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SIEC Executive Management Committee (EMC) Meeting

Teams link option: https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F%23%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting_OWQ4NmI5MjktNDVknC00NjhjLWI5OGQtMTI3ODk5YTY3ZjQ4%40thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%25223e861d16-48b7-4a0e-9806-8c04d81b7b2a%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%2522ae80c256-aaaf-47b8-9bbb-f9b1505032b6%2522%257d%26CT%3D1624466168739%26OR%3DOutlook-Body%26CID%3D81672C73-BE92-4D08-BDAD-6CE039A9CE6F%26anon%3Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=d18d9e4d-73fb-4845-be36-a9c16b5883b0&directDl=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true

Teams call-in option: 857-327-9245

Conference ID: 770301676#

Wednesday, July 7, 2021 from 1:30pm - 3:30pm

MINUTES

Voting SIEC EMC members present: *Jeanne Benincasa-Thorpe (Undersecretary of Homeland Security-EOPSS), Richard Fiske (SWIC-EOPSS), Dave Spinosa (Essex County Sheriff's, Northeast Region-Alternate), Robert Hassett (Springfield EM, Western Region-Primary), Matthew Barstow (MSP, RF Committee Chair), James Barclay (Royalston EM, Central-Primary), Timothy Gover (Southeast), Scott Wilder (UASI)*

Others present: *Gary McCarragher (FirstNet Authority), Chris Tuttle (CISA ECD), Corey Swift (MCSA), Andrew Bagdonas (MEMA), Joe Griffin (GBPC), Alex Chadis (Newton FD), Mike Saltzman (EOTSS), Patricia McGuirk (OGR), Norm Fournier (S-911), Robert Verdone (Southeast Alternate.)*

Meeting called to order at 1:32pm.

Richard Fiske (SWIC) addressed the committee and thanked the members for their patience and understanding during the SWIC transition over the last few weeks and reported that efforts to connect with the membership, regions, and many other stakeholders was ongoing. Re-starting subcommittee meetings would also be forthcoming as part of the efforts to continue and increase momentum with programs and projects.

Undersecretary Benincasa-Thorpe addressed the committee and thanked them for their work during the transition of the SWIC position, encouraging them to connect with the EOPSS team as a resource for them in order to identify needs or gaps with interop so we can use the feedback for future federal funding requests.

1. Acceptance of Minutes/Notes

- a. April 7, 2021 EMC Meeting minutes: *Motion to accept by Bob Hassett , Second by Dave Spinosa,, Motion Carried.*

2. New Business/Announcements

- a. PJ-ICIPs and PJ-ICIP Amendments:

- i. HSGP19-420 – Westcomm System Key – Western – Bob Hassett spoke to the committee on the project explaining that this was to purchase the necessary system key to tie the console positions at WESTCOMM dispatch to the core. Motion to approve by Tim Gover, second by Dave Spinosa. Motion carried with Bob Hassett abstaining.
- ii. HSGP20-421 – NWMIMT CoMIRS Radios -Western – Bob Hassett spoke to the committee on the project. This project is to upgrade the CoMIRS grant radios used by members of the team on the CoMIRS system for incidents in and around the region. Mike Saltzman provided background as to how the process works for such an upgrade with grant funded radio. Motion to approve by Scott Wilder, second by Dave Spinosa. Motion carried with Bob Hassett abstaining.
- iii. HSGP19-422 & 20-423 – SEMLEC and CCRLEC GPS/Radios – Tim Gover spoke to the committee on these projects. These were brought before the committee as a precautionary measure as these units are handheld GPS units that also have a two-way radio component to them, operating on GMRS frequencies. There was discussion among the committee as to whether there was a need to take any action as this item would not mandate SIEC review or approval. It was the consensus of those in attendance that these were not projects that the SIEC needed to address, so no action was to be taken, and the projects referred to the region. Richard Fiske commented to Tim Gover that any individual operating on GMRS frequencies needed to be individually licensed to do so if they were going to use this capability on these units. Tim Gover advised he would bring the information back for the regions information.
- iv. HSGP19-424 – CoMIRS PSAP P25 Radios – Central – Jim Barclay spoke to the committee on the project. These radios replace the aging Astro analog consolettes that were deployed many years ago to PSAPs throughout central Mass and are widely used as part of the LPS radio talkgroup rollout. Those units are at end of life and are not P25 compliant. Mike Saltzman commented that the CoMIRS system upgrade is far from being complete and encouraged the region to do its due diligence regarding time of deployment, radio model, pricing, etc as that CoMIRS upgrade project progresses. Motion to approve by Dave Spinosa, second by Bob Hassett. Motion carried with Jim Barclay abstaining.
- v. HSGP 19&20 425 – Revere FD subscriber radios – UASI – Scott Wilder spoke to the committee on the project as submitted on the ICIP. Richard Fiske commented that the CIB published guidance regarding required radio features for new radios on the shared system effective 5/1/21, and that there may be a few line items missing from the submitted quotation. Scott Wilder advised that the quotation likely came out before that guidance was provided, but he would bring this back to the region for review and update to confirm they include what the guidance provides. Richard Fiske asked the committee if there was a motion to approve this project pending the necessary update which would be later confirmed by the SWIC for approval at that time, saving them from having to delay

the project for approval until a subsequent meeting, but if any issues remained it would be referred back to the committee for further review. Motion to approve as noted by Dave Spinosa, Second by Bob Hassett, Motion carried.

- b. Richard Fiske surveyed the committee to determine if there were any other items or projects that were pending for action that were not included in the agenda. There were none.

