
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

December 16, 2021



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IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — DECEMBER 2021

Meeting. The 911 Communications Council met on December 9, 2021, at the Joint Forces Headquarters of the State Emergency Operations Center in Johnston.

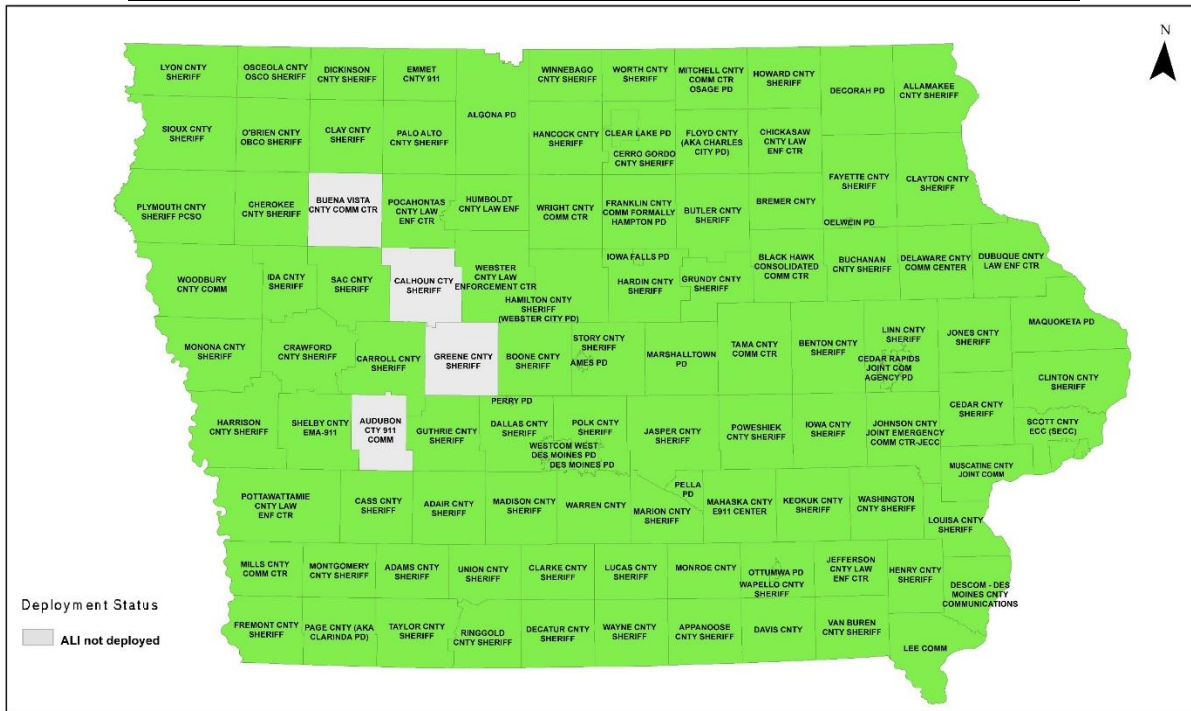
911 Program Financial Report and Program Update. Blake DeRouchey, 911 Program Manager and State Administrator at the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD), provided the Council with the following updates on the 911 Program and its current financial standing:

Training. A newly developed 911 Leadership Training program that was tested in November 2021 will be launched in January or February 2022.

Wireline Migration Update. As of December 9, 2021, 108 Iowa Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) have successfully completed the wireline migration process while the remaining four PSAPs are partially connected. The wireline migration process merges the existing wireline 911 network with the Next Generation 911 (NG911) network to produce a single 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.

Figure 1 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.

Figure 1 - State of Iowa ALI Deployment and Wireline Migration (by County)



