

---

## FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

June 2, 2026



---

Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

### IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING — MAY 2026

**Meeting.** The 911 Communications Council met on May 14, 2026, 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](#).

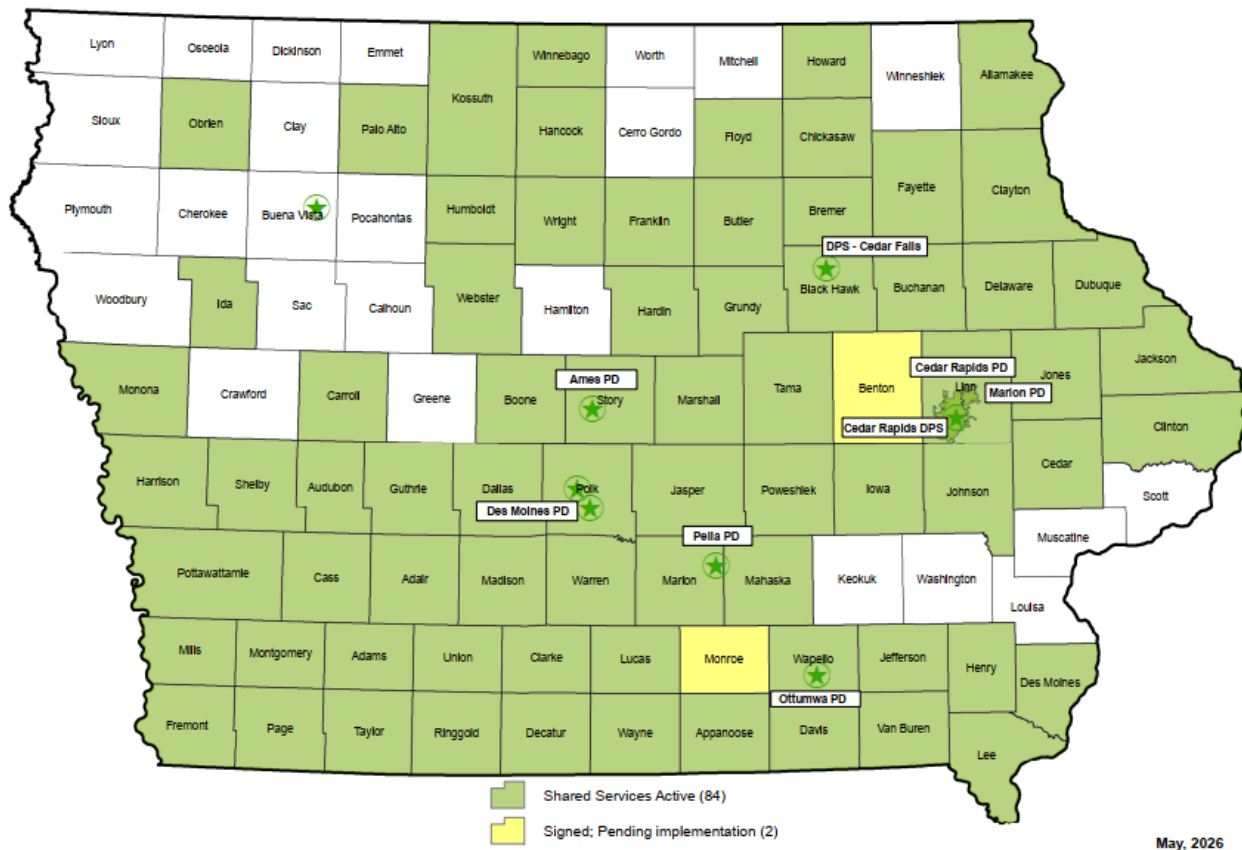
**911 Program Financial Report and Program Update.** Blake DeRouche, 911 Program Manager and State Administrator of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD), provided the Council with the following updates:

- Mr. DeRouche discussed third-quarter financials and noted that all counties remitted payment of surcharge revenue for the 911 system upgrade for the second quarter of FY 2026.
- Mr. DeRouche gave a legislative update with the end of session occurring on May 3, 2026.
- Mr. DeRouche gave an update on the West Des Moines data center moving to Raleigh, North Carolina. The last day the West Des Moines center may be in operation is June 30, 2026. Call-processing equipment (CPE) providers are updating Internet Protocol (IP) addresses.
- Mr. DeRouche gave an update on the Next Generation 911 (NG911) network transition, replacing locations that use traditional selective routers with a system based on IP to transfer Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) communications. On September 1, 2026, HSEMD will be ready to indicate phase-one readiness.
- **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 April, all 99 counties met these benchmarks with third-quarter grant payments totaling \$321,000.
- **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 Service Answering Points (PSAPs). Approximately \$11,000 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. Zetron hosted a shared services user group conference on April 22, 2026, in conjunction with the spring Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and National Emergency Number Association (NENA) conference. The virtual learning management system is available for free to all PSAPs, and there is no requirement to be on Iowa shared services. Benton County and Monroe County signed up with deployments later this year.

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

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



May, 2026

**Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) Board Update.** Haley Nichols, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), reported on several issues during the meeting:

- The Loess Hills communications exercise (COMMEX) was successful.
- The Incident Tactical Dispatcher (INTD) course approved through the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is not yet scheduled but will be conducted in Carroll County.

**Emergency Communications Coordinator Report.** Chris Maiers, Emergency Communications Coordinator of the CISA, gave an update on several topics. CI Fortify is a new nationwide initiative to help agencies enhance resilience of critical infrastructure (CI) against escalating cyber threats. Mr. Maiers further discussed regional news.

**Next Meeting.** The next Council meeting will be held on June 11, 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](mailto:nathan.moore@legis.iowa.gov)

Doc ID 1605548