



Integrated Public Safety Commission

100 North Senate Avenue, N825



Indianapolis IN



46204



317.234.1540



Commission Quarterly Meeting Minutes

INDOT -TMC Conference room C, 8620 E 21st St, Indianapolis, Indiana 46219

Tuesday September 16, 2025

- 1) Call to Order (Superintendent Anthony Scott) 1:39pm
- 2) Roll Call (Yvonne Alexander)
 - a) Commission Members
 - i) Superintendent Anthony Scott- Present
 - ii) Rumen Dimitrov- Absent
 - iii) Benjamin Hunter- Present
 - iv) Stephen Bartels- Absent
 - v) Ed Schroder- Microsoft Teams
 - vi) Jeremy Pell- Absent
 - vii) Michael Crider- Present
 - viii) Michael Kutsko- Absent
 - b) Audience
 - i) Present: Yvonne Alexander, Andrea Baughn, Tyler Clements, Erv Faulk, Nick Jafuta, Brett Nommensen, David Shelton, Venisha Warren, Michael Watkins and Zachary Woodrum
 - ii) Microsoft Teams: Shelly Ballard, Jason Bradshaw, Nate Davis, Kolleen Dillingham, Doug Haygood, Matt Noonan, Erin Miller, Robert Orcutt, John Riley, Tabitha Sizemore, Tom Smith, Ian Spaid, Matt Spencer, Larry Turner, Tracey Walls and Mike Wheatley
- 3) Minutes of June 17, 2025 meeting (Superintendent Anthony Scott)
 - a) Minutes of the June 17, 2025 meeting postponed until the next meeting.
- 4) Executive Director's Report (Michael Watkins)
 - a) Secretary of Public Safety
 - i) Congratulations to Superintendent Anthony Scott on being appointed to the role of Secretary of Public Safety.
 - ii) Secretary of Public Safety oversees the Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC).
 - b) IPSC Objectives
 - c) Q: Do our decisions, priorities & fiscal impact support our objectives.
 - i) Ensure our First Responders have the most reliable interoperable communications system possible.
 - (1) PM Services, Redundancy, Capacity, Infrastructure (IR & Microwave), Take care of our team
 - d) Agency Staffing
 - i) 41 PCN's, Dep Director & Director of Emerging Technology removed
 - (1) Organizational changes- Director of Systems & Technology, Director of Infrastructure with a team lead and Field Team leaders now supervisors (Com Seniors)



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- e) Agency: Areas of growth/opportunities
 - i) Bi-directional Amplifiers (BDA) oversight
 - (1) FCC holds licensing agency responsible for knowing where BDA's are and ability to mitigate interference
 - (2) FCC coordinator, Larry Turner, working plan to identify and track
 - ii) Infrastructure/grounds maintenance
 - (1) Sites that are currently ISP property but only have radio tower and equipment
 - (a) Ability to maintain buildings, mow/tree trim and be self sufficient
- f) System reliability: System upgrades
 - i) End of life equipment projects within the next few years
 - (1) MC edge replacement at all sites, prime site upgrades
 - ii) Outstanding capital projects- TDMA pilot sites (2) and radio capital project
 - iii) \$7.2m projects, (\$1m) bundling savings through Motorola, \$6.2m investment in system infrastructure
 - iv) Budget Committee agenda on September 17th for MC Edge and TDMA
- g) System reliability: ACS
 - i) What is the problem?
 - ii) AT&T provides our circuits to connect most of our radio towers to the system. At many sites AT&T uses Frontier as the "last mile" to connect. Frontier has announced that starting October 2025, they will no longer support T1/cooper lines. This will impact 65 of our sites.
 - iii) Frontier and our current circuit management customer service for repair does not meet the expectations of public safety mission critical.
 - iv) Our current circuit program overall does not meet the expectations of public safety mission critical **8,931 hours 33.9 minutes of down time in past 12 months**. Occupies multiple staff members to constantly track/follow up on tickets. Multiple complaints from public safety agencies.
 - v) There is no redundancy currently built into our system. If the single connection is lost the tower site is in "site trunking" and not connected to network.
 - vi) Cost to migrate all our circuits to fiber is significant and fiber is not available at all locations.
 - vii) What has IPSC done about it?
 - viii) Advocate for our public safety agencies.
 - ix) Tried multiple rebranding of customer service with teleco vendors
 - x) Worked with Broadband Office for support
 - xi) Worked with State 911 teleco team for support
 - xii) Looked for alternative options
 - xiii) Pursued a continuation of service on end of life circuits until 4/1/26 to allow us to migrate to another solution.
 - xiv) Solution: Motorola Astro Connectivity Services (Proposal distributed)
 - (1) Utilize existing ACS connecting to our north core to plug in LTE, Satellite and circuit for failover.



