

**Iowa E911 Communications Council Meeting
January 21, 2009
Iowa State Patrol Headquarters, Post 1
Des Moines, Iowa**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steven Ray at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was determined from the roll call as indicated below.

Roll Call

	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Iowa Association of Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO)	Doug Slagle	Excused
<u>Secretary</u> alternate	Sally Hall	Present
Iowa Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA)	Jill Randolph	Excused
<u>Chairperson</u> alternate	Kirk Hundertmark	Present
Iowa State Sheriff's & Deputies Association (ISSDA)	Tom Heater	Present
alternate	Dean Kruger	
Iowa Chiefs of Police & Peace Officers Association (ICPPO)	Jack, O'Donnell	Excused
alternate	Sandy Morris	Present
Iowa Association of Professional Firefighters (IAPFF)		
<u>Vice-Chairperson</u> alternate	Mike S. Bryant	Present
Alternate	Justin Adams	
Iowa Fireman's Association (IFA)	Mark Murphy	Present
alternate	Tom Berger	Present
Iowa Emergency Managers Association (IEMA)	Bob Seivert	Present
alternate	Jo Duckworth	
Iowa Department of Public Safety (IDPS)	Steven Ray	Present
alternate	Todd Misel	Present
Iowa Emergency Medical Services Association (IEMSA)	Paul Andorf	Excused
alternate	Rob Dehnert	Present
Iowa Telephone Association <15,000	Bill Hotchkiss	Present
alternate	Pat Snyder	Excused
Iowa Telephone Association >15,000	Bob Hudson	Excused
alternate	Natalie Stallman	Present
Cellular Providers	Bill Tortoriello	Absent
alternate	Jason Fenton	
PCS Providers	David Kaus	Present
alternate	Joe Sargent	
Auditor of the State, Ex-Officio member	Warren Jenkins	Absent
Staff:		
Barbara Vos, E-911 Program Manager		Present

Guests:

Connie Hambly, Story County E911	Dina McKenna, Story County Sheriff's Office
Norman Wellman, Delaware County E911	Brenda VandeVoorde, Fayette County E911
Mary D. Miller, Iowa County E911	Dan Taylor, Greene County E911
Scott Locker, Polk County Sheriff	Doug Hawn, Greene County E911
Joni Walston, SCI Regional E911	Paul Welch, SCI Regional E911 Board
Diana Richardson, RACOM Corp	Jon M. Van Wyk, Story County Sherriff's Office
Lora Phillips, Johnson County Sheriff's Office	David Murray, Keokuk PD

Introductions

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

Chair Note: Tom Heater will be the primary representative and Dean Kruger will be the alternate for the Iowa State Sheriff's & Deputies Association.

Mark Murphy will be the primary representative and Tom Berger will be the alternate for the Iowa Firefighters Association.

Minutes

Motion by Dave Kaus, seconded by Kirk Hundertmark to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2008 meeting. All ayes. Passed.

Agenda

Motion by Dave Kaus, seconded by Kirk Hundertmark to approve the agenda for the January 21, 2009 meeting. All ayes. Passed.

State of Iowa Administrator Reports – Mrs. Barb Vos

Financial Report & Wireless Grants for Iowa Counties

Mrs. Vos distributed copies of the financial report and a list of the Wireless Carryover Fund projects that have been approved since the last quarter. The only change in the financial report was the wireless carryover projects for the PSAPs. The total is \$1,878,386.61. The current bills are being processed today and tomorrow.

- Next Generation Project (Next Gen) - \$600,000 – At the request of government oversight committee, the amount to be budgeted for this project was added.
- Network Capacity Increase - \$200,000 – This is a one time expense. This is for PSAPs that have been identified as benefiting from adding an additional 911 wireless trunk. This is still on going.
- Interstate Interconnect (est.) - \$525,000 – This is a one time expense but there will be monthly reoccurring expenses. This is to interconnect Iowa PSAPs with PSAPs in neighboring states. The direct trunking has been completed with Nebraska and Minnesota.
- Carryover PSAP Projects - \$1,878,386.61 – Projects approved, via the grant process, for PSAPs to access the Wireless Carryover Fund.

Iowa's New IP 911 Network Testing & IP Testing Dates for Vendors

Mrs. Vos reported all the 911 vendors have done their testing and after speaking with Jim Carroll, he indicated that the follow up and reporting would be completed within a couple weeks. Mrs. Vos has been in contact with the vendors that said they were interested. She stated that most of the vendors demonstrated what we wanted them to do or they are already doing it somewhere else. Mrs. Vos stated the next step would be to appoint some committees to help work through this big task. There will be a large expense. If Iowa is the recipient of the USDOT grant, we will have to moving quickly to meet the deadline dates within the grant process.

Kirk Hundertmark asked if any vendors tested on site. Mrs. Vos stated not really. She is still waiting to hear from EmergiTech. 911 Inc tested remotely. They are doing something very similar in Colorado. Did not hear back from Plant. They have already done this somewhere else. Mrs. Vos stated that she was not going to force any vendor to expend extra funds to bring their equipment to Iowa, if they could demonstrate they were doing this somewhere else. Kirk Hundertmark stated that EmergiTech was going to use the IP to analog box and that would work with about any equipment. Mrs. Vos is waiting on the final report from Qwest showing what was done and what was tested.

Since the equipment is in place, we are going to participate in a state to state test. The cost will be shifted to Intrado. Texas wants to test IP to IP. This is at Texas A&M.

Kirk Hundertmark did express some disappointment as he thought Qwest was going to test IP to IP but instead Qwest dropped it all back to CAMA trunks. Most of the vendors understood that it was going to be IP to IP. Mrs. Vos thought we should do what was done for wireless by putting together a committee to start developing a plan of what and how we want to proceed. If Iowa is a recipient of the USDOT grant, we can be assured that we are going in the right direction. Mrs. Vos hopes to hear something about the

grant by the first part of February. Waiting for the rules to be published and once they are there is a sixty day period to submit the grant application.

Out of State Wireless 911 Calls & State of Illinois Wireless 911 Calls

For the Illinois project to continue, we will need to change from an 8 digit number to a 10 digit number – as well as Next Generation will need to be a 10 digit number. Kirk Hundertmark stated that he thought most of the PSAP's equipment will be able to handle 10 digits on the wireless side because when we originally started everything was setup to handle 10 digits but had to roll it back to 8 digits because Qwest was not able to handle the 10 digit number. This should not be a problem for the PSAPs. Anyone that sits on the Qwest network should be able to do it. We won't know until we start working with the PSAPs that do not sit on the Qwest network if there will be any problems for them. Will start with the Qwest territory first beginning in Lee County due to the many issues they have with Illinois. Dave Murray stated there are towers right across the river at Fort Madison that are pointed toward their PSAP and it is creating a lot of problems. The cost to the state for Qwest to upgrade the selective routers will be approximately \$300,000 to \$400,000. This would be just for wireless. The wireless would involve one tandem. The wireline would involve many tandems. Mrs. Vos wanted to move forward at least with the wireless. If the USDOT grant does become available, we want to be able to move forward with this. She also reiterated that if other states do not apply for this grant, we may have a chance to get part of that money. This is a 50/50 matching grant.

Bob Seivert, Kirk Hundertmark and Dave Kaus volunteered to serve on the committee and Chair Ray so appointed them. Mrs. Vos will email the committee and set a date to meet.

Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees

Technical Advisory

Dave Kaus reported – How secure is your cell phone voice mail? Unless you have a password for your voice mail on your cell phone, it can be hacked.

PSAPs Wireless Accuracy – FCC is still trying to figure what to do with the GSM providers that use a network type solution. At the edges of their network, the accuracy goes down quite fast. They can only get one or two cell sites and cannot triangulate. There would be a number of PSAPs that would not meet their requirements. FCC is taking it back under advisement on how to handle the project.

Mr. Kaus reiterated on the information he reported on at the November meeting about a software program that would identify that you are driving a car and would not let your cell phone ring eliminating any distraction while you are driving.

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

Captain Todd Misel (ISICSB Chair) reported they are about four months into the twelve month contract with Federal Engineering. Tomorrow is the drop dead date to collect the PSAP point of contact and survey information Federal Engineering needs. Captain Misel expressed that it is critical that Federal Engineering receives this information. At this point there is about 44% participation across the state. The participation needs to be better than that. Captain Misel asked everyone present to make the necessary contacts to make sure that this information is completed and returned. The question was posed "What happens when we get to the end of this plan and we have had such low participation, what good is that going to do us?"

Kirk Hundertmark asked if there was a list of counties that have not participated. Captain Misel stated there is a list. Mr. Hundertmark stated he would contact the counties that he deals with to make sure they complete the survey and point of contact information.

