



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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TERRENCE M. REIDY
Secretary

SIEC Executive Management Committee (EMC)

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS)

50 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757

Wednesday, June 26, 2024, 1:30pm

MINUTES

Voting SIEC EMC members present: *Richard Fiske (SWIC), Alexander Rock (ASWIC, Policy & Programs Committee), David Spinosa (Northeast), Scott Wilder (UASI), Tim Gover (Southeast)*

Others present: *Matt Barstow (MSP), Seth Peters (CMRPC), Norm Fournier (State 911), Brian Nichols (EOPSS OGR), Sarah Cook (EOPSS OGR), Mike Saltzman (EOTSS CoMIRS), Cory Swift (MCSA), Sarah Malloy (EOPSS OGR), Anthony Fowler (FEMA REG1)*

Richard Fiske chaired the meeting on behalf of Secretary Reidy and called the meeting to order at 1:42pm. Roll call was held.

1. Acceptance of Minutes/Notes

a) April 3, 2024, Minutes. Motion to approve by Scott Wilder, seconded by David Spinosa, Motion carried.

b) PJ-ICIPs and PJ-ICPS Amendments:

- *HSGP-CCP-MEMA-CERT Radios-Sturbridge. Mr. Fiske spoke on the subject; he made a motion to defer the quote back to the applicant due to non-compliant DES encryption. The applicant must delete the non-compliant DES encryption or add the compliant AES-256 encryption. The Motion was seconded by David Spinosa. Motion carried.*
- *HSGP20-491 UASI-Somerville Marine Unit Radio. Scott Wilder spoke on the subject. This is a request for retroactive approval for the purchase of a Motorola APX-8500. This radio meets all ICIP requirements. Motion was made by David Spinosa, seconded by Tim Gover, motion carried.*
- *HSGP20-492 Boston OEM-Prime Mover- Scott Wilder spoke on the subject. This ICIP is for the purchase of a Motorola APX-8500 mobile radio to be installed in a Prime Mover for the Boston OEM. ICIP was reviewed and is compliant. Motion made by David Spinosa, seconded by Tim Gover, motion carried.*
- *HSGP22-493 Everett Fire Boat Portable Radios- Scott Wilder spoke on the subject. Everett is looking for 6 APX-8000 portable radios for the members of the Marine team. The ICIP and*

- quote was reviewed by Mr. Fiske and deemed compliant. Motion made by David Spinoza, seconded by Tim Gover, motion carried.*
- *HSGP21-489 SRAC-BAPERN Microwave Project- Copicut to Marion Link- Tim Gover spoke on the subject. No issues with the equipment as quoted, it accomplishes the goals of the ICIP. Motion made by Scott Wilder, seconded by David Spinoza. Motion carried.*
 - *HSGP22-490 WEST- High Water Rescue Multiband Radio- No representative available to speak on the subject. ICIP is compliant. No comments or questions from the Committee. Motion made by David Spinoza, seconded by Scott Wilder. 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-** *Matt Barstow addressed the committee. Verizon is moving to stage 2 Of the ERP (Effective Radiated Power) increase on or after July 14. This increase may affect 800mhz users. Any Public Safety users that have experienced interference because of this change in ERP please provide your feedback so we may forward this information to the FCC. No other questions or comments from the Committee.*
- iii. **Policy / Programs-** *Alex Rock addressed the committee. Policy and Programs held a meeting on June 5th to finalize the verbiage of the Wireless Carrier Diversity Best Practice Guidance. After a lengthy debate a single page document was finalized to be circulated and approved. This document outlines clearly and simply, when possible, to diversify your carrier connections for both voice and mobile data by leveraging any of the available carriers as a best practice. No other questions or comments from the Committee.*

b. Councils

- i. **UASI-Metro Boston** –*Scott Wilder addressed the committee. Nothing new to report. No other questions or comments from the Committee.*
- ii. **Northeast-** *David Spinoza addressed the committee. Nothing new to report. No other questions or comments from the Committee.*
- iii. **Southeast-** *Tim Gover addressed the committee concerning an event that occurred in Wellesley as well as an incident on the south shore. Some radio issues occurred. Thanks to Mike Girard and his team from MEMA for assisting with the communications issues that occurred during those events. No other questions or comments from the Committee.*
- iv. **Central-** N/A
- v. **Western-**N/A

