



Mayor Garret Nancolas — Chairman
Idaho Association of Cities
(208) 455-3011, gnancolas@ci.caldwell.id.us

Rep. Rick Youngblood --Treasurer
Idaho Legislature
(208) 412-5107, ryoungblood@house.idaho.gov

Capt. Kevin Haight
Idaho State Police
(208) 316-4420, Kevin.haight@isp.idaho.gov

Chief Craig Kingsbury
Idaho Chiefs of Police Association
208-735-7209, ckingsbury@tfid.org

Kent Searle, Cassia County Commissioner
Idaho Association of Counties
(208)878-7302, ksearle@cassiacounty.org

Sheriff Len Humphries, Fremont County
Idaho Sheriffs Association
(208) 624-4482, lhumphries@co.fremont.id.us

Sheriff Stephen Bartlett
Idaho Sheriffs Association
(208)-577-3303, sbartlett@adaweb.net

Chief David Gates
Idaho Fire Chiefs Association
(208) 234-6204, dgates@pocatello.us

Jeff Weak
Idaho Technology Authority, Chairman
(208) 605-4067, jeff.weak@gov.idaho.gov

Michele Carreras—Vice Chairman
Idaho State EMS Communications Center
(208) 846-7621, michele.carreras@dhw.idaho.gov

Brad Richy
Director, Idaho Office of Emergency
Management
(208) 422-3001, brichy@bhs.idaho.gov

Vacant
DIGB 1

Dave Taylor, Nez Perce County 911
DIGB 2
(208) 799-3198, DaveTaylor@co.nezperce.id.us

Carmen Boeger, Nampa City
DIGB 3
(208) 318-2259, (208)-465-2257
boegerc@cityofnampa.us

Jacob Greenberg, Blaine County Commissioner
DIGB 4
(208) 788-5500
jgreenberg@co.blaine.id.us

Chief William F. Guiberson, Chubbuck PD
DIGB 5
(208) 239-3257, (208) 251-5341,
bguiberson@cityofchubbuck.us

Sheriff Samuel Hulse, Bonneville County
DIGB 6
(208) 317-8419, (208) 529-1350x1106
shulse@co.bonneville.id.us

Vacant
Idaho Tribal Representative

May 7, 2021

Dear Commissioners,

I am happy to announce that the Idaho Public Safety Communications Commission is ready to accept grant applications for the FY2022 cycle. The grant applications, guidelines and rules are available on our website, which is <https://ioem.idaho.gov/ipscc>. When you click on our website you will notice on the right-hand side of our page an area labeled “related links”. Click on the links and the forms will be available for you to download. If you have any trouble whatsoever with the download of the Instructions, Application, or Grant Rules please feel free to contact me and I will assist you and/or mail you a copy. The grant application deadline will be the close of business July 31, 2021.

We would like to take this opportunity to make you aware of changes in granting priorities for future years. The evolution of emergency calling beyond the traditional voice 911 call has shown that our current E911 system is no longer able to support the needs of the future and the expectations of our E911 customers.

As you may know, Next Generation 911 will eventually be replacing the current E911 system and we are trying to prepare for this updated system in Idaho. Implementing an updated system within the State will be expensive and will require that we prioritize the distribution of grant funds.

The Commission would like to encourage grants that are focused on projects that show collaboration of equipment between two or more PSAPs. We understand that some PSAP’s may not be able to share resources easily, but in many cases there is an ability to use a “shared services project” to reduce the cost of equipment and on-going maintenance.

Please note a significant change to “maintenance” of 911 phone systems. The IPSCC will consider on-going maintenance fees for 911 phone systems based on a sliding scale (1st year @ 100%, 2nd year @ 90%, 3rd year @ 80%, and on down). This will be based on a PSAP’s financial status at the time of application. Also (on a case by case basis) the IPSCC will consider assistance in paying networking fees when consolidating 911 phone systems.

If I can assist you in the grant process please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

R David Moore

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Idaho E911 Grants and Agreements Manager
4040 W. Guard Street, Bldg. 600
Boise, ID 83705
(208) 954-2578

