

## Meeting Minutes

### Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board

October 10, 2024 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Luke Erpelding  
Communications Center

Curtis Woten  
EMS

Mindy Benson  
Emergency Management

Michele Bischof  
Fire Department

David Ness  
Municipal Police Department

Jeff Vandewater  
Sheriff's Office

Patrick Updike  
Member At-Large

Legislative Members  
Senator Jesse Green  
Senator Todd E. Taylor  
Representative Phil  
Thompson  
Representative Ross Wilburn

#### **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](tel:+13127573121)

**Access Code:** [231-010-213](tel:+13127573121)

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair Updike 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.

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

**Voting Members Present In-Person:** Luke Erpelding, Patrick Updike, Jeff Vandewater, Curtis Woten

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

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

**Absent:** Michele Bischof

**Guests:** Kayla Beckerdite, Bart Blank, Nic Briseno, Dave Brittain, Nick Brockman, Dan Brown, Brad Button, Rob Dehnert, Blake DeRouchey, Josh Duden, Steve Gray, Max Harlan, Brian Krumm, Chris Maiers, Doug McCasland, Terry McClannahan, Scott Richardson, Hannah Short, Austin Taffae, Curtis "Wally" Walser

**Welcoming Remarks:** Vice-Chair Updike welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

**Approval of Agenda:** Mindy Benson motioned to approve today's agenda. Curtis Woten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

**Approval of Minutes:** Luke Erpelding motioned to approve the September ISICSB Meeting Minutes. David Ness seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

**SWIC Report:** SWIC Nichols reports the Motorola Upgrade Operations Kick Off meetings began – contact SWIC Nichols for slides that went out.

SWIC Nichols attended the Central States COMMEX in Joplin, MO. She reports this was a great experience and would urge anyone interested to plan for the event in 2026. SWIC Nichols reports that this is the largest Communications exercise in the world – so much so that other regions and states are attending to learn how to replicate it.

Regarding the Iowa teams that attended the Central States COMMEX, there were 29 states represented and 314 individual registrants. During the closing ceremonies, only two honors were given in which Iowa were recipients of both. The Story County Team earned honors for their outstanding teamwork and dedication when they secured 1<sup>st</sup> place in the NIFOG Escape Room Challenge. On day two, they took on the more complex NCSWIC Escape Room, a task that typically takes two hours to complete. They completed the challenge 30 minutes faster than any previous team ever had.

SFC Mills of Iowa's 71<sup>st</sup> Civil Support Team was at the event working toward his COML and was acknowledged by his evaluator for exceptional innovative insight, hardwork, and dedication in a communications exercise.

Nic Briseno successfully completed the NIMS All-Hazard Communications Unit Leader Train the Trainer course. Nic traveled to Urbana, IL to obtain that certificate which will allow him to instruct COMU courses in Iowa. Congratulations to Nic and thank you to Story County for their extensive support of the COMU program.

SWIC Nichols attended her first amateur radio event hosted by Montgomery County ARES. She was able to see some high frequency demonstrations where they communicated with the states of California and Washington – earlier in the day before she arrived, the group was speaking with Switzerland and Berlin.

SWIC Nichols reports that next week is NENA and APCO and MTUG, as well as an ICS 400 course in Tama County.

SWIC Nichols encouraged stakeholders to attend their Regional Interoperability Committees (RICs).

SWIC Nichols reminded everyone to use and check StatusBoard. If there is a talkgroup discrepancy, the best practice is for dispatch to coordinate amongst themselves on the fly on the radio – explain the situation and ask or direct them to another talkgroup.

**911 Council Report & E911 Program Manager:** 911 Program Manager Blake DeRouchey informed the group about three upcoming learning opportunities:

- October 29, 2024 – GIS informational call – will include informational sharing and a question/answer session – contact Blake if interested in participating
- November 19, 2024 – PSAP Leadership Training – class is currently full, but another course will be held later in the year
- January 2025 – 988 informational webinar – more info to come later

**User Group Committee (UGC):** UGC Chair Vandewater reports the Committee met and there were no new applications to review. The Committee discussed ISICS Standard 2.8.0 – Requesting Access and Participation and ISICS Standard 5.1.0 – Hospital Access, which are both up in New Business to approve posting for 30-day public comment.

