

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

State of Louisiana

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

JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR



CHRIS GUILBEAUX  
CHAIRMAN

**MINUTES**

January 25, 2017

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at the Department of Public Safety Services, Office of Management and Finance Building, Third Floor South Central Training Room, located at 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Chris Guilbeaux called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

The SIEC roll call was conducted by Reginald Carolina, and a quorum was established.

The following SIEC members were present or absent as noted:

| <b>Committee Members Present</b>         | <b>Representing Agency</b>   |
|--|--|
| Chris Guilbeaux                          | Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)     |
| Neal Underwood                           | Division of Administration (DOA)   |
| Chief Brian Zeringue                     | Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police                                      |
| Dick Gremillion                          | Regional Parish Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee |
| LTC Adam White                           | Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services (DPS)             |
| Bill Vincent                             | Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO)                   |
| Eric Miller, designee for John Taylor    | Louisiana Rural Ambulance Alliance   |
| Lorn Bourgeois designee for Aaron Miller | Region 1   |
| Billie Giroir                            | Region 2   |
| Conrad Baker                             | Region 3   |
| Stacey Blanchard                         | Region 4   |
| Richard McGuire                          | Region 5   |
| Sonya Wiley-Gremillion                   | Region 6   |
| Sean Christian                           | Region 8   |

| <b>Committee Members Absent</b> | <b>Representing Agency</b>          |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Major Alan Dunn                 | Louisiana National Guard            |
| Ricky Edwards                   | Louisiana Sheriffs Association      |
| Chief Robert Benoit             | Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association   |
| Wes Edge                        | Region 7                            |
| Lt Robert Seal                  | Region 9                            |
| Vacant                          | Governor's Office of Indian Affairs |

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

Sonya Wiley-Gremillion made a motion to approve the October 26, 2016 meeting minutes. Chief Brian Zeringue seconded. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2016 meeting.

### **IV. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Christopher Guilbeaux provided the following report.

Recent LWIN Interoperability activities and talk group request. Talkgroup requests, requests for new talkgroups, and requests to join LWIN continue to come in and are being processed by the staff. Interoperability talkgroups have been used for events such as the multi-agency law enforcement operation in Mandeville, LSU home games, DWI checkpoints, possible plane crash in St. John Parish, BRPD multi-agency request for the Presidential visit, the Louisiana Marathon, LSP request for the MLK Parade, St. Charles Sherriff's Office active shooter full scale exercise.

### **V. Statewide System Maintenance**

Vernon McFadden with LSP Radio Communications provided the LWIN System Maintenance Report. A copy can be found on the SIEC website.

### **VI. Subcommittee Reports**

#### **A. Budget and Finance Subcommittee (BFSC)**

Christina Dayries provided the following report on behalf of BFSC  
Chairman Ricky Edwards:

GOHSEP included the \$4.4 million of Phase 2 infrastructure project funds for the STR repeaters in the FY18 budget request. The commissioners are aware this is the next phase of the original project that was requested. We do not know what the timing of the FY18 budget release will be at this time. The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) will meet this Friday to recognize the FY17 budget shortfall of roughly 312 million dollars, and there is a projected 400 million dollar shortfall for next fiscal

year. Once plans are put in place to fix the shortfalls FY18 agency budgets will be addressed.

B. Policy and Planning Subcommittee (PPSC)

Nothing new to report

C. Technical Subcommittee (TSC)

TSC Chairman Billie Giroir provided the following report:

The TSC did not meet since the last SIEC Meeting but are planning a meeting in the next few weeks. The meeting will address coverage concerns in Zachary, Thibodeaux, and Logansport. If anyone else has additional issues please let the TSC know and they will be address at the next meeting.

Sonya Wiley Gremillion inquired as to the status of issues in southern Concordia Parish. Julio Peck with LSP Radio Communications said they sent a communications survey spreadsheet to the local users. Once they receive a response they will send technicians to verify coverage gaps.

D. Broadband Subcommittee (BSC)

BSC Chairman LTC Adam White provided the following report.

Allison McLeary, FirstNet Program Manager, will now be working full-time as an attorney for GOHSEP. Brad Smith has stepped up to continue outreach efforts via our website, newsletter, email and social media.

The FirstNet RFP was set to be awarded in November of last year but presently it is under protest. The subcommittee will update the SIEC as more information is available.

Colonel Edmonson, Director Waskom and Jeya Selvaratnam attended the SPOC meeting in Phoenix in November.

Col. White then introduced Natalie Romanoff, Federal Program Officer with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, specializing in the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP). Natalie is here today to review a future grant program called SLIGP 2.0. Natalie is also conducting an on-site grant monitoring visit of the SLIGP grant with the staff.

A copy of Ms. Romanoff's presentation can be found on the LWIN website.

Chairman Guilbeaux asked how long the protest period will be. Mr. Romanoff advised that the first date that the contract could be awarded would be the first week in March, but there could be a secondary protest. Christina Dayries advised the committee that due to the uncertainty Louisiana has not made any decision on SLIGP 2.0 or deobligating any unspent current SLIGP funds.

Ms. Romanoff informed the committee that the reason for her visit was to monitor the Louisiana SLIGP program for the NTIA and remarked that the SLIGP staff has done excellent work educating the first responders in the state.

## **VII. Old Business**

There was no old business.

## **VIII. New Business**

Chairman Guilbeaux informed the committee that Travis Johnson is now back at GOHSEP as ESF-2 lead and Interoperability Program Coordinator. He will be focusing on providing training to the public safety community throughout the state. The chairman asked the SIEC members to assist with outreach by contacting their constituents and helping to identify training needs. With approximately 90,000 users on the LWIN system, Policy and Planning Subcommittee chairman Bill Vincent has informed me that there is a great need for training at the user level.

Chairman Guilbeaux then asked for an update on the system interference Dick Gremillion informed him occurred earlier in the week. Julio Peck advised that there were complaints the previous Saturday, Sunday, and Monday about interference and possible illegal carriers causing problems at a few sites. LSP Radio Communications began investigating with Motorola, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and adjacent states. Although no cause was identified, it was determined that the interference was widespread, causing problems in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

If any further information becomes available it will be sent to the committee.

## **IX. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## **X. Adjournment**

Billie Giroir made a motion to adjourn. Sonya Wiley-Gremillion seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn.