

**Meeting of the Starcomm Executime Board
with Technical Committee
April 9, 2025**

Starcomm Executive Board Members Present

Ryan Collins, Fire Chief, Sioux City, Board Chair
Richard Headid, Police Chief, North Sioux City, SD
Ed Mahon, Police Chief, South Sioux City, NE
Rex Mueller, Police Chief, Sioux City, Acting Chair
Mark Nelsen, Woodbury County Supervisor
Jereme Muller, Police Chief, Sergeant Bluff
Jim Prouty, Sheriff, Union County, SD
Jason Westcott, Union County, EMA

Executive Board Absent

Chris Kleinberg, Sheriff, Dakota County, NE
Bob Scott, Mayor, Sioux City
Chad Sheehan, Sheriff, Woodbury County

STARComm Technical Committee Members Present

Drew Baier, Woodbury County Emergency and Disaster Services
Tony Carpenter, Calhoun Communications
Jim Christiansen, North Sioux City, SD, Fire Department
Travis Cipperley, Communications Center Operations Supervisor
Stacy Geesaman, Electronic Engineering
Wendi Hess, Communications Center Manager, Woodbury County
Terry McElroy, Electronic Engineering
Mike Montino, Emergency Management Coordinator, Woodbury County

Tech Committee Absent

Mark Aesoph, Fire Marshal, Sioux City Fire Rescue
Braden Albrecht, Calhoun Communications
Doug Bock, Network Manager, WCICC-IT
Steve Heide, South Sioux City Police Department
Greg Koinzan, Police Officer, South Sioux City Police Department
Eric Larson, Electronic Engineering
John Malloy, Information Services Director, WCICC-IT
Bob Welte, Woodbury County Disaster Services
Eric Wieling, Calhoun Communications

Item 1 Meeting Called to Order

The April 9, 2025, STARComm Executive Board meeting was called to order by Chair Ryan Collins at 1003 hours.

Item 2 Approve Minutes of the January 8, 2025, Meeting

Rex Mueller made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2025, meeting, seconded by Rich Headid. All voting aye, motion carried.

Item 3 Quarterly Budget Report: Q3/FY25 January, February, March 2025

The 3rd Quarter Revenue and Expenditure report covering January, February, March 2025 was reviewed. Wendi will run budget reports after the tenth of the month to ensure all activity is accounted for.

Item 4 Motion to Appoint Jereme Muller, Sergeant Bluff Police Chief, to the STARComm Board

Jereme Muller was appointed Sergeant Bluff Police Chief, March 1, 2025, and replaces retired Sergeant Bluff Police Chief Scott Pack.

Item 4 Motion

A motion was made by Rex Mueller and seconded by Jim Prouty to appoint Sergeant Bluff Police Chief Jereme Muller as a STARComm Executive Board member. All voting aye, motion carried.

Item 5 Union County Dispatch Software Updates and Costs

The Union County K Core dispatch system was installed in 2016; the system was never tied to the internet, unlike Woodbury and Dakota County systems, and therefore does not receive automatic upgrades. Motorola provided a recent upgrade, but the system is vulnerable. A system crash over two years ago took two days to repair. Moto patch, an option that did not exist when the system was installed, is now available at a cost of roughly \$5,000 per year, which includes both consoles. How can this expense be covered? Woodbury and Dakota counties receive upgrades which are included in the Motorola agreement.

Union County's dispatch positions are included in the 28E agreement that establishes STARComm, and it is Wendi's opinion STARComm has an obligation to maintain and upgrade Union County's consoles. It is unclear whether the Motorola service agreement covers K Core position upgrades. Due to an FY26 budget surplus, not only will each agency's contribution be reduced, but adequate funds remain for the Moto-patch annual fee. If it is determined the Moto-patch is not covered in the current agreement, a separate agreement that coincides with the remaining life of the existing 12-year service agreement is recommended. Wendi and Travis will meet with Motorola and if necessary, provide a draft Moto-patch agreement for Board action at the next meeting.

Item 6. Open Items

Sioux City School District Request to Join ISICS

Years ago, the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) wanted to be part of the STARComm infrastructure. An agreement was created between STARComm and ISICS, and ISICS absorbed the STARComm agencies to be part of a larger system.

The Sioux City School District would like to become part of ISICS; however, the Iowa Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) feels the School District should apply through STARComm rather than ISICS. STARComm bylaws do not allow this process. An ISICS user group committee evaluates applications for those who would like to be part of the system; and it would be appropriate for the School District to submit their application via that method. Other school districts in the State of Iowa operate on the ISICS system. STARComm is funded by the system's public safety user agencies. The Sioux City School District would like to operate on the STARComm system but do not wish to pay a user fee. Before ISICS formed, Wings Air Rescue paid a monthly fee to operate on the STARComm system, but once ISICS was formed, access to the state system was free; Wings became part of ISICS and ceased paying STARComm. Wendi will discuss this further with the Iowa SWIC.

Tri-State Traffic Group

The tri-state traffic group meets monthly and is held at DOT headquarters, in the event anyone is interested in attending and providing input. A zoom link is available as well. Mike Montino and Wendi attend these meetings.

Communications Center Accreditation

Rex Mueller thanked Wendi and her staff for ongoing accreditation efforts. Sioux City is one of ten cities to have an accredited communications center, fire department, 911 ambulance transport, and police department.

CALEA Onsite Inspection

An accreditation onsite inspection will occur in July. Wendi may ask Board members for their participation.

Item 6 Motion to Adjourn

Rex Mueller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jereme Muller; all voting aye, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1031 hours.

Next regular meeting 1000 hours, July 9, 2025.