



State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

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Vice Chairman
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Approved 2/14/07

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, January 24, 2007, at the Claiborne Building Conference Center, 1st Floor, 1-153 Iowa 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, and a quorum was established.

Committee Members Present:

Rizwan Ahmed (Chair)

Chief Robert Black
Lt. Col. Robert Morris
Arnold Chauviere
Joe Drago
Chief Freddy Drennan
Steven Wilson
Heyward Jeffers

Mickey McMorris
Col. Eric Sivula
Col. Henry Whitehorn

Representing Agency:

Division of Administration &
Office of Information Technology
LA Fire Chief's Association
LA National Guard
LA Public Service Commission
Dept. of Transportation/Development
Police Chief's Association
GOHSEP
LA Senate Select Committee on
Homeland Security
LA State Police
Dept. of Public Safety/Corrections Services
LA State Police

State/Parish Agency Representatives Present:

Joe Culpepper
Eric Deroche
Robert Jump
Robert Mehrtens (for Michael Ranatza)
Sgt. Michael Murphy

Region 9 Washington OHSEP
Region 3 Assumption/St. James OHSEP
Region 7 Caddo/Bossier OHSEP
La Commission of Law Enforcement
Region 2 East Baton Rouge OHSEP

Support Staff Present:

Lorita N. Ford (LA Division of Administration/OES)

Guest List
See Appendix A

On motion of Col. Eric Sivula, seconded by Mr. Eric Doroche the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2007 meeting with any necessary corrections.

Mr. Rizwan Ahmed informed the Committee that Brigadier General Hunt Downer was present and would briefly address the Committee. General Downer highly commended the accomplishments of the staff that put together the bill, the funding and other products that went through the legislature.

Captain Williams with the Louisiana National Guard gave an SIEC Staff update in a power point presentation. He discussed the results of the Whiteboard Session held on January 23, 2007. That session focused mainly on recommendations for the RFP for the IP based solution for the Interim Interoperability problem. The power point presentation in its entirety is included (see Appendix B).

Chief Robert Black presented a Technology sub-committee report as follows:

The Louisiana National Guard SIEC staff and the SIEC Technology Sub-Committee have conducted numerous whiteboard sessions to develop the needed Request for Proposal (RFP) to achieve long term and short term statewide interoperability solutions.

The RFP included recommendations from SAFECOM and various sources nationwide based upon;

- 1) The first responders needs, not on technology or vendor availability,
- 2) Specific definitions for how the products or services should perform and the results of what is expected,
- 3) The needs of all stakeholders affected by the purchase,
- 4) Use of practioner-driven requirements documented through an inclusive-consensus building process,

- 5) A process that takes time to consider and accounts for critical success factors to help ensure that the purchase will improve interoperability over the short and long term.

As chair for the SIEC Technology Sub-Committee, Chief Black offered the following motion and amendment;

The SIEC accepts the Request for Proposal guideline as outlined in the presentation by the Louisiana National Guard SIEC staff with the following amendment;

**Under Section 2.5 - Location, first sentence, delete
“the parish president or their designated representative”
And replace with;
“each of the nine regional working groups of the SIEC”.**

Mr. Eric Doroche lead further discussion on the motion. He stated that the local level should be involved since there were some regional working groups that met inconsistently or not at all. He further stated that coordination could be made at the regional level, however decision-making should be at the local level. After more detailed discussion among the Committee, it was decided that Chief Black’s motion be deferred until the appropriate sub-committee could meet again to work out details and then present it to the full SIEC Committee. The motion was made by Col. Henry Whitehorn, seconded by Ms. Sonya Wiley-Gremillion. The Committee voted was unanimously, motion carried.

Old Business

Ms. Daphne Levenson addressed the Committee reminding them of the upcoming Gulf Coast Summit in February. She distributed informational flyers and gave an overview of the three-day agenda. During the Summit, the LA SIEC will have the opportunity to share subject matter expertise on behalf of the State. On day three of the Summit each state is scheduled to have a representative present for 30 minutes to the entire Summit audience to overview where their state is regarding Technology Supporting Emergency Response: challenges, answers and outstanding accomplishments.

There are scholarships available for the SIEC committee members that plan to attend the Summit. Ms. Ford will forward the current list of LA SIEC members to Ms. Levenson. SIEC members will have their registration fee of \$50 waived. Those living farther than 50 miles away and require hotel accommodations will receive a comp by GSRCP, however they are encouraged to share their rooms with other participants. Travel and evening meals are the responsibility of the registrants. The cost has been approved for State DHS reimbursement according to State policies.

The Committee chose to cancel its February 28 meeting, since the members will be attending the Summit. **The next full Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m. at the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge.**

Special Presentations

Representatives from ARINC, Inc. gave the first presentation to the SIEC. After their presentation, the group answered questions asked by the Committee members regarding ARINC, Inc.

Mr. Dennis Savoie, of Sphere Consulting Group, LLC and on behalf of Mr. Jerry Kaufman of J.J. Kaufman & Associates, Inc. demonstrated a power point presentation to the Committee. His presentation focused on Statewide Interoperability Communications System Integrating Value Engineering and Project Management Methodology. A question and answer session followed his presentation.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be discussed, the Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by the chair.

