

**Iowa E911 Communications Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 7, 2011**  
**West Des Moines City Council Chambers**  
**4200 Mills Civic Parkway**  
**West Des Moines, IA**

**Note: These minutes are a draft and are not to be considered official until approved at the next meeting.**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steven P. Ray at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was determined from the roll call as indicated below.

<b><u>Roll Call</u></b>	Representative	Attendance
Iowa Association of Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO) <b>Secretary</b>	Sally Hall	Present
alternate	Cara Sorrells	
Iowa Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA)	Kirk Hundertmark	Excused
alternate	Tom Ling	Present
Iowa State Sheriffs & Deputies Association (ISSDA)	Tom Heater	Present
alternate	Dean Kruger	
Iowa Peace Officers Association (IPO)	Jack O'Donnell	Present
alternate	Sandy Morris	Present
Iowa Professional Firefighters (IAPFF)	Mike S. Bryant	Absent
alternate	vacant	
Iowa Firefighters Association (IFA)	Mark Murphy	Present
alternate	Tom Berger	Present
Iowa Emergency Managers Association (IEMA)		
<b>Vice-Chairperson</b>	Bob Seivert	Present
alternate	Jo Duckworth	
Iowa Department of Public Safety (IDPS)		
<b>Chairperson</b>	Steven P. Ray	Present
alternate	Curtis Henderson	Present
Iowa Emergency Medical Services Association (IEMSA)	Rob Dehnert	Present
alternate	Paul Andorf	
Iowa Telephone Association <15,000	Trent Gregory	Present
alternate	Pat Snyder	Present
Iowa Telephone Association >15,000	Kami Wernimont	Present
alternate	Dan Halterman	Present
Cellular Providers	Bill Tortoriello	Excused
alternate	Jason Fenton	
PCS Providers	David Kaus	Present
alternate	Joe Sargent	
Auditor of the State, Ex-Officio member	Warren Jenkins	Absent
<b>Staff:</b>		
Barbara Vos, E-911 Program Manager		Present
Kathy Karn, E-911 Program Planner		Present
<b>Guests:</b>		
BJ Buss, EmergiTech	Melissa Bremer, ISICSB (SWIC Asst.)	
Butch Hancock, Qwest/CenturyLink	Mike Miller, Racom	
Laurie Hickok, TCS	Lorrie Lacina, Muscom	
David Murray, Lee Comm	Debbie Cruickshank, Lee Comm	
Scott Locker, Polk County Sheriff's Office	Scott Redlinger, Polk County Sheriff's Office	
Chris Moore, Pottawattamie Co Sheriff's Ofc-911	Samantha Brear, Polk County EMA	
Rob Koppert, Cass County 911	Ed Roach, Jasper County	

## **Introductions**

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

## **Minutes**

Motion by Dave Kaus, seconded by Kami Wernimont to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2011 meeting. All ayes. Passed.

## **Approve the Agenda**

Motion by Bob Seivert, seconded by Dave Kaus to approve the agenda. All ayes. Passed.

## **State of Iowa Administrator Reports – Barbara Vos**

### **911 Program Financial Reports**

Mrs. Vos reported that on November 21<sup>st</sup> she went before legislative oversight committee. One topic discussed was the \$10 million plus balance in the wireless carryover fund. Mrs. Vos explained the use of the money, the purpose for the carryover fund increasing balance, as well as the Wireless IP Network Project. She stated there are some new members on the oversight committee. Some of the veteran members of the oversight committee also gave their input about the wireless carryover fund to help familiarize the new members.

Mrs. Vos gave an overview of the financial report. There are three carryover projects left.

### **Wireless IP Network Project Update**

Mrs. Vos asked Laurie Hickok to be at today's meeting to field questions.

- Letters of agreement have been sent to all the wireless carriers.
- PSAP site surveys have been completed.
- Started placing equipment orders for all of the pilot PSAPs.
- Region 6 is done and Region 5 will be done next week.
- Data center equipment has been ordered.

Mrs. Vos and Ms. Hickok are going to Seattle today for a meeting tomorrow. Mrs. Vos stated it has been very beneficial having Ms. Hickok working out of her office.

Mrs. Vos has received questions from some of the counties. There is some disjointedness concerning the ICN portion of this project. ICN has not been notifying the PSAP prior to making onsite visits. The ICN people that are out in the field have Mrs. Vos' cell phone and are to call her directly if they have any issues when they are making an onsite visit in a county. Mrs. Vos does not have the schedule when ICN is suppose to be onsite and start installing.

The completion date is still September 30, 2012.

Pilot test sites are Calhoun County, Greene County, WestCom, Buena Vista County, Storm Lake DPS and Woodbury County. Testing will begin March 1<sup>st</sup> and be tested from the carrier all the way in. The carriers can start testing their connection with TCS as early as January 17<sup>th</sup>. Once the pilot sites are up and running for two weeks with no problems, will start with the other PSAPs. The planned schedule is 2 PSAPs a day starting in April.

The pilot sites will stay up if all the wireless carriers are connected. If all carriers are not connected will revert back to legacy then test again when all carriers are connected.

### **911 Feasibility Study**

There was a meeting with GeoComm on Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. The Existing Conditions Report was the first deliverable due yesterday. GeoComm had more responses after the presentation at the APCO/NENA annual conference (60+). They have completed all of their PSAP site surveys.

One request from GeoComm was a copy of each county's 911 wireline service plan. Melissa Bremer, Assistant SWIC has assisted with scanning in this information. Note: Mrs. Vos will be putting out information to the counties about updating their 911 wireline service plans.

