

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee  
 State of Louisiana  
<http://gohsep.la.gov/SIEC>

**JOHN BEL EDWARDS**  
GOVERNOR



**SONYA WILEY-GREMILLION**  
VICE CHAIRMAN

**APPROVED - MEETING MINUTES**

October 23, 2019

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 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**

- A. Vice Chairman Sonya Wiley-Gremillion called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**II. Roll Call**

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

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

<b>Committee Members Present</b>	<b>Representing Agency</b>
Christina Dayries, designee for Assistant Deputy Director (ADD) of Homeland Security & Interoperability Division/SWIC	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
<b>Robert Benoit</b> (Chief)	Louisiana Fire Chief's Association
<b>Ricky Edwards</b> Sheriff Jeff Davis, Ret.	Louisiana Sheriff's Association
<b>Richard "Dick" Gremillion</b> , Director Calcasieu OHSEP	Regional Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director's Committee
<b>Layne Barnum, LTC</b> Deputy Superintendent	State of Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services, Louisiana State Police
<b>Bill Vincent</b> , Secretary/Treasurer APCO Lafayette Parish Communications District (Ret.)	Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO)
<b>Seth Breaux</b> , Asset Manager	Louisiana Ambulance Alliance
<b>Jeb Tate</b> , Director, IT & Telecommunications, Jefferson Parish Government	Region 1
<b>Billie Metz Giroir, DPTY</b> Chief Civil Deputy, West Feliciana Parish Sheriff's Office	Region 2

<b>Committee Members Present</b>	<b>Representing Agency</b>
<b>Conrad Baker, LT</b> Technology/911 OPS Center St. John Parish Sheriff's Office	Region 3
<b>Stacey Blanchard, CPT</b> Assistant Director, St. Martin Sheriff's Office/OHSEP	Region 4
<b>Richard McGuire</b> Executive Director Calcasieu Parish Communications District	Region 5 Representative
<b>Sonya Wiley- Gremillion</b> Director, Rapides Parish 911/ OHSEP	Vice Chair Region 6 Representative
<b>Doyle Dempsey, MAJ</b> Support Bureau / Asset Management Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office	Region 7
<b>Robert "Bobby" Moore,</b> Fire Service & Supply Technician, Ouachita Parish Fire Department	Region 8
<b>Michael "Mike" Moore, SGT</b> Canine & Patrol Division Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office	Region 9

<b>Committee Members Absent</b>	<b>Representing Agency</b>
<b>Neal Underwood,</b> Deputy Chief Information Officer	State of Louisiana Division of Administration (DOA)/Office of Technology Support (OTS)
<b>Bryan Zeringue, Chief</b> Thibodaux Police Department	Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
<b>Alan Dunn MAJ</b>	Louisiana National Guard
<b>Vacant</b>	Governor's Office of Indian Affairs

### III. Approval of Minutes



Richard McGuire made a motion to approve the July 24, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Doyle Dempsey seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2019 meeting.

### IV. Chairman's Report

- A. Vice Chairman Sonya Wiley-Gremillion thanked outgoing Chairman Kevin James for his service. GOHSEP Assistant Deputy Director Christina Dayries updated the committee on the hiring process; depending on candidate the position may be filled after the governor's election.

- B. Statewide System Maintenance Report

- Julio Peck with Louisiana State Police Radio Communications provided information about 141 tower sites and 6 mobiles sites that are available for parishes.
  - LWIN reached over 101,000 subscribers in September 2019 and averaged 12.9 Million push-to-talks over the last three months. 87 percent of operational down-time was due to telephone company issues. LWIN was operational 99.7 percent of the time for the last quarter. There are 585 agencies currently using LWIN.
- B. Vice Chair Sonya Wiley-Gremillion reminded the SIEC that when radios are upgraded if the IDs are not re-used the unused they need to be provided to LSP Radio Communications so they can be removed from the system until needed again.

## II. Advisory Committee Reports

### A. Budget and Finance

Ricky Edwards asked Christina Dayries to provide an update on the FY 20-21 budget request. GOHSEP and DPS have requested an increase from 8.5 to 12.8 million dollars for the annual LWIN maintenance. This is a draft budget request, finalized executive budget will be released by the Governor's Office in January 2020. Also included in the budget request will \$4.6 million for the 13 LWIN sites approved at the July 2019 meeting, and 4.6 million to upgrade LWIN from T1 to Ethernet links. Total draft budget request is currently 22.02 million dollars. This year the GOHSEP and DPS portions of the LWIN budget request have been combined into one consolidated SIEC/LWIN budget request through GOHSEP in order to streamline the process. The request also asks for the funds to come from state general fund as opposed to coming from other means of finance within DPS.

### B. Technical

On behalf of subcommittee chair Billie Giroir, Julio Peck advised the committee that based on the site selection rubric the subcommittee recommends the Ouachita LWIN site be the next site funded.

### C. Policy and Planning

Nothing to report.

### D. Broadband

LTC Layne Barnum provided the following report:

- The subcommittee meetings have been moved to immediately preceding regular meetings.
- The subcommittee identified the following priorities:
  - a. Monitoring the buildout and operation of FirstNet in Louisiana.
  - b. Review and advise the full SIEC on push-to-talk over broadband technologies available to LWIN.

- A tentative meeting with FirstNet representatives has been scheduled to be held as soon as the GOHSEP Assistant Deputy Director (ADD)/SIEC Chair position is filled.

#### E. Training and Outreach

Chairman Jeb Tate reported that the subcommittee will wait for the new GOHSEP ADD of Homeland Security and Interoperability to be hired in order to align priorities before panning new training.

### III. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business discussed.

### IV. New Business

#### A. Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS) & Wireless Priority Services (WPS) Update.

- Representatives from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) provided presentations on GETS and WPS to the SIEC.

#### B. FirstNet Authority Update

- A representative from the FirstNet Authority gave the committee an update on the progress of FirstNet in Louisiana and solicited feedback from the committee.

#### C. Interoperability Markers

- CISA representative briefly reviewed the Interoperability Markers submitted by outgoing Chairman Kevin James. The markers will be reviewed in detail with the new SIEC Chair/SWIC.

### V. Public Comments

Mark Tigner with the Alexandria Police Department reported that after telecommunications issues with the LWIN backhaul at the Alexandria tower site the city has agreed to use the point to point microwave link set up for the radio consoles as a backup for the site link. Officer Tigner advised other agencies to consider this as a best practice if they have the resources in place.

#### Next Quarterly Meeting

Vice Chairman Sonya Wiley-Gremillion reminded everyone that the next quarterly meeting of the SIEC would be January 22, 2020 at 1:30 in the same location.

### VI. Adjournment



Stacey Blanchard made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Richard McGuire. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn at 3:11 pm.