

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Vertical Infrastructure Committee  
Date: Tue Aug 29 2023 14:40:07 CDT  
Attachments: image001.png

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Good afternoon,

Thank you for the opportunity to publicly comment on reducing the number of boards and commissions at the state level.

As I understand it, the Vertical Infrastructure Review Committee is one being looked at being eliminated. This is probably overdue. When created, I believe the purpose was meaningful but hasn't been properly appointed or needed the past couple of years.

We did have one question for the committee though. The public bidding thresholds for vertical construction is now \$198,000 and is independently evaluated by industry professionals who serve on a subcommittee. If eliminated, we were wondering how the public bidding thresholds would be adjusted in the future. I know the Iowa DOT sets the thresholds for horizontal infrastructure, but believe the vertical side is different and we would be interested in maintaining the ability for vertical construction contractors to have a voice.

Thank you for your consideration,

[REDACTED]



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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: image001.png

Last Modified: Tue Aug 29 14:40:07 CDT 2023

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Iowa Boards and Commissions Review Committee  
Date: Wed Aug 30 2023 10:31:21 CDT  
Attachments: image001.png

---

Good morning,

I would like to attend this Boards and Commissions Review Committee scheduled for Sept. 6th, is there a virtual link you could provide.

I represent the Iowa Statewide Interoperability Communications System Board and am interested in learning what proposed changes are for this Board.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



---

Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: image001.png

Last Modified: Wed Aug 30 10:31:21 CDT 2023

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Sept 6th Meeting Request to Address the Committee  
Date: Wed Aug 30 2023 11:46:17 CDT  
Attachments:

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Hello:

On behalf of the Conservation Districts of Iowa, the Iowa Public Airports Association and the Iowa Association of Building Officials, please accept this email as my request to address the committee at its upcoming September 6th meeting.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]

This communication, along with any attachments, is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is legally privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the individual or entity to which this communication is addressed, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this message, or any attachment is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the original sender immediately by return email and delete this message, along with any attachments, from your computer. Thank you.

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Public Hearing  
Date: Wed Aug 30 2023 12:52:35 CDT  
Attachments:

---

My name is [REDACTED] I am the Iowa Chapter President for APCO (Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials). I will like to speak the public hearing on September 6th.

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: craiglonesq@gmail.com  
<craiglonesq@gmail.com>  
Bcc:  
Subject: Request on Behalf of the Iowa Uniform Law Commission to Speak at the  
Wednesday, September 6th Hearing  
Date: Wed Aug 30 2023 17:41:24 CDT  
Attachments:

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Dear Members of the Review Committee:

As Chair of the Iowa Uniform Law Commission, I am writing to request permission to participate and speak at the hearing scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2023, regarding the Report and Recommendations of the Boards and Commissions Review Committee. Specifically, I would like to address the recommendation to eliminate the Iowa Uniform Laws Commission and explain why Iowa's Commissioners and others believe that that recommendation should be changed to continue the Iowa Commission.

The Uniform Law Commission (ULC) is a non-partisan government service organization made up of 53 state commissions. Elimination of the Iowa Uniform Law Commission would result in the State of Iowa being the only State in the Union not to appoint Uniform Law Commissioners and not to have a Commission. Iowa has been a member of the Uniform Law Commission, formerly known as the National Conference of Uniform Law Commissioners, since 1895, and over the years Iowa has enacted more than 100 Uniform Acts or amendments thereto, with more than 70 currently in effect.

Appointment of Commissioners to the ULC—and per Iowa Code Section 5.1, thereby constituting the Iowa Commission on Uniform State Laws—enables the State of Iowa to participate through its Governor-appointed Commissioners in the work of the ULC. That work is to identify areas where it would be desirable and practicable to develop and see enacted laws that are uniform in a substantial number of states, if not throughout the country. Commissioners serve on Study Committees to determine whether the ULC should undertake drafting a Uniform Act in a particular area, and if so determined, serve on Drafting Committees to review law and existing and possibly conflicting approaches, and draft a proposed Uniform Act. All such meetings are noticed and open to the public; Advisers with expertise in the area are always appointed by the American Bar Association; and Official Advisors representing myriad organizations, for example, the American Bankers Association or the American Medical Association, regularly attend and participate.

In so doing, Iowa's and other States' Commissioners participate in policymaking on subjects of national significance, and they do so as well at Annual Meetings, where proposed Uniform Acts

are read and examined line-by-line and discussed, debated, and usually revised in some way or another. Elimination of the Iowa Commission would mean that Iowa was not represented and would not have "a seat at the table" in such discussions and deliberations.

Commissioners submit Uniform Acts that are approved by the Conference to the Legislature for consideration, but they do much more. They engage with representatives of agencies and departments of State Government interested in our Acts as well as non-governmental organizations interested in a particular Uniform Act. Commissioners regularly appear before Iowa House and Senate Subcommittees to which bills containing Uniform Acts have been assigned, summarizing the bill and responding to questions; and they meet with individual legislators and people representing interested organizations who have questions or about a Uniform Law bill.

In conclusion, I request and would appreciate the opportunity to be heard next Wednesday when the Review Committee meets again.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature and name of the sender.



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From:

[REDACTED]

To: BCRCComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Request to submit a letter in lieu of speaking

Date: Wed Aug 30 2023 20:16:47 CDT

Attachments: Maria Taylor's Letter.docx

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To whom it may concern,

I am an Iowa Certified Court Reporter and a Republican who consistently supports our governor.

I would ask this letter be passed on in regards to eliminating the Board of Shorthand Reporters.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] from Mail for Windows

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: Maria Taylor's Letter.docx

Last Modified: Wed Aug 30 20:16:47 CDT 2023

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Governor Reynolds,

I am a certified court reporter in the state of Iowa. I am also certified nationally through NCRA, as well as the states of Missouri and Kansas. I am writing today in response to the elimination of the Board of Examiners of Shorthand Reporters in Iowa. Due to the public meeting being held during working hours, I will not be attending. Please take these thoughts and opinions below into consideration.

Our state is one of the many who upholds our justice system by requiring certification to practice as a court reporter in the state of Iowa. If you were to eliminate our board, you would be eliminating this requirement, as I understand the proposed bill. If you choose to do this, those who are not knowledgeable in our field would be making decisions in regards to our certifications and potentially eliminating our certification completely. At that point anyone can walk into a deposition or be hired by the State to take down the written record verbatim (although it will not be verbatim at all) stenographically and transcribe it into a typed-up transcript.

To become a court reporter, the schooling is rigorous. When I attended AIB College of Business, the dropout rate was 80%. This was proven to be true. When I finished the program three years later, I was left with only a handful of classmates to celebrate with. Our degree, certification, and profession require a level of paying attention to detail, staying focused, and learning a skill that is practically as if you are learning another language. We sit through hours of testimony and, in turn, re-read it in full to ensure complete accuracy. By eliminating our board, you would be eliminating the standard set for the justice system in Iowa. You would be allowing anyone to say they have our skill. This is not okay for any of us who have gone through the program and have become certified.

We have worked hard to obtain certification. We have sat through multiple tests, been through a rollercoaster of emotions mastering the skill of court stenography, and we have become proficient in writing at speeds over 300 wpm while two people talk over each other. This testimony is often of accountants, doctors, engineers, economists, and many other experts in other fields. This is not a job just anyone can do. This is a CAREER that needs judicial oversight by a board consisting of fellow reporters and judges, and we need clear certification to uphold the standards set for stenographers across America. Iowa needs to continue setting the bar and setting it HIGH.

Please vote no to eliminating the Board of Examiners of Shorthand Reporters in Iowa.

Best Regards,



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From: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
To: BCRComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrcomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Council  
Date: Thu Aug 31 2023 11:42:34 CDT  
Attachments: image001.png  
image002.png

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To Whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED]. I spent over 19 years as a Dispatcher with the Linn County Sheriff's Office. For the last year, I have been a Dispatch Supervisor with the Linn County Sheriff's Office. I am sure you would agree that 911 Dispatchers are vital to each community they serve.

I am writing regarding the recent announcement from the Governor reference restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council.

- \* Taking away the 911 Council and Council meetings means that the locals lose their voice. There would be no way for locals PSAPs, 911 Coordinators, and vendors to voice concerns or give input. As society changes and new technology is implemented, a voice for local PSAPs is imperative for our continued success.
- \* 911 Council meetings provide a monthly interactive Program Manager report to the Council and locals PSAPs, vendors, others in attendance which allows for transparency within the 911 Program. Meetings are shown on YouTube along with minutes and agenda published so there is transparency to constituents and local PSAPs.
- \* The Program Manager in consultation with the 911 Council determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards.
- \* Training/Public Education funds – Iowa APCO recommended the training fund – members of the council vote on the fund usage monthly. Not having the council would affect how the Telecommunicators across the state get and maintain their Continuing Dispatch Educations hours. The 911 Council also votes on fund allocation for speakers at the 2 yearly conferences for APCO/NENA and is the biggest training opportunity for dispatchers across the state.
- \* Consolidation Grants – The council discusses and votes on physical and virtual consolidations grants. Without the council how would this be determined?

\* Committees – 911 Council Committees helped create and give feedback on the leadership training that is now used across the state. A 911 Council Committee also assisted with the state 911 Coloring book. Text-to-911 campaign was also created out of a 911 Council Committee. Baseline Knowledge for 911 report was created out of Committee.

\* The Board brings experts from across numerous fields/organizations together to discuss 911 issues and concerns. Members are from Wireless Providers, GIS Specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS, and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns.

Due to the 911 Council being involved in all the above matters, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: image001.png

Last Modified: Thu Aug 31 11:42:34 CDT 2023

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COUNTY



image00

for Prin

Item: 1

Attachm

of 2)

154

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: image002.png

Last Modified: Thu Aug 31 11:42:34 CDT 2023

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Elimination of the State 911 Communications Council  
Date: Thu Aug 31 2023 11:53:41 CDT  
Attachments:

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To Whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED]. I manage the Jackson County 911 Public Safety Answering Point in Maquoketa. I have been a telecommunicator for 36 years and manger for 32 years.

I am writing in regards to the announcement of the proposed elimination of the Statewide 911 Communications Council. This is the only State Board that has an advisory capacity on the workings of the 911 System in Iowa.

I feel this council is vital to the operations of the Statewide 911 system. The members are active in the 911 field and give advice and direction to the 911 Program Manager in the Department of Homeland Security. The monthly meetings allow experts from wireless phone companies, GIS specialists, communications companies, Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS along with the 911 Program Manager to meet and discuss the issues and concerns in a public forum so the public and the 911 industry can be kept informed.

The 911 Council Meetings have monthly presentations from the Shared Services phone vendor (Zetron) that most PSAP's now use, Comtech, other public safety software vendors, the ICN, and the Cyber Security and Infrastructure Security Agency. The meetings are accessible through Zoom and are taped and available on the 911 Councils YouTube page for viewing at any time. This is a very simple and valuable way of disseminating information to the local PSAP's and any one else who may be interested. Since the PSAPs cover 24/7 365 days per year even the managers often work odd hours especially with current staffing issues, This can prevent us from going to the meeting in person but with these other ways of accessing the meeting we are able to receive the information and participate,

The 911 Program manager also reports to the Council at the monthly meetings. Through meeting attendance in person, via zoom, or watching the meeting on the YouTube channel it is easy for the local PSAP's to be kept up to date on what issues are being addressed by the State 911 Program Manager and how they are being delt with. The Council is able to help guide the Manager with these issues as well as watch out for the local PSAP's and offer a big picture view of the issues any changes may cause. The Council is also able to relay issues/needs at the front line level back to the State Program Manager. Working through the Council or attending the meetings in person is the most efficient way to allow the local PSAP's, 911 Coordinators, and vendors to give their input directly to the program manager.

The Council also approves how training funds are spent, which is very important in assisting each dispatcher in the State get their required continuing education hours. Being telecommunicators themselves, they know what issues are important to the front line telecommunicators.

Due to the 911 Council's input on 911 system operations in the state and their ability to disseminate updated information to each PSAP on a monthly basis, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

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A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Bcc:  
Subject: Iowa Commission Of Libraries  
Date: Thu Aug 31 2023 12:09:54 CDT  
Attachments: CRPLsignature200x108px-resized\_0fc6c01d-cbf4-496c-8fae-75efbb761636.jpg

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As the director of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, I am writing to you today to implore you to keep the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country. In Iowa, I know we can do better.

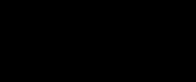
The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

Removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The easiest solution to this potentially chilling political quagmire is simple: keep the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board.

Sincerely,

Sent from Mail for Windows



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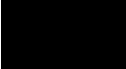
Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: CRPLsignature200x108px-resized\_0fc6c01d-cbf4-496c-8fae-75efbb761636.jpg

Last Modified: Thu Aug 31 12:09:54 CDT 2023

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<brcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Council  
Date: Thu Aug 31 2023 12:12:17 CDT  
Attachments:

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To Whom It May ,

My name is [REDACTED] rff. I live in the rural community of Maquoketa, Iowa. Maquoketa is located in the east central part of the state nestled along the Maquoketa River & only a short drive to the Mighty Miss. I work at the Maquoketa Police Dept. There is an a 911 telecommunicator for Jackson County. Jackson county includes the cities of Maquoketa (county seat), Bellevue, Preston, Miles, Sabula (an island city), Andrew, St Donatus, La Motte, Baldwin, Monmouth & many little unincorporated areas. Jackson County is the home of Maquoketa Caves State Park. We have beautiful areas to live & play. Close knit communities to raise a family in the heart of the midwest.

