



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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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, June 4, 2025, 1:30pm

### **MINUTES**

**Voting SIEC EMC members present:** *Alexander Rock (ASWIC-EOPSS, Policy & Programs Committee), David Spinosa (Northeast), Dennis Nazzaro (Western), Jason Breault (Western Alternate), Greg Lynskey (Central), Chris Carlton (Central Alternate), Tim Gover (Southeast), Matt Barstow (MSP, RF Committee)*

**Others present:** *Mike Saltzman (EOTSS CoMIRS), Sarah Cook (EOPSS OGR), Sarah Malloy (EOPSS OGR), Melissa Nazzaro (CISA ECC Reg1), Chad Snow (AT&T FirstNet), Roger Marshall (Verizon), Norm Fournier (State 911), Jacob Pyra (State 911), Cory Swift (MCSA), Carli Harris (CMRPC), Gary Fleischer (Worcester FD), Andrew Bagdonas (MEMA)*

Mr. Rock 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)** May 7, 2025, Minutes. Motion to approve by Jason Breault, seconded by David Spinosa, Motion carried.

#### **b) PJ-ICIPs and PJ-ICPS Amendments:**

- *HSGP21-511 - Essex CO Fire UHF wide area project - Northeast - David Spinosa spoke on the subject. This project will allow Essex county fire chiefs to expand the UHF command and control network; this will allow for a wide area command and control channel and a wide area operations channel. No other comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve Jason Breault, seconded by Greg Lynskey. Motion carried.*
- *HSGP21-512 - Essex CO Fire VHF wide area project - Northeast - David Spinosa spoke on the subject. This project will allow Essex county fire chiefs to expand the VHF command and control network; this will allow for a wide area command and control channel and a wide area operations channel. No other comments or questions from the committee. No other comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve Jason Breault, seconded by Greg Lynskey. Motion carried.*

- *HSGP24-509 - Essex CO Fire UHF receiver project - Northeast – David Spinosa spoke on the subject. This project looks to expand receiver sites for the ongoing UHF project as outlined in the ICIP. No other comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve Greg Lynskey, seconded by Jason Breault. Motion carried.*
- *HSGP24-510 – NEMLEC Cache radios – Northeast – David Spinosa spoke on the subject. This is a different project for a new command vehicle. These radios are mobiles that will be going into a van purchased through MAPC – NERAC, this is the COMMS portion consisting of 6 Kenwood VM8000 all band radios. No other comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve Jason Breault, seconded by Greg Lynskey. Motion carried.*
- *HSGP24-513 – Essex CO Fire VHF receiver project – Northeast – David Spinosa spoke on the subject. This project is looking to expand receiver sites for the ongoing VHF project in Amesbury at Powwow Hill. No other comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve Jason Breault, seconded by Greg Lynskey. Motion carried.*
- *HSGP24-514 – EMS Repeater upgrade – Northeast – David Spinosa spoke on the subject. This project looks to replace the Northeast CMED equipment for Reg 3. This equipment hasn't been updated in quite some time and continues to be a benefit for the region. Greg Lynskey with a question for David Spinosa, "Will this new equipment be single channel or capable of channel steering to any of the med channels, given the uncertainty of the region?" David replied, "As far as I know it now, this equipment will be capable of channel selection. That is the way it is now and how it will be replaced for now." No other comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve Greg Lynskey, seconded by Jason Breault. Motion carried.*
- *HSGP24-502 – Berkshire CO Repeater upgrade – Western – Jason Breault spoke on the subject. This project will replace the local public safety repeater at Tanglewood. No other comments or questions from the committee. Motion to approve David Spinosa, 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-** *Nothing to report.*
- iii. **Policy / Programs-** *Nothing to report.*

### b. Councils

- i. **UASI-Metro Boston-** *N/A*
- ii. **Northeast-** *David Spinosa addressed the committee. Northeast is looking at all projects to see if things can be cleared out by the deadlines of 21/22 fiscal for the end of July. No other comments or questions from the committee.*
- iii. **Southeast-** *Nothing to report.*