3. 4. **Reports**

a. Standing Committees

- i. Data Committee *n/a*
- ii. RF Committee: Matt Barstow advised no update.
- iii. Policies/Programs Committee, COM-U Best Practice, COM-U Planning: Richard Fiske spoke to the committee advising that these subcommittees that were active previously will be restarted beginning with the next SIEC meeting. Invites to those previously listed will be notified and solicitation for additional participants will be circulated.

b. Councils

- iv. UASI-Metro Boston: Scott Wilder briefed the committee. Nothing new except recent RFPs signed for PSNET and the Critical Infrastructure monitoring.
- v. Northeast – Dave Spinosa spoke. Amesbury feasibility study for Pow wow hill tower ongoing. Cache radios that were purchased recently came in for the FDs in the region and being distributed.
- vi. Southeast – Tim Gover advised Copicut tower has been erected. Joe Griffin added that equipment to complete BAPER ring will be added. Matt Barstow added that a downlink receiver was added.
- vii. Central - Jim Barclay briefed the committee. Cyber security on the data side has been a priority being led by MANG, and the LPS radio upgrade project was a focus.
- viii. Western - Bob Hassett briefed the committee. No major update. Projects are complete. Advised this was his last meeting and will be retiring. Nina Barcz has been selected to replace him by the region. Richard Fiske expressed appreciation for his service to this committee and the regions. Matt Barstow expressed the same on behalf of MSP.

c. State/Federal/Other Agencies

ix. SWIC

- a. Grants that came before the SWIC were summarized.
- b. Air Ops Air to Ground update using TAC channels was provided. Air services doing more outreach to agencies and will again survey success rates in the months ahead to make sure this is trending in a positive direction. SWIC to connect with some of those identified as lacking MTCP.
- c. NCSWIC/SAFECOM funding mechanism update that came out recently will be circulated for everyone's info and review.
- d. 130 +/- Mifogs have been distributed to agencies in the last 30-45 days with encouragement of the efog use.
- e. Surveyed the committee to confirm that meeting format, material, topics, etc work for everyone and encouraged members to bring suggestions forward if there are any before the next meeting for consideration.
- f. Surveyed the Committee regarding an August meeting. No PJ's / ICIP pending and suggested as a result to schedule the next meeting for September and cancel

August. Motion to do so by Dave Spinosa, second by Bob Hassett. Motion carried.

- x. FirstNet: Gary McCarraher briefed the committee. He gave a summary of FirstNet and shared a presentation of historical, current, and future deployments of FirstNet sites in the state including band 14 sites and coverage maps, as well as high power user modems and deployment scenarios, and mentioned use cases in other areas of the U.S. where the network was successful.
- xi. NextGen911: Norm Fournier addressed the committee and briefed on the development grant use to incentivize regionalization and for interoperability projects where applicable and the status of regionalization efforts and the state is down to 218 PSAPs in MA.
- xii. Statewide Radio: Matt Barstow briefed the committee. The Saugus CoMIRS site was stood up and operational, Assisting CMED with coverage in Central Mass. Copicut tower downlink equipment was installed and operational, CoMIRS RFR was in the process of being reviewed and awarded. Mike Saltzman added that there would be a presumptive bid winner announced soon followed by a contract negotiation period. More than \$2M has been distributed for the operable radio upgrade program to date. Also added that the state meets often with FirstNet and that 6 state locations have added Firstnet boosters in them, and commented on some of the challenges that Firstnet has had with some of the planned sites.
- xiii. System Owners: No report
- xiv. Federal Partners: Chris Tuttle, CISA, spoke to the committee. As of 10/1/21 the CISA ECC will report to CISA regional leadership in line to keep them more regionally based. He still covers regions 1 & 2. FY21 TA is being closed out (MA completed MIFOG and eFOG) He will take back the request for a direct link to the eFOG for distribution as mentioned earlier in the meeting. Encouraged discussion for any projects for FY22 technical assistance and bring them to the SWIC such as strengthening the COMU with governance and training. CT State Police is finalizing use of LE-6. Continuing work with FEMA / ESF-2. Encouraged use of GETS and WPS. Working more on Cybersecurity and malicious interference and hope to bring meeting to Region 1 in the future regarding comms vulnerabilities.

4. Old Business

- a. SCIP Goal work: Richard Fiske spoke to the committee. Goal work continues with all stakeholders with specific priority on the MTCP and P25 compliance. Homeland Security Plan goals were also discussed as being in the achieved category but more subcategories will be added to those where gaps or needs are identified. Staying current with updates for the MIFOG as time moves in prep for the 2023 update including a potential working group to do so may be a strategy to keep this on track.
- b. Copper: No report from the committee. Richard Fiske advised it was status quo as it has been, but has seen circuits being provisioned by carriers when the carrier has no other viable option for the customer, but predicts that support or repair will be difficult or may not be timely.

- c. Non-HSGP grant-funded projects SWIC approved:
 - a. State 911 Regional Development Grants: 20
 - b. State 911 Support and Incentive Grants: 2
 - c. EMPG: 6
 - d. JAG/BYRNE: 4

- d. T-Band: No committee updated. Richard Fiske noted that it has been his experience and has gotten feedback since the licensing restrictions have been lifted, activity with these frequencies has increased and advised the committee that if there were any projects on the horizon that may involve licensing that it would be wise to start that as soon as possible. Jim Barclay commented that T-Band was on the agenda during the restriction period due to the many central mass agencies effected and that it may not be necessary to keep this item.
- e. Cybersecurity:

5. Other business not anticipated:

6. Adjourn *Motion to adjourn. Motion by Dave Spinosa, second by Matt Barstow. Adjourned at 2:52pm.*

7. Next Meeting: Wed, September 1, 2021 at 1:30 pm

Submitted for the Committee:
Richard Fiske, SWIC