



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

One Ashburton Place, Room 2133
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Tel: (617) 727-7775
TTY Tel: (617) 727-6618
Fax: (617) 727-4764
www.mass.gov/eopss

Maura Healey
Governor

Kim Driscoll
Lt. Governor

TERRENCE M. REIDY
Secretary

SIEC Executive Management Committee (EMC)

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS)
50 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757
Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 1:30pm

MINUTES

Voting SIEC EMC members present: *Richard Fiske (SWIC-EOPSS), Alexander Rock (ASWIC-EOPSS, Policy & Programs Committee), David Spinoso (Northeast), Tim Gover (Southeast), Dennis Nazzaro (Western), Greg Lynskey (Central), Gerry Reardon (Metro Boston, UASI)*

Others present: *John Hunt (FirstNet), Jason Breault (Western Alternate), Mike Saltzman (EOTSS CoMIRS), Carli Harris (CRHSAC), Kathryn Latimer (EOPSS OGR), Sarah Malloy (EOPSS OGR), Melissa Nazzaro (CISA ECC Reg1), Chad Snow (FirstNet), Norm Fournier (State 911), Cory Swift (MCSA)*

Mr. Fiske chaired the meeting on behalf of Secretary Reidy and called the meeting to order at 1:32pm. Roll call was held.

1. Acceptance of Minutes/Notes

- a) February 12, 2025, Minutes. Motion to approve by Jason Breault, seconded by David Spinoso, Motion carried.

b) PJ-ICIPs and PJ-ICPS Amendments:

- *HSGP21-500 ECFCA UHF Wide Area Network Upgrades – Northeast. David Spinoso spoke on the subject. This is a continuation of an ongoing project to create a wide area network for the ECFCA. Previously the VHF and UHF networks had been combined together at two different locations covering the county as more of a dispatch or inter PSAP channel. This project's goal is to separate the UHF and VHF systems making a wide area command and control channel. The receivers and repeaters have been previously purchased. This ICIP looks to purchase combining equipment as the final piece to move forward with the project. Motion to approve by Jason Breault, seconded by Greg Lynskey. Motion carried.*

- c) Discussion on any other current projects that have been reviewed previously and need action or have pending concerns- N/A

- d) Discussion on any newly submitted projects that require distribution and review prior to action that were not anticipated or included here- N/A

2. Reports

a. Standing Committees

- i. **Data Committee-** N/A
- ii. **RF Committee-** N/A
- iii. **Policy / Programs-** *Nothing to report*

b. Councils

- iv. **UASI-Metro Boston** – *Gerry Reardon addressed the committee. At a recent JPOC meeting almost \$800,000 dollars was reassigned. This money originally came out of FY 21-22 and was for adding two additional RF sites, 12 channel P25. This was denied at SIEC and SIEC never voted on this correctly. MR. Fiske remarked that this was voted on correctly February 7th, 2024. Mr. Reardon concurred with the record and remarked that the relocation of the funds will go towards barricades, upgrades to the MetroFire central system and BAPERN. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*
- v. **Northeast-** *David Spinosa addressed the committee. NERAC is continuing to prioritize projects with equipment available for purchase right away in the most recent meeting. Additionally, the radio programming project has had two classes put on from Motorola and an additional two classes from Kenwood are upcoming. The last two Motorola classes were well attended and put on by Alex Chadis with at least 20 participants per class. Overtime was backfilled by NERAC. Mr. Fiske remarked, this is timely due to the feedback received from different agencies that are starting to program their own equipment due to the availability of software in leu of a vendor. This is somewhat concerning that the user might not know what they are doing, or they don't program correctly from the templates that have been historically provided. Mr. Spinosa commented that a takeaway from the first two classes reviled a disparity about who has programming knowledge and who doesn't, from entry level to more advanced users looking for hints or shortcuts. Future classes will be tailored to people's abilities. Mr. Reardon asked if NERAC is backfilling overtime for training and also in the field work. Mr. Spinosa replied, NERAC will pay to backfill department overtime but not in field programming. The in-field overtime backfill part of this program was never able to get off the ground due to lack of support. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*
- vi. **Southeast-** *Tim Gover addressed the committee. Nothing to report from the Southeast.*
- vii. **Central-** *Greg Lynskey addressed the committee. Nothing to report from Central.*
- viii. **Western-** *Jason Breault addressed the committee. Donald Tryon, formerly of Shelburn Control, was hired to run the Berkshire RECC by State 911. If 911 opens any more RECCs in the west Donald will be directing those facilities as well. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*

