**UNAPPROVED - MEETING MINUTES**

September 28, 2022

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, September 28, 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) |
| **Richard “Dick” Gremillion**, **Director** Calcasieu OHSEP | Regional Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director’s Committee |
| **CPT David Stelly** Deputy Superintendent | State of Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services, Louisiana State Police (DPS) |
| **Jake Chatfield-** Interoperability Program Manager | Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) |
| **Bill Vincent,**  Secretary/Treasurer APCO  Lafayette Parish Communications District (Ret.) | Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) |
| **Mike Addison** | Deputy Chief Information Officer |
| **Jayson Richardson**  Sheriff of Desoto Parish | Louisiana Sheriff’s Association |
| **Jeb Tate**  Director, IT & Telecommunications, Jefferson Parish Government | Region 1 |
| **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 |
| **Richard McGuire**  Executive Director  Calcasieu Parish Communications District | Region 5 |
| **Ellis Boothe**  **Parish Director** | Region 6 |
| **Doyle Dempsey**, **MAJ**  Support Bureau / Asset Management  Bossier Parish Sheriff’s Office | Region 7 |
| **Robert “Bobby” Moore**,  Fire Service & Supply Technician, Ouachita Parish Fire Department | Region 8 |

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| **Committee Members Absent** | **Representing Agency** |
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| **Robert Daughdril**  Emergency Preparedness Coordinator | Louisiana Ambulance Alliance |
| **Pat Arnould**  Executive Director | Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs |
| **Robert Benoit, Chief**  Lafayette Fire Department | Louisiana Fire Chief’s Association |
| **Bryan Zeringue,** Chief  Thibodaux Police Department | Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police |
| **Michael “Mike” Moore, SGT**  Canine & Patrol Division  Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff’s Office | Region 9 |

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Conrad Baker made a motion to approve the June 8, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Billie Metz Giroir seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2022 meeting.

1. **Chairman’s Report** 
   1. Chairman Neal Fudge began by thanking the members for attending the meeting and informing the members that there is a lot to cover this meeting so we will do our best to respect your time and keep it moving.
   2. Interoperability Program Manager, Jake Chatfield discussed the states Communication Asset Survey Mapping (CASM) dashboard, and the recent COML Course. Jake also detailed the states recent transition to the Integrated Public Alert and Warning system (IPAWS) thru RAVE.
   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

Chairman Neal Fudge introduced Sheriff Jayson Richardson of Desoto Parish to the committee and advised that he has accepted Sheriff Edward’s position as the Chair for the Budget and Advisory Committee.

Christina Dayries detailed how state agencies are currently conducting budget reviews for FY23 Budget to be presented on April 10, 2023. GOHSEP is requesting an extra $1.2 million increase for FY23 budget for LWIN upgrades to essential equipment and repairs. This will increase the SIEC budget from $12.7 to approximately $14 million.

GOHSEP submitted a $6.8 million budget appropriation to legislature for the LWIN Ethernet project and it was fully approved.

* 1. Technical

Billie Giroir advised that the Technical Subcommittee (TSC) met prior to the SIEC meeting.

The committee approved the addition of 2 new LWIN towers from Calcasieu Parish. The Parish is going to fund the building of 2 new LWIN towers, and turn them over to GOHSEP for the maintenance. These new towers will come with no cost to GOHSEP, or the SIEC committee for the first 3 years. No funding will be required from the state for this project. Conrad Baker made the motion to except the addition of the 2 new towers from Calcasieu, and Steven Cockerham 2nd the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the SIEC Committee.

St. Bernard Parish is requesting the state to consider building additional tower to cover shortfalls in their coverage. Jeb Tate requested Motorola to present a budget proposal to build a new site to discuss the next SIEC Committee meeting.

Ochsner hospital is requesting a permanent patch between MSWIN and LWIN to have the ability to connect during emergencies between the 2 statewide radio networks. DPS will conduct a review of the policy and bring more clarification to the SIEC Committee at the next quarterly meeting.

Chairman Neal Fudge inquired to the status of city of Bunkie and Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) study for the Juvenile Detention Centers. Chance Delome of Motorola detailed the detention centers issues to inadequate coverage in building from the local sites. They are currently looking for alternative options to increase coverage.

* 1. Policy and Planning

Bill Vincent is requesting the state to add sixteen new law enforcement interoperability talk groups, and asking the SIEC Committee to revise the SIEC policy 003 to add the sixteen new talk groups. Chairman Neal made the motion to update policy 10 name to “Secure Statewide Interoperability Talk Group”, and Billie Giroir 2nd the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the SIEC Committee. Chairman Neal Fudge made a motion to revise policy 003 to add sixteen new law enforcement encrypted interoperability talk groups and Bill Vincent 2nd motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the SIEC Committee.

* 1. Training and Outreach

Chairman Fudge advised that the state recently held a COML course and is planning an upcoming COMT course.

1. **Unfinished Business**
   1. Chairman Neal Fudge discussed the Region 1 UASI grant had been submitted to FEMA and awaiting approval. The estimated timeframe for approval is approximately 1 to 3 months.
   2. Mike Sittig discussed the statewide Ethernet upgrade paper work has been approved and submitted. Parishes should be aware of the price increase for the upgrade should increase approximately $500 for all parishes.
   3. Vernon McFadden discussed the current issues with the Terrebonne tower project. The state is still needs to gather more information about the facility on whether it is going to be condemned so the state can evaluate equipment or tower construction. State is still evaluating if they need to erect a temporary tower in the meantime.
2. **New Business**
   1. Chairman Neal Fudge reported that the state has purchased one hundred and fifty two Starlinks for state agencies. The state is still finalizing the details for the rest of the state’s orders.
   2. Chairman Neal discussed nominating a new Vice Chair next SIEC meeting in January to replace Sonya Wiley-Gremillion.
   3. Travis Johnson updated the committee on Hurricane Ian update. Travis discussed the likely hood of the state sending a Telecommunications Emergency Response Team (TERT) thru Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request.

1. **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 25, 2023 at 1:30 PM, in person at the GOHSEP’s EOC. There were no objections.

1. **Adjournment**

Doyle Dempsey made a motion to adjourn. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn at 2:05 pm.