**APPENDIX A
GUEST LIST
January 24, 2007**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
Joseph Livingston	OTM
Paul Singh	E F Johnson
Richard Silverman	DEQ
Vandra Fields	LANG, SIEC
Taysha Deaton	LANG, SIEC
Brian Guillory	LANG, SIEC
Nolan Fletcher	LANG, SIEC
Ulinda Harper	LANG, SIEC
Dennis Savoie	Sphere Consulting
Brett Brock	CISCO
Robert Hale	LSU Police
Andrew Muhl	Governor's Office
Donald Milligan	Avoyelles 911
Laura Barton	Roam Secure, Inc.
Gary Peters	Region 8
Woody Glover	St. Tammany Parish 911
Tim Russell	ARINC
Marvin Ingram	ARINC
Dave Chapman	ARINC
Antonio Rosela	ARINC
Jeff Ziegler	EF Johnson
Armaan Anding	Motorola
Daphne Levenson	GSRCP
Russell Teal	CISCO
Todd Westerman	Deep South Communications
Rhett Westerman	Deep South Communications

APPENDIX B

SIEC Update

24 January 2007

SIEC Planning Group

AGENDA

- Whiteboard Session, 23 January 2007
- RFP Recommendations
- Next Whiteboard Session
- Future Whiteboard Session

SIEC Planning Group

Whiteboard Session

- Whiteboard session was conducted on 23 January 2007
- The following personnel were in attendance:
 - Robert Black Fire Chief Association
 - James Crawford DPS
 - James Holley DPS
 - Eric Sivula DPS & Corrections
 - Heyward Jeffers Senate
 - Richard Silverman DEQ
 - Joseph Drago DOTD
 - Mike Austin DHH
 - Freddie Morris LANG
 - Fredia Dunn LCLE
 - David Staton LSP
- In depth discussion of the RFP for the IP based solution for the Interim Interoperability problem.
- Agreement of all present on the scope of work recommendations for the RFP.

SIEC Planning Group

RFP Recommendations

1. An internet protocol (IP) based interoperability system that integrates disparate push-to-talk (PTT) radio or two-way voice communications systems with other voice and data networks to enable collaboration between various public safety entities statewide.
2. The system shall provide tailored gateway(s) for each of the 64 parishes and two statewide systems (700/800MHz and LA Department of Forestry) to provide:
 - A. Legacy reach back for voice on selected talk groups/channels for system users as they transition from existing systems to this new system
 - B. Ongoing voice interoperability on selected talk groups/channels as defined in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) accepted interoperability channels (White Paper), between this system and other VHF, UHF, and/or 700/800 MHz public safety voice systems in each parish and in the adjoining states in border areas.

SIEC Planning Group

RPF Recommendations

3. The system shall provide the highest levels of redundancy and reliability at all times.
 - A. The system will provide a centralized administration site that allows management of connections into the statewide system.
 - B. The redundant administration site will be located in either regions 6, 7 or 8.
 - C. The system design must provide autonomous operation of the individual units in the event of failure of the administration site.

SIEC Planning Group

RFP Recommendations

4. The system must be Initial Operations Capable (IOC) by 1 JUNE 2007 and Fully Operations Capable (FOC) by 1 AUGUST 2007.
 - A. The priority of implementation will be from east to west below the I-10/I-12 corridor and south to north.
 - B. Priority will be given to major metropolitan areas with the guidelines in 4A.

SIEC Planning Group

RFP Recommendations

5. System must not degrade the current level of signal to noise ratio found at the parish.
6. System must provide secure communications across the digital backbone with a standard of no less than the highest encryption level used for passing data over a network.
7. System must provide minimum bandwidth connection of 128kps for four channels per device.
8. A decentralized system at the local level allowing agencies control over their interoperable connections.

SIEC Planning Group

RFP Recommendations

9. System must maximize the use of existing communications systems and equipment.
10. System must provide flexibility, scalability, and adaptability to facilitate the implementation of future technologies.
11. System shall be SAFECOM and NIMS (National Incident Management System) compliant.
12. Contractor will leverage existing COTS (Commercial Off The Shelf) products where feasible.

SIEC Planning Group

Next White Board Session

- DATE: 31 January 2007
- TIME: 10:00 a.m.
- TOPIC: Trailer specs
- LOCATION: ISB, Room 237

SIEC Planning Group

Mobile systems at the regional level that will provide the following capabilities

- A. Satellite backhaul connection into the statewide network
- B. Programmable repeaters for mutual aid UHF/VHF and 800MHz channels
- C. Mobile retractable 100' masts
- D. Self generation capabilities

SIEC Planning Group

Future White Board Session

- DATE: TBD
- TIME: TBD
- TOPIC: All hazards emergency alert system
- LOCATION: ISB, Room 237

SIEC Planning Group

An all-hazards emergency alert system that shall be able to support a text-based emergency alert and notification system.

- A. Containing messaging, e-mail, Internet access, cellular capability, desktop alert applications, prerecorded voice messages and text pager messages, and satellite phone and satellite radio with two-way send and reply capabilities.
- B. Includes a web site, which provides emergency information to the citizens of the state where users may self-register to receive all-hazards emergency information from their local parishes and the state and users can manage their personal contact information whether by e-mail, cell phone, pager, or personal digital assistant as they choose.
- C. The text-based alert and notification system shall be capable of enabling local and state emergency officials to send text alerts to such users based upon their preferences or geographical location by parish, emergency preparedness and homeland security regions, or statewide, and the system shall be capable of tracking replies from such users.

SIEC Planning Group