I am writing in regards to the very recent announcement from the Iowa Governor regarding the restructuring of boards & commissions in the state, specifically our statewide 911 council.

911 PSAPs are vital to the health & safety of all Iowans. Even more so to the rural areas of Iowa where emergency services are not often close or readily available. In life threatening emergency situations a local PSAP is vital to getting the right people to your loved one who is choking, having a heart attack, drowning, being attacked by an armed intruder, in a violent domestic situation, trapped in a farming accident or worse. Taking away the 911 council & council meetings means that local areas, such as Jackson County, will lose their voice. Additionally, there would be no way for these PSAPs, 911 coordinators to voice any concerns, brainstorm statewide or share input.

The 911 council meetings are a venue for monthly presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, the shared Services Vendor, Zetron, on pertinent issues local 911 centers and PSAPs are facing. Networking is crucial to these Centers. Especially the rural areas.

Training education funds are also voted on by the council at meetings. Eliminating these meetings would impact continuing education for dispatchers across the state to maintain their certifications & CEUs.

The Board brings experts from across numerous fields of expertise together to discuss any issues or concerns. Members from wireless organizations, GIS specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS & Fire. It gives these professional entities a chance to meet, network & collaborate. Which is vital to our 911 PSAPs to run smooth & efficiently in emergent situations.



Due to the 911 council being involved in all the mentioned matters, I STRONGLY encourage you to DENY the Governor's request to eliminate the state 911 Council. 911 Centers are the 1st point of contact in many emergencies. If it is your emergency, wouldn't you want the 911 Center PSAP your calling to be the best they can be?

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Public Comments  
Date: Thu Aug 31 2023 12:58:21 CDT  
Attachments: ATT00001.jpg

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Good Afternoon,

I would like to address the Committee on behalf of the Iowa Judicial Branch at the Boards and Commissions Review Committee meeting on September 6.

Thank you,

Caitlin

[REDACTED]

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename:

ATT00001.jpg

Last Modified:

Thu Aug 31 12:58:21 CDT 2023

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ATT0000:

for Print

Item: 1

Attachme

154 of 1)

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From: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

To: Tom.Moore@legis.iowa.gov  
<tom.moore@legis.iowa.gov>; tom.shipley@legis.iowa.gov  
<tom.shipley@legis.iowa.gov>; bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Message of support for the Iowa Commission of Libraries  
[REDACTED]

---

As a public library director and concerned citizen, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

[REDACTED]



---

From: Gangestad, Sydney  
<sydney.gangestad@dentons.com> on behalf of Gangestad, Sydney  
<sydney.gangestad@dentons.com> <sydney.gangestad@dentons.com>  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: Morris, Marisa  
<marisa.morris@dentons.com>; Coonan, Tim  
<tim.coonan@dentons.com>; Joni Fleig <joni.fleig@gmail.com>  
Bcc:  
Subject: BCRC Public Hearing Request  
Date: Thu Aug 31 2023 15:24:26 CDT  
Attachments:

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Boards and Commissions Review Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Boards and Commissions Review Committee (BCRC) next week at the public hearing on Wednesday, September 6th.

Tim Coonan and I represent the Iowa Court Reporters Association (ICRA); the ICRA would like to request the opportunity to speak. [REDACTED] is the current President of ICRA and should be listed as the primary contact (she is Cc'd on this email).

Please let us know if there is time available/ICRA should have a representative in attendance.

Best,

Sydney

Sydney Gangestad

Special Counsel

+1 515 246 7968 | +1 815 440 8676

[sydney.gangestad@dentons.com](mailto:sydney.gangestad@dentons.com) | [Bio](#) | [Website](#)

Dentons Davis Brown PC | The Davis Brown Tower, 215 10th Street, Suite 1300, Des Moines, IA, 50309, United States

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: FW: 911 Commissions  
Date: Thu Aug 31 2023 15:40:21 CDT  
Attachments: 911 Commission Letter.docx

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Sent from Outlook

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 2:49 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: 911 Commissions

My feeling on the consolidation matter is attached,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]net



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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: 911 Commission Letter.docx

Last Modified: Thu Aug 31 15:40:21 CDT 2023

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To Whom it may concern,

Introduction: [REDACTED], Chief, Jewell Fire and Rescue, Hamilton County 911 Commission 2003 to Present.

I am writing in regards to the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council.

Taking away the 911 Council and Council meetings means that the locals lose their voice. There would be no way for locals PSAPs, 911 Coordinators and vendors to voice concerns or give input.

The 911 Council advises and gives direction to HSEMD 911 Program Manager regarding 34A and recommendations shall be provided on issues at the request of the Program Manager or other items deemed necessary by council, such as issues brought forth by local 911 Coordinators or PSAPs.

The Program Manager in consultation with the 911 Council determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards.

Consolidation Grants – The council discusses and votes on physical and virtual consolidations grants. Without the council how would this be determined?

The Board brings experts from across numerous fields/organizations together to discuss 911 issues and concerns. Members are from Wireless Providers, GIS Specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns.

Due to the 911 Council being involved in all the above matters, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Please support ICL as governing board  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 05:31:57 CDT  
Attachments:

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September 1, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

As a frequent library user and relative of a school librarian, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Boards and Commissions Review Committee  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 07:36:39 CDT  
Attachments:

---

Good Morning-

I appreciate the opportunity to speak at the committee hearing to be held on Wednesday the sixth of September regarding the executive reorganization

Name: [REDACTED]

Representing: the Iowa library Association

Subject: The need for continued governance as the role of the Commission of Libraries as opposed to advisory only.

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Iowa Commission of Libraries  
[REDACTED]

---

I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



---

From: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
To: BCRComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrcomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: do not take away the 911 council/council meetings  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 08:56:13 CDT  
Attachments: image001.png

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To Whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] and have worked for Scott County Emergency Communications Center (previously Scott County Sheriffs office dispatch center) for 24 years.

I am writing in regards to the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council.

1. Taking away the 911 Council and Council meetings means that the locals lose their voice. There would be no way for locals PSAPs, 911 Coordinators and vendors to voice concerns or give input.
2. The 911 Council advises and gives direction to HSEMD 911 Program Manager regarding 34A and recommendations shall be provided on issues at the request of the Program Manager or other items deemed necessary by council, such as issues brought forth by local 911 Coordinators or PSAPs.
3. The 911 Council meetings are a venue for monthly presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, the shared Services Vendor, Zetron, on pertinent issues that local 911 Coordinators and PSAPs are facing.
4. The meeting provides a monthly interactive Program Manager report to the Council and locals PSAPs, vendors, others in attendance which allows for transparency within the 911 Program. Meetings are shown on YouTube along with minutes and agenda published so there is transparency to constituents and local state PSAPs
5. The Program Manager in consultation with the 911 Council determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards.
6. Training/Public Education funds – Iowa APCO recommended the training fund – members of the council vote on the fund usage monthly. Not having the council would affect how the Telecommunicators across the state get and maintain their Continuing Dispatch

Educations hours. The 911 Council also votes on fund allocation for speakers at the 2 yearly conferences for APCO/NENA and is the biggest training opportunity for dispatchers across the state.

7. Consolidation Grants – The council discusses and votes on physical and virtual consolidations grants. Without the council how would this be determined?

8. Committees – 911 Council Committees helped create and give feedback on the leadership training that is now used across the state. A 911 Council Committee also assisted with the state 911 Coloring book. Text-to-911 campaign was also created out of a 911 Council Committee. Baseline Knowledge for 911 report was created out of Committee.

9. The Board brings experts from across numerous fields/organizations together to discuss 911 issues and concerns. Members are from Wireless Providers, GIS Specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns.

Due to the 911 Council being involved in all the above matters, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

“The public recognizes the uniform of the first responder, but rarely thanks the first to help: the dispatcher”~unknown

[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This E-mail (included in the attachments) is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2521, is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any retention, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. Please reply to the sender that you have received the message in error, then delete it.

Thank you.



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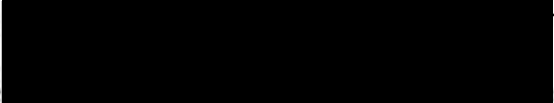
Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: image001.png

Last Modified: Fri Sep 01 08:56:13 CDT 2023

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From:

[REDACTED]

To:

BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject:

Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 09:13:10 CDT

Attachments:

---

I would like to speak at this public meeting. I am from Burlington iowa. Please contact me on what information you need from me. My cell is + [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Communications Council  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 10:48:44 CDT  
Attachments:

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I am reaching out regarding the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the 911 Communications Council. I have been employed with the Woodbury County Communications Center for almost 25 years and have seen this Council play a major role in developing and making needed improvements to the state 911 network, making text to 911 available to our citizens and updating equipment at the local level so all citizens have access to 911 and emergency services.

I am concerned that dissolving this council would mean that locals lose their voice. This council is made up of many local representatives including those from the Deputy Sheriff's Association, Emergency Management, Iowa Chief's of Police, Iowa Firefighters Assn, Iowa EMS Assn, Telephone associations, etc.- those that really have a handle on what is needed at the local level regarding 911 services. Even though they are an advisory board, they are great proponents of what we need at the local level and have been champions in fighting for what is right on the 911 scene for years. I would hate to see this board dissolved and Homeland Security staff solely in control of what happens with 911 dollars without some local oversight.

My biggest concern would be without the 911 Council in place it would potentially make it easier for administrative rules and legislation to change allowing 911 surcharge money to be used to fund other things including ongoing costs of the statewide radio network which could in turn end up with that money not being returned to the local 911 boards where it was intended to fund local emergency response initiatives.

Thanks for listening, if you have any questions please reach out.

Wendi

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Support for Commission of Libraries  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 10:49:57 CDT  
Attachments:

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Dear Governor Kimberly Reynolds and the State of Iowa Officials,

As a long-time academic librarian from Iowa City, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

I apologize that my language may be coming from my professional colleagues. Participating in public life means working with like-minded individuals who are able to prepare and investigate complex topics. I value my colleagues' contributions and support their work in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

---

From:

[Redacted]

To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Request to speak

Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 11:57:30 CDT

Attachments:

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As the chair of the CSR board, I am requesting an opportunity to speak on behalf of the board at the September 6 forum.

[Redacted]

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: 911 Committee Letter  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 12:04:15 CDT  
Attachments:

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September 6, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is [REDACTED] and I reside in Muscatine, Iowa. I spent 25 years working in EMS and 7 years working with search & rescue with 6 of those years acting as 1st Lieutenant.

I am writing to you regarding the recent announcement from the Governor's office that discusses restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state of Iowa, specifically the Statewide 911 Council.

Taking away the 911 Council and Council meetings means that the locals lose their voice. There would be no way for locals PSAPs, 911 Coordinators and vendors to voice concerns or give input.

The 911 Council meetings are a venue for monthly presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, the shared Services Vendor, Zetron, on pertinent issues that local 911 Coordinators and PSAPs are facing.

Training/Public Education funds – Iowa APCO recommended the training fund – members of the council vote on the fund usage monthly. Not having the council would affect how the Telecommunicators across the state get and maintain their Continuing Dispatch Educations hours. The 911 Council also votes on fund allocation for speakers at the 2 yearly conferences for APCO/NENA and is the biggest training opportunity for dispatchers across the state.

The Board brings experts from across numerous fields/organizations together to discuss 911 issues and concerns. Members are from Wireless Providers, GIS Specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns.

When a government agency takes these things away from those on the front lines, there is a potential for disaster. Having these committees in place and allowing them to stay up to date on the latest potential dangers, as well as equipment only serves the good of each community. Some communities are so small and rely on these committees to assist them. By taking this away, you create even more danger for small communities and their citizens.

Due to the 911 Council being involved in all the above matters, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Regards,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

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From: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
To: BCRCComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Council  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 15:02:59 CDT  
Attachments:

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Good afternoon,

My name is [REDACTED] I live in Council Bluffs and have worked for Pottawattamie County 911 for 22 years. I am writing regarding the recommendation to eliminate the 911 Communications Council as part of the State Government Reorganization Bill.

The 911 Council advises the 911 Program Manager and gives recommendations on issues brought forth by local 911 Coordinators or PSAPs. It allows local 911 agencies to voice concerns and give input and keeps them informed regarding 911 issues across the State. The 911 Council meetings allow monthly presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), Comtech, 911 mapping/GIS vendors and shared services.

The 911 Council vote on applications for Training/Public Education monthly. 911 Centers across the state count on these training funds for Continuing Dispatch Education hours. These training funds are necessary to ensure that 911 Telecommunicators across the State can receive quality training to provide the best service possible to our citizens.

The 911 Council has many committees that created the leadership training used across the State, assisted with public education materials for children and also for the Text-to-911 campaign and developed the baseline knowledge for 911 report to assist with minimum training standards.

The 911 Council is an extremely valuable resource for local 911 centers across the State. I would strongly encourage you to retain the 911 Communications Council.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



---

From:

[Redacted]

To:

BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Opposition of the elimination of the State 911 Council

Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 15:03:53 CDT

Attachments: image001.png

Oppose elimination of State 911 Council.docx

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Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. Please see my attached letter of opposition.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: image001.png

Last Modified: Fri Sep 01 15:03:53 CDT 2023

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image001.png for Print

Item: 34 ( Attachment

2)



Page 62 of 154

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename:

Oppose elimination of State 911 Council.docx

Last Modified:

Fri Sep 01 15:03:53 CDT 2023

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To Whom it may concern,

Hello, my name is [REDACTED], I am the Communications Center Manager for the Marion Police Department PSAP / 911 Communications Center. I have been with the department for over 27 years as a Telecommunicator, Lead and now Center Manager.

