



# State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

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Vice Chairman  
Vacant

Approved 8/22/07

## STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, August 8, 2007, at the Claiborne Building Conference Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 1-137 Marbois Room, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Committee Chair Mr. Rizwan Ahmed called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. The roll was called by Ms. Lorita Ford, Support Staff for the Committee, and a quorum was established.

### Committee Members Present:

Rizwan Ahmed (Chair)

Chief Robert Black

Lt. James Carter (for Major Joey Broussard)

Joe Drago

Col. Mickey McMorris

Lt. Col. Robert F. Morris

Col. Eric Sivula

David Stone (for Susan Severance)

Col. Kenneth Hughes

Eric Deroche

Brandon Alleman

Chief John Richer

Donald Milligan (for S. Wiley-Gremillion)

Dean Dozier

Thomas Thibeaud

Richard Gremillion

Curry Johnson

### Representing Agency:

Division of Administration and

Office of Information Technology

LA Fire Chief's Association

Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

Dept. of Transportation and Development

LA State Police

LA National Guard

Dept. of Public Safety/Corrections Services

Attorney General's Office/GOHSEP

Region 1 Plaquemines OHSEP

Region 3 Assumption/St. James OHSEP

Region 4 Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office

Region 5 Calcasieu OHSEP

Region 6 Rapides OHSEP

Region 8 Ouachita OHSEP

Region 9 Washington OHSEP

Regional Parish Homeland Security and  
Emergency Preparedness Directors

LA House of Representative Special  
Committee on LA Homeland Security

**Guest List**  
**See Appendix A**

**Approval of Minutes – July 18, 2007**

*On motion of Eric Deroche, seconded by Dean Dozier, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2007 meeting. One correction was made as follows: Assessment and Technology Sub-Committee, page 3 – motion be reworded to exclude the phrase “if funding is available.”*

**Assessment and Technology Sub-Committee**

Chief Robert Black informed the Committee that the Technology Committee met on Thursday August 2 at the LA State Police Headquarters. He stated that Brant Mitchell from GOHSEP and Lt. Colonel Mickey McMorris from LA State Police will conduct a presentation today outlining the Technology Committee recommendations for the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant.

The presentation also included a budget proposal for the recommendations submitted by the Technology Committee and approved by the SIEC at the July 18th meeting in Lake Charles.

The Technology Committee also approved the request submitted by Terrebonne Parish to move state equipment from its current 257' tower site (Troop C) to another 550' tower site in the same vicinity (Sheriff's Office). The cost of moving the equipment is to be funded by a local grant and the tower rental fees are to be paid by local agencies with no cost to the State.

The Technology Committee also reviewed the proposed new Vermillion Parish tower site and recommended to continue with the plans for build-out of this site.

**Presentation PSIC Grant Program**

Mr. Brant Mitchell from GOHSEP along with Lt. Col. McMorris of LA State Police presented the recommendations from the Technology Committee for the PSIC Grant Program. The presentation included the following:

**Overview**

- PSIC grant program is a one-time formula-based, matching grant program intended to enhance interoperable communications with respect to voice, data, and /or voice signals.
- PSIC funding for Louisiana: **\$19,672,287**
- Period of Performance: October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2010

**SIEC Involvement in PSIC Grant**

- Compile the Statewide Interoperable. Communications Plan and submit to GOHSEP.
- SIEC Working Groups Compile Regional TIC Plans. These will be incorporated into the Statewide TIC Plan.
- SIEC's BA7 and HB1 funding can be utilized as the 20% match required by the PSIC Grant.
- Assist the SAA (GOHSEP) in determining priorities and funding allocations.

The PSIC Grant Recommendations from the Technology Committee established the following three priorities:

**1st Priority - \$10 million – 700 MHz Infrastructure Expansion**

- Add (19) 700 MHz voice repeaters to existing 800 MHz sites north of I-10 (will provide 95% mobile coverage)
  - ***\$6.6 million, infrastructure and \$1.7 million, maintenance***
- Determine number of additional sites for 95% portable coverage in Alexandria, Monroe and Shreveport
- Determine additional capacity needs for existing 700 MHz sites south of I-10/I-12 (Lafayette and Lake Charles)
- Provide redundant connectivity to sites south of I-10/I-12 (Microwave) (**\$1.1 million Region 1**)
- Replace WDSU tower with Region 1 Tower (**\$1 million**)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Priority - \$7 million – Subscriber and Console Units**

- Purchase of mobile/portable radios for local and state agencies
- Purchase of IP consoles for local and state agencies

**3<sup>rd</sup> Priority - \$2 million – Emerging Technology**

- Mobile (deployable)
- Interoperable with all Radio Frequencies (RF) communications
  - UHF, VHF, 700/800 MHz
- Connects to Public Switch Telephone Network (PSTN)
- Provides high speed data connectivity
- Used in Continuity of Government as well as Command and Control for Incident Command

A budget proposal for the BA-7 IP-base funding was also presented. The SIEC IP Based Funding was discussed in detail. After further discussion by the Committee, a question and answer session followed the presentation.