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- (2) Pros: Technology currently being used on our north core already and will be used in Wayne Co.
- (3) Motorola would be responsible for all circuit management
- (4) Motorola currently provides a full-time liaison to our agency
- (5) Cradle point and LTE costs included
- (6) The proposal includes yearly costs, providing a set budgetary number for planning.
- (7) Cons: Cost escalations in proposal
- (8) Backhaul map
 - (a) Nick Jafuta with Motorola provided an overview of the project
 - (b) Benjamin- Is there a capacity issue when you switch over in this manner versus the Fiber, does it involve how many end users are on the other side of the tower
 - (i) Mike- No capacity issue
 - (c) Benjamin- Explain SmartConnect connection
 - (i) Nick- Will determine what talk group SmartConnect is on, using this as an example, the goal is to provide the radios that are not SmartConnect enabled or the radios that do not have the capability, we provide redundancy so before it's in site trunking you are safe
- (9) Implementation: 3 Phases, 4/26 Phase 1: immediate end of life concern sites, Phase 2: wireline & simulcast sites, FY27 Phase 3: sites with existing fiber
- (10) Conversations with Frontier senior leadership lead back to AT&T, AT&T provided confirmation in writing that the date is moved from October 2025 to April 2026
- h) System interoperability: INNG
 - i) INNG purchasing Harris system
 - ii) Working group to look at path forward to connect via ISSI to our system
- i) System: Growth
 - i) Wayne County: 2 sites – live end of 2025
 - ii) Jay County: 1 site
 - iii) Several other proposals pending; possibly put our system close to 200 sites.
- j) Alerts & Warnings Task Force
 - i) IPSC Co Chair of Alerts & Warnings Task Force. Report due to Governor November 1, 2025
- k) First Net: Coverage Enhancement
 - i) First Net funding available to enhance coverage nationwide.
 - ii) Looking for input on where coverage is needed in Indiana.
 - iii) Survey sent to “boots on ground” to identify gaps and needs. Due back end of September.
- l) First Net: Vision Summit
 - i) First Net Vision Summit was held in Indianapolis September 8-11, 2025 (Westin Hotel).
 - ii) Attendees from around the Country. Good networking event.
 - iii) Tyler Clements participated in a panel discussion “How innovation, technology and First Net synchronize together in the Communications Center”



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- 5) Statewide Interoperability Coordinator Report (Andrea Baughn)
 - a) 911 Professionals Conference- Grey Sky Preparedness and Three I's in Interoperability
 - b) 3rd Annual 10-4 Day
 - i) 7 locations across state, Public Safety and Amateur, 3 Disaster Scenarios, Tabletop/Game, ISP Extend Test for 911, 911 "Play in Place"
 - c) Erin Miller – West/Southwest
 - i) Motorcross of Nations 3 races (Montgomery), Owen, Martin, Clay Counties, FEMA 2025 Indiana Emergency Comms Annex
 - d) Adam Philpot – Central/State Agencies
 - i) Pursuit Training at ILEA, Social Media and Communication liaison, Coordinated CPS training
 - e) Amanda Smith – East/Southeast
 - i) Rush, Orange and Franklin counties, Coordinating AUXC for 10-4 Day, COML instructor for Vision summit
 - f) Kolleen Dillingham – North
 - i) Elkhart, Marshall, Whitley, Pulaski, COML planning for Elkhart "Celebration Under the Stars", Awakening of the Wabash Exercise
- 6) Operations Report (Venisha Warren)
 - a) Site Spotlight – Project Geetingsville
 - b) Getting to know Geetingsville
 - i) Geetingsville is a 500 ft guyed tower and is a part of IPSC's 54 hop, Microwave system which provides service to the Indiana State Police RDC's.
 - ii) The Geetingsville tower; located in Clinton County is unique with 3 hops. Hortonville, Peru East & Lafayette which utilizes 6 Microwave dishes (2 12', 2 10', and 2 8ft)
 - iii) Generator, HVAC, and lighting replaced in 2024.
 - iv) All Microwave sites receive a monthly site visit by our Field Technicians
 - v) Things you may want to know:
 - vi) What is Microwave?
 - (1) *Electromagnetic radiation with wavelengths shorter than radio waves but longer than infrared waves*
 - vii) What are the benefits of Microwave for stakeholders?
 - (1) *Microwave networks provide higher bandwidth for faster data transfer and reliability*
 - viii) What negatively impacts Microwave?
 - (1) *Obstructions – New buildings, trees, rain, fog, humidity*
 - c) Areas of Concern & Path Forward
 - i) Experienced signal degradation to Hortonville and it was found that there were bullet holes which caused water in the wave guide lines
 - ii) Structural analysis failure
 - iii) Analyze structural analysis details to move forward with repairs
 - iv) Replace waveguide and Microwave dishes
 - d) Repairs show that we care – being ahead of the game, strengthens our name