I am writing in regards to the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council.

I am very concerned with the prospect of losing the Statewide 911 Council.

911 is a national resource. It would be near impossible to coordinate or disseminate critical information whether from cyber attacks, mass casualty events, or natural disasters that could impede the 911 service across the country without having a State of Iowa point of contact and that being the 911 Council.

Taking away the 911 Council and Council meetings means that the locals lose their voice. There would be no way for local PSAPs, 911 Coordinators and vendors to voice concerns or give input.

The 911 Council meetings are a venue for monthly presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, the shared Services Vendor, Zetron, on pertinent issues that local 911 Coordinators and PSAPs are facing. The 911 Council and the 911 Program Manager are on top of current events and regularly inform all PSAP managers whether during a 911 Council meeting or via an immediate email if an issue could critical impact 911 function.

The 911 Program Manager in consultation with the 911 Council determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards. Funding for a 911 center continues to increase with the increase of technology, without the 911 Council, I don't know who would advocate for the PSAP's, small and large, and make sure 911 remains affordable and viable across the state.

Along with the increase of technology, we must continue to educate the Telecommunicators so they can effectively and efficiently perform their jobs. The 911 Council provides a lot of training opportunities, assists with some funding and plays a huge role in making sure there are adequate opportunities for continuing education for the Telecommunicators. This is a specialized job which requires specialized training.

These are only a few things the 911 Council is involved with, but these are of great concern for me and I feel could immediately and negatively impact the performance of 911 in the state. I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

---

From:

[Redacted]

To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Retain Iowa 911 Council

Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 15:04:32 CDT

Attachments: BuenaVistaCounty911.pdf  
image003.jpg

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Filename: BuenaVistaCounty911.pdf

Last Modified: Fri Sep 01 15:04:32 CDT 2023

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# Buena Vista County 911

411 Expansion Blvd.  
P.O. Box 312  
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588  
Phone (712) 749-2525 • Fax (712) 749-2557

September 1, 2023

To Whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] I am the 911 Coordinator for Buena Vista County. I have been in Public Safety Dispatch for 48 years.

I am writing to you in regards to the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council.

Taking away the 911 Council and Council meetings means that the locals lose their voice. There would be no way for locals PSAPs, 911 Coordinators and vendors to voice concerns or give input.

The 911 Council advises and gives direction to HSEMD 911 Program Manager regarding 34A and recommendations shall be provided on issues at the request of the Program Manager or other items deemed necessary by council, such as issues brought forth by local 911 Coordinators or PSAPs (Public Safety Answering Point).

The 911 Council meetings are a venue for monthly presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, the shared Services Vendor, Zetron, on pertinent issues that local 911 Coordinators and PSAPs are facing.

The meeting provides a monthly interactive Program Manager report to the Council and locals PSAPs, vendors, others in attendance which allows for transparency within the 911 Program. Meetings are shown on YouTube along with minutes and agenda published so there is transparency to constituents and local state PSAPs

The Program Manager in consultation with the 911 Council determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards.

Training/Public Education funds – Iowa APCO recommended the training fund – members of the council vote on the fund usage monthly. Not having the council would affect how the Telecommunicators across the state get and maintain their Continuing Dispatch Educations hours. The 911 Council also votes on fund allocation for speakers at the 2 yearly conferences for APCO/NENA and is the biggest training opportunity for dispatchers across the state. I have used these training funds several times by hosting training at our facility in Storm Lake for Public Safety Dispatchers at no additional cost to them or their agencies. It's been very well received.



# Buena Vista County 911

411 Expansion Blvd.  
P.O. Box 312  
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588  
Phone (712) 749-2525 • Fax (712) 749-2557

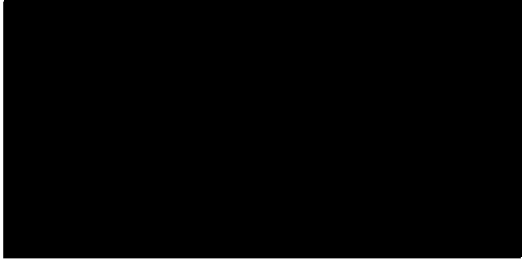
Consolidation Grants – The council discusses and votes on physical and virtual consolidations grants. Without the council how would this be determined?

Committees – 911 Council Committees helped create and give feedback on the leadership training that is now used across the state. A 911 Council Committee also assisted with the state 911 Coloring book. Text-to-911 campaign was also created out of a 911 Council Committee. Baseline Knowledge for 911 report was created out of Committee.

The Board brings experts from across numerous fields/organizations together to discuss 911 issues and concerns. Members are from Wireless Providers, GIS Specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns.

Due to the 911 Council being involved in all the above matters, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Sincerely,





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Owner:

Filename:

image003.jpg

Last Modified:

Fri Sep 01 15:04:32 CDT 2023

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image003.

for Printer

Item: 37

Attachment

2)

of 154

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Support for Iowa Commission of Libraries  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 15:43:58 CDT  
Attachments:

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Dear Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee,

As a library director who is concerned about the future of Iowa libraries, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library, as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries, now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Council  
Date: Fri Sep 01 2023 16:02:04 CDT  
Attachments: Retain 911 Council.pdf

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To whom it may concern,

Please find the attached letter in regards to the Governor's recommendation to eliminate the state 911 council. I strongly disagree with this recommendation and hope the letter will provide some insight as to why this would be a devastating decision to 911 professionals statewide.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: Retain 911 Council.pdf

Last Modified: Fri Sep 01 16:02:04 CDT 2023

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To Whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] I am the 911 Coordinator for Clayton County and have been in this role for two years and dispatched for eight years prior. I am writing in regards to the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council. I strongly disagree with the recommendation to eliminate the 911 Council.

Taking away the 911 Council and Council meetings means that the locals lose their voice. There would be no way for local PSAPs, 911 Coordinators, and vendors to voice concerns or give input. The Board brings experts from across numerous fields/organizations together to discuss 911 issues and concerns. Members are from Wireless Providers, GIS Specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns. There is no other means currently to facilitate such a valuable collaboration.

The 911 Council meetings are a venue for monthly presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, the shared Services Vendor Zetron, & on pertinent issues that local 911 Coordinators and PSAPs are facing.

The meeting provides a monthly interactive Program Manager report to the Council and locals PSAPs, vendors, others in attendance which allows for transparency within the 911 Program. Meetings are shown on YouTube along with minutes and agenda published so there is transparency to constituents and local state PSAPs.

The Program Manager in consultation with the 911 Council determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards. The council discusses and votes on physical and virtual consolidations grants. Without the council how would this be determined?

Not having the council would affect how the Telecommunicators across the state get and maintain their Continuing Dispatch Educations hours. Members of the council vote on the training and public education fund usage monthly. The committees within the 911 Council also create and give feedback on the leadership training that is now used across the state.

The 911 Council also assisted with the creation of the state 911 Coloring book and the Text-to-911 campaign was created out of a 911 Council Committee, which are both great public education efforts.

Due to the 911 Council being involved in all the above matters, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



---

From:

[REDACTED]

To:

BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Testimony to Committee

Date: Sat Sep 02 2023 08:41:11 CDT

Attachments:

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As chairman of the Mid-America Port Commission, I would like to have the opportunity to address the committee at its September 6 meeting.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: support for the Iowa Governor's Commission of Libraries  
Date: Sat Sep 02 2023 10:29:49 CDT  
Attachments:

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9/2/2023

Dear Committee Members,

As an Iowa library worker, former chair of the Iowa Governor's Commission of Libraries, and as the current Iowa Library Association President, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Iowa Commission of Libraries  
Date: Sat Sep 02 2023 11:11:48 CDT  
Attachments:

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September 2, 2023

The Honorable Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee,

As a librarian patron and supporter, , I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From:

[REDACTED]

To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject:

Date: Sun Sep 03 2023 09:26:09 CDT

Attachments:

---

I originally sent my name requesting to speak. My name is Lisa walsh. I am a commissioner on the IMRPC . Although I was coming to speak as a citizen of Burlington, Iowa

Sent from my iPhone

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain the Iowa Commission of Libraries  
Date: Mon Sep 04 2023 19:55:34 CDT  
Attachments:

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September 4, 2023

As a retired academic librarian, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library now reports to the Department of Administrative Services, which makes it even more critical that a knowledgeable oversight Board is in place to steward state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library employees and volunteers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries and additionally for Iowa's museums. Their collective dedication, experience, and skills are essential to the important impact created by fostering information access throughout the state.

As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have its current vacancies filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to become less transparent while hindering the long tradition of quality library service in Iowa.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom will be detrimental to small and rural libraries, traditional and lifelong students, and Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources. It may also impact the ability of Iowa libraries to participate in consortiums or to share resources communally.

The important role that libraries play in our communities and in educating all citizens is indisputable. Please continue to support Iowa libraries by maintaining their present transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]



---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Please retain Iowa Commission on Libraries  
Date: Mon Sep 04 2023 20:52:06 CDT  
Attachments:

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To: Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee

As a lifelong Iowan and a patron and supporter of its libraries, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. This commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: [REDACTED], VP Public Affairs, AGC of Iowa Comments  
Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 10:32:27 CDT  
Attachments: Scott D. Newhard Letter.pdf

---

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename:

[REDACTED]

Letter.pdf

Last Modified:

Tue Sep 05 10:32:27 CDT 2023

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# Associated General Contractors of Iowa

701 East Court Avenue, Suite B • Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4901  
800-728-2424 • 515-283-2424 • fax 515-244-6289 • www.agcia.org

**President**  
Tony Vieth  
Vieth Construction Corporation  
Cedar Falls

September 5, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

**Sr. Vice President**  
Lindsey Falk  
L.R. Falk Construction Co.  
Saint Ansgar

I am writing on behalf of the Associated General Contractors of Iowa. AGC of Iowa is an association of highway, bridge and municipal/utility contractors doing business in the State of Iowa. AGC of Iowa is concerned and opposes the recommended elimination of both the horizontal and vertical infrastructure bid threshold subcommittees found in Chapter 314 (Code of Iowa).

**Vice President**  
Mark Freier  
Godbersen-Smith Construction Co.  
Ida Grove

Prior to 2001 the legislature set the bid thresholds in code which governed the dollar figure in which local governments needed to put out for public bid on public improvement projects involving new construction, reconstruction or improvement of a highway, bridge, or culvert.

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Kraig Kriegel  
Absolute Group  
Granger

Also prior to 2001 the codified bid thresholds remained constant. Although periodically local governments sought to raise them, AGC and others successfully resisted those efforts. In 2001 AGC sat down with local governments and proposed an administrative indexing solution based on the construction price index from the preceding years. Furthermore, it was decided that because of the many years of a combative relationship between contractor groups and local governments on this issue that a collaborative mechanism be developed. So, the interested parties, legislators and the Department of Transportation developed language creating the "horizontal infrastructure bid threshold subcommittee" charged with periodically evaluating the construction price index and making adjustments to the applicable thresholds with an effective date of the following January.

**Past President**  
Dan Cramer  
Cramer & Associates, Inc.  
Grimes

**Executive Vice President**  
Andy Warren  
AGC of Iowa  
Des Moines

I do not think this letter can adequately reflect the tensions, disagreements and adversarial atmosphere that existed between contractors and local governments on the issue of appropriate bid thresholds prior to 2001. I am proud to say that in the ensuing years contractors and local governments have embraced and supported the methodology we have used to establish the thresholds. The one meeting every two years (or yearly if requested by the subcommittee) allows for input, evaluation and consensus of all parties involved. The end result is full embracement of the figures set and a feeling that input was welcomed and truly reflected upon.

Boards, commission, subcommittees are that part of the Executive branch that allows direct citizen or specific constituency involvement. Some may be antiquated and need elimination or change. However, the horizontal infrastructure bid threshold subcommittee and the vertical bid threshold subcommittee created several years later based on the success of the horizontal committee should be continued as is. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Council  
Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 11:48:16 CDT  
Attachments: Letter from Sheriff [REDACTED] - 911 Comm Council.pdf

---

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Disclaimer

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---

Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: Letter from Sheriff [REDACTED] - 911 Comm Council.pdf

Last Modified: Tue Sep 05 11:48:16 CDT 2023

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# Sheriff's Office

Story County



Emergency 911 • Office: 515-382-6566 • Fax #: 515-382-7479 • P.O. Box 265 • Nevada, Iowa 50201

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Re:** *Recommendation to Eliminate 911 Communications Council, BCID 171 (Cabinet – HSEMD)*

Dear Boards and Commission Review Committee:

As the Review Committee considers the Governor's government reorganization bill and directives therein I would like to take the opportunity to share my concerns and comments with the proposed elimination of the 911 Communications Council in particular.

As the Sheriff of Story County, Chair of Story County's 911 Board, and over 46 year veteran of the public safety profession the elimination of this critical avenue toward public information and participation in the public safety and the 911 process is of the utmost concern. Iowa has and continues to lead the way with 911 technologies and interoperability in large part thanks to this Council of varied public safety professions and their ongoing advisement to HSEMD representatives.

It is my understanding that you will hear from Iowa's Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and Iowa's National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Leadership during your public input session on September 6<sup>th</sup> and that the number of participants is restricted at that time. With that in mind, I would like to highlight a few of the things that the 911 Communications Council continues to do for Iowa and the meaningful impact they have.

- Loss of the 911 Communications Council stifles the voice of public officials, public safety answering points (PSAPs), public safety, and first responder interests in 911 funding, direction, training, interoperability, and innovation. This action is in direct opposition to your stated findings (#3 – striving toward better public participation) and recommendations (#2 – meaningful perspective for public officials). eliminating public transparency within 911.
- The 911 Communications Council provides years of professional experience-based advice and direction to the HSEMD 911 Program Manager. They assist the program manager with transparency within 911, resources to address issues or questions, and added layers of transparency and published material statewide.
- Finally, this council has maintained a track record of public outreach and education efforts; such as with text to 911 efforts, information sharing campaigns, and statewide dissemination of national efforts and education. They advise and assist with physical and virtual consolidation efforts, and support/advise on state training and continuing education efforts within 911 professions.

As your deadline for recommendations approaches consider the impact and support that the 911 Communications Council has on Iowa's 911 responses, training, and future. This is the avenue by which we interact, advise, and assist state-based entities on 911 functionality and systems. As national initiatives continue to push for Next Gen 911 (NG911) and with increased support for NG911 standardization of definitions, capabilities, and interoperability; now is not the time to remove public safety, public officials, and communications expertise from Iowa's 911 processes.

Respectfully,

[Redacted signature block]

---

From:

[Redacted]

To: BCRComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrcomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Recommendations for reducing the amount of boards and commissions in Iowa State Government

Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 11:55:30 CDT

Attachments: 4677\_001.pdf

---

Thank you in advance for taking the time to receive email thoughts and concerns.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

---

Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: 4677\_001.pdf

Last Modified: Tue Sep 05 11:55:30 CDT 2023

---



**WASHINGTON COUNTY 9-1-1  
P.O. BOX 911 WASHINGTON, IA 52353  
319-653-2107 OR FAX 319-653-3297**

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear Boards and Commissions Review Committee,

My name is [REDACTED] and I have been involved in 911 for 35-years as the 911 Supervisor for Washington County Communications in Washington, Iowa. I have also served on the Iowa Statewide 911 Communications Council as the APCO (Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials) representative for many years acting as the Secretary. I am concerned reference the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council. I do not think that the 911 Communications Council should be eliminated.

The 911 Council advises and gives direction to the HSEMD 911 Program Manager regarding Chapter 34A concerning the state's enhanced emergency telephone systems. Monthly meetings provide an in-person and a virtual option to receive information concerning and make recommendations about 911 in the state. Concerns, innovations, improvements, and hiccups are identified by both the State 911 Program Manager and local 911 Coordinators or PSAPs. This process ensures that citizens in Iowa receive the most dependable and redundant system possible when an emergency strikes them. The monthly meetings also include industry experts from wireless providers, GIS specialists, law enforcement, EMS, and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns.

The 911 Council meetings are a venue for presentations for CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, the shared Services Vendor, Zetron, on pertinent issues that local 911 Coordinators and PSAPs are facing.

The Program Manager, in consultation with the 911 Council, determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards. This data is used to produce the direct costs of providing 911 in Iowa.

The Statewide 911 Communications Council is involved in all of the above matters and is a vital link between the State 911 Program and local 911. I would urge you to reconsider eliminating it and recommend that it continue as is.

Respectfully,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: Blake E. Roderick  
<blakeeroderick@gmail.com>  
Bcc:  
Subject: RE: Comment for Mid-America Port Commission  
Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 12:09:22 CDT  
Attachments: Letter to Iowa Boards and Commission Review Committee\_09052023.pdf

---

Good morning,

My written comment is attached in letter format advocating for the Mid-America Port Commission to remain an active Iowa Board and Committee.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]



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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename:

Letter to Iowa Boards and Commission Review Committee\_09052023.pdf

Last Modified:

Tue Sep 05 12:09:22 CDT 2023

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211 N. Gear Avenue, Suite 100  
West Burlington, Iowa 52655

Tel: 319.753.5107  
Fax: 319.754.4763  
Website: [www.seirpc.com](http://www.seirpc.com)

Sept 1, 2023

Iowa Boards and Commissions Review Committee  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
[BCRCcomments@iowa.gov](mailto:BCRCcomments@iowa.gov)

RE: Mid-America Port Commission

Dear Members of the Iowa Boards and Commissions Review Committee:

I'm writing today in support of keeping the Mid-America Port Commission (MAPC) an active part of the state's slate of boards and commissions. MAPC serves a valuable role as a forum for coordinating river development relations and port development in southeast Iowa, northeast Missouri, and western Illinois.

MAPC was created by joint legislation with Illinois and Missouri in 1999 as the country's only three-state compact based around river issues, ports, and economic development, found in Chapter 28K, Iowa Code. A specific geography of 26 counties in three states was created for MAPC to serve, with six counties in Iowa:

- Des Moines
- Henry
- Lee
- Van Buren
- Jefferson
- Wapello

MAPC is an incorporated public entity with nine board members, with three from each state (IA, IL, MO). One member from each state is appointed by the Governor, and the other two are appointed by counties served by MAPC.

MAPC presently exists at no cost to the State of Iowa. The costs of meeting are born by the committee members and other organizations.

The value of such a three-state compact is also evident in that MAPC is recognized as the 42<sup>nd</sup> largest port (tonnage) in the United States and a port statistical area. This recognition is valuable



to communicate the total freight activity in the region and utilize the ranking to leverage federal and private investment in river infrastructure and port facilities.

Tri-state cooperation on river and port development issues is made possible by the MAPC forum. Public and private port operators in the MAPC area attend meetings to exchange information, discuss strategy, and provide valuable input to the state DOTs and the Rock Island District of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The recently adopted strategic plan will also see MAPC informing its ports, the Rock Island District, state DOTs, and federal elected representatives at a higher level of current conditions and future needs. A three-state entity's input carries more weight than one state, typically, to these entities on policy and funding issues.

Periodically MAPC serves as a Tri-State entry for shippers and business interests to connect resources and opportunities. MAPC provides support also for grant applications and large river projects. It's simply easier to get information funneled from one group instead of many.

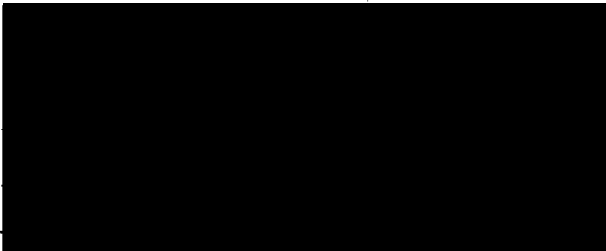
Current MAPC board members representing Iowa:

- Mike Norris, Governor's Appointee (Executive Director, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission)
- Denise Boyer, County appointee (Co-owner, Hall Towing, Fort Madison, IA)

MAPC presently has a high level of coordination with Iowa DOT, Illinois DOT, and Missouri DOT. These connections share knowledge of river issues, trends, opportunities, and players in the arena.

The benefit/cost ratio of MAPC is very positive. Iowa gains nothing by eliminating the Iowa part of commission and unwinding 24 years of cooperation with Illinois and Missouri, and multiple other entities serving in the Mississippi River basin in the Tri-State Area. Keeping Iowa in the MAPC will benefit the state into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.



---

From:

[Redacted]

To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: subcommittee recommendation opposition

Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 12:20:45 CDT

Attachments: Comments for BCRC public hearing.pdf

---

Boards and Commissions Review Committee,

Please see attached letter opposing the recommendation of the subcommittee to consolidate/merge the Secondary Road Fund Distribution Committee with another committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

We have recently updated our office phone number to [Redacted]. Please update your records accordingly. Thank you!

---

Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: Comments for BCRC public hearing.pdf

Last Modified: Tue Sep 05 12:20:45 CDT 2023

---

**Secondary Road Department**

428 6<sup>th</sup> St. – PO Box 305  
Allison, Iowa 50602  
Phone: 319-346-6558  
FAX: 877-527-5427

[engineer@butlercounty.iowa.gov](mailto:engineer@butlercounty.iowa.gov)  
<http://www.butlercounty.iowa.gov>



**John Riherd, P.E. & L.S.**  
**County Engineer**

Assistants to Engineer:  
Dave Scanlan, P.E.  
Tom Hoodjer, L.S.

Susie Jacobs, Office Manager

September 5, 2023

Boards and Commissions Review Committee  
Office of the Governor  
1007 East Grand Ave  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Boards and Commissions Review Committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the August 29, 2023 subcommittee report containing recommendations for the 256 various boards, commissions and similar entities. Membership of the Secondary Road Fund Distribution Committee (SRFDC) would like go on record in opposition to the current recommendation found in the report calling the Secondary Road Fund Distribution Committee to consolidate/merge with another committee.

- SRFDC is a stand-alone committee made up of County Supervisors and County Engineers that regularly meets twice a year to monitor and assess the various factors impacting the distribution of funds to Secondary Road departments to all 99 counties
- SRFDC does not have a budget and receives no State budget dollars; therefore, no savings would be realized via consolidation
- SRFDC has a unique objective that does not readily combine with other committees

Please reconsider the preliminary recommendation by the subcommittee and instead act to continue the Secondary Road Fund Distribution Committee (SRFDC) as is.

Respectfully,

[Redacted signature block]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Council  
Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 12:23:42 CDT  
Attachments: Letter from Sheriff Fitzgerald - 911 Comm Council.pdf

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Dear Boards and Commission Review Committee,

I would echo my Sheriff's words and concerns with the proposed loss of the 911 Communications Council attached here.

The 911 Communications Council plays an integral role in Iowa's 911 system and provides critical feedback, participation, and innovation opportunities for public safety stake holders and officials.

I would also like to reiterate his point of Federal NG911 legislation that is moving through the House and Senate currently and were nearly passed in last December's Omnibus package. This legislation as part of the Spectrum Reauthorization (H.R. 3565) will result in a nearly 15 billion dollar investment in overhauls to 911 infrastructure and capabilities nationally while also establishing a national standard of NG911 definitions and standards.

Now is not the time to leave the State of Iowa without this critical Council and its input and assistance to 911.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 11:48 AM  
To: 'BCRCcomments@iowa.gov' <BCRCcomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Retain 911 Council

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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---

Owner: [REDACTED] alf of Nicolas R.  
Briseno <NBriseno@storycountyiowa.gov> <nbrisenobriseno@storycountyiowa.gov>  
Filename: Letter from Sheriff [REDACTED] - 911 Comm Council.pdf  
Last Modified: Tue Sep 05 12:23:42 CDT 2023

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# Sheriff's Office

Story County



Emergency 911 • Office: 515-382-6566 • Fax #: 515-382-7479 • P.O. Box 265 • Nevada, Iowa 50201

September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Re:** *Recommendation to Eliminate 911 Communications Council, BCID 171 (Cabinet – HSEMD)*

Dear Boards and Commission Review Committee:

As the Review Committee considers the Governor's government reorganization bill and directives therein I would like to take the opportunity to share my concerns and comments with the proposed elimination of the 911 Communications Council in particular.

As the Sheriff of Story County, Chair of Story County's 911 Board, and over 46 year veteran of the public safety profession the elimination of this critical avenue toward public information and participation in the public safety and the 911 process is of the utmost concern. Iowa has and continues to lead the way with 911 technologies and interoperability in large part thanks to this Council of varied public safety professions and their ongoing advisement to HSEMD representatives.

It is my understanding that you will hear from Iowa's Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and Iowa's National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Leadership during your public input session on September 6<sup>th</sup> and that the number of participants is restricted at that time. With that in mind, I would like to highlight a few of the things that the 911 Communications Council continues to do for Iowa and the meaningful impact they have.

- Loss of the 911 Communications Council stifles the voice of public officials, public safety answering points (PSAPs), public safety, and first responder interests in 911 funding, direction, training, interoperability, and innovation. This action is in direct opposition to your stated findings (#3 – striving toward better public participation) and recommendations (#2 – meaningful perspective for public officials). eliminating public transparency within 911.
- The 911 Communications Council provides years of professional experience-based advice and direction to the HSEMD 911 Program Manager. They assist the program manager with transparency within 911, resources to address issues or questions, and added layers of transparency and published material statewide.
- Finally, this council has maintained a track record of public outreach and education efforts; such as with text to 911 efforts, information sharing campaigns, and statewide dissemination of national efforts and education. They advise and assist with physical and virtual consolidation efforts, and support/advise on state training and continuing education efforts within 911 professions.

As your deadline for recommendations approaches consider the impact and support that the 911 Communications Council has on Iowa's 911 responses, training, and future. This is the avenue by which we interact, advise, and assist state-based entities on 911 functionality and systems. As national initiatives continue to push for Next Gen 911 (NG911) and with increased support for NG911 standardization of definitions, capabilities, and interoperability; now is not the time to remove public safety, public officials, and communications expertise from Iowa's 911 processes.

Respectfully,

[Redacted signature block]

---

From:

Cc: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Bcc:

Subject: Iowa Commission on Libraries

Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 13:44:06 CDT

Attachments:

---

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As the director of the Bloomfield Public Library, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical. I have been director here for three and one-half years, as a new director I don't know where I'd be without the help of the State Library. They have been extremely supportive of new directors and not having the Commission of Libraries as a governing body worries me.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country. Constituents need the transparency and know that the governing body are neutral. We have enough trouble doing our jobs and need their neutral support.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

--  
[Redacted]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: BCRC Comments

---

Dear Review Committee,

I believe the State Library should be governed by an independent commission as it has been, and the State Librarian should report to the commission. It is extremely important the State Library be organizationally separated from the State's political structure to prevent politics from affecting any aspect of the good work done by the State Library.

I also believe Recommendation 5 should be scraped as it implies there is not gender balance among "the most qualified lowans."

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Changes to Library Policies  
Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 15:00:08 CDT  
Attachments: aa81a553-1145-4a5a-a132-e71c8b76ed49.png

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Perhaps you have read the many articles of how the education/library legislation has caused havoc upon educators and, in our case, a shared public/school library partnership. Before there is anymore change made that will affect public library funding, please give attention to what the total impact will be on servicing communities.

I think that there was no consideration at all given to the impact that the legislation would have on small communities with shared library facilities. The 28E agreement arrangement between school and public library facilities provides a benefit to where tax dollars for operational resources can go a long way. When combined, these institutions become a valuable classroom besides a public library space used for serving the educational and public needs.

How can any legislation be passed that have no guidelines for those who have to comply with this law? The Department of Education has no directive for local schools to advise on what is acceptable and what is inappropriate for the views on sex or gender education with books selections to support the curriculum. It's like telling a person not to speed without providing the speed limit.

Please be careful on how you try to fix something that has been working well and serving lowans for many years successfully. I don't feel that the governor is understanding the importance of keeping people interested in reading, having safe places for individuals to privately access informational materials, free WIFI and computer access along with other forms of literature, online book access, interlibrary lending and community congregational spaces. How library services impact communities should be recognized and appreciated. Please do your research. Also, apply for a library card and use your public library to better understand how important these institutions are. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

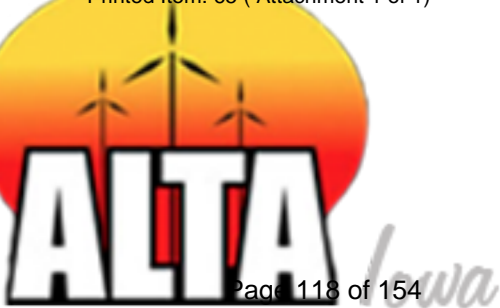
[REDACTED]



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Owner: [REDACTED]  
Filename: aa81a553-1145-4a5a-a132-e71c8b76ed49.png  
Last Modified: Tue Sep 05 15:00:08 CDT 2023

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From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Please support the continuation of the Iowa Commission of Libraries

---

As a retired language arts teacher, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Iowa Commission of Libraries  
Date: Tue Sep 05 2023 15:27:23 CDT  
Attachments:

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Hello,

I am writing to you as a member of the Iowa Commission of Libraries and a lover of good books and even better libraries.

At the time of this writing, 9/5/2023 at 3:20 pm, I have received 18 emails from former librarians, current librarians, and citizens concerned about the changes being proposed to the Iowa Commission of Libraries. After reviewing several websites I have not found a specific recommendation. All I can find is a 12 page summary document recommending the commission be reorganized/Other Changes and a note that Statues were changed recently.

It seems like there is some misunderstanding here. In order to register a better opinion on this matter can you please provide the specifics of your recommendation?

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>; kollin.crompton@governor.iowa.gov  
<kollin.crompton@governor.iowa.gov>  
Cc: Collins, Taylor [LEGIS]  
<taylor.collins@legis.iowa.gov>; Lofgren, Mark [LEGIS]  
<mark.lofgren@legis.iowa.gov>; [REDACTED]  
Bcc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Boards & Commissions Review  
Date: Wed Sep 06 2023 08:18:04 CDT  
Attachments: image001.jpg

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Hello Governor Reynolds and the Boards & Commission Review Committee,

My name is [REDACTED] and I serve on the Mississippi River Parkway Commission. Our 10-person Commission is funded with \$40,000 through the Iowa Department of Transportation's budget and the State receives an excellent return on that investment.

I am writing to ask you, Governor Kim Reynolds and the Boards & Commissions review team to KEEP the Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission, and these are the reasons why.

1. The Mississippi River forms the Eastern Border for Iowa.
2. There are 10 Iowa Counties based along the Mississippi River and each County has a MRPC commissioner. I represent Louisa County.
3. I am also the Louisa County Conservation Director and can see firsthand how important the Mississippi River is to our economy.
4. The resources itself is used for commerce (moving commodities such as grain), recreation, food, drinking water, and quality of life (to name a few).
5. In addition, there is a National Scenic Byway that travels the length of the Mississippi River called the Great River Road.
6. The Great River Road is an "All American Road." This is a status designated by the Federal Highway Administration. This is a HUGE deal. To receive this status, the road must meet criteria for at least two intrinsic qualities that are nationally significant, the Great River Road meets all six, and have one-of-a-kind features that do not exist elsewhere AND the road must be considered a "destination unto itself."
7. The six intrinsic qualities are: archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, and scenic.
8. The Great River Road is a destination. People travel from all over Iowa, the United States, and even the world to drive the Great River Road. The Mississippi River is a VERY well-known feature of the United States. I would compare it to people traveling to Paris to view the Eiffel Tower.
9. With the small cost of \$40,000 a year in budget, our commission helped to bring in \$1 Million dollars in Federal funding on a single project this year alone – the Cascade Bridge

project in Burlington, Iowa. We are planning a ground-breaking ceremony on October 13, 2023, at 1:30 pm at the Crapo Park Band Shelter in Burlington for this project.

10. The amount of money brought into Iowa is HUGE compared to the amount of money the State pays for us to exist as a commission.

11. The Great River Road stretches all the way from the Source of the Mississippi River in Itasca, Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico on both sides of the River.

12. The Great River Road passes through 10 states – who also have commissions and people supporting the Great River Road through their state.

13. This commission works closely with the Iowa DOT to promote tourism on Iowa's portion of the Great River Road.

I understand the need to condense and simplify things at the State level. I just want to make sure you know and understand what we as a Commission do for the State of Iowa and the economic impact we have on the Eastern portion of the State.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





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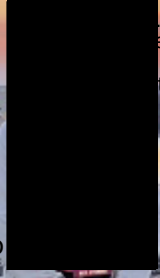
Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: image001.jpg

Last Modified: Wed Sep 06 08:18:04 CDT 2023

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From:

To:

[REDACTED]  
BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Subject:

[REDACTED]  
Living Roadways Trust Fund Committee  
[REDACTED]

---

I am writing in support of keeping the LRTF TAC committee as is. While I understand consolidating and merging may be feasible in some cases, this committee is comprised of a broad spectrum of specialized professionals from several agencies and the private sector. For the past 35 years this TAC has been tasked with meeting 2 times annually and reviewing grants for projects that are unique to roadside vegetation management in Iowa. The TAC is the only committee tasked with administering the Living Roadway Trust Fund, and no other transportation-related committee serves the same broad scope of Iowans or addresses roadsides. Currently 56 of the 99 counties and 19 cities and 2 state entities have filed a Roadside Vegetation Management plan with the Iowa DOT and developed programs in their local areas. These numbers have continued to increase since the development of LRTF in the late 1980s. In its time, the TAC has awarded projects to over 350 city, county, and state entities. This TAC is dedicated to the cause and has its best interest in mind with a cheap price tag of less than \$1000 annually for administration. This is a TAC with specialized knowledge of Roadside Vegetation Management and by consolidating/merging, the state would be losing a great resource. Let's not try to fix something that isn't broken.

Thanks for your consideration in this matter.

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Iowa Commission of Libraries  
Date: Wed Sep 06 2023 09:00:54 CDT  
Attachments:

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As a former Commissioner for the Iowa Commission of Libraries, I would respectfully request that the current governing and oversight authority remain with the Commission.

An active and engaged Commission provides guidance and advice from experienced professional Librarians and Library advocates that enhances the decision making role of the State Library of Iowa Administration by utilizing the knowledge of seasoned Library administrators and informed voices from the community.

As I recall, we reviewed budgets, services, and programs during our meetings and we shared suggestions and recommendations with State Library Administrators and staff. We were part of the team during these discussions.

We maintained our own Bylaws that governed our actions, roles, and responsibilities as Commissioners and reviewed those Bylaws on a regular basis. We incorporated virtual meetings and remote access into our Bylaws.

Our efforts were focused on maintaining and improving the level of library services provided throughout the State.  
In my view, Commissioners felt that libraries needed to be supported and strengthened for the betterment of the citizens of the State of Iowa.

I am proud of my service as a Commissioner for the Iowa Commission of Libraries and I remain grateful for my past appointment.  
It remains the capstone of my Library career.

Thank you for your consideration.

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<brcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: Retain 911 Council  
Date: Wed Sep 06 2023 09:13:57 CDT  
Attachments: image001.png  
image002.png

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To Whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED], the current Delaware County Emergency Management Coordinator. I have been in 911 for over 23 years and previously managed the Linn County Sheriff's Office 911 Center.

I am writing in regards to the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state, specifically the Statewide 911 Council.

The 911 Council meetings are a venue for monthly presentations from CISA (Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency), the ICN (Iowa Communications Network), 911 mapping vendors, Comtech, and the shared Services Vendor, Zetron, on pertinent issues that local 911 Coordinators and PSAPs are facing.

The Program Manager in consultation with the 911 Council determines the methodology for determining and collecting PSAP direct cost and expense data required yearly from county joint 911 Service Boards.

Members of the council vote on the training fund usage monthly. Not having the council would affect how the Telecommunicators across the state get and maintain their Continuing Dispatch Educations hours. The 911 Council also votes on fund allocation for speakers at the 2 yearly conferences for APCO/NENA and is the biggest training opportunity for dispatchers across the state.

The council also discusses and votes on physical and virtual consolidations grants. Without

the council how would it be fairly determined how these funds are spent?

The council brings experts from across numerous fields/organizations together to discuss 911 issues and concerns. Members are from Wireless Providers, GIS Specialists, Law Enforcement, EMS and Fire. It gives these professional organizations a chance to meet monthly to network and discuss solutions to those issues and concerns.

Due to the 911 Council's strong presence in the safe, effective, daily operation of PSAP's across the state, I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Owner:

Filename:

image001.png

Last Modified:

Wed Sep 06 09:13:57 CDT 2023

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***EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT***

***DELAWARE COUNTY***



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Owner:

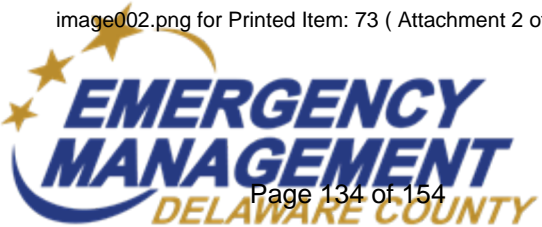
Filename:

image002.png

Last Modified:

Wed Sep 06 09:13:57 CDT 2023

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From:

[Redacted]

To:

Bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Support Letter for Mid-America Port Authority

Date: Wed Sep 06 2023 09:29:34 CDT

Attachments: Iowa Boards and Commissions Review Committee.pdf

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

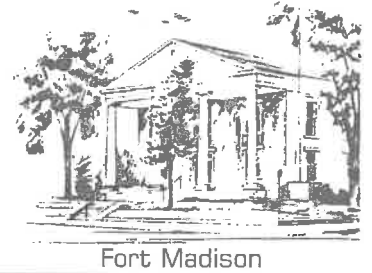
Filename: Iowa Boards and Commissions Review Committee.pdf

Last Modified: Wed Sep 06 09:29:34 CDT 2023

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**Lee County, Iowa  
Board of Supervisors**  
Fort Madison • Keokuk



Sept 5, 2023

Iowa Boards and Commissions Review Committee  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
[BCRCcomments@iowa.gov](mailto:BCRCcomments@iowa.gov)

RE: Mid-America Port Commission

Dear Members of the Iowa Boards and Commissions Review Committee:

I'm writing today in support of keeping the Mid-America Port Commission (MAPC) an active part of the state's slate of boards and commissions. MAPC serves a valuable role as a forum for coordinating river development relations and port development in southeast Iowa, northeast Missouri, and western Illinois.

MAPC was created by joint legislation with Illinois and Missouri in 1999 as the country's only three-state compact based around river issues, ports, and economic development, found in Chapter 28K, Iowa Code. A specific geography of 26 counties in three states was created for MAPC to serve, with six counties in Iowa:

- Des Moines
- Henry
- Lee
- Van Buren
- Jefferson
- Wapello

MAPC is an incorporated public entity with nine board members, with three from each state (IA, IL, MO). One member from each state is appointed by the Governor, and the other two are appointed by counties served by MAPC.

MAPC presently exists at no cost to the State of Iowa. The costs of meeting are born by the committee members and other organizations.

The value of such a three-state compact is also evident in that MAPC is recognized as a Top 50 Port (tonnage) in the United States and a port statistical area. This recognition is valuable to

communicate the total freight activity in the region and utilize the standing to leverage federal and private investment in river infrastructure and port facilities.

Tri-state cooperation on river and port development issues is made possible by the MAPC forum. Public and private port operators in the MAPC area attend meetings to exchange information, discuss strategy, and provide valuable input to the state DOTs and the Rock Island District of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The recently adopted strategic plan will also see MAPC informing its ports, the Rock Island District, state DOTs, and federal elected representatives at a higher level of current conditions and future needs. A three-state entity's input carries more weight than one state, typically, to these entities on policy and funding issues.

Periodically MAPC serves as a Tri-State entry for shippers and business interests to connect resources and opportunities. MAPC provides support also for grant applications and large river projects. It's simply easier to get information funneled from one group instead of many.

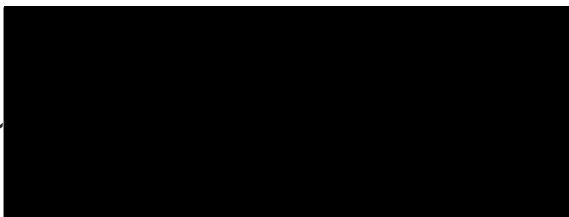
Current MAPC board members representing Iowa:

- Mike Norris, Governor's Appointee (Executive Director, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission)
- Denise Boyer, County appointee (Co-owner, Hall Towing, Fort Madison, IA)

MAPC presently has a high level of coordination with Iowa DOT, Illinois DOT, and Missouri DOT. These connections share knowledge of river issues, trends, opportunities, and players in the arena.

The benefit/cost ratio of MAPC is very positive. Iowa gains nothing by eliminating the Iowa part of commission and unwinding 24 years of cooperation with Illinois and Missouri, and multiple other entities serving in the Mississippi River basin in the Tri-State Area. Keeping Iowa in the MAPC will benefit the state into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.



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From: [REDACTED]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Subject: BCRC Public Comment from Iowa Court Reporters Association  
Date: Wed Sep 06 2023 09:47:39 CDT  
Attachments: Official Comments for BCRC 090623.pdf

---

Boards and Commissions Review Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment to the Boards and Commissions Review Committee (BCRC). Iowa Court Reporters Association (ICRA) respectfully submits the attached comment to the BCRC's preliminary recommendations released on August 29, 2023.

ICRA is available to serve as a resource to the BCRC. Please let us know if you have any questions about the court reporting profession or current administration of the profession.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

---

Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: Official Comments for BCRC 090623.pdf

Last Modified: Wed Sep 06 09:47:39 CDT 2023

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**IOWA COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION**

September 6, 2023

Chairman Paulsen,

The Iowa Court Reporters Association (ICRA) appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the Board and Commission Review Committee’s (BCRC) proposed preliminary recommendations.

We recognize the important charge of the BCRC to review the efficiency and effectiveness of all of Iowa’s boards and commissions. ICRA especially appreciates the recommendation of the BCRC to implement clear, consistent, and efficient licensing standards.

***Iowa Shorthand Reporters***

Shorthand reporters (more commonly known as court reporters) are highly trained professionals who share a unique ability to convert the spoken word into text that can be read, searched, and archived. Court reporters capture every spoken word in real time during a court or deposition proceeding, and then prepare verbatim transcripts of proceedings.

Iowa currently requires shorthand reporters to be certified. Specifically, Iowa Code Section 602.3201 states:

*A person shall not engage in the profession of shorthand reporting unless the person is certified pursuant to this chapter, or otherwise exempted pursuant to section 602.6603, subsection 4. Only a person who is certified by the board may assume the title of certified shorthand reporter, or use the abbreviation C.S.R., or any words, letters, or figures to indicate that the person is a certified shorthand reporter.*

Certification is currently governed by Chapter 46 of the Iowa Court Rules and the Board of Examiners of Shorthand Reporters, which requires that reporters have the demonstrated ability to write dictated tests at 180 words per minute (question and answer – technical dictation); 200 words per minute (multi-voice dictation for transcription or readback) and 225 words per minute (question and answer dictation), each at 95 percent accuracy or better; and a demonstrated written knowledge of the reporter’s duties, Iowa legal procedure, and correct English usage at 70 percent accuracy or better.

***Recommendation Impacting ICRA***

250	Other – Judicial Branch	Shorthand Reporters, Board of Examiners of	§ 602.3101-.3104	Eliminate
-----	----------------------------	--	------------------	-----------

Recommendation by the BCRC proposes eliminating the Board of Examiners of Shorthand Reporters, specifically the structure of the Board of Examiners (section 602.3101 Board of Examiners), the terms of



---

From:

[REDACTED]

To:

bcrccomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Subject:

Mississippi River Parkway Commission Elimination  
[REDACTED]

---

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to know the logic and rationale for the recommendation to eliminate the Mississippi River Parkway Commission (MRPC). I do not support this and believe the MRPC has done some very good work promoting the Great River Road (GRR), the ten (10) counties on Iowa's east coast and the eighteen (18) Interpretive Centers we represent.

If I can provide additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Martin

[REDACTED]

---

From:

[Redacted]

To: BCRComments@iowa.gov  
<bcrcomments@iowa.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Review of the Horizontal Infrastructure Advisory Subcommittee

Date: Wed Sep 06 2023 11:03:41 CDT

Attachments: ICEA Support for Horizontal Infrastructure Advisory Subcommittee.pdf

---

Dear Committee Members,

Please find the attached letter concerning the elimination of the Horizontal Infrastructure Advisory Subcommittee. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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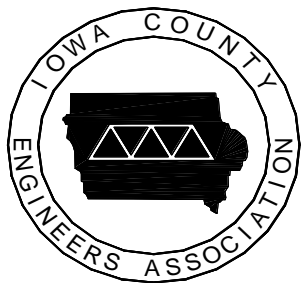
Owner:

[REDACTED]

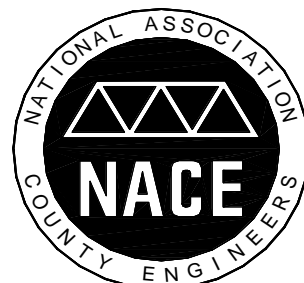
Filename: ICEA Support for Horizontal Infrastructure Advisory Subcommittee.pdf

Last Modified: Wed Sep 06 11:03:41 CDT 2023

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# IOWA COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION



Visit the ICEA Service Bureau at [www.iceasb.org](http://www.iceasb.org)

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Affiliated with:



September 6, 2023

Boards and Commissions Review Committee

Dear Committee Members:

The Boards and Commissions Review Committee has recently recommended the elimination of the Horizontal Infrastructure Advisory Subcommittee established in Iowa Code 314.1B. The Iowa County Engineers Association does not support the recommendation.

Formal bids for road projects are important in protecting the public's interests but are somewhat impractical and potentially counterproductive for smaller projects that have limited interest from contractors. Prior to 2001 there was contention between local governments and contractors regarding the appropriate value of a project that would require formal bids; the threshold had been static for several years, but inflation had the effect of diminishing the true value of the threshold. The Horizontal Infrastructure Advisory Subcommittee was established in 2001 and provided a mechanism to increase or decrease the value based on industry trends.

The advisory subcommittee uses objective cost data and allows discussion to calculate fair adjustments of the bid threshold. The committee has met at least every other year (as prescribed), is well attended, and functions at a negligible cost to the public. Each meeting has an outcome in the form of a threshold adjustment. All parties have walked away from these meetings secure in the knowledge adjustments are justified. An important benefit of the committee is the elimination of a point of contention between public contracting authorities and the contracting community, which directly fosters cooperation in this matter and others.

ICEA encourages the retention of the Horizontal Infrastructure Advisory Committee, however, we also understand the need to streamline committees and make government more efficient. As an alternative, we recommend merging this committee with another committee with similar interests. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



---

From: Morris, Marisa  
<marisa.morris@dentons.com> on behalf of Morris, Marisa  
<marisa.morris@dentons.com> <marisa.morris@dentons.com>  
To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov  
<bcrccomments@iowa.gov>  
Cc: Gangestad, Sydney  
<sydney.gangestad@dentons.com>; Coonan, Tim  
<tim.coonan@dentons.com>  
Bcc:  
Subject: BCRC Public Comment: IPGA  
Date: Wed Sep 06 2023 13:45:07 CDT  
Attachments: Proposed IPGA Comments to BCRC.pdf

---

Boards and Commissions Review Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment to the Boards and Commissions Review Committee (BCRC). Tim Coonan and Sydney Gangestad at Dentons Davis Brown represent the Iowa Propane Gas Association; IPGA respectfully submits the following comment to the BCRC's preliminary recommendations released on August 29, 2023.

IPGA is available to serve as a resource to the BCRC. Please let us know if you have any questions about the association.

Thank you,

Marisa

Marisa Morris

Government Relations Coordinator

My pronouns are: (she/her)

+1 515 246 7962



[marisa.morris@dentons.com](mailto:marisa.morris@dentons.com) | [Website](#)

Dentons Davis Brown PC | The Davis Brown Tower, 215 10th Street, Suite 1300, Des Moines, IA, 50309, United States

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Owner:

[REDACTED]

Filename: Proposed IPGA Comments to BCRC.pdf

Last Modified: Wed Sep 06 13:45:07 CDT 2023

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Iowa Propane Gas Association  
P.O. Box 57188  
Des Moines, IA 50317

Phone: 515-564-1260  
www.iapropane.org

September 6, 2023

Chairman Paulsen,

The Iowa Propane Gas Association (IPGA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Board and Commission Review Committee's preliminary recommendations released on August 29, 2023.

We recognize the important charge of the BCRC to review the efficiency and effectiveness of all of Iowa's boards and commissions. The members of the IPGA are specifically interested in the proposal to eliminate the Propane Education and Research Council (PERC) which is authorized by Iowa Code Chapter 101C.

The National PERC was authorized by the U.S. Congress with the passage of the Propane Education and Research Act (PERA), signed into law on Oct. 11, 1996. The Iowa PERC was established in 2007 to perform the functions required of a state organization under the federal PERC Act of 1996, be the repository of funds received under that Act, and separately account for those funds. The council coordinates the operation of the program with the federal council as contemplated by 15 U.S.C. §6405.

Iowa PERC promotes safety, research and education through public service announcements, programs, and training classes. The PERC board is funded through an annual assessment of one-tenth of one cent on each gallon of odorized propane sold; the assessments are listed as a separate line item on the bill of sale for the odorized propane and titled **"Iowa propane education and research assessment."**

Iowa consistently ranks in the top 10 states by total retail sales.

Top 10 states by total 2021 retail propane sales (millions of gallons)

State	Rank	2021 Propane Sales (Mn Gallon)	Share	Residential Sales Per Account (Gallon)	Commercial Sales Per Account (Gallon)
California	1	546	5.7%	356	2,325
Michigan	2	522	5.5%	589	2,295
Illinois	3	492	5.2%	933	2,403
Minnesota	4	484	5.1%	616	2,882
Wisconsin	5	452	4.7%	689	2,248
Texas	6	443	4.6%	258	7,330
New York	7	437	4.6%	384	1,685
Iowa	8	409	4.3%	967	2,575
North Carolina	9	375	3.9%	224	1,678
Pennsylvania	10	373	3.9%	335	1,599
Other States		5,013	52.5%	361	1,991
<b>Total U.S.</b>		<b>9,546</b>		<b>408</b>	<b>2,161</b>

These propane sales fund the vital functions performed by the PERC board. Specifically, the PERC council develops programs and projects as directed by statute to enhance consumer and employee safety and training, provide for research and development of clean and efficient propane utilization equipment, inform and educate the public about safety and other issues associated with the use of propane, and develop programs and projects that provide assistance to persons who are eligible for the low-income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP). Examples of these programs and projects include:

- Comprehensive safety programs for marketers that has resulted in tangible improvements to industry safety protocols.
- Rebates for energy assistance consumers (LIHEAP) to ensure that cost is not a barrier to replacing out-of-date and unsafe equipment; additional funding from PERC has been used for water heater and furnace rebates.
- Distribution of “Important Propane Safety for You and Your Family Brochures” (also called Duty to Warn) and “Don’t Get Caught Out of Gas” brochures to consumers.
- Distribution of the “Important Propane Safety” brochures free of charge to our marketers so they can give these to all consumers.
- Public education campaigns to inform consumers to fill their tanks early due to weather conditions and corn drying season.
- Funding for propane used to train first responders in propane safety; additional funding from PERC has been used for equipment for the fire training center.

PERC funding has allowed for the IPGA to hire a Statewide Safety Director to implement the programs above and to develop training programs for anyone working in the propane industry. Iowa’s laws in Chapter 226 related to propane safety have been significantly advanced due to this role, ensuring that anyone working with propane must have job specific training every three years. The Safety Director is also responsible for monitoring and updating codes for the industry. Funding from PERC directly funds the role of the Statewide Safety Director as well as all the programs listed above.

In general, the PERC Board supports and assists all farmers in Iowa, along with cooperative networks, and farming communities and is essential in maintaining a thriving agricultural sector and robust state economy. The multifaceted benefits, including **Economic Growth, Food Security, Rural Community Support, and Environmental Stability** underscore the importance of such investments in securing Iowa’s future prosperity.

- *The PERC Board is essential in helping to safely provide **Propane Transportation and Marketing**:*

Propane is a vital resource for agriculture, especially in transporting goods to markets. Many farming operations rely on propane for irrigation, animal wellbeing, crop drying, transporting goods to market, heating, and power equipment. Supporting farming

communities and cooperatives that use propane helps maintain efficient supply chains, reducing the cost and environmental impacts of feeding the world.

- *The PERC Board helps contribute to **Economic Stability:***

Ag is the cornerstone of the Iowa economy. It contributes significantly to the state’s GDP and provides jobs to a substantial portion of the population. By investing in a board that aids farmers, coops, and farming communities the state ensures economic stability and growth. In 2018, it was calculated that the propane industry had a total value add of \$1.938 million to Iowa’s economy.