c. State/Federal/Other Agencies

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

- *Attended the Working group meeting for the world cup in Dallas Texas specific to communications and interoperability at the national level. This was attended by all SWICs as a communication and interop kickoff meeting for communications and planning for the upcoming FIFA World Cup, with locations specifically at Gillett Stadium in Massachusetts among others. This meeting was hosted at the Federal level by CISA and NCSWIC with work ongoing.*
- *Recently a local Massachusetts meeting was held to discuss comms and interoperability planning for The FIFA World Cup involving the RECCWG through FEMA Reg 1. Any interest by agencies in becoming part of this planning group please reach out to Mr. Fiske at Richard.Fiske@Mass.gov.*
- *Attended the NCSWIC Meeting in Mobile Alabama earlier this month. A couple of hot topics came up regarding funding specifically for the Technical Assistance offerings. This funding goes behind classes for COM-L, COM-T, and INTD training. The next topic involved national coordination of encryption keys and vendors that are still selling DES encryption and not AES-256 even though DES is non-compliant, and finally PTT applications offered by the different carriers. Specifically, regarding a lack of interoperability between the different carriers and that a standard needs to be developed between the carriers to allow interoperability between the PTT applications.*
- *The National Transportation Safety Board reached out to EOPSS regarding a recommendation they made back in 2019 as a result of the Merrimack Valley Gas Incident. One of the recommendations the NTSB made to EOPSS was development of further guidance of communications and interoperability in a multi-jurisdictional event. Much has been done since 2018 starting with Fire MOB and everything since. The recommendation was never formally sent to the NTSB. Several weeks ago, working with the Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Legal, a 4-page document was drafted to the NTSB indicating the recommendations have been implemented back in 2019 and moving forward through 2024. Anyone who wishes to review this document please contact Mr. Fiske.*
- *The MBTA is building out a 700mhz trunk radio system to improve and replace their end-of-life EDACS system. Part of this request involves 700mhz frequency licensing and requires SWIC concurrence pursuant to region 19 regulations. Mr. Fiske worked with the MBTA and their vendor, UASI, Boston, Cambridge, and MSP to make sure this new system is compliant not only through P-25 but will support the underground coverage requirements for Metro Fire, Boston, Cambridge and all other areas the system will cover including channel loading MBTA has requested in the different areas they do not have an operational presence in today. After document presentations concurrence was offered and referred to region 19 with comments from the office of the SWIC. Anyone who would like copies of the response please reach out to Mr. Fiske.*
- *Work is ongoing with the MPTC to implement radio training and interoperability at the recruit level. This included the MPTC procuring more than \$500,000 in radio equipment to issue to the recruits in the academy during their actual training to make them familiar with radio communications and interoperability. Policy and guidance from the office will be provided to assist with smooth implementation by all academy directors across the Commonwealth.*
- *Prepping for the 4th of July not only in Boston but across the Commonwealth. No other questions or comments from the Committee.*

- ii. **State 911 Report:** Norm Fournier addressed the committee regarding the 911 outage on June 18th. The preliminary information involved a firewall that prevented calls from being answered.

Reviews of policy with Comtech the State NG911 provider, EOPSS, MEMA and MSP to better effectuate communications to both better alert public safety as well as the public, if this issue were ever to occur again.

Many have asked if the 911 outage had occurred as a result of a cyber-attack. The preliminary information says that is absolutely not the case. Meetings and work with the vendor are ongoing regarding this incident. No other questions or comments from the Committee.

iii. **FirstNet: N/A**

- iv. **Statewide Radio:** *Mike Saltzman addressed the committee. CoMIRS sitework is well underway with shelter deliveries and tower remediation. 1A in Western Mass the first 50 sites are under way. Microwave constellations are being completed after confirmation of site acquisitions about 85% finalized. Matt Barstow's team is working on the most efficient way to program subscribers for the new system in anticipation of the cutover. Mr. Barstow added that the agencies in Eastern Mass will have a better window for cutover due to the old system running simultaneously for a short period. Western Mass will be more challenging due to a flash cutover. No other questions or comments from the Committee.*

v. **System Owners:**

BAPERN-N/A

WMLEC-N/A

- vi. **Federal Partners:** *Anthony Fowler addressed the committee. In-depth meetings are ongoing for FIFA World Cup. 4th of July tracking and FEMA will have personnel available. RECCWG coming up with a virtual option provided. Also, keeping an eye on hurricane season. This season looks to be more severe than seasons past. No other questions or comments 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 September, TBD.

Motion to adjourn made at 2:17pm by Scott Wilder, seconded by Alex Rock. Carried and adjourned at 2:18pm.