

## Meeting Minutes

### Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board

November 14, 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:+1(312)757-3121)

**Access Code:** [231-010-213](tel:+1(312)757-3121)

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.

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

**Voting Members Present In-Person:** Luke Erpelding, Curtis Woten

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

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

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Kayla Beckerdite, Bart Blank, Nic Briseno, Dave Brittain, Dan Brown, Brad Button, Dan Case, Rob Dehnert, Blake DeRouchey, Josh Duden, Dave Gordon, Steve Gray, Heath Hove, Tom Lampe, Chris Maiers, Doug McCasland, Terry McClannahan, Mark Miller, Al Paredes, Dean Pollpeter, Scott Richardson, Hannah Short, Gabe Starling, Austin Taffae, Curtis "Wally" Walser

**Welcoming Remarks:** Chair Bischof welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

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

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

**SWIC Report:** SWIC Nichols reports that the Iowa eFOG is in Beta testing for both Android and IOS cellular devices.

SWIC Nichols gave an update on iMED which has been in progress for over a year now. Quarter 4 reports were submitted at the end of October. Mobile radio orders are being placed, and the WAVE servers will be the next major step in the project. The Governance structure of the project has been put into place, and the iMED talkgroups standard should be finalized during New Business today. SWIC Nichols thanked the grant team and all individuals who have contributed to the project. She also preemptively thanked all the medical professionals, public safety workers, and others who will give the demonstration project an opportunity for success.

There has been major progress on the EMS Communication Plan through the Regional Communication Enhancement Support TA, and a final rough draft is being prepared.

A state-sponsored COMT course has been approved and is tentatively scheduled for April 2025 in Cedar Rapids. A COML course has also been approved and will be held in early 2025 on the western side of the state.

There will be an ISICS presentation at State Fire School.

ISICS Training is available and can be geared toward your agency-specific needs or requirements.

SWIC Nichols reports that she will be in Orlando next month for NCSWIC and will not be present at the December ISICSB meeting.

**911 Council Report & E911 Program Manager:** 911 Program Manager Blake DeRouchey reports the following:

- Department of Management to attend January 2025 911 Council meeting to provide a Budget 101 training
- DPS employee deployed as a Telecommunicator Emergency Response Team (TERT) member to North Carolina to assist with hurricane response

E911 Program Manager DeRouchey reports that he serves as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) coordinator. The EMAC is a state-to-state agreement recognized in Iowa Code 29c along with all states and territories as a way to share resources during a disaster. Currently there is a TERT team in Iowa, and EMAC is seeking a more formalized agreement with that team to make it easier for TERT members to deploy in the future.

**User Group Committee (UGC):** UGC Chair Vandewater reports the Committee met and RIC 1 gave an update regarding State Fair communication discussions. There was one application to review for Fayette County. The Committee unanimously voted to not recommend approval of the application.

**Finance Report:** The monthly net expenditures for October 2024 for the Interoperable and Broadband Communications Fund were \$23,742.37. The reason for the increase in expenditures was due to there being 3 pay periods in the month of October. The remaining amount available is \$139,950.91.

**Governance Committee:** Governance Committee Chair Ness reports the Committee met and continued to review standards, some of which are under New Business today.

**Operations Committee:** Operations Committee Chair Erpelding reports the Committee met and continued reviewing standards, some of which are under New Business today.

**Training & Outreach Committee:** Training and Outreach Chair Woten reports the Committee met and discussed the Communications Unit Procedure.

**Technology Committee:** Technology Chair Updike reports the Committee met twice and continued to review Standard 2.4.1 – Bi-Directional Amplifiers. A jot form has been created where users with bi-directional amplifiers can log their information (name, address, email, technical variables, GPS coordinates, etc). Within the jot form there is also a place to request a retransmission authorization document. The Committee will continue to work on this.

The Committee also discussed and made some revisions to the ICS 217A. Chair Updike hopes to be able to work with the DPS system admins to program and test some radios where two of them have encrypted county talkgroups on one channel and two other radios have just the statewide talkgroup. Chair Updike is also looking to be able to use the date as the version number whenever changes are made to the ICS 217A. The Board agreed that this is an acceptable request.