2018 Contribution to State Economy		(Thousands)
Direct Value Add		\$829,128
Indirect/Induced Value Add		\$1,109,325
<b>Total Value Add</b>		<b>\$1,938,453</b>

Source: 2018 Propane Industry’s Economic Impact Report, Propane Education & Research Council (PERC), 2020.

- *The PERC Board helps provide **Food Security:***

Iowa’s farmers play a crucial role in providing food for both the state’s residents and the larger nation. Ensuring that farmers receive adequate support improves food security by maintaining a constant supply of essential agricultural products. A board that assists farmers can offer guidance, resources, and expertise to help them overcome challenges and maintain steady production.

- *The PERC Board assist in giving **Rural Community Support:***

The success of Iowa’s farming communities is intertwined with the overall health of our rural areas. By supporting a board that aids the state indirectly invests in the prosperity of these communities. Thriving rural areas lead to increased local spending, better infrastructure, and improved quality of life for residents.

- *The PERC Board supports **Cooperative Networks:***

Coops play a crucial role in aggregating resources and providing economies of scale to small and medium sized farmers. These networks enable farmers to collectively purchase inputs, share knowledge, and accesses markets that might be out of reach for individual farmers. Support, training, and guidance for coops strengthen these networks, helping farmers compete on a global scale.

- *The PERC Board is invested in **Environmental Sustainability:***

Propane as a clean fuel for the farming sector helps promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices. By assisting farmers, cooperatives, and rural communities, the board can encourage the adoption of technologies and practices to reduce the environmental footprint of agriculture.

- *The PERC Board, **Risk Mitigation:***

One of the main functions of the PERC Board is to provide to Iowan’s a resource to protect their persons, their property, their public spaces, and their lively hood. Through safety

training, job training, and support the PERC Board helps to provide all lowans with a safe and reliable commodity.

IPGA is committed to working with the BCRC, the Governor's office, and the Legislature to ensure that the vital functions performed by the Iowa PERC board continue in the event the board is eliminated. The IPGA respectfully request that your final recommendation recognize the safety and educational benefits lowans have come to rely on from the sales of our industry.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



Comments, BCRC <bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

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## BCRC Recommendation regarding the Iowa Uniform Law Commission

1 message

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Thu, Sep 7, 2023 at 2:31 PM

[REDACTED]  
To: "Comments, BCRC" <bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

Members of the Boards and Commissions Review Committee:

I am submitting and have attached a copy of the Remarks to the Boards and Commissions Review Committee from which I was speaking yesterday at the public meeting of the Committee in the State Capitol. Thank you for your attention to my remarks.



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 **Remarks to BCRC re Iowa Uniform Law Commission.docx**  
18K

REMARKS TO IOWA BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REVIEW COMMITTEE  
ON ITS RECOMMENDATION TO ELIMINATE THE IOWA UNIFORM LAW  
COMMISSION

1. Thank you, Chairman Paulsen and Members of the Commission. My name is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I am Chair of Iowa's Commission on Uniform State Laws Commission and have been a Commissioner since 1992. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you today.
2. The Uniform Law Commission (ULC) is a non-partisan government service organization. Every State and jurisdiction is a member of the ULC. Iowa has been since 1895. If Iowa were to eliminate the Commission, it would be the *only* State in the Union to do so.
3. The ULC identifies areas of the law where uniformity would be both desirable and practicable to achieve. Examples are Family Law, Commercial Law, Business Organizations Law, Trust and Estates Law and Emerging Technology. Iowa currently has approximately 72 Uniform or Model Acts in effect, and it has acted more than 100 since becoming a member in 1895. The ULC's process for developing Uniform Acts draws on the best and most current thinking from across the Nation in an entirely transparent and open process. The uniformity thus achieved resolves conflicts such as the proper jurisdiction for child custody or adult guardianship litigation, facilitates interstate commercial transactions and transaction planning, and promotes economic development.
4. Membership in the Uniform Law Commission entitles the State to appoint Commissioners who have the full rights and privileges of the ULC and fulfill the duties of Commissioners. The appointment of Commissioners establishes the State Uniform Laws Commission.
5. The duties of Commissioners cannot be transferred to the Legislative Services Agency (LSA). I do not believe the range of Commissioners' responsibilities can be transferred to LSA as a practical matter. The function of LSA is to draft laws and amendments as legal counsel to the legislature, not to propose laws. The ultimate duty of the Commissioner is to provide a report with recommendations to the legislature regarding potential uniform laws.
6. What do Uniform Law Commissioners do?
  - a. They bring substantive expertise drawn from the practice of law, service in the legislature, judicial careers, and scholarship;
  - b. They participate in the determination of what areas to pursue to drafting;
  - c. They participate in Drafting Committees, contributing multiple hours of service in meetings over two years, drafting proposed Acts for the entire conference to review substantively, comment upon, debate, revise, and vote to approve or not;
  - d. They may be appointed, as Iowa Commissioners have been, to leadership positions such as Drafting Committee Chairs or Reporters or members of Joint Editorial Boards comprised of Commissioners and ABA members respecting particular areas;



- e. They work with legislators and statewide and community groups interested in the introduction and adoption of Uniform and Model Acts, not infrequently resulting in tailoring a Uniform or Model Act to Iowa practice or preference; and
- f. They appear before legislative subcommittees, advocating Uniform Acts that have been introduced, explaining how an Act would address problematic or critical areas, and why it would serve Iowa to adopt it.

7. Examples of Uniform Acts Iowa has adopted include the Uniform Commercial Code Articles and Amendments; the Uniform Child Custody, Jurisdiction, and Enforcement Act; the Uniform Deployed Parent Act; the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act; the Uniform Public Management of Institutional Funds Act; the Uniform Prudent Investor Act; the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act; the Revised Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act; the Uniform Civil Remedies for Unauthorized Disclosure of Intimate Images Act; a number of Business Entity Acts, such as Iowa's Uniform Partnership and its Uniform LLC Act; the Uniform Interstate Deposition and Discovery Act (adopted in Iowa as Court Rules); the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act; and many more.

8. I urge you to reconsider the recommendation regarding the Iowa Uniform Law Commission and to recommend instead its continuation.



DATED: September 6, 2023



Comments, BCRC &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

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**Iowa Commission of Libraries**

1 message

Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 2:36 PM

To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov

As a concerned Iowan, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Sent from my iPhone



Comments, BCRC &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

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## Statewide 911 Council & ISICS Board

1 message

Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 3:52 PM

To: "BCRCcomments@iowa.gov" &lt;BCRCcomments@iowa.gov&gt;

To Whom It may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] I am the Communications Director/ 911 Coordinator for Carroll County. I have worked in 911 and public safety communications for 20 years. I have also been a reserve peace officer for 23 years and a volunteer fire fighter for 18 years. I have served on the 911 council and ISICS Board in the past and continue to be involved in committees that work for these boards.

I know you have a hard job and I appreciate the efforts to make state government more efficient and stream lined. I am writing in regards to the recent announcement from the Governor regarding restructuring of the boards and commissions in the state. While I support efficiency in government I think it is important to understand the effects some of the proposed changes may have on locals officials who participate in and interact with the state through the Statewide 911 Council and ISICS Board.

### Statewide 911 Council

- There is a very insignificant amount of money spent on the 911 council. Members of the council are not paid by the state and only received a little bit of reimbursement for traveling to meetings I understand this amounts to around \$750 a year.
- The 911 Council advises and gives direction to HSEMD 911 Program Manager regarding 34A and recommendations shall be provided on issues at the request of the Program Manager or other items deemed necessary by council, such as issues brought forth by local 911 Coordinators or PSAPs. Without the 911 Council local officials would have no formal conduit to communicate and discuss concerns directly to/with the state 911 program manager.
- The 911 council is a public/private partnership with organizations that represent both large and small telcos, public safety organizations that represent Fire, EMS, law enforcement and public safety answering points (Communications/911 Centers), GIS specialist, and the Iowa Department of Public Safety. It provides a chance for all of these groups to share information and provide input about 911 matters.

I strongly encourage you to deny the request from the Governor to eliminate the State 911 Council.

### ISICS Board

While I understand that there is no plan to eliminate the ISICS Board I know there is changes that are likely to be proposed. I would like to share some of my insights as someone who has served on the board in the past and have spend my time working on numerous standing committees that report to the board.

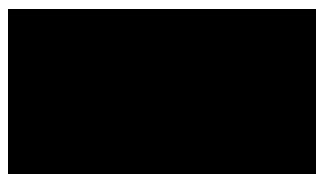
- The ISICS Board should be separated from the Iowa Department of Public Safety. After having worked with and observed 3 State Wide Interoperability Coordinators (SWICs) I have noticed that they must constantly play an unnecessary amount of politics in large part because they answer within the command structure of the Iowa Department of Public Safety in addition to the ISICS Board. In my opinion a person should only have one boss to answer to and in this case it should be the Chairperson of the ISICS Board.
- ISICS board makeup is currently a majority governor appointees from non-state agencies. I don't think there should be any change in the makeup of the ISICS board but if the makeup of the board were to change I think it is vitally important that the makeup continues to be a majority representation of local officials, rather than representatives of the state. There are far more local agencies using the ISICS radio platform and that operate in the public safety/public service interoperability arena than there are state agencies.
- Right now a number of DPS employees are assigned duties for the ISICS radio platform but they don't answer to the board or the SWIC they answer to the command structure of DPS. This works out fine and the positions are help buy people that locals have good relationships with but there is no organizational mechanism to ensure this is always the case. It also causes some to question the motives of those personnel when the interests of DPS conflicts with the interest of local agencies. ISICS needs funding the authority to have some employees that report to their command structure directly and don't report to any other state agency.
- The ISICS Board is asked with the oversight of the ISICS radio platform. This technology has been a great leap forward for public safety communications in the state and for communications for all government agencies in general who need 2-way radio communications. Carroll County spent millions of dollars adding an enhancement onto ISICS for local needs with the addition of dispatch consoles and 3 additional tower sites. These sites enhance coverage for state agencies and neighboring counties also benefit. ISICS is a great success but the problem is that this technology will require updates in the future and there is no funding stream that has been identified. ISICS needs a funding stream that can serve to enhance and upgrade the system as needed so that it can be maintained and serve public safety needs well into the future. Without that, the system will eventually become obsolete and require an entire replacement. We have seen this happen around the county in other states and unfortunately it only gets dealt with when the system starts to fail. There is far too much at state to allow that to happen to ISICS.

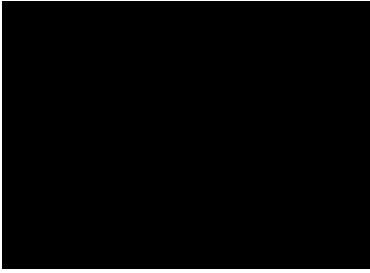
I urge you to maintain local majority representation on the ISICS Board, to allow ISICS board employees to operate under the boards chain of command apart from any specific state agency or department that uses the system. Also, to provide funding for ISICS to hire dedicated employees and conduct system enhancements and upgrades to keep the system technology current and up to date.

I welcome discussing these points or other points relating to the Statewide 911 Council and ISICS Board with anyone who is interested.

Thanks for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,





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Comments, BCRC &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

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## Library comment

1 message

Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 4:15 PM

To: "bcrccomments@iowa.gov" &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

September 8, 2023

As a faithful user of my local library, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country. Please make sure that we take the conservative approach and preserve this longtime legacy of great librarianship in the state of Iowa! Iowans in rural areas deserve access to the resources that people in big cities have easy access to.

I don't have to tell you how important libraries are to the health of communities. I just went to my library the other day to look up books on canning! I use my Libby app constantly to read great books. The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.



Comments, BCRC &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

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## Review of State Boards and Commissions for the State of Iowa

1 message

Sat, Sep 9, 2023 at 11:04 AM

To: "bcrccomments@iowa.gov" &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

### To all of those reviewing Boards and Commissions in the State of Iowa:

As a member of the Coralville Public Library Board of Trustees, I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The Governor's Commission of Libraries and State of Iowa Library Advisory Councils are citizens, library workers, and educators who strategize, guide, and facilitate the work of public, school, and academic libraries as well as museums. Their collective dedication, experiences, and skills are essential to the good work and impact created by information access throughout the state. As your constituent, I implore you to help us convey the message to the Governor's Boards & Commissions Review Committee that this commission should not only remain as a governing board, but also have the vacancies be filled. Without the oversight of the Commission, the work of the State Library has the potential to be one of the least transparent and most political in the country.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in educating our children is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,







Comments, BCRC &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

## Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Technical Advisory Committee

1 message

Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 5:15 PM

To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov

Cc: [REDACTED]

To BCRC Members:

The University of Northern Iowa was designated in 1988 by Iowa Code 314.21 to support the Iowa counties who elect to adopt Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management strategies. Members of the University of Northern Iowa Biology Department, and later the Tallgrass Prairie Center, have served on the Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), also known as the Living Roadway Trust Fund TAC, since its inception in 1990.

The Commission did not provide any specific rationale for the consolidation/merger of the LRTF TAC. This was surprising. Every Iowan depends on the system of rural county roads and state and federal highways that are the purview of this committee. Roadside rights-of-way comprise over 840,000 acres, roughly sixty percent of public lands in Iowa. Rural roadsides are highly visible to the general public (19,900,000 vehicle miles traveled in 2022). Their management comes at considerable expense to taxpayers.

To our knowledge, no other state committee has the specialized expertise to carry out the duties of the LRTF TAC. Below is a brief summary of the LRTF TAC's duties in service of Iowa Code 314.22.