## **Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees**

### **Technical Advisory – Dave Kaus**

Channel 13 did an exposé on wireless 911. The content of this story conveyed even though you have a cell phone you better have a landline so 911 can find you. This story did reach outside the boundaries of Iowa. Mr. Kaus felt this exposé was not very well researched concerning references to GPS. The reporters were going to contact Mrs. Vos prior to broadcasting the story and they never did.

If you have a Smart phone you may have privacy concerns. Keystrokes can be tracked, who you call and and receive calls from and this feature can't be turned off.

Kirk Hundertmark sent Mr. Kaus information that in 2011 seven states had diverted 911 fees for other uses than 911. The prior year there were twelve states.

### **Iowa Interoperability Governance Board – (Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) – Dina McKenna**

Mr. Bogner is attending a conference this week. Ms. McKenna reported that 1/3 of the counties have not participated in the NECP Goal 2 survey. Melissa Bremer, who has been hired to assist the board, has been calling some of the agencies that did not participate. December 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to input the data.

Ms. Bremer reported that some of the replies she receives when making her contacts is – I'm not the one who is going to do it or I don't have the time to do it. The ISICSB is working on some ideas to motivate people to complete the survey.

### **Items for Discussion**

None

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Travel Requests**

None

### **Business from the Floor / 911 Issues at the PSAPs**

Rob Koppert brought before the council information regarding the ICN and internet service. Mr. Koppert explained they have marginal internet service and upon inquiring with ICN to see if they could provide internet service found that they cannot legally provide internet service according to Iowa law. Mr. Koppert was asking the 911 council to write a letter to Senator Jack Kibbie recommending that the law be changed to allow ICN to provide internet service to PSAPs and county courthouses. When Mr. Koppert asked what the price would be, the representative from ICN, Tammy Rodriguez, said the costs were coming down. Ten mbps would be \$800.00 per month.

Mrs. Vos stated that it is part of the BTOP grant for ICN to provide fiber to more areas. Currently ICN provides service to public schools, libraries, community college, state agencies and medical.

Chair Ray this is something that we could look into. Chair Ray and Mrs. Vos will confer on this matter.

Legislation – Bob Seivert was not aware of any specific proposals that are coming out of the council. Last year's Homeland Security agency bill did not make it out of committee. According to Mrs. Vos and John Benson this agency bill will be resurrected with one significant change. The portion of the bill that would eliminate the Phase 1 cost recovery and those funds being redirected to the PSAPs and the State will be removed.

Mrs. Vos – The only thing that will be allowed in the proposed Agency bill is the technical changes (i.e. technical language definitions and definitions for Next Gen 911). They will not allow any changes to the distribution of money or increases the surcharge.

Mr. Seivert – Over the past few years we have been trying to get more money to the PSAPs. One of the stopping points last year was lack of information that the legislators consider valid. The GeoComm survey is suppose to provide us with valid data and more long term vision for 911 in Iowa. There were several proposals that were put forward last year. One that would allow usage of the 911 surcharge to pay for mass reverse notification. There was also a proposal that would have dramatically changed the distribution of funds to the PSAPs. Mr. Seivert felt that these proposals will be resurrected this session and was unsure whether our position this year should be a defensive one. Where we would evaluate a proposal that comes forward, have our comments and be ready to gather the troops in favor or against a particular issue. I am not in favor of the HLSEM proposal moving forward. I do not believe this council should support that proposal. It does not do what is necessary for the State to fund the PSAPs at an acceptable level. The State is a lead agency in what goes forward and I believe they should be the ones to champion that cause. Moving forward with removing the cost recover section from the legislation is wrong. I would like APCO and NENA to discuss this in their venues and either come up with an alternative or a plan to have that money restored.

Mr. Kaus – If you say the states should pay for the PSAPs, it should come out of the general fund. All the State is doing is distributing funds that are collected for 911 which are not state funds.

Mr. Seivert – Changing the distribution for the wireless Phase 1 is in line with what other states are doing. I don't know why Iowa should stand out and pay the wireless carriers more than what is paid in other states.

Mr. Kaus – The current distribution of funds is not coming close to funding the wireless expenses.

Mr. Seivert – Neither is the surcharge coming close to funding the expense at the local level.

Mr. Kaus – Those could be partially remedied. Does the state need 123 PSAPs?

Mr. Seivert – I don't think the state needs that many wireless carriers. The debate on consolidation is going to play out at a higher level. Counties are looking at combining services in many ways. It is something that is going to happen and does not need to be driven at the PSAP level. We need to be conscientious about making sure we provide the service the citizens expect. The minuscule amount of money that comes from the 911 wireline and wireless surcharge only pays a fraction of the cost of providing those services at the local level. Making these changes assist us in a very small way. They don't answer the big question – ongoing services and consolidation. Let's wait for the GEOComm survey to come out and see what kind of road map they outline for the rest of the state. To ignore the fact that the wireline surcharge continues to go down, that the wireless surcharge remains stable and that new services such as Black Jack, Magic Jack, etc. are making promises to the public they cannot meet. They cannot meet the location technology, they pay nothing toward surcharge on either wireline or wireless but are riding the back of the wireline and wireless industry. I believe the focus of this council is to get money into the local PSAP for operations.

Chief Jack O'Donnell is retiring from the council and this is his last 911 council meeting. Chair Ray presented Chief O'Donnell with a plaque in appreciation for his service on the 911 council.

Chief O'Donnell – I am going to be retiring in my 43<sup>rd</sup> year of law enforcement. I have seen a lot of history especially in the area of communications and I am very proud to be a part of this group. PSAPs are the unsung heros. Getting that information out and being able to witness that first hand. I want to thank each one here for what you do and it has been a pleasure to serve on this committee. Barb it has been great working with you all these years.

### **Announcements**

Next meeting will be January 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the West Des Moines City Council Chambers.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the chair adjourned the meeting. Passed. 9:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Hall, Secretary