
Meeting Minutes

Luke Erpelding
Communications Center

Curtis Woten
EMS

Vacant
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
June 11, 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 Chair Bischof 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.

Six 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: Michele Bischof, Michael Colby, Luke Erpelding, Patrick Updike, Jeff Vandewater

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

Non-Voting Present via Microsoft Teams: None

Absent: None

Guests: Brenda Amber, Nic Briseno, Dave Brittain, Chase Clark, Ronald Clark, Michael Clyde, Blake DeRouchey, Josh Duden, Zach Engstrom, Dave Gordon, Heath Hove, Paul Klein, Brian Krumm, Tom Lampe, Chris Maiers, Christopher Martin, Terry McClannahan, TJ Millikin, Danielle Morshead, Al Paredes, Scott Richardson, Hannah Short, Jessica Sinning, Jeff Swisher, Curtis "Wally" Walser

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

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

Approval of Minutes: Curtis Woten motioned to approve the May ISICSB Meeting Minutes. Luke Erpelding seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

SWIC Report: SWIC Nichols reports the following:

- Monthly RIC training will be regarding GETS/WPS – Government Emergency Telephone Service/Wireless Priority Service
- Attended the after-action review for Cooperative Burn Week
 - Overwhelmingly positive response from the fire partners who would like to continue this collaboration
 - Event gives Iowa opportunities to meet SCIP goals for professional level training for those with experience and gives the opportunity for participants to get Position Task Books (PTBs) signed off
- ISICS committees continue to review standards
 - Currently reviewing standard related to cross-spectrum interoperability and how this might tie into the draft Broadband PTT policy
 - 7 standards are currently up for 60-day public comment (currently 34-days left in the comment period)
 - Public comment page has been updated to the statewide public comment page and is very user friendly
- iMED – REMCDP update:
 - Region 1 ambulances have the talkgroups
 - Working on deployment of WAVE application in hospitals
 - Period of performance ends 9/28/2026
- Still waiting to scope the TA request for INTD – Carroll County has agreed to host, but dates have not yet been determined
- Working to plan a COML course utilizing state instructors
- Central States COMMEX will be in Hot Springs, AR – state of Iowa was represented in 2024 and was a great opportunity and experience

911 Council Report & E911 Program Manager: E911 Program Manager Blake DeRouchey reports the following items were discussed at the 911 Council meeting:

- If interested, the meeting can be watched on the 911 Council YouTube page
- Reviewed technical upgrades
- NENA Center Training Officer course approved for Jasper County
- Approved 12-month renewal of the online learning management system
- Text to 911 transfers – contact Blake for more information

User Group Committee (UGC): UGC Chair Vandewater reports there is one new user application up for approval under New Business.

Finance Report: Chair Bischof reports the Finance Committee met and reviewed financials for both April and May. Chair Bischof states that the Board has not yet received its payment from the DOT that helps fund staff salaries, which explains why there are reduced

expenditures for the month of May. The salaries are being coded somewhere else in the budget until the funds are received from the DOT.

The monthly net expenditures for May 2026 for the Interoperable and Broadband Communications Fund were \$6,944.37. The remaining amount available is \$1,612.08.

Governance Committee: Governance Committee Chair Colby reports the Committee met and Vice-Chair Button led the meeting. The group discussed possibly combining Standard 1.10.0 – Cross Spectrum Interoperability with the draft policy for broadband PTT. The standard was sent to the Technology Committee for review.

Operations Committee: SWIC Nichols reports the Committee met and reviewed Standard 2.4.0 – Operational Management. Minor changes were made and a specified timeline was added to report any subsystem admin contact changes/personnel changes to the system admins within 24 hours. This standard also indicates the System Administrator will be responsible for periodically meeting with subsystem administrators who are level 3 and level 4 users. The meetings will be a time to review operations of the system and share ideas or issues with their respective subsystems that may be of interest to the other System Administrators. SWIC Nichols and Hollie will work to coordinate an initial in-person meeting with a virtual option sometime in the fall.

Training & Outreach Committee: Training and Outreach Committee Chair Woten reports the Committee met and discussed Standard 2.7.0 – Training Public Safety Telecommunicators. Minor changes were made to the standard, and it is ready to go back on the website. The Committee also discussed the next monthly training topic, which is GETS/WPS.

COMU Credentialing Subcommittee: Deputy SWIC Walser reports the subcommittee met and approved 6 Position Task Books:

- Ronald Clark with Polk County Sheriff's Office – INTD
- Brenda Amber with Des Moines Police Department – INTD, COML
- Jessica Sinning with DPS – COML
- Danielle Morshead with Polk County Sheriff's Office – INTD
- Christopher Martin with DPS - COML

Technology Committee: Technology Chair Updike reports the Committee met twice and reviewed the following standards:

- 3.10.0 – Talkgroup and Radio User Priority – no significant changes and will go back in the pool
- 4.1.0 – Outage Responsibility – no significant changes and will go back in the pool
- 4.7.0 – Equipment Configuration Information – no significant changes and will go back in the pool
- 1.10.0 – Cross Spectrum Interoperability – discussed combining with the draft policy for broadband PTT; would like to add wording that non-ISICS users will be required to go through the User Group Committee approval process to cross-connect devices into ISICS

FirstNet Broadband Subcommittee: SWIC Nichols reports the subcommittee met and discussed following:

- Coverage workshop on 8/11 in person at DPS and virtual option; however, some of the maps that will be shown in the room will not be shared virtually
- New FirstNet Representative Cara O'Donnell attended the meeting online
- Next month's meeting will include a discussion regarding how the coverage survey tool works and a discussion regarding the difference in the way the cell networks route calls vs. the way an LMR network works
- HPUE discussion
- Discussion regarding concerns about subscriber paid pricing vs. agency paid pricing – subcommittee requested the topic be taken up to AT&T to advocate for FirstNet users

Other Reports:

Information Sharing Board Members: Chair Bischof gave an update regarding the waiver request received from the Oelwein Police Department. After many discussions it has been decided that the request for waiver did not meet the requirements, and it will not be coming to the Board for consideration. SWIC Nichols and others continue to work with Fayette County and Oelwein PD to improve their communications issues. Chair Bischof is happy to answer any questions anyone might have regarding this.

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

- ISICS quarterly core security patching was completed on June 2nd with a minor delay on the zone 2 rollback due to software upgrade time for that zone (30-minute delay due to upgrade timing)
 - Juniper router upgrades are ongoing at tower sites
 - Annual RF preventative maintenance has begun
 - DPS has contracted with LumenServ to replace tower lighting on 11 DPS legacy tower sites – lighting systems upgraded to modern LED lighting
 - ISICS Numbers for May 2026:
 - Radios = 48,910 (up 694 from April 2026)
 - Talkgroups = 3,655 (up 5 from April 2026)
 - Push-to-Talks = 3,423,989 (up 378,611 from April 2026)
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FirstNet Authority Update: FirstNet Authority (FNA) Representative Tom Lampe reports the following:

- The coverage workshop planned for August will provide an update on the progress of Iowa's coverage submissions from the previous workshop.
 - The survey for coverage recommendations is still active at <https://arcg.is/0LGK0q>
 - Coverage workshops will occur yearly
 - Attending FIFA World Cup in Kansas City
 - FirstNet truck will be present at RAGBRAI, Farm Progress Show, Iowa State Fair
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AT&T Update: No report.

CISA Update: CISA Representative Chris Maiers presented the following slide deck:

CISA | CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR REPORT JUNE 2026



Chris Maiers
June 11, 2026

1

Programmable Logic Controller Exploits

What is happening?:

- Iran-affiliated advanced persistent threat (APT) actors are conducting exploitation activity targeting internet-facing OT devices (e.g. programmable logic controllers (PLCs)).

Why is this important?:

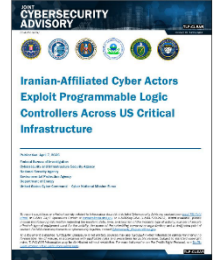
- Live data can be manipulated.
- This can cause disruptions and losses.

What can I do?:

- Limit internet connections for PLCs & update firmware/software.
- Use cyber security best practices (e.g. MFA, port blocking, etc.).
- Limit the modifications that can be made (e.g. physical switch).
- Understand what normal traffic looks like on those OT networks.
- Verify logs and configurations with known actions and changes.



Cyber Advisory: <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/cybersecurity-advisories/aa26-097a>



Chris Maiers
June 11, 2026

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Hardening Automatic Tank Gauge Systems

What is happening?:

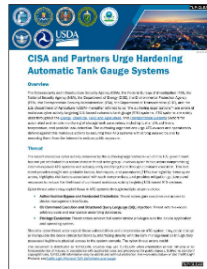
- Malicious cyber activity targeting U.S.-based automatic tank gauge (ATG) systems is occurring.

Why is this important:

- ATGs have a wide assortment of uses:
 - Automated and remote monitoring of storage tank parameters for fuel and liquid levels, temperature, and possible leak detection.
- Threat actors could alter data and disable system alerts.

Mitigation Steps:

- Limit or eliminate internet exposure.
- Apply patches and enforce online credential security
- Monitor log-in attempts
- Coordinate with service providers.



Fact Sheet: <https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/cisa-and-partners-urge-hardening-automatic-tank-gauge-systems>

Chris Maiers
June 11, 2026

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Swatting and Fraudulent Calls for Admins

What is happening?:

- Malicious actors conduct criminal acts that can disrupt emergency communications and threaten public safety.
- Address spoofing, Robocalls & Swatting
- Denial of Service (DoS) and Distributed DoS (DDoS) attacks
- Other methods of reporting fake emergencies

Mitigation Steps Outlined in Document:

- STIR/SHAKEN protocols
- Voice Biometrics
- Caller Authentication tools
- Best practices to engage service providers, train public safety telecommunicators, and stay informed on federal and state guidance for call authentication and swatting prevention.



Fact Sheet: https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/Intro_to_Swatting_and_Fraudulent_Calls_for_ECCs_508.pdf



Chris Maiers
June 11, 2026

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Regional News of Note

FIFA World Cup 2026 has begun.

- Matches and base camps in Kansas City
- Base camp in Lawrence (KS)
- Several matches in Kansas City.

Technical Assistance News:

- Illinois
 - SCIP refresh on-going.
- Iowa
 - Requests being assessed.
- Missouri
 - Central States COMEX – Sept 22-25 (Hot Springs, AR)
- Kansas
 - Governance document for Interoperability Advisory Committee
- Nebraska
 - NSTR



Chris Maiers
June 11, 2026

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For more information:

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Chris Maiers
June 11, 2026

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Old Business: Link to the new public comment page – <https://comment.iowa.gov>

New Business:

New User Applicant Participation Plan Approval: Jeff Vandewater made a motion to approve the following new user application: Midland Community School District – Level 2. Curtis Woten seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

COMU Credentials: SWIC Nichols presented COMU credentialing certificates to the following individuals – Brenda Amber (COML, INTD), Ronald Clark (INTD), Christopher Martin (COML), Danielle Morshead (INTD), and Jessica Sinning (COML).

Public Comment: None

Motion to Adjourn: Michael Colby motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Vandewater seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes and the meeting adjourned at 11:09 am.

YouTube link for the June 11, 2026, ISICSB Meeting: <https://youtu.be/fDpwIzBpA9c>