

# ISICSB Newsletter

January / February 2024

 <p><b>HAPPENINGS</b></p> <p>View calendar <a href="#">HERE</a></p>	
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### New Approved ISICS Users

- ◆ Allen Memorial Hospital—Level 2
- ◆ Benton County 911 (update)—Level 2
- ◆ Cass County Sheriff's Office (NE)—Level 1
  - ◆ Gundersen Air—Level 1
- ◆ L & O Power Cooperative—Level 2
- ◆ Unity Point Health (Marshalltown)—Level 2

### ISICS System Administrator Report (December 2023)

**Radios** = 35,873 (up 318 from November 2023)  
**Talkgroups** = 3,230 (up 16 from November 2023)  
**Push-to-Talks** = 2,600,843 (down 107,988 from November 2023)

### ISICS System Administrator Report (January 2024)

**Radios** = 36,255 (up 382 from December 2023)  
**Talkgroups** 3,235= (up 5 from December 2023)  
**Push-to-Talks** = 3,202,097 (up 601,254 from December 2023)

### New Resources

- ⇒ Three informational flyers regarding the Rural Emergency Medical Communications Demonstration Project (REMCDDP) are now available:
  - ◆ [Be Prepared When Communication Matters Most](#)
  - ◆ [Clear Communication Saves Lives](#)
  - ◆ [Clear Communication Means Rapid Response](#)
- ⇒ The 2023 ISICSB Report to the Legislature was submitted in January and is available [HERE](#)
- ⇒ A new StatusBoard End User Training is available [HERE](#)
- ⇒ A new Radio Basics Training course is available [HERE](#)

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ⇒ The January 2024 FirstNet Newsletter is available [HERE](#)
- ⇒ The February 2024 FirstNet Newsletter is available [HERE](#)
- ⇒ Click [HERE](#) to see the January 2024 CISA Report
- ⇒ Click [HERE](#) to see the February 2024 CISA Report

### Note From the SWIC


Through tragedy and chaos, public safety professionals exemplify character traits that the rest of the world covets. Some of these traits include courage, strength, and resiliency. Iowa has built a system of communications that allows for interoperable communications, redundancy, and resiliency. When that system has been tested and people utilize that system, they persevere.

The School Safety Radio Program in Iowa allowed for the possibility of emergency radios within Iowa's schools. We have learned the importance of activating these radios and the mass response that can be accomplished. We have also seen the value in an interoperable radio system for an event that garners response from numerous counties and disciplines. We have witnessed the capabilities of ISICS for interoperable communications needs. Building inter-discipline relationships, having ongoing and frequent discussions, and providing frequent training with other disciplines (to include equipment, response, and operations) leads to more successful outcomes. I encourage you to continue working to build those relationships in your regions in order to bridge the communications gaps and create interoperability.

The ISICSB is tasked with the governance of our Statewide Interoperable Communications System. The continued dedicated work and effort by the 19 ISICSB members to harden that system cannot be understated. In February, the Board committees gathered for a productive workshop for the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP). The turnout and valuable discussions helped create the roadmap for the Board for the next 1-3 years. The Board committees are also diligently at work in 2024 with numerous projects, including reviewing all current Standards and Policies. The collaboration and products from these groups are the necessary layers for the success of the system.

The REMCDP grant project is well underway, with a continued effort to enhance rural emergency medical communications in Iowa's Region 1. Currently, the project is in Phase I, and the team is meeting with hospitals and EMS to determine their communication abilities and needs moving forward. More information can be found on the ISICSB website.

I invite you to join the RIC meeting for your region or an ISICSB Committee meeting to become involved in Iowa's Statewide Interoperable Communications System for public safety and public service – we look forward to having you there!

 **Respectfully,**  
Haley Nichols, SWIC

## STR Deployment



In January, the West STR was deployed to Dickinson County for Winterfest. Regional Communications Manager Luke Erpelding reported that the deployment went well, and the generator ran for 93 hours and used just shy of 1/2 tank of fuel. Arrangements are being made to get the generator serviced due to its regular schedule.

The West STR was also deployed to Woodbury County while maintenance was performed.

**“Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you.”**

*~ Princess Diana*

## ISICSB Contacts

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## FirstNet Authority Emergency Management Cohort



Join the FirstNet Authority's second Emergency Management Cohort! Building on the success of the 2023 inaugural Cohort, this is a working group of Emergency Managers from across the country who are dedicated to improving the FirstNet experience by sharing their feedback, questions, and real-world use of the network. [MORE INFO](#)

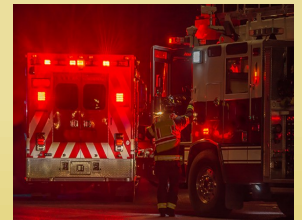
## New FirstNet Sites

One new 4G LTE cell site have launched; includes Band 14 for first responders:

- SW Iowa in Red Oak near 1993-5th St.

## FirstNet Authority, AT&T Announce 10-year Investment to Transform America's Public Safety Broadband Network

SPRINGFIELD, Va. – The FirstNet® Authority and its network partner, AT&T are announcing a major investment in the future of public safety communications. The FirstNet Authority's 10-year, \$8 billion investment initiative will evolve and expand FirstNet® — America's public safety network. [READ MORE](#)



## To Join ISICS

For more info about joining ISICS click [HERE](#)

To start the process to JOIN ISICS click [HERE](#)

If you need assistance or have questions regarding the ISICS joining process, please contact SWIC Haley Nichols @ [nichols@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:nichols@dps.state.ia.us)

## ISICSB Mission Statement

*In accordance with the code of Iowa and established rules, develop and provide standardized interoperable public safety communications through existing governance structures to enhance and achieve the highest level of interoperable emergency communications statewide.*

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**ISICSB Website**



**Interop Website**