**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. Who's on FirstNet will again be featured in the next ISICSB Newsletter. During the meeting, Brad Steiner with AT&T gave a presentation regarding FirstNet Rapid Response.

## **Other Reports:**

### Information Sharing Board Members:

Chair Bischof announced that herself and Vice-Chair Updike's terms for serving as Chair and Vice-Chair are up in December. Therefore, there will be Chair and Vice-Chair nominations at the December ISICSB meeting. Chair Bischof and Vice-Chair Updike both stated that they are willing to fulfill another 2-year term in their roles should the Board so choose them to do so.

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ISICS System Administrator Report: Assistant System Administrator Scott Richardson reports the following:

- RFPs are now complete
- New local addition sites:
  - 5 Muscatine sites
  - 3 Dickinson sites
- Motorola is working to get temporary microwave dishes for the Adair South tower that needs replaced due to tornado damage
- Astro system upgrade is in progress
- Al Paredes has joined the system admin team and will be taking over Connie Stufflebeem's old position
- Numbers for October 2024:
  - Radios = 40,412 (up 571 from September 2024)
  - Talkgroups = 3,424 (up 13 from September 2024)
  - Push-to-Talks = 3,072,522 (up 192,262 from September 2024)

FirstNet Authority Update: FirstNet Authority Representative Tom Lampe reports the following:

- Coverage workshops have started – these will help determine where to use the reinvestment funds
- There was an APCO Webinar featuring the Spencer, Iowa floods
- Planning has started for the World Cup in Kansas City in a couple of years
- Tom would like to request approximately 15 min. to give a FirstNet update at any future conferences
- Registration is now open for the 5 x 5 conference in Seattle on June 3-5, 2025

AT&T Update: AT&T Representative Bart Blank reports the following:

- There was a presentation provided at the FirstNet Subcommittee meeting regarding Mission Critical Interop and Mutual Aid
- Network modernization project in progress – upgrading existing Nokia equipment to Ericson equipment
- Tower upgrades to C-band:
  - Des Moines area almost completed
  - Two in Ottumwa
  - One in Ankeny
  - One in Waterloo
  - One in Iowa County
  - One in New London

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CISA Update:

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

- Secure by Demand
- VHF Marine Channel Naming Update
- Quantum Research – Cracking Encryption
- AES-128/256 Comparison to RSA-22
- EDR Silencer
- Regional News of Note

- Kansas City TA Requests for FIFA

The PowerPoint presentation can be located at <https://dps.iowa.gov/media/2234/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 7.1.0 – Standards Compliance Process for 30-Day Public Comment: The Governance Committee is reviewing this standard. Language has been added to the standard to include some procedures in case of imminent threats to the system, major damage or disruption to the system, or minor consequences to the system.

Curtis Woten made a motion to approve posting ISICS Standard 7.1.0 – Standards Compliance Process for 30-day public comment. David Ness seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Adopt ISICS Standard 1.5.5 – Medical Interoperable Communications: Luke Erpelding made a motion to adopt ISICS Standard 1.5.5 – Medical Interoperable Communications. Curtis Woten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Adopt ISICS Standard 2.8.0 – Requesting Access and Participation: SWIC Nichols states that once this standard is adopted, ISICS Standard 2.9.0 will be removed from the standards list because it will now be combined into ISICS Standard 2.8.0.

Curtis Woten made a motion to adopt ISICS Standard 2.8.0 – Requesting Access and Participation. Mindy Benson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Adopt ISICS Standard 3.11.0 – Talkgroup Site Access and Roaming: Jeff Vandewater made a motion to adopt ISICS Standard 3.11.0 – Talkgroup Site Access and Roaming. Luke Erpelding seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Adopt ISICS Standard 5.1.0 – Hospital Access: Curtis Woten made a motion to adopt ISICS Standard 5.1.0 – Hospital Access. David Ness seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

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

- Dean Pollpeter – COMT and INTD
- Gabe Starling – COMT and INTD

Shannon Norris and Alexis Sonich were unable to attend in person but were also recognized for achieving their INTD credentials.

**Public Comment:** None

**Motion to Adjourn:** Curtis Woten motioned to adjourn the meeting. David Ness seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes and meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

YouTube link for the November 14, 2024, ISICSB Meeting:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFRlnomlcrk>