

**Iowa E911 Communications Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
Prairie Meadows Casino Hotel-Polk County Room
Altoona, Iowa**

Call to Order

Chair Ray called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. A quorum was determined from the roll call as indicated below.

Roll Call

	Representative	Attendance
Iowa Association of Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO) Secretary	Sally Hall	Present
alternate	Cara Sorrells	
Iowa Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA)	Rob Koppert	Present
alternate	Kirk Hundertmark	
Iowa State Sheriffs & Deputies Association (ISSDA)	Robert Rotter	Present
alternate	Dean Kruger	
Iowa Peace Officers Association (IPO)	George Griffith	Present
alternate	Sandy Morris	Present
Iowa Professional Firefighters (IAPFF)	Mike S. Bryant	Present
alternate	Doug Neys	
Iowa Firefighters Association (IFA)	Mark Murphy	Excused
alternate	Tom Berger	
Iowa Emergency Managers Association (IEMA) Vice-Chairperson	Bob Seivert	Present
alternate	Jo Duckworth	
Iowa Department of Public Safety (IDPS) Chairperson	Steven P. Ray	Present
alternate	Adam Buck	
Iowa Emergency Medical Services Association (IEMSA)	Rob Dehnert	Present
alternate	Paul Andorf	
Iowa Telephone Association <15,000	Jack DeAngelo	Present
alternate	Pat Snyder	
Iowa Telephone Association >15,000	Dan Halterman	Excused
alternate	Wayne Johnson	Present
Cellular Providers	Steve Zimmer	Absent
alternate	Bill Tortoriello	Excused
PCS Providers	David Kaus	Excused
alternate	Joe Sargent	
Auditor of the State, Ex-Officio member	Warren Jenkins	Absent

Staff:

Blake DeRouchey, E-911 Program Manager	Present
Samantha Brear, E911 Program Planner	Present

Guests:

Craig Allen, ISICSB SWIC	Martha Dykstra, Marion County Sheriff's Office
Doug McCauland, Warren County E911	Mark Van Hooser, Buena Vista County E911
Larry Hurst, Mills County Homeland Sec. & EMA/E911	Sandy Hoyt, Buena Vista County E911
Norman Wellman, Delaware County E911	Mike Corkery, Delaware County E911
Amanda Roush, Story County E911	Dennis Denton, Adair County E911
Diane Sefrit, SCI	Marsha Southwick, O'Brien County Sheriff's Ofc
Stacen Gross, GeoComm	Rick Penning, Grundy County Sheriff
JC Cunningham, CenturyLink	Greg Brooks, West Safety Services
Crystal Koehn, CenturyLink	Dave Skou, Cherokee County E911
Ken Rasing, Chickasaw County E911	Linda Draughn-Woloski, NENA
Tim Mallot, Cedar County EMA/E911	Paula S. Harris, Worth county
Marilyn Stayner, Worth County	Dallas Chargo, Carroll County
Jason Hoffman, Carroll County	Pam Freshwater, Monroe County
Duane Vos, Racom	

Introductions

Chair Ray welcomed everyone. Board members and those in attendance introduced themselves.

Approve the Minutes

Motion by Rob Dehnert, seconded George Griffith to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2016, meeting. All ayes. Motion passed.

Approve the Agenda

Motion by Bob Seivert, seconded by Rob Koppert to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion passed.

State of Iowa Administrator Reports (Blake DeRouchey)

Program Update/NexGen 911 Update

Mr. DeRouchey reported there has been a personnel change. Randy Goddard has taken a position at ICN.

This being National Telecommunicator Week and 9-1-1 Education Month we have done some public service announcements with some sample 911 calls with a message of “Dos and Do Nots” when calling 9-1-1. Thank you to those that helped with those sample calls.

MSRP (Message Session Relay Protocol) is the text protocol for text-to-911. That is now available through the wireless network. Cedar County is the first to be scheduled for the end of this month to accept text-to-911 through their call-taking system. To the vendors and the PSAPs make sure you continue to talk. As soon as you're ready to do that, all we need is a change management form to get you scheduled and that is about a ten day period once we receive that.

Another update regarding the connectivity challenges that we have seen with the Vipers on our wireless network. For the last month and a half we have had weekly phone calls to try and hammer out some of the connectivity challenges. Specifically in the scenarios of redundant/secondary ESInet in those thirteen PSAPs. Also a host/remote scenario and in the future the MSRP scenario. Those conversations have been very technical and I think we had a break through this week and late last week. Hopefully, West has the schematics from TCS that they needed to make that connectivity work. Hopefully in a couple of weeks we will be able to move forward with those upgrades. I know those have been on hold for a while. It has been our top priority. Again hopefully in the next couple of weeks we will have a solid resolution so we can move forward. Thank you to everyone that has been on those calls. Racom, CenturyLink, West and TCS. We appreciate your assistance.

Statewide Imagery – Surdex was the awardee of the statewide imagery contract for \$1.3 million. They have five years to get an adequate statewide imagery dataset. They are flying right now and are 40 percent done with the state. If that data would be wrong, incorrect, blurry, etc. they have five years to get us a statewide dataset. The resolution will be 12 inches. The vendor will keep going as long as possible this year and the remainder of the state will be done next year. From the map that I have seen they have captured a lot of the eastern and northern part of the state so far.

The quarter is done on the twentieth of the month so no financial update. One thing that you will start to see in the future, we have entered the maintenance phase with GeoComm. So you will start to see some of those maintenance payments to GeoComm on the quarterly reports. I will send the financial report out to the council when completed so we don't have to wait until the May meeting.

GIS – The second round of GIS assessments should be coming back to locals shortly. We had a meeting with the GeoComm team today to see where we are on that. We saw a vast improvement in the data.

John Benson, our legislative liaison, set me this note. Tomorrow at 9 a.m. the Senate is having a subcommittee hearing on HF2439 which is the 9-1-1 bill that we all have been tracking the last couple of months.

Mr. DeRouchey – If you want to know more on 9-1-1 at the state level, I will be doing a presentation tomorrow during the NENA Conference at 1:15 p.m. with L.R. Kimball. It will cover the state of 9-1-1 within Iowa and the PSAP expenditure report that came out.

Mr. Koppert – On the MSRP for the wireless, has that been tested with the CPE vendors?

Mr. DeRouchev – In the lab it has.

Mr. Koppert – Is there a list of who has and who hasn't?

Mr. DeRouchev – Yes. Those tested are EmergiTech, West, Viper, Emergency CallWorks, Solocom, Microdata and Zetron.

Mr. Dehnert – Tim, what do you have there?

Mr. Mallot – Emergency CallWorks. We will be moving to version 4.0 Emergency CallWorks.

Wireless Carryover Fund PSAP Application Approvals.

Adair County - Radio communication upgrade of base radio, installing repeaters, upgrading UPS and new dispatch chairs. Grant request of \$90,755.

Clarke County - Hatteras equipment installed on T1 line to 9-1-1 server, backup phone receivers, UPS backup power for 9-1-1 consoles, move logging recorder and hookup VoIP cables, monitors, keyboards w/ mouse, phone cords, seating devices, microphone filters, backup batteries, generator, NAS unit, external drives, installation to increase memory to handle resolution change on Pictometry at Clarke County PSAP. Grant request of \$73,288.43.

Clay County - Upgrade of GIS mapping, wireless communications link from PSAP to main tower at the Spencer Fire Station and three dispatch chairs. Grant request of \$92,886.72.

Greene County - Upgrading of automatic switching for backup generator. Grant request of \$28,162.

Grundy County - Purchase of mobile radios to transition from EDACS to P25 trunked technology. Grant request of \$100,000.

Lee County - Monitors and monitor racking system, laptop and interface server. Grant request of \$20,462.53.

Linn County (Cedar Rapids Joint Communication Agency) - Radio upgrades and equipment purchases for P25 radio system for the receipt and disposition of 9-1-1 calls. Grant request of \$100,000.

Lyon County - Replace of Fire/EMS repeater and replace firewall software. Grant request of \$27,917.

Lyon County GIS - Three years of GIS data maintenance, GIS support services and E-911 System Consultant Retainer Services with GeoComm. Grant request of \$13,071.

Taylor County - TAC 10 call taking software and maintenance on the software, install repeaters to enhance the radio signal between the officer and the control center and four chairs. Grant request of \$92,890.46.

Washington County - Replacement of 9-1-1 equipment at the second 9-1-1 position. Grant request of \$9,947.47.

Motion by Rob Koppert, seconded by Rob Dehnert to recommend for approval all of the above applications. All ayes. Motion passed.

Polk County GIS (Des Moines PD) joint application for all three PSAPs – Hiring of RelyDB to provide GIS data quality assurance and make the data validation report easily accessible to all entities. Grant request of \$23,000.

Motion by Rob Koppert, seconded by Wayne Johnson to recommend for approval the Polk County GIS application. All ayes except Rob Dehnert abstained. Motion passed.

Cass County - Three dispatch chairs. Grant request of \$5,345.

Motion by Rob Dehnert, seconded by Rob Rotter to recommend for approval the Cass County grant application. All ayes except Rob Koppert abstained. Motion passed.

Will remove from future agendas Item V. D. PSAP Expenditure Report to the Iowa Legislature.

Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees

Technical Advisory – open comments of interest from our technical/telecommunication partners

None

Legislative Updates – Vice Chair Bob Seivert

Mr. Seivert – I think everyone is aware that there is some activity going on with the 9-1-1 legislation. It was passed by the House. Rep. Worthan.... It was passed unanimously. It goes on to the Senate. Senator Danielson's bill, however, was different than what Rep. Worthan's bill is. So between the two chambers they need to come to a compromise. We're just kind of naming it the Worthan/Danielson bill. They have been talking and from my understanding, the lobbyist explanation, we're at a couple of places. The initial statements that were made last year that they were going to take \$4.3 million from the 9-1-1 surcharge to pay for the 700 MHz system and that would be it. Well evidently this year they are looking at doing it again and the reason is initially they were looking at taking it out of the RIIF fund or the ending balance. Both of those funds have plenty of money but the House and Senate had other priorities for that money. At this point in time they are looking again at the wireless surcharge to get another \$4.3 million to make that payment. The tradeoff is the language that exists within the Worthan/Danielson bill will do the following: and this is my understanding from the lobbyists, what comes out on paper tomorrow may be a little different. The PSAPs will end up with their 60 percent. There will be an incentive for consolidation and today they were talking about \$100,000 per PSAP if you consolidate. John Benson...there has been some discussion about that \$3.5 million he needs for disaster recovery. The conversation has gone along both lines. Most state agencies when they have a huge loss, the state is obviously self-insured, they go to an executive council group called the Executive Committee and they accommodate that. John would like to see that \$3.5 million come out of the 911 surcharge and that would be just a pot of money that stays there. If our switches blow up that's what he would use to replace it without having to go through a whole lot of complicated committees to get there. And we both know how much we need to get things fixed quickly. That is equated to a percent and I believe that is 12 percent. So if you see it as a percent, whatever percent it is equals \$3.5 million. And the newest one that we are hearing is there is an accommodation for funding from the grant for the 700 MHz system. That is absolutely new. It is not anything that we have had discussions on. We have no idea what the language will be. We are a little confused on how they would structure that and just exactly what it would involve because the language that we offered, and that was in the Worthan bill, actually says that wireless grant money can be used to connect to the 700 MHz system or for those costs to build into that system. So that might be a little redundant. Probably the most significant part of the language is the fact that at the end of the year, whatever balance is left in that wireless account will be distributed equally among the PSAPs. So that in affect eliminates the carryover from being picked by the Governor or the Legislature. So there is some benefit to seeing this passed. Most of us, myself included, when we look at the promises that were made last year and the thought that they are going to take another \$4.3 million away from the wireless fund for the 700 MHz system. If you're in the same boat I am, my knee jerk reaction is not only no but NO. The other side of that coin is a lot of our legislators put a lot of work into these bills. It has been time consuming. They have been trying to accommodate everybody's needs. They feel they are between a rock and a hard place. One of the ladies that participated in the committees, one of our Representatives, had made the statement that if this doesn't go through, in other words if we put up a fight, that we can probably kill it. But then everything goes and we will start all over again next year. And keep in mind if everything goes in the Worthan/Danielson bill, they can still take \$4.3 million out of the ending balance of the wireless surcharge. Just by a line item on the Governor's budget. Just like they did last year. So we would not only lose our bill and the end of the capability of people taking it but we probably would lose \$4.3 million too. So when this bill comes out, APCO and NENA will get the bill...I guess our plan is to assess it and then get our opinion out to everybody else. Where we sit on it. Whether we think it is good/bad and what to do about it. So pending that bill being in our hands, we are all just pretty much in a holding pattern.

Mr. Hoffman – You mentioned that the balance would be sent to the PSAPs at the end of the fiscal year. I heard lobbyist today say that would be at the end of each quarter.

Mr. Seivert – I'm pretty sure it's at the end of each year.

Mr. Brooks – That \$100,000 that is available for those that would consider consolidation, did they define consolidation?

Mr. Seivert – There has been some language...my understanding is the consolidation would actually be...we have two PSAPs they are going to consolidate now there is one. Whether that is just technologically or actually physically and probably both. This is how it has been explained. It will obviously be defined in the administrative rules when that gets passed.

Mr. Koppert – Mr. Chair if I could add to that report. I did meet with Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal this week. He held a legislative coffee in Carter Lake which is around Omaha. Myself and Bob Peterson from Pottawattamie County 9-1-1 were there and we were the only ones there. So we had the Senator's complete attention for almost an hour. Once we introduced ourselves, he said I bet I know what you want to talk about. He is the Democratic majority leader so he doesn't side with the governor a lot of times or what the House is doing. We brought our concerns to him about the \$4.3 million and from what he related it did sound like it was pretty much of a done deal. There is not probably much that we are going to be able to do to stop it this year. Just no funding available to use from somewhere else. They got their budget estimates back in March and it showed there was very little extra funding leftover. He did however give a couple of assurances that I thought was rather nice and whether or not it actually happens remains to be seen but he did say whatever bills that go to the governor he wants assurances from the governor's staff and from the governor before they even send the bills to the Governor's Office that the governor will sign them otherwise, he not going to let anything go through the Senate. He does want the governor to sign the appropriate bills. He understands about the Worthan/Danielson bill will be coming out tomorrow. He also expressed his concerns of what happened last year. He felt we got a very raw deal. He wanted to express his support for 9-1-1. It was a good conversation and I think we...he did mention that he heard us last year and he has heard us this year. We expressed to him that if this continues to happen you are going to hear from us a little bit more. The public hasn't been notified of anything and press releases haven't gone out about that. People are obviously concerned of where their surcharge money is going and yes the State Patrol needs the system but it doesn't need to be funded the way it is and he agreed and pretty much blamed the executive branch for the issues that we have and offered his support in whatever he could do.

Mr. Bryant – Did the consolidation incentive go down from \$200,000 to \$100,000? Originally it was \$200,000.

Mr. Seivert – We met with our lobbyist this noon and his number was \$100,000 per PSAP in the consolidation.

Mr. Bryant – Blake, I know we have a bunch of unobligated in the carryover fund. Most of the PSAPs are getting the \$100,000 grant this year. There is going to be something left in there come June 30. Ballpark number.

Mr. DeRouchey – Our initial estimates from a couple of months ago are there would be approximately \$8.8 million left in the carryover.

Mr. Bryant – I haven't seen flowcharts/number charts rolling over into.... Is this like most bills that it takes effect July 1? Does this mean that there is no grant process at all next year and then come June 30 whatever accumulates plus this \$8.8 million is added in and divided by 113 PSAPs? I haven't heard anything about this. To me there is some kind of gray area between when this new formula starts and what I'm going to call new money for the lack of better terms, to we still haven't figured out what we are doing to do with the "golden goose's nest" that's sitting here.

Mr. Seivert – The last wording that I had seen was it was stated as amount of money in the wireless fund at the end of the year shall be, there was no may, divided equally among the PSAPs. That's the wording that was there. So ahead of that before you get to that ending balance you have Mr. Benson's \$3.5 million, and you have the other obligations that we have seen before on our financial reports. Blake can speak to that. We have the GIS and upgrading of some of our PSAPs yet. So that comes ahead of what that ending balance is. That's what was written in Worthan's bill.

Mr. Bryant – But no one is telling me what is going to happen to the \$9 million that is sitting there today. Because this is going to be there June 30 of this year. I'm assuming this law takes effect July 1 if it passes. So does that mean that there is a grant program for one more year for 113 PSAPs? Divide that into \$9 million. So we have this option for a grant next year. Nobody is explaining to me. I can't get

anybody to give me an answer. We still have \$9 million. If we leave \$9 million, I can tell you what will happen to it. There is no "shall" on June 30. I'm calling it the gray area.

Mr. DeRouchey – It changes day by day and hour by hour. There are enough amendments and revisions of amendments out there. Everything that I have seen though is that \$9 million is still part of the carryover that if what you are talking about would pass that, that is the part that would rollover and is now available to for equal distribution to the PSAPs. Now again that changes by the day.

Mr. Bryant – My fear is that though there is some smaller dab of money because the formula is going to go up that's going to be added to this money potentially assuming no disasters. So a little bit of money gets added to it. So we're talking next legislative session and we're sitting here with \$9 or \$10 million.

Mr. Seivert – I just don't think that's.....the grant we get currently is based on the ending balance. Isn't that right Blake?

Mr. DeRouchey – The version we are talking about, it doesn't talk anything about grants. It says shall pass through the money. And right now in the language it does talk about grants.

Mr. Bryant – So assuming the language gets changed, there's no more grants. So we can't have a grant next year. There's \$9 million leftover and the new law take effect July 1, the pot is still there to pick. You still have \$9 million when you go through next legislative session of old money, I'm going to call it, before June 30 comes. That's what nobody is signing their name on it, of what I can see or talking about.

Mr. Hoffman – Does the contingency (the \$3.5 million) still come out of that \$9 million?

Mr. DeRouchey – Yes. The idea that \$6.5 million. In my mind, if it's clean, you take \$6 million out, if that's the case and divide it by 113 because that how many PSAPs there are.

Mr. Bryant – I'm assuming it's not going to go into effect until July. So what I'm saying is if we are talking about amendments and merging of these bills, I think there should be something in there that talks about the money that is there. Otherwise I see it.there's no grant program. There's several ways to do it. You take the \$6 million divide between 113 PSAPs. There could be a grant next year as well to use up. Again, to use up the old money before we start the new formula before zeroing out the "shall".

Mr. DeRouchey – You are hitting on something that I told John today. There are enough versions of these bills out there. I can run financial estimates on one bill or the amendments of that bill. But if they start "piecemealing" and picking and pulling the portions that they like, I can't necessarily tell you what it is going to do.

Mr. Bryant – You don't know if they are going to take the \$3.5 million or not. Whether there is \$1 or \$50 million, we should still be talking about a mechanism to do something with whatever that amount is. I see us in no better shape next legislative session with some sort of old money still sitting there in the pot. Well guess what, our estimates or income were down again and then they get the third payment. We just might have to look at it one more time because we've already given you your language. What are you going to do?

Mrs. Stayner – I'm confused on this too. Whatever happened.....wasn't there a law that it had to go back to the PSAPs. Isn't that what the surcharge was setup for? So whatever happened to that?

Mr. Bryant – In my opinion, I don't know if it was a law but it was a promise. It was a campaign when we went from \$.65 to \$1.00 that I sold everybody on that I begged to help pass it but I'll also tell you my conversation with Senator Gronstal last August. They look at it as we passed the law it's our money to spend.

Mr. Hoffman – Ultimately it's the people's money. Every person in the service areas deserves to have it come back to take care of their 9-1-1 system that serves them where they live.