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- i) With the knowledge of how important the Microwave system is to first responders, IPSC in the upkeep of the system and all equipment. Oftentimes, we are reactive to making repairs, but we continue to strive to be proactive to maintain this system. Who do you call? Javier Estupinan and Matthew Noonan
-
- 7) Infrastructure Report (Eric DeVoe)
 - a) Infrastructure – Team
 - i) New Team Lead: Rich Scott
 - ii) Education: Building EPA 608 certification path for team.
 - iii) HVAC Repairs: Preparing to perform multiple compressor replacements in-house.
 - b) Equipment Installs – Status
 - i) Generator: 13/17 complete
 - (1) **13.2%** Statewide replaced since 2023
 - ii) HVAC: 61/61 complete
 - (1) **20.4%** statewide replaced since 2023
 - iii) UPS: 19/21 complete
 - (1) **16%** statewide replaced since 2023
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- 8) System Administration Report (Zac Woodrum)
 - a) Encryption Updates
 - i) 121 Keys Coordinated- 69 ADP, 42 AES, 10 DES, 45 Counties, 6 State or Statewide Agencies
 - ii) OTAR Timeline- internal testing underway, testing with ISP scheduled for November, Policy ready by December meeting
 - iii) Genesis Snapshot
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- 9) Emergency Response Report (Tyler Clements)
 - a) Assistance to Local Agency
 - i) Primarily assisted Dispatch Centers without budget means to support site trunking plans/equipment
 - ii) Late winter to Current = **\$63,407/22 radios**/2 multi-bay chargers
 - iii) ILEA, Orange Co. 911 Dispatch, Fountain / Warren Reg'l Dispatch, Fayette Co. EMA, Martin Co. Sheriff Dept., Warren Co. EMA, Rush Co. Sheriff / 911 Dispatch, Forrest Vol. Fire Dept. (Clinton Co.), Warrick Co. Sheriff Dept., Wells Co. EMA, Pulaski Co. Sheriff / 911 Dispatch, Orange Co. Sheriff Dept., Franklin Co. Sheriff / 911 Dispatch, Livonia Vol. Fire Rescue
 - iv) "I see this as it could save one of my guy's life having these radios"- Orange County Sheriff, Davey Henderson
 - b) Texas K9 SAR – Logistics
 - i) Mission Ready Package – EMAC Deployment to Texas Flooding, 29 Day Deployment
 - c) Emergency & Deployments
 - i) Martin County Dispatch Center (control room) Flood



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- (1) Deployed Mobile base to Dispatch Center
- (2) Covered ALL County Fire Departments w/ portable radios & chargers
- (3) Substantial increase in demand for local support at smaller & larger planned events in 2025; Fielding questions and staffing meetings from many rural agencies who are becoming more involved in adjoining county or regional response planning and emergency / disaster response.
- d) Michael Crider- funding in budget allowing bandwidth during emergencies;
 - i) Tyler- Data casting was piloted and stalled, SWIC working very closely with FEMA CISA
 - ii) Andrea- Adams county actively using it FT. Wayne public broadcasting station, will reach out to John Hunt
- e) Michael Crider- With budget cuts could be impacted if a active shooter in a school, the building can link that up with a 911 center
 - i) Michael Watkins- involved with a demo pilot, live stream inside the school using the PBS network
 - ii) Andrea- data casting team at 2024 Indianapolis 500
- f)

10) Unfinished Business – Commission Members

- a) None

11) New Business

- a) 2026 meeting schedule – approval needed
 - i) 2026 proposed schedule:
 - (1) March 17, 2026
 - (2) June 16, 2026
 - (3) September 15, 2026
 - (4) December 8, 2026 (2nd Tuesday of month)
- b) 2025 Quarterly Meetings
 - i) December 9, 2025 – in person meeting – location change
 - (1) Jeremy Pell offered to have it at his location, White River Station 53

12) Tyler Clements- Thank you and acknowledge to Captain Faulk on his upcoming retirement

Adjourn – It was moved by Michael Crider and seconded by Benjamin Hunter to adjourn at 2:50. Motion passed.