**APPROVED - MEETING MINUTES**

October 25, 2023

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at the State Emergency Operations Center, located at 7667 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, and via Teleconference.

1. **Call to Order**
   1. Chairman Neal Fudge called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.
2. **Roll Call**
   1. GOHSEP, Jake Chatfield, conducted the SIEC roll call and a quorum was established.
   2. The following SIEC members were present or absent as noted:

| **Committee Members Present** | **Representing Agency** |
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| **Neal Fudge -** Assistant Deputy Director (ADD) of Homeland Security & Interoperability Division | Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) |
| **Jayson Richardson**  Sheriff of Desoto Parish | Louisiana Sheriff’s Association |
| **CPT David Stelly – Designee for Chris Eskew, LTC**  Deputy Superintendent | State of Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services, Louisiana State Police (DPS) |
| **Bill Vincent,**  Secretary/Treasurer APCO  Lafayette Parish Communications District (Ret.) | Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) |
| **Robert Daughdril**  Emergency Preparedness Coordinator | Louisiana Ambulance Alliance |
| **Loran Boudeaux-Designee for Jeb Tate** Director, IT & Telecommunications, Jefferson Parish Government | Region 1 |
| **David Luker, LT – Designee for**  **Billie Metz Giroir**, **DPTY**  Chief Civil Deputy, West Feliciana Parish Sheriff’s Office | Region 2 |
| **Conrad Baker, CPT**  Technology/911 OPS Center  St. John Parish Sheriff’s Office | Region 3 |
| **Stacey Blanchard, CPT**  Assistant Director, St. Martin Sheriff’s Office/OHSEP | Region 4 |
| **David Benanda- Designee for Richard McGuire**  Executive Director  Calcasieu Parish Communications District | Region 5 |
| **Doyle Dempsey**, **MAJ**  Support Bureau / Asset Management  Bossier Parish Sheriff’s Office | Region 7 |
| **Artice Dowdy- Designee for Robert “Bobby” Moore**,  Fire Service & Supply Technician, Ouachita Parish Fire Department | Region 8 |

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| **Committee Members Absent** | **Representing Agency** |
| **Bryan Zeringue,** Chief  Thibodaux Police Department | Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police |
| **Pat Arnould**  Executive Director | Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs |
| **Robert Benoit, Chief**  Lafayette Fire Department | Louisiana Fire Chief’s Association |
| **Richard “Dick” Gremillion**, **Director** Calcasieu OHSEP | Regional Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director’s Committee |
| **Ellis Boothe**  Parish Director | Region 6 |
| **Michael “Mike” Moore, SGT**  Canine & Patrol Division  Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff’s Office | Region 9 |

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Doyle Dempsey made a motion to approve the August 16, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Conrad Baker seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2023 meeting.

1. **Chairman’s Report** 
   1. Chairman Neal Fudge began by thanking the members for attending the meeting and discussed all the recent incidents with the wildfires and saltwater intrusion.
   2. Interoperability Program Manager, Jake Chatfield updated the board on the installations of generators at Merryville and Leesville tower sites. All the equipment and supplies have been received to complete the Region 1 battery replacement project. Jake posted the lists of the 52 generators and their priority of replacement for the Hazardous Mitigation Grant Project. Finally, Jake let the board know that after a year GOHSEP had finally approved the Smart Sheet app. to track and request the states Interop channels.
   3. Statewide System Maintenance Report – Ravi Penumarthi with the DPS Radio Communications Section provided detailed information about the LWIN system. This presentation is available on the SIEC Website under the Meeting Minutes link.
2. **Advisory Committee Reports**
   1. Budget and Finance

Jayson Richardson provided updates on the proposed budget submitted November 1 for approval. The new budget was approximately $21.7 million for new repeaters, new mobile tower trailers and increased maintenance costs. Christina Dayries clarified the budget will be reviewed by the new Governor’s administration for approval by the end of January.

* 1. Technical

Billie Giroir discussed that the technical subcommittee met on September 20th and discussed the Smart Connect and Critical Connect capabilities.

* 1. Policy and Planning

Bill Vincent proposed the new policy for LWIN SmartConnect Governance Policy. Sheriff Jayson Richardson made the motion for the new policy and Steven Cockerham second the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the LWIN SmartConnect Governance Policy.

* 1. Training and Outreach

No update to training and outreach.

1. **Unfinished Business**
   1. Jake Chatfield updated the SIEC Board on the status of the Independence site, Bell City, and Starts Towers.

1. **New Business**
   1. Jake Chatfield discussed the Region 8 communications exercise and he would like to start doing it throughout the state. He will be reaching out to different board members to get feedback and ideas for different drills.
   2. B.K. Interop 1 conducted a demo on their radio app that works with smart phones.
2. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments at this time.

1. **Next Quarterly Meeting**

Chairman Neal Fudge advised the committee that without objection, the next quarterly meeting of the SIEC would be January 24, 2024 at 1:30 PM, in person at the GOHSEP’s EOC. There were no objections.

1. **Adjournment**

Jayson Richardson made a motion to adjourn. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn at 2:35 pm.