Mr. Bryant – I think the legislation is good. It's a formula that works. I think it is a help for the future. I think the "shall" is good. I think dividing it out at the end of the year. It's all good. It gets away from the grant process. It's less work for Blake. Your standard money coming, the formula, the 60 percent gives you a known quantity to budget for. I am going to look at whatever you get and divide by how many PSAPs as

kind of a windfall. There still, I guess, needs to be a mechanism to track it so it gets used for the right stuff. I'm still concerned about the gray area between old and new money. If it is a concern of more than a majority of us, then we have to get the message to somebody before the meeting at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning.

Mr. Seivert – Mike you make a good point. I don't know that any of the people working with it have thought of it along that line and what's going to happen to the money here when the law doesn't take effect until July 1. When the bills come out we need to pay attention and ask those questions.

Mr. DeRouchey – The meeting tomorrow will be in the Senate Subcommittee Room 206 at 9 a.m.

Public Education/Budgeting Committee – Rob Dehnert/Rob Koppert

Mr. Koppert – We talked to the State Office of Information about hosting a website but we have decided to wait to see what the legislature is going to do with this bill. It obviously does not include the \$100,000 for public education that is in the current bill. There's just not enough time to do anything this fiscal year to get a website up. Our goal was to have a state 9-1-1 website. It would be 911.iowa.gov. Something like that. It would be the de facto 9-1-1 information website for the State of Iowa. Also a repository for the State of Iowa E911 Communications Council. Have public information and portal where 911 professionals could get information that is not generally available to the public. Until we know what the Legislature is going to do, I don't think there is any real reason to do anything and this can be taken off of the agenda until we do know what the Legislature is going to do.

Mr. Bryant – Correct me if I'm wrong but it is in the current law.

Mr. Seivert – It is.

Mr. Bryant – And I haven't heard of any discussion other than taking the Council's expenses out of the \$100,000. Taking that \$100,000 away. Is there?

Chair Ray – Not in any of this.

Mr. Seivert – The original Worthan's bill took it out. The one that was passed was amended to put that back in. So right now they are back in.

OEC Study Committee – Bob Seivert, Mike Bryant and Rob Koppert

Mr. Seivert – Mr. Chair we would like to take that off the regular agenda for the future. We are working on it. It's just one of those things that is going to take a lot of time.

Interoperability Governance Board – Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) – Craig Allen

One of primary things we are still working on is the FirstNet outreach initiative. Three of the board members are out at single point of contact meeting this week. FirstNet is still waiting to award contract as to who their primary vendor will be for the nationwide broadband network in place. It will probably be September before we need firm answers as to whether Iowa will opt in or out. Iowa does have a lot of infrastructure and that is good. For the people in this room it puts NG911 on steroids. Applications that can be pushed out that we don't have access to today.

Transition to the Land Mobile Radio. We have been meeting with a lot of the communities. The word is out the system is being built. It is a slow process. It takes a while to get all of the stuff together so you can get dial tone.

John Benson is the chair of outreach committee. To answer some of these questions, we are putting together a FAQ document.

To get on the system requires a Memorandum of Agreement. We hope to adopt that agreement at the board meeting tomorrow.

Training – Tactical Dispatch – mid May and it is limited to about 20 people. There will be a train-the-trainer (COML and COMT) program. Westcom will be hosting in September.

The National Guard hosts a COMX in March and October each year. Just had that training a couple of weeks ago.

Items for Discussion

None

Unfinished Business

None

Travel Requests

None

Business from the Floor/9-1-1 Issues at the PSAPs

Mr. Rasing – I am going to be meeting with my Board of Supervisors on Tuesday as well as others to discuss an upcoming project we are working on. I take it that \$100,000 grant is up in the air?

Chair Ray – Yes, at this point in time.

Mr. Rasing – And my other point is the only option is if they take that \$6 million and divided among 113 PSAPs.

Chair Ray – Which is \$50,000 plus.

Mr. Rasing – That's what we were told. That we were not going to have that issue.

Chair Ray – What Bob has alluded to. We aren't going to know much until this gets settled and that will tell the story.

Mr. Bryant – Where are we at with the problem with Mediacom.

Ms. Sefrit – We are supposed to have a conference call next week.

Dennis Denton – No promises made.

Announcements

The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 12, 2016, at 9 a.m. in the West Des Moines City Hall.

There being no further business, Chair Ray adjourned the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Hall, Secretary