Source: Comtech Telecommunications Corporation

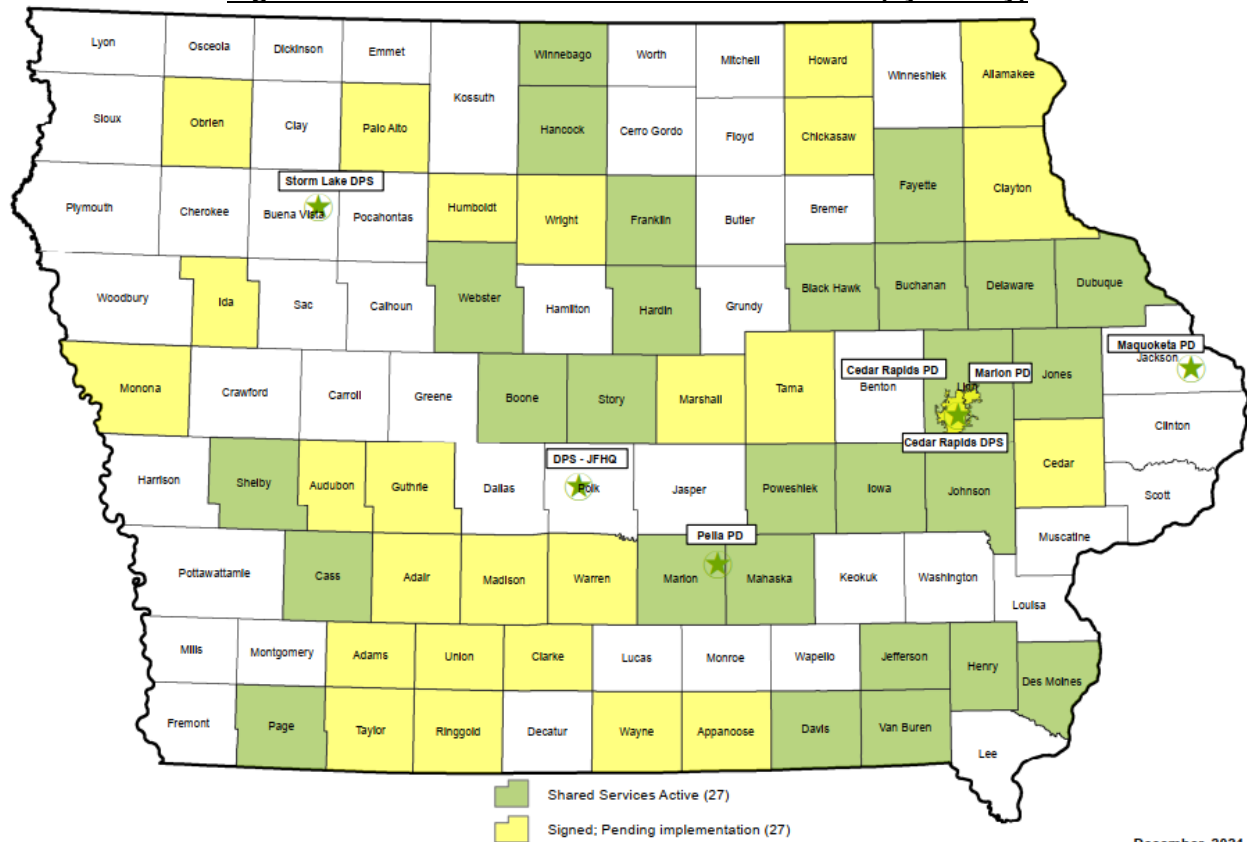
Geographic Information System (GIS) Grant. In the first funding period of FY 2022 (July to December 2021), 71 counties have received GIS funding for a total of \$462,000. In November 2021, 11 counties were granted \$66,000. Funding is contingent on verification that the applicant possesses 98.0% match rates with GIS and 95.0% match rates with ALI.

Training Funds Request. The Cerro Gordo County Sheriff’s Office requested \$9,000 for two trainings from the Denise Amber Lee Foundation. The request was approved by the Council.

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. Story County began using the shared services system on November 10, 2021, and Johnson County began on December 8, 2021. Monona County is scheduled to begin on December 15, 2021. Clayton County and the Marion Police Department signed on to join the shared services system between the Council meetings on November 8, 2021, and December 9, 2021.

Figure 2 displays the current number of active shared service locations in the State by county.

Figure 2 - Current Active Shared Service Locations (by County)



December, 2021

Source: Zetron

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

- The Federal Communications Commission is considering a rule change to how the 4.9 gigahertz frequency is allocated. Comments were submitted to the FCC to support keeping the 4.9 gigahertz frequency available. There are 55 active licenses in the State that use the 4.9 gigahertz frequency.
- The 2021 routine preventative maintenance for ISICS is nearly complete. More maintenance is scheduled for spring 2022.
- StatusBoard has started the update process.
- The emergency support trailer in Hancock County has finished its deployment. Currently, one emergency support trailer is deployed to Clinton 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, focusing on communications continuity, was scheduled for December 9, 2021.
- CISA has released educational videos on the safe deployment of 5G technology and a mobile device cybersecurity checklist.
- In April 2022, the federal Department of Homeland Security will host an exercise for first responders that focuses on radio jamming threats, mitigation, and reporting.

Legislative Updates. The PSAP Expenditure Report is being reviewed to simplify the report.

Consolidation Grant. The Fayette County Service Board requested \$54,000 for a third work station. The request was approved by the Council.

Council Election. The election of officers for the Council will take place at the next Council meeting.

Next Meeting. The next Council meeting will be held on January 13, 2022. The location of the meeting remains to be determined.

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