
Meeting Minutes

Luke Erpelding
Communications Center

Curtis Woten
EMS

Mindy Benson
Emergency Management

Michele Bischof
Fire Department

Michael Colby
Municipal Police Department

Jeff Vandewater
Sheriff's Office

Patrick Updike
Member At-Large

Legislative Members
Senator Jesse Green
Senator Matt Blake
Representative Mike Vondran
Representative Eric Gjerde

Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board
March 12, 2026 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Dallas County Human Services Campus
25747 N Avenue
Adel, IA 50003

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair Updike at 10:30 a.m.

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

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

Voting Members Present In-Person: Curtis Woten

Voting Members in Attendance via Microsoft Teams: Mindy Benson, Michael Colby, Patrick Updike, Jeff Vandewater

Non-Voting Present in Person: Administrative Assistant Hollie Davidson, SWIC Haley Nichols

Non-Voting Present via Microsoft Teams: None

Absent: Michele Bischof, Luke Erpelding

Guests: Dave Brittain, Brad Button, Rob Dehnert, Lesia Dickson, Josh Duden, Shari Foote, Travis Hitchcock, J Hocking, Heath Hove, Brian Krumm, Alex Mathias, Terry McClannahan, TJ Millikin, Al Paredes, Jacob Reineke, Austin Taffae, Curtis "Wally" Walser, Jason Webster

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

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

Approval of Minutes: Jeff Vandewater motioned to approve the February ISICSB Meeting Minutes. Mindy Benson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

SWIC Report: SWIC Nichols reports the following:

- March training topic is standard radio basics
- iMED – REMCDP Update:
 - Two weeks left in the performance period
 - Radio installers have been excellent in helping to ensure the work is accomplished by the deadline
- COMDEX:
 - Loess Hills Burn Cooperative
 - April 27th - May 1st
 - Registration is full for trainees, but there is room for others to participate in volunteer roles
- Iowa is approved for a CISA-sponsored INTD course – dates have not yet been determined, but Carroll County has agreed to host the event
- Hollie is trained on ADA compliance, and we are waiting for the go-ahead to be able to post documents to the website again within the next couple of months – any requests for documents you are unable to find should be directed to SWIC Nichols or Hollie
- Cyber threats for critical infrastructure heightened due to the middle east conflict
- There is an opportunity for FirstNet invitational travel to the FirstNet lab in Boulder, CO – contact Tom Lampe if interested

911 Council Report & E911 Program Manager: No report.

User Group Committee (UGC): The UGC met, and RIC 1 reported there was discussion about interoperability with the recent presidential visit.

There are four user applications up for approval under New Business.

Finance Report: The monthly net expenditures for February 2026 for the Interoperable and Broadband Communications Fund were \$15,546.92. The remaining amount available is \$44,478.73.

Governance Committee: Governance Committee Chair Colby reports the Committee met and continued discussing a working draft policy regarding Broadband PTT over LMR. The draft policy will be sent to other committees for input. The policy mostly allows potential applications to fall on devices that are approved within the home agencies.

The Committee also reviewed ISICS Standard 4.4.0 – Record Keeping Requirements. A few non-substantial nomenclature changes were made, and Version 1.1 is ready to go back on to the website.

SWIC Nichols gave a WAVE demonstration to assist in understanding the Broadband PTT over LMR policy.

Operations Committee: No report.

Training & Outreach Committee: Training Committee Chair Woten reports the Committee met and discussed the radio systems training. The Committee also started reviewing ISICS Standard 2.7.0 – Training Radio Communicators.

COMU Credentialing Subcommittee: Deputy SWIC Walser reports the Subcommittee met and reviewed two PTBs – Shari Foote from Red Oak for INTD and Alyssa Lappe from Des Moines Police Department for INTD. Both individuals have been recommended for credentialing.

Technology Committee: Technology Chair Updike reports the Committee met twice and continued discussions about the designators for the 800 MHz frequencies that will be licensed.

The Committee also reviewed ISICS Standard 2.12.2 – Security System Keys. This standard is very similar to ISICS Standard 1.1.0 – Subscriber Security, so the Committee determined to combine the two standards into standard 2.12.2 and archiving standard 1.1.0.

ISICS Standard 2.10.0 – Training Technical Staff was also discussed. This standard is similar to ISICS Standard 4.6.0 – System Maintenance: Programming and Qualifications, and these two standards will also be combined into one standard.

SWIC Nichols reports that the purpose of combining standards and archiving is to clean up the documents and make the standards easier to locate.

FirstNet Broadband Subcommittee: FirstNet Subcommittee Chair Benson reports the Committee held a standard meeting. Chair Benson also reminded FirstNet users to sign up on the Who's on FirstNet? website. The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 14th @ 9:00 am.

Other Reports:

Information Sharing Board Members: None

ISICS System Administrator Report: Assistant System Administrator Al Paredes reports the following:

- Quarterly patching was performed last week without any issues
- As a reminder, Motorola will be upgrading the software at the core locations today, which means 2 zone controller switch overs will happen – the first one at 1:00 pm and the second one at 3:00 pm. SmartConnect and WAVE are some of the services that won't be available during this maintenance window.
- ISICS Numbers for February 2026:
 - Radios = 47,570 (up 135 from January 2026)
 - Talkgroups = 3,648 (up 8 from January 2026)

- Push-to-Talks = 2,914,013 (up 31,272 from January 2026)
-

FirstNet Authority Update: FirstNet Authority (FNA) Representative Lesia Dickson reports the following:

- Push-to-talk over LTE interest is ramping up across the country
 - FirstNet Fusion, a new push-to-talk technology, will be available later in the year
 - HPUE usage has significantly increased
 - FirstNet has expanded band-14 throughout the country
 - Satellite to device program will be available in early 2027
 - Coverage workshops will begin again before the end of the year
 - Contact Tom Lampe if interested in invitational travel to the FirstNet Lab in Boulder, CO
-

AT&T Update: No report.

CISA Update: No report.

Old Business: None

New Business:

New User Applicant Participation Plan Approval: Jeff Vandewater made a motion to approve the following user applications: Care Ambulance (update) – Level 2, Children’s Nebraska – Level 1, IRS-Criminal Investigation (update) – Level 2, and Pottawattamie County 911 (update) – Level 4. Michael Colby seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

INTD Credential – Shari Foote: SWIC Nichols presented an INTD credentialing certificate to Shari Foote.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Adjourn: Mindy Benson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Michael Colby seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes and meeting adjourned at 10:59 am.

YouTube link for the March 12, 2026, ISICSB Meeting: <https://youtu.be/uIdl69oBQsQ>