
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

July 15, 2025



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — JUNE 2025

Meeting. The 911 Communications Council met on June 12, 2025, 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 DeRouche, 911 Program Manager and State Administrator of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD), provided the Council with the following updates:

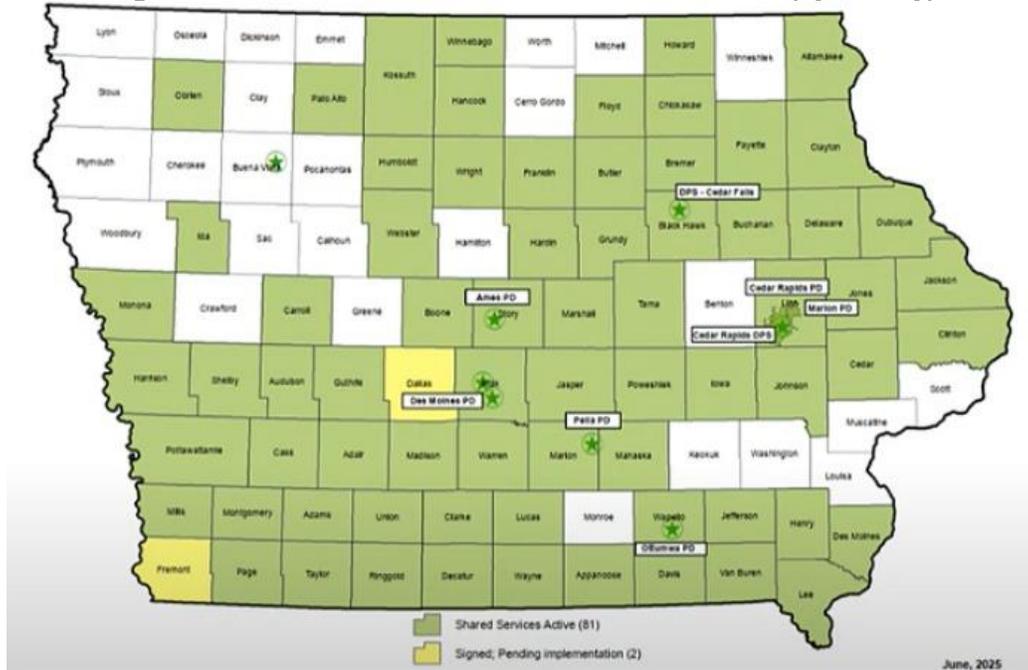
- **Legislative Update:** John Benson, Director of HSEMD, offered opening comments on [Senate File 659](#) (FY 2026 Standing Appropriations Act). Mr. Benson outlined the implementation plan based on the Act, touching on the effect of quarterly reimbursements of wireless surcharges by joint local 911 boards to HSEMD for network updates. It is the intent of the Director to balance out the 911 Program budget to a net zero each quarter, with the reimbursements estimated to be approximately 13.0% to 15.0% of passthrough money quarterly, with the first billing in the first quarter of calendar year 2026.
- Mr. DeRouche stated that there will be information on the relocation of the two data centers that are closing in West Des Moines and Davenport in July's meeting.
- **Geographic Information System (GIS) 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 May, all 99 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 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). There were no training requests for the remainder of FY 2025 and approximately \$18,000 remains in the Fund. Mr. DeRouche presented a quote of just over \$14,500 for the proposed printing of 20,500 additional children's activity books. For FY 2026, Dallas County requested approximately \$10,000 for the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) [Center Training Officer \(CTO\) course](#). The proposed extension of the virtual learning management system (LMS) and cost from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, is approximately \$19,000, while an extension through the next fiscal year until June 30, 2026, is approximately \$37,000.

Shared Services Update. The HSEMD awarded Zetron 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. The virtual LMS is available for free to all PSAPs, and there is no requirement to be on Iowa shared services.

- The Des Moines Police Department, Polk County, and Dallas County all are live as of June. Fremont County has signed up to begin shared services in October.

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

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



Council Discussion. The Council voted to print additional children’s activity books, approve the Dallas County CTO course, and extend the online LMS from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board Update. Haley Nichols, the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), reported on several items including outreach-in-person-training events that were held in Floyd and Jasper counties, and a region one Regional Interoperability Committee (RIC-1) meeting held in Dubuque County. Ten students attended the Communications Technician course at Cedar Rapids June 2 through 6, 2025. The Communication Unit Leader (COML) course is rescheduled for September and will be held in Council Bluffs. There is no update on the grant funds for the [iMED plan](#) that have been paused since February 21, 2025.

Emergency Communications Coordinator Report. Chris Maiers, Emergency Communications Coordinator of the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), gave an update on the [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) in Emergency Communications Centers \(ECCs\) Infographic](#), discussing the adoption of AI in emergency technology and its integration in operations with shared services. The Incident Communications Manager course is from July 21 through 23, 2025, in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Maiers addressed that it is anticipated that a Communications Exercise (COMDEX) will occur in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, August 18 through 20, 2025. The Red River Communications Unit (COMU) Boot Camp, in Durant, Oklahoma, is to be held October 12 through 17, 2025.

Next Meeting. The next Council meeting will be held on July 10, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Dallas County Human Services Campus in Adel.

LSA Staff Contact: Nathan Moore (515.725.0155) nathan.moore@legis.iowa.gov