
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

November 6, 2024



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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — OCTOBER 2024

Meeting. The 911 Communications Council met on October 10, 2024, at the Dallas County Human Services Campus in Adel. A recording of the meeting is available on the [Iowa 911 Communications Council channel](#) on YouTube.

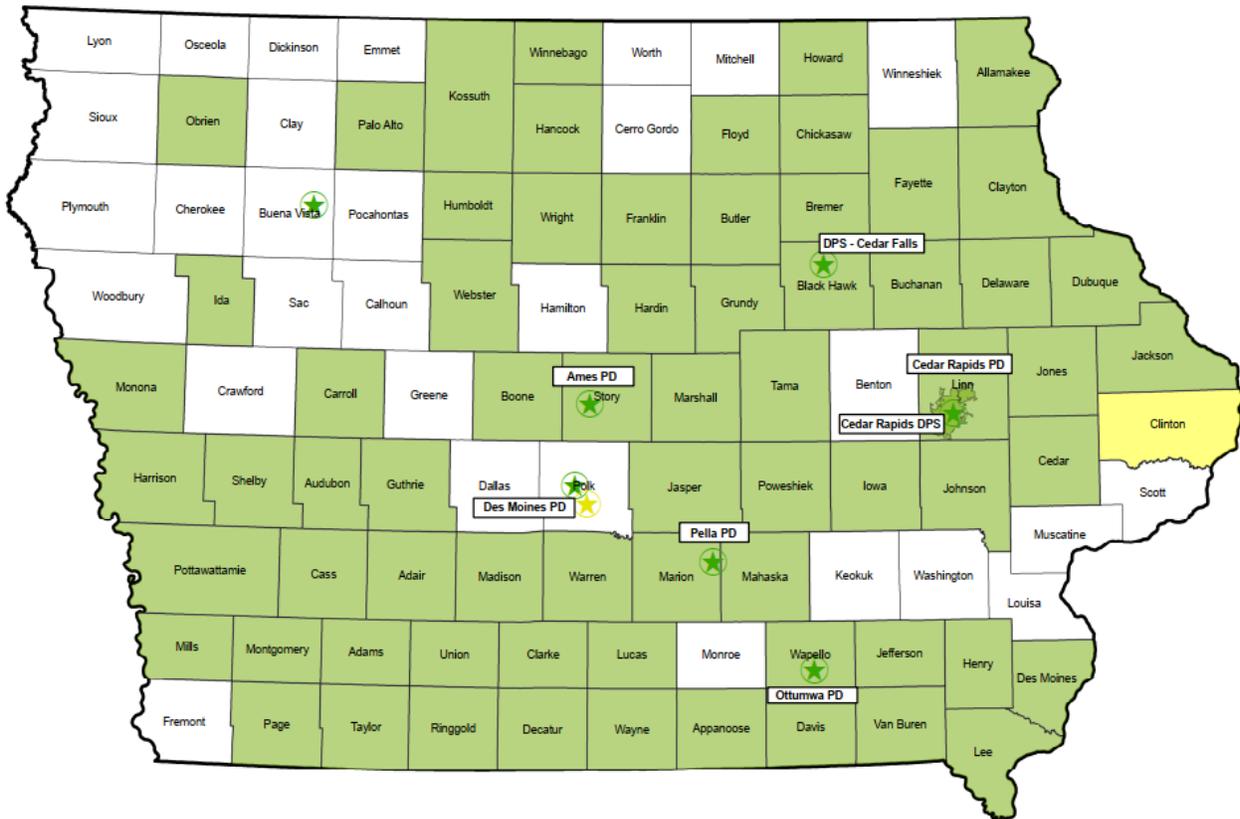
911 Program Financial Report and Program Update. Blake DeRouchey, 911 Program Manager and State Administrator of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD), provided the Council with the following updates:

- Annual forms are due January 1.
- A supplemental survey is currently active for local 911 budget surplus information and is collecting data on what purchases communities are saving money toward. The data collected by the survey is intended to be used as background information for potential legislative proposals for emergency communications equipment.
- A Geographic Information System (GIS) informational call will be held on October 29.
- 911 public safety answering point (PSAP) leadership training will be held on November 19, and registration is now full. Training event details are available on the HSEMD [website](#).
- A 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline informational webinar and training is planned with two 988 centers and the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The training is tentatively scheduled in January, and the focus is for further coordination between the 911 and 988 centers in Iowa.
- Policy proposals discussed at the September Council meeting for the 911 emergency telephone systems funding under Iowa Code chapter [34A](#) have been submitted for consideration as part of the HSEMD Department bill.
- **Geographic Information System Grants:** Funding is contingent on verification that the applicant possesses 98.0% match rates with GIS and 98.0% match rates with the Automatic Location Identification (ALI) system. In September, all counties met these benchmarks.
- **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. There were no applications made for public education or training funds for the Council to consider. There is \$70,000 remaining in the Fund.

Shared Services Update. The HSEMD awarded Zetron Next-Generation 911 (NG911) contracts in December 2017 and July 2022 for shared 911 call-handling equipment. Zetron also provides a call-taking system that offers computer-aided dispatch (CAD), 911 mapping, and emergency medical dispatch software in implementing NG911 protocols and systems. A shared service location in Pottawattamie County went live on September 25, 2024. The Des Moines Police Department has signed up for Iowa Shared Services. The Des Moines Police Department and Clinton County are scheduled to implement service early next year (indicated in yellow on the Iowa map in **Figure 1**). The virtual learning management system is available free to all PSAPs and there is not a requirement to be on Iowa Shared Services.

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

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



Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) Board Update. Haley Nichols, the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), reported on a few topics, including recent meetings on the Motorola upgrade, the Central States Communication Exercise in Joplin, Missouri, and the upcoming Regional Interoperability Committee (RIC) meetings.

Emergency Communications Coordinator Report. Chris Maiers, Emergency Communications Coordinator of the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), reported on several items, including Cybersecurity Awareness Month, persistent threat actor “Salt Typhoon,” best practices for principles of operational technology cybersecurity, cyber incident reporting, and regional news.

Next Meeting. The next Council meeting will be held on November 14, 2024, at the Dallas County Human Services Campus in Adel.

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