
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — FEBRUARY 2026

Meeting. The 911 Communications Council met on February 12, 2026, at the Dallas County Human Services Campus in Adel.

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:

- All counties have remitted the required payment of surcharge revenue for the first quarter of FY 2026 for reimbursement to HSEMD for network updates. For the second quarter, the amount expected to be invoiced is approximately \$443,000, which is \$240,000 below the projection for the quarter.
- Mr. DeRouche provided an update regarding the revision to the administrative rules for the HSEMD in 605 IAC [10](#), “911 Telephone Systems.” The rule is published as Adopted and Filed in the [Iowa Administrative Bulletin](#) for February 18, 2026.
- Mr. DeRouche discussed the following proposed legislation: [Senate File 2022](#), [Senate File 2023](#), and [Senate Study Bill 3008](#).
- The biennial Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) [cost and expenditure report](#) and the annual [911 Program report](#) have been submitted to the General Assembly.
- Annual Point of Contact, Expenditure Data Collection, and Service Board membership forms were due January 1, 2026. There are four counties that still owe their Service Board membership forms and five counties that owe their Expenditure Data Collection forms.
- **Geographic Information System (GIS) Grants:** Funding for GIS grants 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 January, 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 PSAPs. Approximately \$20,000 remains in the Fund.

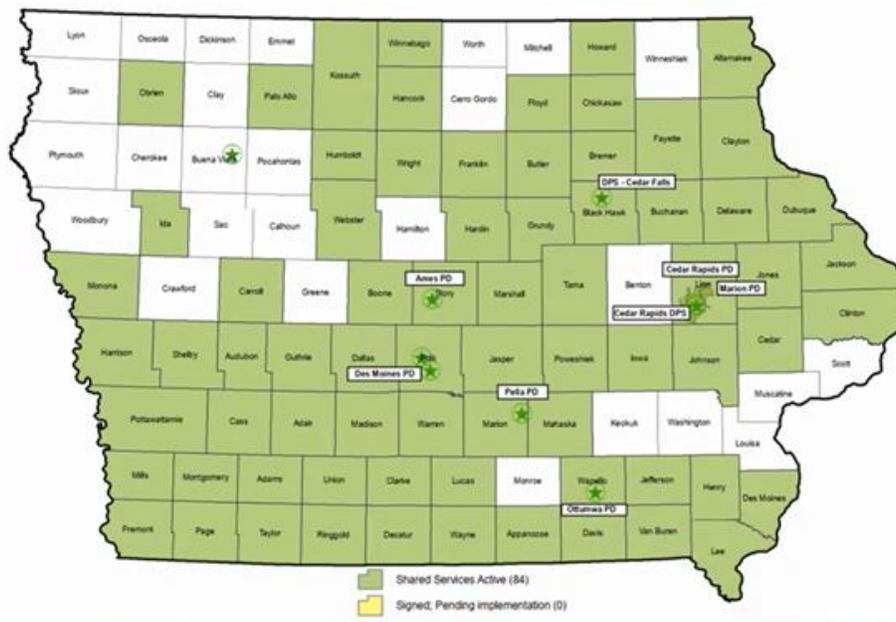
Shared Services Update. The HSEMD awarded Zetron NG911 contracts in December 2017 and July 2022 for shared 911 call-handling equipment. Zetron also provides a call-taking system that offers computer-aided dispatch (CAD), 911 mapping, and emergency medical dispatch software in implementing NG911 protocols and systems.

Marie Carlson, the Iowa Zetron Account Executive, presented information on the preparation of Zetron and Comtech to test the capabilities of the shared services. A shared services user group conference, in conjunction with the spring Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and National Emergency Number Association (NENA) conference, is scheduled for April 22, 2026. The virtual learning management system is available for free to all PSAPs, and there is no requirement to be on Iowa shared services. There is no change in the 84 shared services locations from last meeting.

Paul Guest, Zetron Vice President of Product Strategy, presented on the status of voice recording solutions throughout PSAPs. Mr. Guest discussed the ongoing support and maintenance in statewide implementation of the shared services’ Eventide 911 voice recording as well as PSAP recorders supported outside of the shared services contract.

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, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), reported on several issues during the meeting. There is a communications exercise (COMMEX) approved for the last week of April 2026 that will take place in the Iowa Loess Hills. Ms. Nichols reported that the State’s Technical Assistance (TA) request for the Incident Tactical Dispatcher (INTD) course was approved through the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). The development and use of ISICS National Weather Service (NWS) talk groups have been implemented successfully. The talk groups are a shared resource that allows interoperability between the NWS offices and public safety and public service users.

Emergency Communications Coordinator Report. Chris Maiers, Emergency Communications Coordinator of the CISA, gave an update on several topics. The [Known Exploited Vulnerabilities \(KEV\) catalog](#), an aggregation of all known exploited Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE), provides remediation actions for vulnerabilities. A new [guide](#) has been developed on the principles to secure connectivity of operational technologies and is specifically available to protect networks from highly capable cyber threat actors. Mr. Maiers further discussed a follow-on of federal [Executive Order 14306](#), speaking to [product categories](#) for Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) standards. Regional activities include an All-Hazards Communications Technician (COMT) Training Course in Jefferson City, Missouri, on February 23 through February 27, 2026.

Next Meeting. The next Council meeting will be held on March 12, 2026, 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

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