



Source: Comtech Telecommunications Corporation

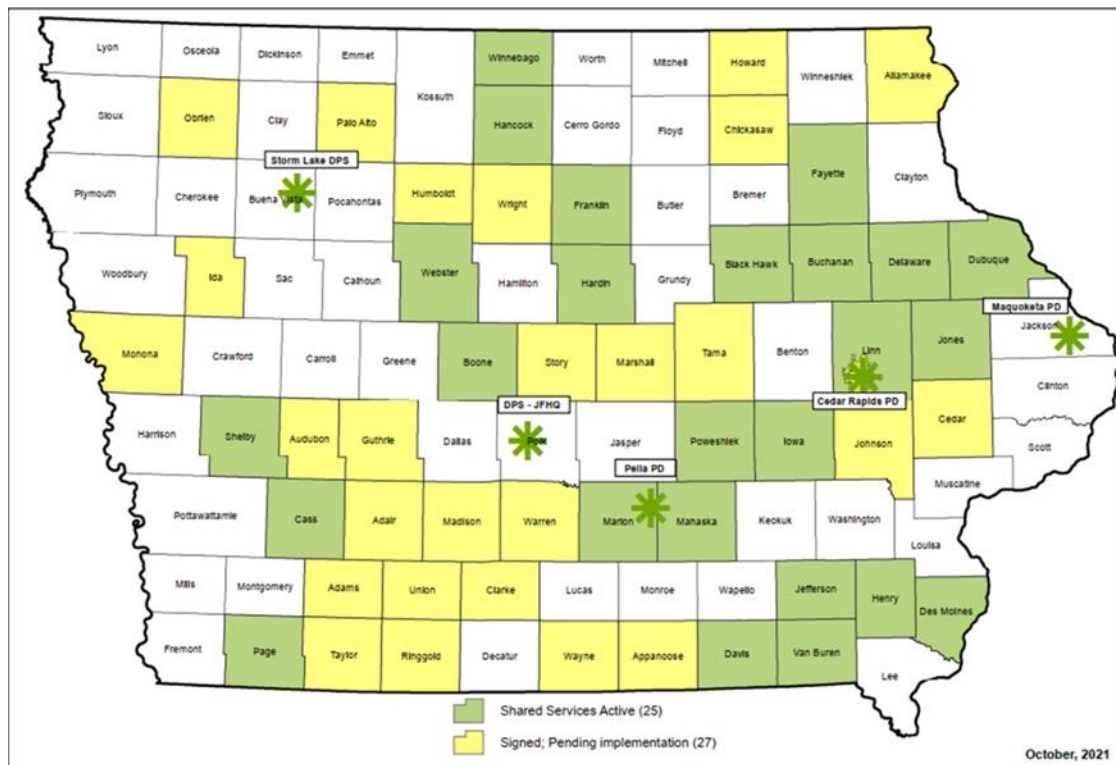
Geographic Information System (GIS) Grant. In the first funding period of FY 2022 (July to December 2021), 60 counties have received GIS funding for a total of \$396,000. In October 2021, 13 counties were granted \$78,000. Funding is contingent on verification that the applicant possesses 98.0% match rates with GIS and 95.0% match rates with ALI.

Shared Space. Allie Bright, 911 Program Planner, provided an update on the creation of an information sharing website available to PSAPs that includes human resources, training and exercises, public outreach and communications, as well as facilities, operations, and plans.

Shared Services Update. Lynne Warren, Zetron Project Manager, discussed Zetron's work in updating the 112 existing PSAPs in delivering the NG911 solution. The HSEMD awarded Zetron an NG911 contract in December 2017 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. Black Hawk County began using the shared services system on October 27, 2021, and Hardin County began on November 3, 2021. Story County is scheduled to begin on November 10, 2021, along with Johnson County on December 8, 2021. Ten additional counties signed on to join the shared services system between the Council meetings on October 14, 2021, and November 8, 2021.

The chart below displays the current number of active shared service locations in the State by county.

Current Active Shared Service Locations (by County)



Source: Zetron

Training Funds Report. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office requested \$3,000 for a tactical dispatch course provided by the National Emergency Number Association (NENA). The request was approved by the Council.

Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) Board Update. Chris Maiers, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), reported on several items:

- The FCC is considering a rule change to how the 4.9 gigahertz frequency is allocated. There are approximately 55 active licenses in the State that use the 4.9 gigahertz frequency. The Board will communicate with other states to issue a comment on the proposed changes.
- The 2021 routine preventative maintenance for ISICS is nearly complete.
- StatusBoard is close to starting the update process.
- A tactical interoperable communications plan draft is being developed.
- Two emergency support trailers are deployed in Clinton County and Hancock County.

Cybersecurity Update. Jim Stromberg, Emergency Communications Coordinator for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), reported on several items:

- The next National Emergency Communications Plan webinar is scheduled for December 9, 2021.
- The National Field Operations Guide 2.0 has been released on the CISA website.
- November is Infrastructure Security Month and CISA will be emphasizing the importance of critical infrastructure security, including public safety communications, throughout November.

Next Meeting. The next Council meeting will be held on December 9, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. The location of the meeting remains to be determined.

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