



Polk County Joint 911 Service Board

Metro Interoperability Committee Meeting April 2026 Minutes

Meeting Date/Time:

Thursday, April 23, 2026
11:00

Location:

Polk County EMA
1907 Carpenter Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50314

Virtual Option:

[Webex Meeting Link](#)

Meeting Password: sDxePEa8M98

In-Person Attendance Preferred

I. Roll Call & Introductions – * indicates virtual attendee

A. Members

	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	☐ Dan Gilliatt	☒ 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

D. Guests/Public

☒ Dr. Carlos Pelaez, UnityPoint Health

II. Approved Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes – [March 26, 2026](#)

III. Old Business

A. Metro Repeater Project

1. Still on hold pending Des Moines receiving a quote for the equipment. The May meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, May 13 at 11:00 has been canceled.

B. Outdoor Warning Siren Testing Day

1. Discussion was had on whether the monthly siren test should be changed to a weekday, preferably the first Wednesday at 11:00 to align with the National Weather Service test. Further discussion on this centered around how to handle the change with the public, including schools and children, and our surrounding counties.



Polk County Joint 911 Service Board

Metro Interoperability Committee Meeting April 2026 Minutes

2. The Monthly Outdoor Warning System Testing Policy is open for changes. The only update so far is to remove cloud cover and rain/precipitation from reasons to cancel and replace that with storm prediction center connective outlooks with Polk County highlighted for thunderstorms or an increased threat of severe weather.

IV. New Business

A. Spring and Summer Events

1. Conversations are beginning with Arts Fest. Reminder to submit any ICS 205s for approval.
2. Dam to Des Moines race is on May 30. Des Moines plans to reuse the plan from last year with the medical channel moved to a subregional channel rather than a regional one. Des Moines will reserve SR1TAC116 for the event.

V. Program/Project Updates & Reports

A. CAD Improvement Project

1. The Authority Working Group
 - a. Meeting held on April 16 focused on ways we can continue moving the CAD-to-CAD project forward while individual PSAPs work on their individual CAD projects. Operations Subcommittee is continuing to meet. Des Moines will be able to refocus on the project after the CAD upgrade in June. We'll need to work on response plans in the meantime. Testing on April 24 is canceled.

B. Alert Iowa

1. Missing and Endangered Person policy meeting tomorrow at 13:00. RSVPs have been received from PSAPs and law enforcement. Will also be reviewing the Alert Iowa Operation Plan & Procedure.
2. Severe Thunderstorm and Tornado Watch lists were created after feedback was received from residents requesting the option. Sign up for Smart911.com if you'd like to receive these and other alerts.

C. ISICS

1. Still working on the iMed grant project. COMX training is next week.

VI. Interoperability Incidents & Opportunities

A. Ankeny Incident

1. Dr. Carlos Pelaez, trauma medical director for UnityPoint, stressed how valuable the communication 20 minutes ahead of patients arriving at the hospital was to helping them prepare. He came to the meeting today to learn more about the response side of the chain and how we can start working together to align expectations. Assistant Chief McCulloch offered to include Dr. Pelaez and trauma staff in future trainings.



Polk County Joint 911 Service Board

Metro Interoperability Committee Meeting April 2026 Minutes

VII. Upcoming Training Opportunities

A. [EMD v14 OUTEC v 1.0](#)

1. May 4-6, Hardin County EOC

B. [G 191: Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface](#)

1. May 22, Polk County EOC

C. THRIVE 101 Public Safety Resilience Training

1. [May 27](#), Polk County Sheriff's Office
2. [May 28](#), Polk County Sheriff's Office

D. THRIVE 201 Leadership and Peer Support Training (pre-requisite: THRIVE 101)

1. [May 29](#), Polk County Sheriff's Office

VIII. Open Discussion

A. Westcom Encryption

1. Westcom law enforcement encryption is almost complete, fire is scheduled to be completed next week. Des Moines and Polk County are awaiting approval for the encryption key at the next Operations Committee meeting in May.
2. Discussion spun off on how to handle mutual aid incidents with encryption and whether we can and should maintain encryption when patching to regional and subregional talkgroups. There are only a limited number of encrypted talkgroups on ISICS. We may want to look at expanding encryption on the subregional level. This conversation has already occurred in the past couple of years with the main issues being the naming, whether we want a separate zone, console capacity, and the cost aspect. SWIC Nichols has these challenges documented and will bring them to our next meeting so we know where to start focusing our efforts.

IX. 2026 Meetings

Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 11:00

Thursday, June 25, 2026 at 11:00

Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 11:00

Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 11:00

Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 11:00

Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 11:00

Thursday, November 26, 2026 at 11:00*

Thursday, December 24, 2026 at 11:00*

X. Adjourn – meeting was adjourned at 11:58.