
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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IOWA 911 COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 2017

Meeting. The Iowa 911 Communications Council met on October 12, 2017, at the West Des Moines City Hall.

911 Surcharge Fund. Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (HSEMD) Legislative Liaison John Benson reported on several items:

- Progress continues on establishing the NextGen text-to-911 program. As of today's meeting, there are 85 counties utilizing text-to-911. Governor Kim Reynolds has issued a press release announcing details of the program. The goal is to have all Iowa counties able to participate by the end of 2017.
- The request for proposal (RFP) to combine the wireline and wireless networks into a shared service has been ongoing, and the Department of Administrative Services has entered a contract with two vendors. Those vendors are the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) and Zetron. When the project is complete, there will be savings to the local governments in operating expenses. The savings on equipment will vary by Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), depending on the PSAP schedule for replacing equipment and whether the PSAP opts to use the shared system.
- The HSEMD will be proposing legislation for the 2018 Legislative Session. No changes are being proposed in funding or allocation of 911 Surcharge Funds.
- The HSEMD has been researching how to set up a "See Something, Say Something" public safety campaign and where those calls would be routed. Discussions with the Iowa law enforcement community are being held for their input, and other states' experiences are being considered.
- There are three PSAP grant requests totaling \$134,000 for Geographic Information System projects for the Council to consider for approval.

Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) Board Updates. Statewide Interoperability Coordinator Chris Maiers reported on several items:

- The Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan is complete, and the ISICS Board will be voting on it at its meeting later today.
- Coordinator Maiers is continuing the process of meeting with different counties to discuss interoperability needs.
- The Encryption Committee continues to work through encryption issues.
- It is important to increase Regional Interoperability Committee participation.

Homeland Security and Emergency Services Management Department. Office of Emergency Communications Regional Coordinator Jim Lundsted stated that October is Cybersecurity Month and reminded everyone that most malware is shared through an email or social media application.

Next Meeting. The next Council meeting will be November 9, 2017, at the West Des Moines City Hall.

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