c. State/Federal/Other Agencies

- i. **SWIC:** *Rich Fiske addressed the committee.*

- *MIFOG is 99.9% to the finish line. A draft version was sent out last week looking for final input, comments and feedback with a deadline of Friday. We did receive a lot of feedback from people who were unable to participate in the working group sessions we held previously. Several edits were made including updating the Fire District maps, and some minor housekeeping items. After Friday the goal is to get the MIFOG to Melissa at CISA for upload to the app. Afterwards, it will be a goal to identify funding to allow for the MIFOG to be made available as a printed copy. Many agencies have made the ask for the printed MIFOG resource.*
 - *Lexington and Concord 250th planning continues with a full-scale tabletop exercise held at the UCC with all participants recently. Dave Spinosa from Northeast is heavily involved in this event due to the amount of planning required with many moving parts. This event involves many different agencies with different capabilities. The events will be taking place Friday through Sunday prior to the Boston Marathon.*
 - *The Boston Marathon planning is coming to the finish line. Mr. Fiske will be manning the ESF-2 desk at the UCC during the marathon. Andy is going to be away attending an alerts and warnings conference either in person or virtually.*
 - *Star Link for state agencies is now available for procurement as a state agency. There was no way to accomplish this previously. The work by MEMA and the fiscal team put a procurement vehicle in place for agencies to purchase this service.*
 - *NCSWIC / SAFECOM executive committee meeting has been cancelled.*
- No other comments or questions from the Committee.*
- ii. **State 911 Report:** *Norm Fournier addressed the committee. As Jason had previously mentioned, State 911 has assumed operational control of the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office dispatch. 911 has a signed IMA with 25 communities in the Berkshire County area. Thanks to the Berkshire County Sherriff team for a smooth transition. Also, as most are aware, 911 is in the midst of replacing the call handling system at all 201 PSAPs. Over 100 questions were received from the vendor community on our Request for Response and 911 has until March 14th to post all replies. Once the responses come in the information will be provided to the Strategic Sourcing Team to select the best vendor. On the regionalization front 911 is down to 201 PSAPs. This is quite a remarkable feat, and we are hopeful to be under 200 PSAPs sometime this year. This consolidation is not a mandate and has to be done with cooperation and working in partnership with many different players. Mr. Fiske asked if a timeline was available for when the PSAPs will start to see some of the change implementation. Mr. Fournier commented that some work will begin with demonstrations in May of this year with contracting period in December of this year and PSAPs to see some rollout in 2026. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*
- iii. **FirstNet:** *John Hunt addressed the committee. FirstNet will be holding a coverage enhancement workshop in all states and territories this year. The intent of conducting these workshops is to help identify where we need to be spending the allocated investment dollars on coverage improvement. 2 billion dollars was allocated to the FirstNet authority to complete this task. This will not be enough money to give 100% coverage to everyone. In the coming weeks FirstNet will be reaching out to the SWIC and the AT&T FirstNet team to identify about 20 FirstNet users to join the workshop to provide input. No deadline is set for the working group as of yet. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*

- iv. **Statewide Radio:** *Mike Saltzman addressed the committee. Nothing new to report other than CoMIRS sitework is continuing to move forward at the 90 plus sites. Western Mass work has been held up due to weather at some of the more difficult sites to access. Also, we are still working on the transition plan for all the radios on the system that are ether operable or interoperable. A price plan is being worked out with Motorola to address the upgrades and entitlements needed. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*
- v. **System Owners:**
BAPERN- N/A
WMLEC- N/A
- vi. **Federal Partners:** *Melissa Nazzaro addressed the committee. A meeting next Monday will be occurring with the Emergency Communications Division to discuss the plans for Technical assistance and funding. Also, a call is scheduled this Friday with the World Cup Coordinator to discuss the possibility of additional opportunities of World Cup TAs potentially with Rhode Island or Connecticut. A Resiliency communication training will be held in Washington DC. This is a newer training and will be offered to anyone in the country. Recently New Hampshire and Vermont have opened their RADO class and COMT class to surrounding states. RADO is being offered April 1st and 2nd and the COMT is being offered April 21st through April 25th. Both classes are being held in Hanover, New Hampshire. Also, this fall in White River Junction, Vermont and New Hampshire are having a COML and ITSL class. Also, other opportunities in Seattle Washington July 14th through July 18th will be holding Spectrum Cyclone Communications Exercise. This exercise will be focusing on incident response intentional and unintentional communication RF interference and cyber security issues. Advertisement regarding this exercise to come. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*

Unfinished Business:

- a. Copper
- b. Non-HSGP grant-funded interoperability projects.
- c. Cybersecurity
- d. Continuing updates to interoperable best practices throughout the Commonwealth

Announcements:

None.

Next meeting in April, TBD.

Motion to adjourn was made at 2:13pm by Rich Fiske. Carried and adjourned at 2:13pm.