



IOWA E911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting. The Iowa E911 Communications Council met on August 12 at the West Des Moines City Hall. E911 Surcharge Fund Administrator Blake DeRouchev distributed a financial report showing the status of the Surcharge Fund as of the end of FY 2015, or through the first two quarters of 2015.

PSAP Applications. Administrator Blake DeRouchev informed the Council that 41 grant applications representing \$9.1 million in funding had been received so far for FY 2016 funding. Discussion centered on whether grant funds could be spent on maintenance of equipment as there were 2 applications to fund maintenance. The Council agreed to approve maintenance applications as long as it was being used for receipt and disposition of E911 calls. All grant applications received to date were approved by the Council.

2015 Grants by County. DeRouchev also distributed a map showing the distribution of FY 2015 grants by county. There were six counties which had not submitted any grant applications: Plymouth, Monona, Ringgold, Hancock, Cerro Gordo and Franklin. Council members were urged to reach out to E911 personnel in those counties to encourage and work with them to make grant applications.

Iowa Interoperability Governance Board. Craig Allen reported that legislation had increased the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) by four members. The ISICSB is currently working on policy issues, including developing an industry standard definition for public safety grade. The ISICSB has received a technical assistance grant from the Department of Homeland Security to facilitate training sessions for NextGen 911 training. The next step is to identify who would benefit from this training and organize them.

Interoperability Workshops. Day long workshops will be held in each Homeland Security Region, the first to be held August 18th in Region 1 at the Polk County EOC. An invitation to the Council to attend any of these workshops was extended. Some of the topics which will be covered include FirstNet, necessary data collection for the FirstNet process, and scenario analysis with no radios.

Cost Study. Work has begun on a cost study of the effectiveness of the E911 surcharge. Cost saving measures is one item that will be covered.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Council will be Wednesday, September 9 at 9:00 at the West Des Moines City Hall.

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