*On motion of Eric Deroche, seconded by Dean Dozier, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the three priorities for the PSIC Grant Program as recommended by the Technology Committee. There being no opposition, the motion carried.*

*On motion of Eric Deroche, seconded by Donald Milligan, the Committee voted to approve the purchase of the proposal for the equipment to add 11 tower sites from the Florida Parish Line South and to approve the request from regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and add two ACU 1000's for Region 3 and three ACU 1000's for Region 8 and purchase the cloning monitoring software for the 700 MHz Radio System. There being no opposition, the motion carried.*

The 11 tower site enhancements were listed as follows:

- Region 2
  - East Feliciana
  - Pointe Coupee must be ensured coverage
- Region 4
  - Acadia, Evangeline, St. Landry
- Region 5
  - Dequincy, Oakdale, Drycreek, Lauderdale, Rosepine
- Region 6
  - Avoyelles/Goudeau
- Region 9
  - Greensburg (Must ensure coverage in St. Tammany)

#### **Finance and Funding Sub-Committee**

In the absence of committee member Heyward Jeffers, there was no report from the Finance and Funding sub-committee.

#### **Policies and Procedures Sub-Committee**

In the absence of committee member Susan Severance, there was no report from the Policies and Procedures sub-committee.

**Planning Committee Sub-Committee**

There was no report from the Planning sub-committee.

**Old Business**

On behalf of Sonya Wiley-Gremillion, Donald Milligan informed the Committee that Sonya has offered to host a September SIEC meeting in Alexandria. If the Committee selected a date and agreed, Sonya will provide the details and the information would be distributed via the Listserv.

*On motion of Donald Milligan, seconded by Tommy Thibeaud, the Committee voted unanimously to hold the September 26, 2007 meeting of the SIEC in Alexandria, Louisiana. There was no opposition, the motion carried.*

Eric Deroche informed the Committee that he received a call from Region 4 checking the status of getting the radio flashes on state contract. This was due to the difference in pricing that agencies have been receiving. On further discussion of this issue, Chief Black recommended that the committee pursue a state contract to help achieve fair and equitable pricing to flash upgrade P25 compatible or compliant radios. Motorola will assist with determining the statewide inventory of radios requiring flash upgrades based on vendor sales. It was noted that the inventory must be of sufficient number to receive good pricing. Additionally, as a measure to ensure that the radios purchased by agencies will operate and function on the statewide system, Jeya Selvaratnam will provide vendors with baseline radio specifications for radios sold by the vendors for use on the Statewide 700/800 MHz system.

Discussion concerning using BA-7 funding for the text-based emergency alert notification system as mandated by HB 57 was addressed. In a previous SIEC meeting on March 14, 2007 it was determined that MyStateUSA does meet the text-based emergency alert notification requirement. However, David Stone with GOHSEP reiterated that MyStateUSA is a pilot program that is guaranteed funding through the Department of Homeland Security until December 31 2007. On further discussion, Eric Deroche noted that the issue will need to be re-addressed using other funding but that BA-7 does not mandate spending on the emergency text-based alert notification requirement.

*On motion of Dick Gremillion, seconded by Chief Robert Black, the Committee voted to adopt the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council NCC/NPSTC Standard Channel Nomenclature for the Public Safety Interoperability Channels as Revised June 2007.*

### **New Business**

New business was not discussed.

### **Public Comments**

Keith McDonald from Raytheon stated that the approximate cost of very basic text messaging notification service is about \$1 per subscriber per year. Raytheon provides such a service.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:15 p.m.

Appendix A  
Guest List – August 8, 2007

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, August 8, 2007  
1:30 p.m.  
Claiborne Building Conference Center  
1st Floor, 1-137 Marbois Room  
1201 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

(Guest List)

Name (Print)	Name (Signature)	Representing Agency	E-Mail/Phone
DEXTER ACARDO		ST. TAMMANY	DACCARDO@STPGOV.ORG
Richard SILVERMAN		DA Marketing	Teche@MSN.COM
CLYDE TURKNETT		APFD #4	KINDERFIRE@CEMEXNET.NET
CHRIS LAFRANCE		Redmond/Grand Bay/Popk	JOE@ACTIVATEDOT.COM
JOE A. SEYMOUR		Rostheon SPT	boblafrose@jpr.com
Bob Lafrose		Wildlife and Fisheries	jcharters@ulf.louisiana.gov
JAMES CARTER		SIEC	christopher.mills@la.gov
Christian Mills		SEC Support Staff	ashill@la.gov
Adam Skurling			benjamin.bourgeois@la.gov
Mt Benjamin L Bourgeois		GOHERP	bnitell@shym.louisiana.gov
Brad Mitchell		GOHERP	dstone@chsen.louisiana.gov
David Stone		MOBILE	bob.brown@webster.la.gov
Bob Brown		LSU POLICE	whale1@lsu.edu
ROBERT KALE			

