



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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SIEC Executive Management Committee (EMC)

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS)
50 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757
Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 1:30pm

MINUTES

1. Welcome/Remarks/Rollcall attendance

Voting SIEC EMC members present: *Richard Fiske (SWIC-EOPSS), Alexander Rock (ASWIC-EOPSS, Policy & Programs Committee), David Spinosa (Northeast), Gerry Reardon (UASI), Scott Wilder (UASI), Tim Gover (Southeast), Dennis Nazzaro (West), Robert VanZandt (West-Alternate), Greg Lynskey (Central)*

Others present: *Mike Saltzman (EOTSS CoMIRS), Seth Peters (CMRPC), Norm Fournier (State 911), Lauren Sacks (NERAC-MAPC), Sarah Malloy (EOPSS OGR), Cory Swift (MCSA), Joe Griffen (BAPERN), John Surette (Boston Police)*

Mr. Fiske chaired the meeting on behalf of Secretary Kwon and called the meeting to order at 1:31pm. Roll call was held.

2. Acceptance of Minutes/Notes

- a. March 4, 2026, Minutes. Motion to approve by David Spinosa, seconded by Gerry Reardon. Motion carried. Greg Lynskey abstained.

3. New Business/Announcements

a. PJ-ICIPs and PJ-ICPS Amendments:

- HSGP23-525 Cache Radio Replacement- Northeast. David Spinosa addressed the committee. *This cache will be used as a direct replacement for radios that reside at the NERAC regional cache in Beverly. The cache is currently made up of 60 radios in Beverly and another 30 in Framingham. This regional cache was supplied over 20 years ago and is comprised of mostly XTS1500 and XTS2500 portables that are now end of life.* No comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve by Tim Gover, seconded by Greg Lynskey. Motion carried.
- HSGP23-526 Interop Equipment Replacement- UASI. Gerry Reardon addressed the committee. *This project involves a hybrid combiner for the MBTA that has been failing for some time. The project will be used to replace the UHF combiner and multicoupler as well as add some new channels, UTAC-41, MBHSR, and Metro-RED.* John Surette addressed the

committee. *This project will also add base stations and wireline connectivity for the myriad of UASI communities. We identified these gaps during several multi agency exercises in the subway system.* No comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve by David Spinosa, seconded by Dennis Nazzaro. Motion carried.

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

5. Reports

a. Standing Committees

- I. **Data Committee-** N/A
- II. **RF Committee-** Rich Fiske addressed the committee on behalf of Mr. Barstow. *The RF committee is looking for a replacement chair. Mr. Barstow has graciously offered to remain as chair until a replacement can be found. If anyone is interested, please reach out to me directly.* No comments or questions from the committee.
- III. **Policy / Programs-** Alex Rock addressed the committee. *The Policy and Programs Subcommittee held a meeting last Wednesday with an open agenda to discuss issues that may need addressing by committee members. After some discussion, the idea for a technical guidance document to be used by agencies looking to purchase new radios formulated. A rough draft of this document is being crafted to go out soon for committee review and discussion at our next meeting.* No other comments or questions from the committee.

b. Councils

- I. **UASI-Metro Boston** – Gerry Reardon addressed the committee. *UASI is working on the two main projects that were brought forth earlier today. We are also looking at FY25 as it is still in process. We are still not funded as of yet.* No other comments or questions from the committee.
- II. **Northeast-** David Spinosa addressed the committee. *Our next interop meeting is Monday; we are working on several projects. Cache radios should be distributed by this summer with Kenwood's supply chain being fairly quick. The project for the NEMLEC comms van was approved for upfitting and will hopefully be done by this summer. Also, we have engaged with the town of Acton regarding a comms plan for a recent tabletop exercise. One of the requirements for some of our training is to develop a 205 form. We spoke with Acton and some of the regional towns to come up with a plan to help with the disparate uhf/vhf systems. This 205 will be distributed at the tabletop exercise.* No other comments or questions from the committee.
- III. **Southeast-** Tim Gover addressed the committee. *Nothing to report at this time.* No other comments or questions from the committee.
- IV. **Central-** Greg Lynskey addressed the committee. *Nothing to report at this time.* No other comments or questions from the committee.
- V. **Western-** Dennis Nazzaro addressed the committee. *Nothing new to report at this time. Just wrapping up some projects still on the table.* No other comments or questions from the committee.

