

Vacant  
Communications Center

Curtis Woten  
EMS

Mindy Benson  
Emergency Management

Michele Bischof  
Fire Department

David Ness  
Municipal Police Department

Jeff Vandewater  
Sheriff's Office

Vacant  
Member At-Large

[Legislative Members](#)  
Senator Jesse Green  
Senator Todd E. Taylor  
Representative Phil Thompson  
Representative Ross Wilburn

Meeting Minutes  
Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board  
August 8, 2024 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**IN-PERSON LOCATION:**

Dallas County Human Services Campus  
25747 N. Ave.  
Adel, IA 50003

**GOTO MEETING LINK:**

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/231010213>

**Conference Call to Listen +1 (312) 757-3121**  
**Access Code: 231-010-213**

Meeting called to order by Chair Bischof at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting was conducted via in-person and GoTo Meeting. The GoTo Meeting conference telephone line was opened for board members and public listening and comment.

Five voting board members were present via in-person and GoTo Meeting, establishing a quorum.

**Voting Members Present In-Person:** Jeff Vandewater, Curtis Woten

**Voting Members in Attendance via GoTo Meeting and GoTo Meeting Conference Line:** Mindy Benson, Michele Bischof, David Ness

**Non-Voting in Attendance via GoTo Meeting link and GoTo Meeting Conference Line:** Administrative Assistant Hollie Davidson, SWIC Haley Nichols, Representative Ross Wilburn

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Dan Brown, Brad Button, Liam Crabbe, Rob Dehnert, Josh Duden, Marty Duffus, Luke Erpelding, Steven Gray, Travis Hitchcock, Jim Hoflen, Heath Hove, Curt Jacobsen, Jessica Klinker, Tom Lampe, Chris Maiers, Alex Mathias, Terry McClannahan, Udell Mentola, Earnest Pettit, Jacob Reineke, Patrick Updike, Curtis "Wally" Walser, Peggy Witte

**Welcoming Remarks:** Chair Bischof welcomed everyone and thanked them for being patient as the Board has been working through its restructuring. There are currently two positions that remain to be filled – Communications Center and Member-at-Large. Chair Bischof thanked Travis Solem and Patrick Updike for continuing to lead their committees until the final Board appointees are determined.

**Approval of Agenda:** There is one amendment to the agenda. Item 16b. will be withdrawn due to the person receiving the Certificate not being able to attend the meeting. David Ness motioned to approve today's agenda with the amendment. Mindy Benson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mindy Benson motioned to approve the June 2024 ISICSB Meeting Minutes. David Ness seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

**SWIC Report:** SWIC Haley Nichols reports the following:

- Story County COMMEX that was held in June 2024
  - 2 day with 14 trainees each day – some were repeat trainees – to of 20 trainees completed work on 28 Position Task Books, with 26 books fully completed
  - The event was a great success
- 2 days after the COMMEX, many of the same attendees were deployed to the actual disaster for the flooding in Spencer, Iowa
  - If you have any questions on this deployment, reach out to Luke Erpelding of Storm Lake State Radio who gave a great presentation at MTUG last month of the timeline and resources for that event that lasted over 3 weeks
- Central States COMMEX
  - September 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024
  - Joplin, MO
  - Deputy SWIC Walser will give the September SWIC report
- SCIP update very close to being finalized
- Story County Dispatch Commander Nic Briseno completed an Instructional Presentation and Evaluation Skills through Wisconsin Emergency Management Training – This is Nic's final pre-requisite towards becoming a COML Train the Trainer for the state of Iowa and will help Iowa build greater independence toward holding state-sponsored COMU offerings
- Stop by the ISICS/DPS Interop Bureau fair booth
- Attended the National APCO in Orlando, FL
- Planning continues for a tri-state communications exercise that will be held with IL/WI in 2025
  - There is a link to be put on the "I'm interested" list for that event
  - Event will consist of a tabletop in June and a functional exercise in September
  - Events will be held in Dubuque
  - Contact SWIC Nichols if you would like more information

**911 Council Report & E911 Program Manager:** No report.

**User Group Committee (UGC):** SWIC Nichols announced that Wendi Hess has stepped down from the Board, and Jeff Vandewater has recently taken on the role of the UGC Chair.