- iv. **Central-** *Nothing to report.*
- v. **Western-** *Nothing to report.*

**c. State/Federal/Other Agencies**

- i. **SWIC:** *Mr. Rock addressed the committee on behalf of Mr. Fiske. -The SWIC is in Bellevue Washington this week representing Massachusetts at the NiST/FirstNet authority 5x5 Summit and is presenting in a panel regarding the use of the FirstNet user portal and how we leverage it here for planning, users, and situational awareness for emergencies and preplanned events. He will provide a report at the next meeting regarding topics covered at the Summit.*
  - Boston PD encryption - The SWIC has had several conversations with the Deputy Secretary of Public Safety regarding the plan for BPD to deploy full-time voice encryption on their operational dispatch channels in the weeks ahead. She has had several follow-up conversations with the Boston police commissioner's office regarding this and the resulting concerns of reduced real-time situational awareness and interoperability for agencies that operate in and around the city every day. With Boston's imminent migration to P25 it was recommended to them as a common practice and a recommendation from this office and EOPSS that they encrypt their tactical mission specific channels, some of which they do today, but keep their operational dispatch channels clear. This is a very similar model to other cities throughout Massachusetts and the country specifically to maintain situational awareness and interoperability. While the Boston Police Department is entitled to unilaterally make this change if they wish, those conversations concerning this issue will continue.*
  - The state continues the process to review and update the new statewide public safety wireless broadband contract. Representatives from OSD, EOPSS, EOPSS agency reps, and EOTSS have met several times to update this new version. This continues and is near completion. The SWIC will share updates with the committee as this becomes final.*
  - World Cup 2026 Comms and Interop working group discussions and meetings will begin soon. If anyone on the committee who would be involved in this space for the event wishes to participate in that working group, please contact the SWIC.*
  - As mentioned, several times previously, FirstNet will be holding a Massachusetts coverage workshop. This in person discussion will consist of approximately 20 SME representatives from various public safety disciplines across the state. The current date set for this full day workshop is Friday September 12, 2025, at a location TBD. More to come on that in the weeks ahead.*

*David Spinosa addressed the Chair with a question regarding SWIC involvement in the Boston encryption matter. "Is it the intent that any community will get a back-and-forth conversation with the SWIC if they intend to encrypt all channels or is this specifically a Boston thing?" Mr. Rock replied, "the Boston Police Department encrypting their primary dispatch channels has received an elevated level of attention due to the numerous agencies that operate in and around the city daily. This office has always recommended against encrypting primary dispatch channels as a best practice since its inception." Conversations regarding this issue will continue. No other comments or questions from the Committee.*
- ii. **State 911 Report:** *Norm Fournier addressed the committee. NexGen911 will have a large maintenance event coming up this weekend to replace some end-of-life equipment. Now with the new system we can replace pieces instead of forklifting the entire system. Another component coming up for replacement at all 199 PSAPs is the call handling software. This will require training about 3500 persons along with a tremendous amount of work to evaluate all the*

*responses. The SSST has met, and the written evaluations will start in the next few weeks. Once those have been gone through, we will select the top 3 to install the product in the NexGen network. On other matters, we are working our way through the Development Grant. This year we have available \$50,000,000 and received \$134,000,000 is asked. Many worthy projects this year, so we will have our work cut out for us to cut the \$84,000,000. We are expecting the final ruling from DTC. We have testified on our final expenses with an increase of 10%. Also, at our Berkshire County facility we have hired an Opps manager and brought on Jacob Pyra as radio systems manager. No other comments or questions from the committee.*

iii. **FirstNet:** *Nothing to report.*

iv. **Statewide Radio:** *Mike Saltzman addressed the committee. Continuing to move along with site development in Western Mass and contemporaneously working on 1B+ in Central Mass. People might have seen correspondence go out about transitioning radios over to prepare for the cutover in 2026. We are in the process of capturing all these radios in preparation for the cutover. 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. We are still waiting for additional feedback as to the reorganizations that will affect how we provide Technical Assistance to the States. A backdoor plan has been started with the SWICs to do some regional collaboration over the next few months to get through the end of the fiscal year. More to come on that in the coming months. We had a successful ESF-2 training in Washington DC about two weeks ago. This was a great opportunity for those that haven't been involved in ESF-2 in the past. 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 July, TBD.

*Motion to adjourn was made at 2:06pm by Jason Breault, seconded by David Spinosa. Carried and adjourned at 2:07pm.*