c. State/Federal/Other Agencies

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

- *Recently we conducted an after-action meeting at MEMA for the state EOC ESF activations for the recent blizzard. This was a 7am to 7pm activation for several days during this storm. The meeting was productive and used to identify some things that went well and some things that went not so well. We haven't had an activation of this size in several years and it exposed some things many agencies will need to update.*
- *U/S Collins has asked me to provide a SWIC update for the state 911 commission. This report will inform members of the 911 commission what we are doing for communications and interoperability in the public safety space. Many members of the commission are not part of a communications ecosystem.*
- *We had a recent statewide Fire Mobilization committee meeting last week. One specific topic of discussion involves the Fire Mobilization Communications Plan. We are working to update this plan as it hasn't had an update in over a decade. With the implementation of the new statewide CoMIRS radio system, discussions involve how to incorporate CoMIRS into this communications plan both in the activation stage and operation stage. A future meeting is planned to seek feedback from the committee and the comms plan will then be updated after.*
- *The Marlboro hospital evacuation was discussed at the Fire mobilization meeting. Specifically the challenges to interoperability and communications that came up during the evacuation. Many departments still struggle with changing the zones in radios or radios lack the Interoperable Tactical Channel Plan altogether, or it is incomplete. I will be utilizing the Fire Mobilization group to push out updates and training. More to come on this.*
- *We have been holding discussions for the last couple years with DPH and OEMS in regard to communications and interoperability with EMS services both private and public. EMS communications falls under a separate plan that is CMED centric and doesn't fall under the tactical interoperable channel plan. The secretariats are working together to incorporate the communications plans together so some common programing can be established. More to come on this.*
- *There is a COML class going on in Portsmouth, NH next week. Registration is now closed; it closed last Friday. This is a regional offering through DHS and CISA. There will be a COMT class in Massachusetts around the week of June 7th. Location TBD. These classes were originally scheduled for November but canceled due to lack of funding. Both the COML and COMT rescheduled classes have been funded with World Cup Funding. First group of registrants from the November classes will have first right of refusal for the upcoming COMT in June.*
- *The Governor's office held a press release regarding the federal FY25 homeland security funding for Massachusetts. This includes \$22,000,000 for the different regions throughout the Commonwealth. The press release goes on to make specific call outs to EOPSS and the SWICs office and several regional accomplishments. This press release is on the Mass.Gov website if anyone is interested in reading it.*
- *Marathon planning is continuing, with the final comms plans for the event by the agencies are due for submission. The final planning meeting is next week and all is on track. One notable change for this year is T-Mobile will not be deploying a COW this year as they feel the network is strong enough.*

- *Field Comm 50, located at Berkshire County Sheriffs, has now moved over to State 911 BRECC. State 911 will be performing some maintenance and the staff at the BRECC will be developing a training session for personnel for future deployments.*
- *World Cup comms and interop planning meetings continue. We continue to make strong requests to agencies to submit any asks for deployable or interop channel use so they may be deconflicted as we move forward.*

No other comments or questions from the committee.

- ii. **State 911 Report:** Norm Fournier addressed the committee. *I have gone before the DTC because we are increasing our expenditures by 10% and we have been diligently providing them documentation and justifications as we go through this process. We have recently been informed that we will be audited by the state auditors. We are providing a lot of documentation on that. Specifically, they seem to be going after 560CMR 5.10. This is not a financial audit; it is a programs audit for the silent call procedure and text to 911. The audit period runs July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025, and again we have been providing a lot of documentation. Another small project we have going on will be replacing the entire NextGen 911 call handling system. Part of this includes training up 3500 communicators and replacing equipment thorough 194 PSAPs. The new equipment has been installed in the com tech lab and we are hoping to start testing next week to see if it does what they say it can do. On the FIFA front, we were able to obtain a phone from the Netherlands. We performed one test call and it was exceptionally problematic with erratic callback and no ability to text the phone. Other states are also experiencing problems. We have also been working with Rob Verdone at the ROCC, specifically if he wants a separate polygon for the stadium area. We have been tasked with converting the mobile PSAP from a wired connection to more of a wireless or cellular based connection for any issues that may happen during the FIFA event. We have been working with Allerium to set up a local map server to keep traffic local and off cellular for the PSAPs.* No other comments or questions from the committee.

- iii. **FirstNet:** N/A

- iv. **Statewide Radio:** Mike Saltzman addressed the committee. *Statewide radio continues to march. We were initially going to update the state in 4 different sections 1A-1D. We then broke down to 1A / 1B in western mass and 1B+ for the rest of the state. The cutover for 1A looks like sometime this June with 1B+ cutting over some time in 2027 with no pinpoint date yet. We have been working on identifying thousands of radios on CoMIRS to make sure they will work on the new system with the proper featureset when the cutover happens. Microwave backhaul upgrades have been going on in the 1B+ phase. We are working to make sure there are no disruptions as this work continues.* No other comments or questions from the committee.

- v. **System Owners:**

- VI. **BAPERN-** Joe Griffin addressed the committee. *The Bristol County equipment is shipping today. This should be in by the end of the month. We are expecting in 90-120 days for installation and the west district for BAPERN should be online.* No other comments or questions from the committee.

WMLEC- N/A

vi. Federal Partners: N/A

6. Unfinished Business:

Next meeting in May, TBD.

Motion to adjourn was made at 2:08pm by Rich Fiske, seconded by Gerry Reardon. Carried and adjourned at 2:08pm.