**Finance Report:** The monthly net expenditures for September 2024 for the Interoperable and Broadband Communications Fund were \$16,920.06. The remaining amount available is \$163,003.48.

**Governance Committee:** SWIC Nichols reports the Governance Committee met and reviewed Standards 2.8.0 and 5.1.0. A few unsubstantial changes were made to ISICS Standard 2.3.0 – System Login Naming Maintenance. The Committee also began reviewing ISICS Standard 7.1.0 – Standards Compliance Process.

**Operations Committee:** SWIC Nichols reports the Operations Committee met and reviewed Standards 2.8.0 and 5.1.0. The Committee also discussed ISICS Standard 2.4.1 – Bi-Directional Amplifiers.

**Training & Outreach Committee:** SWIC Nichols reports the Training Committee met and the three whitepapers – PTT Land Mobile Radio; Radio Registration, Affiliation, and Scanning; Two-Way Communication Patching – have been finalized and are ready to be posted to the website. The papers have been reviewed and revised many times and vetted by ISICSB Committees and System Administrators extensively.

**Technology Committee:** Technology Chair Updike reports the Committee met twice and reviewed ISICS Standard 3.11.0 – Talkgroup Site Access and Roaming. The standard is up for approval for 30-day public comment under New Business.

The Committee also reviewed Standards 2.8.0 and 5.1.0. Work also continues on Standard 2.4.1 – Bi-Directional Amplifiers.

**FirstNet Broadband Subcommittee:** FirstNet Subcommittee Chair Benson reports the Subcommittee met and discussed continuing to encourage users to sign up on Who's on FirstNet. AT&T representatives also gave a coverage map update.

## **Other Reports:**

### Information Sharing Board Members:

Deputy SWIC Walser reports that HSEMD is looking for COML credentialed individuals to help with the North Carolina flooding. Contact Deputy SWIC Walser or 911 Program Manager Blake DeRouchey if you would like more information.

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## ISICS System Administrator Report:

- Numbers for September 2024:
  - Radios = 39,841 (up 417 from August 2024)
  - Talkgroups = 3,411 (up 55 from August 2024)
  - Push-to-Talks = 2,943,260 (down 227,083 from August 2024)

FirstNet Authority Update: No report.

AT&T Update: AT&T Representative Bart Blank reports that all towers across Iowa will be upgraded to 5G over the next couple of years.

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## CISA Update:

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

- Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2024
- Advance Persistent Threat – Salt Typhoon
- Principles of Operational Tech Cyber Security
- Voluntary Cyber Incident Reporting
- Regional News of Note

The PowerPoint presentation can be located at  
<https://dps.iowa.gov/media/2085/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:**

Approval to Post ISICS Standard 2.8.0 – Requesting Access and Participation for 30-Day Public Comment: Jeff Vandewater made a motion to post ISICS Standard 2.8.0 – Requesting Access and Participation for 30-Day Public Comment. Curtis Woten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Approval to Post ISICS Standard 3.11.0 – Talkgroup Site Access and Roaming for 30-Day Public Comment: David Ness made a motion to post ISICS Standard 3.11.0 – Talkgroup Site Access and Roaming for 30-Day Public Comment. Curtis Woten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Approval to Post ISICS Standard 5.1.0 – Hospital Access for 30-Day Public Comment: Luke Erpelding made a motion to post ISICS Standard 5.1.0 – Hospital Access for 30-Day Public Comment. Mindy Benson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Approval to add COMT course to TA Request: Curtis Woten made a motion to add a COMT course to the TA Request. Jeff Vandewater seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

**Public Comment:** None

**Motion to Adjourn:** Curtis Woten motioned to adjourn the meeting. Luke Erpelding seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes and meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

YouTube link for the October 10, 2024, ISICSB Meeting: <https://youtu.be/kQhsY2z3x6A>