SWIC Nichols reports there are four new user applications that are up for approval today under New Business.

**Finance Report:** The monthly net expenditures for July 2024 for the Interoperable and Broadband Communications Fund were \$5,190.97. The remaining amount available is \$89,854.18.

**Governance Committee:** Governance Chair Ness reports that the Committee continues to review and update standards and policies and has forwarded a few of them to other committees for their input and feedback.

**Operations Committee:** SWIC Nichols reports the Committee met and discussed the Medical Interoperable Communications standard. The 30-day public comment period ended and two comments were received. Based on the public comments received, it was determined that additional language was needed, so the standard is being revised.

**Training & Outreach Committee:** SWIC Nichols reports that the Training & Outreach Committee met and continues to work on the whitepapers regarding Radio Basics, Affiliation and Scanning, and Patching, as well as reviewing the COMU Procedures and if any updates need to be made.

**Technology Committee:** Patrick Updike reports the Committee met and continues to work on ISICS Standard 2.4.1 – Bi-Directional Amplifiers. The goal of the standard is to have people who are using Class A and B amplifiers to register with the NOC so that a running database of these users can be built in case there are problems. The standard has now been sent to the Operations Committee for review and feedback.

**FirstNet Broadband Subcommittee:** FirstNet Subcommittee Chair Benson reports the Subcommittee has not met yet this month.

## **Other Reports:**

### Information Sharing Board Members:

David Ness expressed his appreciation for those who are no longer on the Board but continue to participate in committee work.

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### ISICS System Administrator Report:

- Numbers for July 2024:
  - Radios = 39,027 (up 394 from June 2024)
  - Talkgroups = 3,309 (up 12 from June 2024)
  - Push-to-Talks = 3,126,159 (up 76,733 from June 2024)

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FirstNet Authority (FNA) Update: FirstNet Authority Representative Tom Lampe reports the following:

- FNA has recently started offering Operational Capabilities and Coverage Workshops

- [5x5: The Public Safety Innovation Summit](#) in Chicago was successful
- FNA announced a [network investment totaling \\$8 billion over 10 years](#)
- [ROG Technology Showcase](#) on September 25, 2024

AT&T Update: AT&T Representative Tyler Richard reports that during RAGBRAI, Care Ambulance and FirstNet cache radios were used together and they were able to bridge the coverage gap between Eddyville and Ottumwa.

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CISA Update:

CISA Representative Chris Maiers presented a slide deck regarding the following:

- CISA Entity Notifications
- CISA Offers No-Cost Cybersecurity Services
- 2024 SAFECOM Grant Guidance
- Considerations for PS Cloud Adoption
- School Safety Month
- Software Assurance Guide for Government
- Connected Communities Risk Postcard Series
- Updates of Foreign Software/Hardware
- Regional News of Note

The PowerPoint presentation can be located at <https://dps.iowa.gov/media/1914/download?inline>

Contact Chris Maiers at [Christopher.Maiers@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:Christopher.Maiers@cisa.dhs.gov) with any questions.

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**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

New User Applicant Participation Plan Approval: UGC Chair Vandewater made a motion to approve the following users: CN Railroad Police – Level 2; Des Moines County Sheriff's Office (update) – Level 3; Hardin County Sheriff's Office (update) – Level 3; Moulton-Udell Community School District – Level 2. Mindy Benson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

COMU Credentials: SWIC Nichols presented COMU credentialing certificates to the following individuals:

- Liam Crabbe – COML and INTD
- Jessica Klinker – INTD
- Earnest Pettit – COMT
- Jacob Reineke – COML and INTD
- Peggy Witte – COML

**Public Comment:** None

**Motion to Adjourn:** Jeff Vandewater motioned to adjourn the meeting. Curtis Woten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes and meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

YouTube link for the August 8, 2024, ISICSB Meeting: <https://youtu.be/eTa9450IN9o>

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