

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
State of Louisiana

<http://gohsep.la.gov/SIEC>

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



NEAL FUDGE
CHAIRMAN

APPROVED - MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 2021

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, via Teleconference.

I. Call to Order

A. Chairman Neal Fudge called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

II. Roll Call

A. GOHSEP Interoperability Program Manager, Travis Johnson, conducted the SIEC roll call and a quorum was established.

B. The following SIEC members were present or absent as noted:

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Neal Fudge - Assistant Deputy Director (ADD) of Homeland Security & Interoperability Division	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
David Dousay, Designee for Neal Underwood , Deputy Chief Information Officer	State of Louisiana Division of Administration (DOA)/Office of Technology Support (OTS)
Ricky Edwards Sheriff Jeff Davis, Ret.	Louisiana Sheriff's Association
Bryan Zeringue, Chief Thibodaux Police Department	Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
Layne Barnum, LTC Deputy Superintendent	State of Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services, Louisiana State Police (DPS)
Pat Arnould Executive Director	Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
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
Jeb Tate	Region 1

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Director, IT & Telecommunications, Jefferson Parish Government	
Billie Metz Giroir, DPTY Chief Civil Deputy, West Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	Region 2
Conrad Baker, LT 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
Richard McGuire Executive Director Calcasieu Parish Communications District	Region 5 Representative
Robert "Bobby" Moore, Fire Service & Supply Technician, Ouachita Parish Fire Department	Region 8
Charles Schlicker Designee for Michael "Mike" Moore, SGT Canine & Patrol Division Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office	Region 9

Committee Members Absent	Representing Agency
Stephen Cockerham, SFC	Louisiana National Guard
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
Sonya Wiley-Gremillion Director, Rapides Parish 911/ OHSEP	Vice Chair Region 6 Representative
Doyle Dempsey, MAJ Support Bureau / Asset Management Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office	Region 7

III. Approval of Minutes



Bryan Zeringue made a motion to approve the November 4, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Richard McGuire seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2020 meeting.

IV. Chairman's Report

- A. Chairman Neal Fudge began by thanking the members for making themselves available for the meeting despite all the work being done in response to the recent severe weather.
- B. Statewide System Maintenance Report - Vernon McFadden 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.
- C. Ethernet Upgrade Overview - Committee Secretary Travis Johnson reported that as part of the most recent system maintenance agreement with Motorola, the state negotiated two system software version updates. The first upgrade, to version A2019.2, was completed in the fall of 2020. The next upgrade is scheduled for sometime in 2023. That upgrade will move LWIN from T1 circuits to an Ethernet system architecture. This change will have repercussions for LWIN user agencies. The DPS Radio Communications section has put together a “white paper” handout to go over the details for the SIEC Members to distribute to the groups and users they represent.

Vernon McFadden provided a high-level overview of the document, touching on the following key points:

- 90% of the LWIN System downtime is T1 related
- In 2023 LWIN will upgrade from T1 to Ethernet and add LTE backup to fix many of these issues.
- The SIEC will provide the hardware needed for this upgrade at no charge, but agencies are responsible for installation for their console sites.
- Ethernet circuits are more expensive than T1, so agencies should begin planning now for the additional expense for the circuits they pay for.

This document is available on the SIEC Website under the Meeting Minutes link.

V. Advisory Committee Reports

A. Budget and Finance

Subcommittee chair Ricky Edwards asked Christina Dayries to provide an update. Christina reported that there have not been any substantial changes from the last update. The budget request has been submitted and there have been several meetings with the Commissioner’s Office and the Budget Office. The Governor will present his Executive Budget through Commissioner Dardenne this Friday, February 26th, at 9 a.m. during the joint budget committee. Christina will be in attendance and will forward out the recommendations to the committee.

B. Technical

Subcommittee chair Billie Giroir advised the subcommittee has not met since the last meeting. The only update is that the city of Zachary is actively looking for local or grant funding to move their LWIN tower project forward.

C. Policy and Planning

Chairman Bill Vincent advised the subcommittee has no report at this time.

D. Broadband

Chairman Layne Barnum advised that the subcommittee has nothing to report other than the 4.9 GHz issue that will be addressed separately later in the meeting.

E. Training and Outreach

Subcommittee chair Jeb Tate advised the subcommittee has no report at this time.

II. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business at this time

III. New Business

A. 4.9 GHz – Travis Johnson advised the committee that the FCC had changed the rules to allow states to auction off 50MHz of spectrum that had previously been set aside for public safety between 4.4 – 4.9 GHz to the private sector. The Louisiana Legislature set up a task force to examine this issue and provide recommendations for legislation. Public Safety was represented by CPT David Stelly from LSP. CPT Stelly provided the SIEC with a report of the situation and the 4.9 GHz Task Force’s activities. A copy of this presentation is available on the SIEC Website under the Meeting Minutes link.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

V. Next Quarterly Meeting

Chairman Neal Fudge advised the committee that without objection, the next quarterly meeting of the SIEC would be April 28, 2021 at 1:30 PM, either via conference call or in the State Emergency Operation Center, depending on COVID-19 situation; check meeting invite for confirmation.

VI. Adjournment



Bryan Zeringue made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stacey Blanchard. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn at 2:06 pm.