The TAC's primary job is to read, evaluate and prioritize grant proposals to the Iowa DOT Living Roadside Trust Fund. Projects are categorized by city, county, and state level, according to Iowa Code.

Requests from **Cities** generally involve demonstration plantings, gateway projects or educational installations.

**Counties** request equipment or new technology to better manage erosion, weeds and runoff along their ~7000 acres of road ditches. These ditches intercept stormwater runoff and tile drainage from farm fields, and require frequent maintenance. Participating Counties can efficiently fold in the responsibility of Weed Commissioner with the Roadside Manager position. A [recent white paper](#) summarizes the multiple, long term advantages of managing brush and weeds strategically.

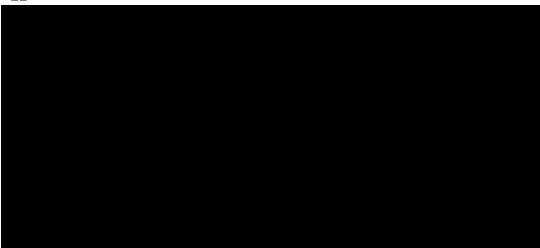
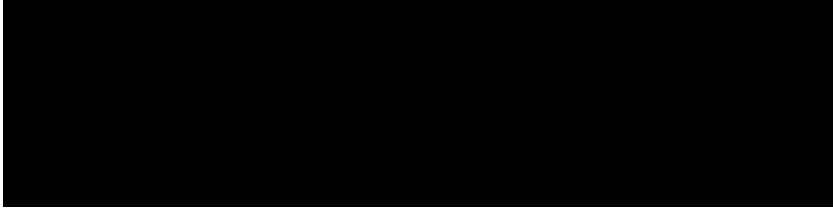
**State-level** projects include

- an annual roadside conference for roadside managers and county engineers
- technical support for participating counties and other counties who are considering adoption of IRVM
- applied research to improve safety, efficiency, planting success and seeding costs
- plant materials that compete well with weeds and reduce mowing costs, while creating a visually pleasing public right-of-way throughout the year.

The membership of the TAC provides the necessary expertise to evaluate these different project proposals and select those that best meet the purpose of the fund as laid out in the code. To

manage the funds responsibly and provide direct communication with stakeholders, it is our opinion that the current TAC membership structure is functioning well for the purpose intended, and serves a broad range of Iowans.

Sincerely,





Comments, BCRC &lt;bcrccomments@iowa.gov&gt;

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**BCRCCommittee**

1 message

Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 7:06 PM

To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov

Cc: "Staed, Art [LEGIS]" &lt;art.staed@legis.iowa.gov&gt;, Molly.Donahue@legis.iowa.gov

Dear Boards and Commissions Review Committee,

I am writing to you today to affirm my support of the Iowa Commission of Libraries as a governing board. The State of Iowa Library as well as its stewardship of state and federal funds which support Open Access, Interlibrary Loan, and Direct State Aid to Iowa libraries now report to the Department of Administrative Services, so a knowledgeable oversight Board will be all the more critical.

The unintended outcomes of removing this important and specified work from active, knowledgeable Iowans dedicated to literacy, learning, and intellectual freedom would be detrimental to small and rural libraries, students both traditional and lifelong, as well as Iowans who benefit by easily accessing entrepreneurial, recreational, and educational resources.

Many of these boards and commissions have been created due to unfair and unethical situations that created a need for this oversight. Removing this oversight will enable unjust people to once again commit inequitable practices that destroy our democracy.

The importance of the role that libraries play in our community and in enhancing the quality of life for all Iowans is unquestionable. I ask you to continue to support libraries by supporting their transparent and robust structure of governance.

Sincerely,

----- [Redacted Signature]

***Cedar Rapids, IA***

"I have always imagined that paradise will be a kind of library." --- Jorge Luis Borges



Comments, BCRC <bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

## Mississippi River Parkway Commission

1 message

[Redacted]  
To: bcrccomments@iowa.gov

Wed, Sep 13, 2023 at 12:10 PM

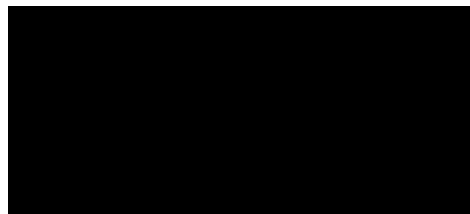
As secretary of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission (MRPC), I am very disturbed by the possibility of this commission being eliminated. The MRPC is a national organization charged with overseeing and promoting the Great River Road. The Road was started through the efforts of Mr. [Redacted] of Bellevue, Iowa. Through his efforts, the Great River Road was identified and designated, with all ten state governors signing documents in Washington, D.C. and after that, Mr. Young started the Iowa commission (under a different name at the time).

Two years ago, though a lengthy process, the Road was designated an All American Road and now stands as a national route along Big Sur, Natchez Trace Parkway, and Route 66, among others. What should not be lost when considering the MRPC and the Great River Road, is the international impact it has. Students from all over the world learn about the Mississippi River and the stories of Mark Twain. When they come to the U.S. they travel the Road and the river and learn more about Iowa history and the river from any number of our Interpretive Centers. Iowa has 18 Centers, which is more than any other state, and they are active, busy and always willing to share information about the state and the river. Many of the Centers have regularly scheduled programs from area schools. And some, like Nahant Marsh, are used for research as well as education.

Because of the tie to the Commission, and its status as an All American Road, Burlington recently received a \$1M grant for engineering for the Cascade Bridge, which has been closed to traffic for about 15 years. Because of the MRPC and its status, this money was available in a grant. One of our commissioners, Lisa Walsh, worked for two years to receive it.

I have attached our annual report for you to see what we do and who is involved with the Commission, and I hope you will review it and find out what the MRPC is all about.

Sincerely,



**Iowa MRPC Annual Report 2023.doc**

3555K



Comments, BCRC <bcrccomments@iowa.gov>

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## Commission of Libraries should not be changed

1 message

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To: BCRCcomments@iowa.gov

Wed, Sep 13, 2023 at 12:26 PM

Governor Reynolds has requested public input on the Boards and Commissions Review Committees recommendations to eliminate, consolidate/merge, reorganize/other changes, or continue (as is) Iowa's Boards and Commissions.

I'm writing in regards to proposed changes to the Commission of Libraries, urging the state to maintain the Commission of Libraries and continue to appoint qualified members, filling vacancies.

As a former board member (over two terms) on the Ventura (Iowa) Public Library board of directors, I know that the Commission of Libraries provides valuable input to the State Library for services, networking, and programming vital to Iowa libraries. In our small town, the library provides educational activities for children and adults, as well as a place to check out books. It also provides computer, fax, and printer access. Books, magazines, and newspapers are available to all ages.

Members of the Iowa Commission of Libraries give a voice to all Iowans for governance and protection of our state's libraries. This is especially important for small libraries like ours in Ventura. The State Library and the commission provide vital resources and guidance on issues including funding, library standards, and access to information.

Please maintain the current structure of this important commission.

Thank you,





September 19, 2023

Director Kraig Paulsen  
Iowa Department of Management  
1007 East Grant Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Director Paulsen,

On behalf of the National Propane Gas Association, which represents propane marketers, suppliers, distributors and equipment manufacturers across the country, including in Iowa, we appreciate the opportunity to submit comments in regards to the Boards & Commissions Review Committee's (BCRC) proposed preliminary recommendations, which were released on August 29, 2023. NPGA works in close partnership with the industry's state and regional propane associations, including the Iowa Propane Gas Association (IPGA).

Iowa is a vital energy hub in the upper Midwest. Numerous interstate pipelines transporting natural gas liquids, such as propane, traverse the state. And it is home to multiple primary propane storage facilities. These assets enhance the state's energy security and resilience. They also promote economic activity and increase the tax base. Iowa's propane industry supports good-paying jobs and contributes more than \$1.9 billion to state GDP annually.<sup>1</sup>

We certainly understand the BCRC's mission and its underlying rationale to engage in this review process. Of particular interest to NPGA is the Committee's preliminary recommendation to eliminate Iowa's Education and Research Council (PERC). Education, safety and research are paramount to the success of any industry, and even more so in the energy sector. NPGA actually spearheaded the effort, through the passage of the Propane Education and Research Act by Congress in 1996, to create the national Propane Education and Research Council. And we support efforts by state propane associations to create state-level PERC programs, as they are beneficial to industry membership and the public.

Iowa's PERC program was created in 2007 with the blessing of the legislature and governor. As noted in Chapter 101C of State Code, the Council itself is not a state agency and its funding is derived from the industry and private sources, not state coffers.<sup>2</sup> Since its inception, Iowa PERC has functioned well and adhered to its mission and legislative mandate.

A core tenet of NPGA's mission is to advance industry safety. And state-level PERC programs are a wonderful means to further this objective. On the ground in Iowa, the state's PERC program is producing tangible results in the safety realm, including:

- The hiring, by IPGA, of a Director of Safety Education and Compliance;

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<sup>1</sup> *Propane's Impact on Economy: 2018 Iowa*, National Propane Gas Association, (2020), [https://www.npga.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Iowa\\_Propane-1-Pager\\_2020.pdf](https://www.npga.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Iowa_Propane-1-Pager_2020.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Iowa State Code, §101C, <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/101c.pdf>

- The construction of an industry training center that promotes learning and education;
- The hosting of district meetings and trainings, twice annually, at 8 different state locations;
- The adoption of updated National Fire Protection Association codes (e.g., 54, 58);
- The distribution of propane safety brochures to retailers and consumers;
- And the hosting of firefighters for fuel training exercises.

Iowans themselves also directly benefit from the Council's existence through financial incentives and rebates made available to propane customers, including specifically households participating in the state's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Rebates are available for residential, commercial and agricultural customers and are used to reduce the cost of acquiring new equipment and appliances. Notably, some rebate programs explicitly target aged and/or outdated equipment, such as regulators. This ensures equipment in the field is safe and functioning properly. Further, many of these incentives help consumers obtain more efficient equipment, such as a high efficiency furnace or water heater. These appliances use less fuel, save customers money and have a smaller environmental footprint. In a state where large swaths of population live in rural areas and are sensitive to energy costs, these are all good things.

Iowa is the eighth largest propane market in the country, with 409 million gallons sold in 2021. The Hawkeye State represents 4.3 percent of the national propane market, despite being less than 1 percent of the U.S. population. And the fuel's uses in Iowa are widespread and diverse. For example, Iowa consumes the most propane nationally, by a substantial margin, for agricultural purposes, such as grain drying and crop irrigation engines. Energy is critical for farming operations; and farming operations are critical for the State of Iowa.

In a cold weather state with a significant number of annual heating degree days, space heating is always of paramount importance. And more than 162,000 Iowa households rely on propane to meet their primary heating needs, behind only natural gas and electricity.<sup>3</sup> Beyond space heating, residential customers utilize propane as a cost-effective energy option for water heating, clothes drying, fireplaces, cooking and generator applications. In fact, propane usage, for any residential application, is much more commonplace in Iowa than national averages.<sup>4</sup> In short, propane is disproportionately impactful in the Iowa, which further strengthens the case for the continuation of a well-managed state PERC program that provides substantial benefits to propane companies and customers alike.

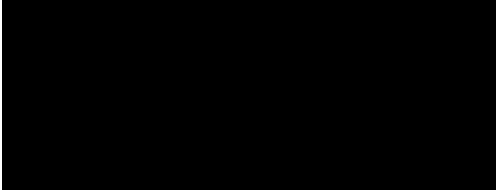
The advancement of safety, education and job training, all of which are core components of Iowa PERC's work, is even more important as the industry makes investments in new technologies and equipment to make the industry safer and more responsive to the needs of customers. Iowa PERC serves as a central repository for industry standards, best practices and training programs to mitigate risks and protect persons and property. All of this is especially vital as the industry brings on board the next generation of service technicians, bobtail drivers and transport drivers. As such, we request that the BCRC, and ultimately the legislature and governor, recognize the benefits of Iowa PERC and support its continued operations in the state.

Thank you for again for the opportunity to provide comment.

<sup>3</sup> *House Heating Fuel 2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables*, American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, (2021), [https://data.census.gov/table?tid=ACSDP5Y2021\\_DP04&g=040XX00US19&hidePreview=true](https://data.census.gov/table?tid=ACSDP5Y2021_DP04&g=040XX00US19&hidePreview=true)

<sup>4</sup> *Highlights for Fuels Used in U.S. Homes by State*, U.S. Energy Information Administration, (March 2023), <https://www.eia.gov/consumption/residential/data/2020/state/pdf/State%20Fuels%20Used.pdf>

Respectfully submitted



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Commission of Libraries should not be changed

Governor Reynolds has requested public input on the Boards and Commissions Review Committees recommendations to eliminate, consolidate/merge, reorganize/other changes, or continue (as is) Iowa's Boards and Commissions.

The Commission of Libraries provides valuable input to the State Library for services, networking, and programming vital to Iowa Libraries.

The Ventura Public Library serves as a hub of educational activities as well as a place to check out books. Small town libraries serve the surrounding communities with children's and adult programming, computer, fax, and printer access as well as a plethora of books, magazines, and newspapers to read.

We believe the Commission of Libraries should continue (as is) NOT reorganize/other changes as the Review Committee recommends. Please join us in sending a letter to [BCRCcomments@iowa.gov](mailto:BCRCcomments@iowa.gov) before September 30, 2023.

