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September 9, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DAVE LINGREN APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ICN**

(Des Moines, IA) – The Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission (ITTC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dave Lingren to serve as Iowa Communications Network’s (ICN) Executive Director, effective immediately.

The ITTC conducted a nation-wide search beginning in March and over 100 applications were received, screened and evaluated by the consulting firm, Management Resource Group. Initial interviews with four candidates were conducted by a team that included representatives from the ITTC, state government, the private sector, and the educational community. The full Commission conducted interviews with two finalists on September 2, 2010.

The Commission feels strongly that Lingren’s background, experience and vision will position the ICN for continued success in the years to come.

“Dave Lingren stepped into the interim director’s role at the ICN on very short notice and has exceeded the Commission’s expectations as a leader and executive. His knowledge of the industry, familiarity with the customer base, and ability to work with policy makers and stakeholders are distinguishing assets that will be critical to advancing the mission of the ICN in the years ahead,” said Betsy Brandsgard, ITTC Chair. “Dave has demonstrated a real passion for the work and mission of the ICN that sets him apart from the other very qualified candidates in contention for the position. We are confident he will continue to build relationships with lawmakers and private sector providers to ensure that the telecommunications needs of state government, K-12 education, and other customer bases are well-served,” added Brandsgard.

Lingren’s accomplishments while serving as ICN’s Interim Executive Director included:

- Providing the leadership for the development of the recently awarded \$16.25 million federal broadband grant.
- Leading the effort to pass legislation that will allow ICN’s customers to have greater bandwidth capacities to meet the growing demand for electronic information.
- Developing stronger working relationships with business and the private sector, including developing a significant initiative with Iowa Health Systems.

“I am humbled by the vote of confidence the Commission has extended to me. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve in the leadership role for the ICN. The employees are hardworking

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and dedicated, and the users we serve are at the heart of meeting the needs of the citizens of Iowa. I look forward to working closely with Iowa's private telecommunications providers in a partnered role to help serve education, state government, and healthcare communities," said Lingren.

Lingren's appointment by the ITTC is subject to Senate confirmation when the legislature reconvenes in 2011.

Lingren was selected to serve as ICN's Interim Executive Director on January 4, 2010, by the ITTC upon the resignation of John Gillispie.

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