



Polk County Joint 911 Service Board

METRO INTEROPERABILITY COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 2025 MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time:

Thursday, November 20, 2025
11:00

Location:

Polk County Sheriff's Ofc
5995 NE 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50313

Virtual Option:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82426449540>
Meeting ID: 824 2644 9540
In-Person Attendance Preferred

I. ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

A. MEMBERS – * DENOTES VIRTUAL ATTENDEE

	Des Moines PD	Polk County SO	Westcom
Frontline Dispatcher	☐ Vacant	☐ Vacant	☐ Vacant
PSAP Leadership	☒ Brad Button	☒ Nick Brockman	☒ Rob Dehnert
Operational FD End User	☐ Devon Sadler	☒ Rob Chiappano	☐ Tomme Tysdal
Operational LE End User	☐ Dave Ness	☒ Mark Mohr	☒ Pete Roth *
Operational EMS User	☒ Brian Burke	☐ Lance Routson	☒ Mark McCulloch *
Technical Advisor	☐ Alex Begel	☐ Chris Brodeur	☒ Austin Taffae *
Member-at-Large	☐ Dani Lisk	☐ Steve Hoffman	☐ Craig Leu

B. ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL EXPERTS/ADVISORS

☒ Haley Nichols, Iowa DPS *	☐ Curtis Pion, PCSO	☒ Mike Patras, DMPD
☐ Chad Roberts, Iowa DPS	☐ Kevin Schneider, PCSO	☒ Hannah Short, UnityPoint
☐ Joshua Duden, Iowa DPS	☒ Brandon Bracelin, PCSO	☐ Mark DeRee, UnityPoint
☐ Matt Lehman, WDM Fire	☒ Dave Lockard, DMPD	☐ Brian Albright, ISF

C. EMA STAFF

☐ AJ Mumm	☐ Cameron Stufflebeam	☐ Laura Kacer
☐ Dutch Geisinger	☐ Brett McIntyre	☒ Lynn Tazzioli

II. APPROVED AGENDA & PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – [OCTOBER 23, 2025](#)

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. EXPANDING INTEROPERABILITY REPEATERS IN THE METRO

1. The intention is to create a backup system that will be operational if (when) ISICS is unavailable for any reason. Current options include MICS, 8CALL90, and 8TAC94. The latter are may have limited coverage and there are concerns about whether it can be used if only one department is down. Des Moines has their own conventional backup, but would like to add another licensed repeater to ensure there are enough talk paths. Along these lines, the idea was floated for standing up interoperable repeaters around the county for everyone's use using joint funding.



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2. SARA users currently have a backup in ISICS. ISICS currently has backup in the nationwide interoperable repeaters. To stand up conventional analog or digital repeaters, the cost would be a fraction of what it would be compared to a trunked radio system. The anticipated cost of this system is unknown, but the cost could be driven down further by using equipment already owned in areas we already own or operate out of.
3. Discussion on this topic will continue in a smaller group of experts on technology, equipment, and funding.

B. DEVELOPMENT OF A STANDARDIZED PSAP OPERATING GUIDE FOR RADIO OUTAGES

1. On hold pending the outcome of the above project.

IV. PROJECT & PROGRAM UPDATES

A. CAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

1. Operations Subcommittee Update: A CAD to CAD demo was done for the Emergency Management Commission at their meeting the day prior. Hexagon CADs are now experiencing an issue where units dispatched by Westcom are not being dispatched in Hexagon CAD. Hexagon has been contacted and will work on resolving this issue.

B. ALERT IOWA

1. Polk County is continuing to work with Dallas County on a cross-county Alert Iowa solution.
2. WEAs are a solution that can be used for widespread notifications of critical public safety incidents. It does not rely on Alert Iowa sign-up lists. For example, if it would have been used on the recent gas leak in Ankeny, it could have notified anyone with a cell phone who hasn't specifically opted out of receiving these alerts. The alerts could be targeted to a specific geographic area with minimal bleed-over and would remain active for the entire time the incident is active, meaning anyone who would enter the area while the incident is still active even if they weren't in the area when the initial alert was sent would receive the alert and any attached instructions.

C. ISICS

1. SWIC Nichols provided a briefing on ISICS. ISICS is working on a couple of things in committee and committee members will be appointed at the next meeting. There has been a lot of talk in the user group committee about broadband push to talk over the LMR network and how to capture that. There is a tri-state exercise coming up in Dubuque. Other system updates are available.



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2. Cybersecurity is an important, ongoing issue. While IT has an important job of keeping the systems we use secure, end users are the ones who often times allow the bad actors in unknowingly. Motorola has put together a list of recommendations to keep systems secure. These were shared with the group. The slides from the original presentation can be obtained by reaching out to SWIC Nichols.

V. INTEROPERABILITY INCIDENTS & OPPORTUNITIES – NONE IDENTIFIED

VI. UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- A. [LUNCH AND LEARN](#) – CONNECTING TO COMMUNITY: BUILDING RESOURCES TOGETHER, NOVEMBER 25, POLK COUNTY EMA, 1907 CARPENTER AVE, DES MOINES
- B. [ICS 400](#), DECEMBER 16-17, POLK COUNTY EMA, 1907 CARPENTER AVE, DES MOINES
- C. [RESILIENT FIRST RESPONDER](#), MULTIPLE DATES AVAILABLE, VIRTUAL
- D. [G 205 RECOVERY FROM DISASTER: THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE](#), JANUARY 12-13, MARSHALL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, 2369 JESSUP AVE, MARSHALLTOWN
- E. [NENA CTO](#), MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, WOODBURY COMM – WESTERN IOWA TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 4647 STONE AVE, SIOUX CITY

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION – NONE

VIII. 2026 MEETINGS

Thursday, January 22, 2026
Thursday, February 26, 2026
Thursday, March 26, 2026
Thursday, April 23, 2026
Thursday, May 28, 2026
Thursday, June 25, 2026
Thursday, July 23, 2026
Thursday, August 27, 2026
Thursday, September 24, 2026
Thursday, October 22, 2026
Thursday, November 26, 2026 *
Thursday, December 24, 2026 *