ISICSB is working on a press release to help foster some interest. This press release would be statewide – maybe from the Governor's office – implying how important it is to participate in this planning process.

Captain Misel used the example of how many times at the state or anywhere are we contacted our state legislators because their constituents want to know something. Let's reverse that process and make our legislators aware of what is going on in their home areas, who is or is not participating and what is the reason for them not participating.

Retired Sheriff Paul Welsh stated there are about 33 new sheriffs that have recently taken office and unless they have been a part of this, they are probably not aware of the impact of this process. Mr. Welsh suggested the Iowa State Sheriff's & Deputies Association assist in making those counties that have not participated aware of the importance of filling out this information.

Captain Misel stated ISICSB does have emails broken down by regions that show the participation results. Mrs. Vos offered to send this information out using the email list that she has developed for the council members and alternates. Mr. Hundertmark asked if Bob Seivert could also forward this information to all the Emergency Management agencies.

There was some discouragement expressed that some of the recipients of the PSIC grant money didn't participate in completing the information for Federal Engineering. This will be discussed at next weeks ISICSB meeting.

Federal Engineering wanted everyone to know they are very appreciative of the way they have been treated when making contacts.

ISICSB is also working with Qwest and Livermore Telephone to access telephone circuit information for all the PSAPs across Iowa. One letter has been sent verifying that all of the information will held confidential. This circuit information is needed to do part of the planning process. Mr. Hundertmark stated that he had turned in all his information for Livermore Telephone a week ago. Qwest has not released this information.

Staff from the Office of Emergency Communications out of Washington will be coming on January 27th to conduct a training session. Captain Misel stated they will be emphasizing on training on a governance piece for the regional/local government.

Also working on a 700 MHz plan. The state frequency coordinator and Les Fish, Chief Communications Engineer for the Iowa State Patrol will be going to Orlando, Florida for a two day conference with APCO.

Everyone's help is needed by visiting with their local legislators and let them know what is going on. There are two different grants that are going to be coming to the state. Some of this money has already been earmarked for a statewide interoperability coordinator. This is meeting some resistance in the legislature. Some of the legislators do not want to see anymore people involved in these projects. The coordinator would be a statewide coordinator. There is 24 months of funding available for this position.

There is a piece of legislation out there to change the makeup of the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board adding someone from the Senate Majority and Minority and House Majority and Minority as non voting members. Also on the House side there is proposed language to change the Fire representation mandating that one of the representatives be volunteer. It is critical that everyone keep up to date on what is going on. What is going on now does have the potential to affect all of us. We are four months into a twelve month planning process. What would we be doing to the state as a board, if we don't let this planning piece get finished and done correctly.

New Business

None

Travel Request

Mrs. Vos reported there are new travel restrictions. We are to follow the same guidelines that have been set out for the HSEMA. In state travel – we are to encourage car pooling as much as possible. Out of

state travel - A separate form will need to be sent to the Department of Management justifying how the travel will benefit the state. If that is approved then we can put one together for the executive council but there are still no guarantees. Ms. Vos stated we need to keep that in mind for any travel request for the next six months. Also that it did not matter that the council does not use state money. They are looking at it as if the council members are state employees since this is a state council.

Chair Ray was going to submit a travel request but withdrew it in light of these new restrictions.

Bob Seivert – In the past members of the council have attend the Iowa APCO/NENA conferences and he felt since there are several new members on the board it would be beneficial for them to attend. Therefore Mr. Seivert requested that any of the council members that would like to attend the Spring Conference for APCO/NENA be allowed to do so. Mrs. Vos stated that in state travel has not been a problem, but need to try and conserve. Motion Bob Seivert, seconded by Mike Bryant to give council approval for any members that want to attend the Spring APCO/NENA conference. All ayes. Passed.

Mr. Seivert stated that it is important that the Chair of this council be able to attend in state or out of state meetings. He asked that Chair Ray reconsider and submit his travel request. Motion by Kirk Hundertmark, seconded by Mike Bryant to authorize Chair Ray to submit his travel request to attend the APCO North Central Regional Conference. All ayes. Passed.

Business from the Floor

None.

Announcements

The APCO/NENA Spring Conference will be March 24th and 25th with a NENA class on Monday the 23rd. The conference will be at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites on Merle Hay Road, Des Moines.

The next meeting of the council will be Wednesday, March 18th 2009 at the Iowa State Patrol Headquarters, Post 1, Des Moines 10:00 – 12:00.

Woodbury County has offered to host the May meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Hall