



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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> Vice Chairman Vacant

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

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Corrected and Approved 1/9/08

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at the Claiborne Building Conference Center, Iowa Room 1-153, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Committee Chair Rizwan Ahmed called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The roll was called by Lorita Ford, and a quorum was established.

Committee N	Members	Present:	Representing Agency:

Rizwan Ahmed (Chair) DOA and Office of Information Technology

Mike Brame Dept. of Health and Hospitals

Major Joey Broussard Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries
Joe Drago Dept. of Transportation and Development

Heyward Jeffers

LA Senate Select Comm on Homeland Security

Lt. Col Mickey McMorris
Lt. Col. Robert F. Morris
LA State Police
LA National Guard

Susan Severance Attorney General's Office/GOHSEP

Col. Eric Sivula Dept. of Public Safety/Corrections Services

Col. Kenneth Hughes Region 1 Plaquemines OHSEP
Sgt. Michael Murphy Region 2 East Baton Rouge OHSEP

Eric Deroche Region 2 Last Baton Rouge OffSEI

Region 3 Assumption/St. James OHSEP

Brandon Alleman Region 4 Iberia OHSEP
Thomas Thibeaud Region 9Washington OHSEP

DickGremillion Regional Parish Homeland Sec. & Emerg.
Preparedness Directors Comm./Reg. 5

Guest List See Appendix A

Approval of Minutes

After reviewing and discussion of the minutes, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2007 meeting with any necessary corrections.

Technology Sub-Committee

Chairman Bobby Black could not attend the meeting due to an emergency. The Technical Committee was unable to meet the previous two weeks. However, it was reported that a draft Policy regarding regulating the use of Patch Devices to connect to the statewide communications network had been circulated to the members of the committee and recommendations for edits had been forwarded to Chief Black. There followed discussion of the potential for patching devices to shut down the entire state communications system and the need to complete the policy. The membership asked that a copy of the revised draft of the Patch Device Policy be circulated to the entire membership prior to the next meeting of SIEC and that notice of future meetings of the Technical Committee be provided to the entire SIEC membership.

Chief Black was acknowledged with much appreciation for exemplary service as Chairman of the Technical Committee. However, recognizing that emergency duties as a first responder must supersede volunteer service on SIEC; the membership determined that a co-chairman is needed for the technical committee. Richard Silverman of DEQ volunteered to assist Chief Black. It was suggested that Chief Black send an invitation to future Technical Committee meetings via the Listserv and other sub-committees should follow suit.

There followed a discussion of whether the SIEC still favored the use of Internet Protocol (gateway) devices as an effective means of connecting disparate systems to the statewide system. Dick Gremillion summarized comments made at the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee that many parishes were complaining that the State does not have an interoperable communications and were waiting on gateway devices. Mr. Gremillion reported that no specific parishes were named.

Mickey McMorris reported that the State does have mean of providing interoperable communication in the event of an emergency as demonstrated during the Jena Six event. The state's interoperable capability is reflected in the cache of 200 pre-programmed radios for first responders,

two new mobile towers, and the 28 command and control multimodal 700/800 radios provided to each parish. There followed a report from several members who participated in visits to the Regions, who reminded the membership that there were only a few requests for gateway devices in Regions 1 and 2. Region 9 is still waiting on a visit from the Technical Committee to assess their needs. The technical committee was requested to visit Region 9 before January 23, 2008. On motion of Mike Murphy, seconded by Susan, the Committee voted that the Technical Committee review the Raytheon (IP gateway proposal) and report back to the entire committee at the January 23rd meeting as to whether we are going to deploy such devices, and if so, when.

Special Presentation

Mr. Jon Cooper, a representative from BearingPoint provided a power point presentation (Appendix 2) regarding 800 MHz Transition Administrator which outlined recent programmatic and FCC updates. There was a question and answer session following his presentation.

Budget and Finance Sub-Committee

Heyward Jeffers reported to the committee that there were no significant changes in the status of budget and finance initiatives being pushed by the panel. \$24 million remains budgeted for interoperability in the coming fiscal year. The committee can also request additional funding in House Bill 1 during the 2008 Regular Session of the Legislature.

Construction of a new hospital in St. Bernard Parish capable of withstanding 200 mile per hour winds is still in the process of receiving lines of credit to fund the project. The project still needs Bond Commission final approval on those lines of credit before construction can begin. The facility could house emergency operations in times of disaster if state and local officials agree to partner in the proposal.

During the meeting Jeffers also initiated a discussion by the committee on the status of the Technology Sub-Committee's consideration of vendor proposals for implementation of Internet protocol systems in various areas of the state. After a series of questions and answers revealed an absence of progress on the proposals, the committee agreed to continue efforts to make a determination on the proposals and set the upcoming January 23, 2008, meeting as the venue for indepth hearings on the matter.

The committee also agreed that the Chairman should name Vice-Chairmen to the Subcommittees in order to insure that action would continue in the absence of Sub-Committee Chairmen when their full-time jobs conflicted with Sub-Committee and Committee work."

Policies and Procedures Sub-Committee

The Policies and Procedures Committee report was assisted by Jeya Selvaratnam who updated the status of the development of a Standard Operating Procedure for the Statewide system. Mr. Selvaratnam indicated that the draft SOP will be completed in 3 to 4 weeks. There are decision points in the draft and SIEC will need to provide the information.

The membership was advised that the committee's existence continues until superseded by a new Executive Order or 60 days after termination of the next regular session of the Legislature.

It is now time for the next cycle of membership in accordance with the Executive Order. The regional working groups need to notify the chairman in writing of the new member. There is no prohibition in the Executive Order of one discipline representing the interests of another discipline if this is the decision of the regional working group.

It was requested that the Chairman notify the budget office of the request of SIEC that language be placed in the appropriations bill, or the supplemental bill, to permit transfer of ownership of radios and/or consoles purchased with funds appropriated for the use of SIEC to the first responder entity. It was further requested that the authority to transfer ownership be made retroactive to fiscal year 2006.

Planning Sub-Committee

Dick Gremillion stated that last year it was agreed upon that one of the objectives of the SIEC was to provide for communications with all 64 parishes through some form of Internet Protocol. This had been discussed at several meetings, and in detail at the April 11, 2007 meeting. This was being explored as a short term solution the cost was estimated to be around \$2 million. There was some discussion that some of the members do not feel this is a feasible solution, but this development has not been discussed with the full committee. Since it was now 7 months later and no action has been taken on the item, he stated that he made a motion to have the technology committee give a report on the feasibility of implementation of a short term, 64 parish solution.

New Business

Ken Hughes stated that Region 1 needs to begin some preliminary work to be ready to bid the tower construction when the PSIC grant is awarded in March. There needs to be soil boring, site survey, and environmental study completed before the bid documents can be put together. So by having the SIEC approve the work, these can be completed by the time the state would allow a bid to be advertised.

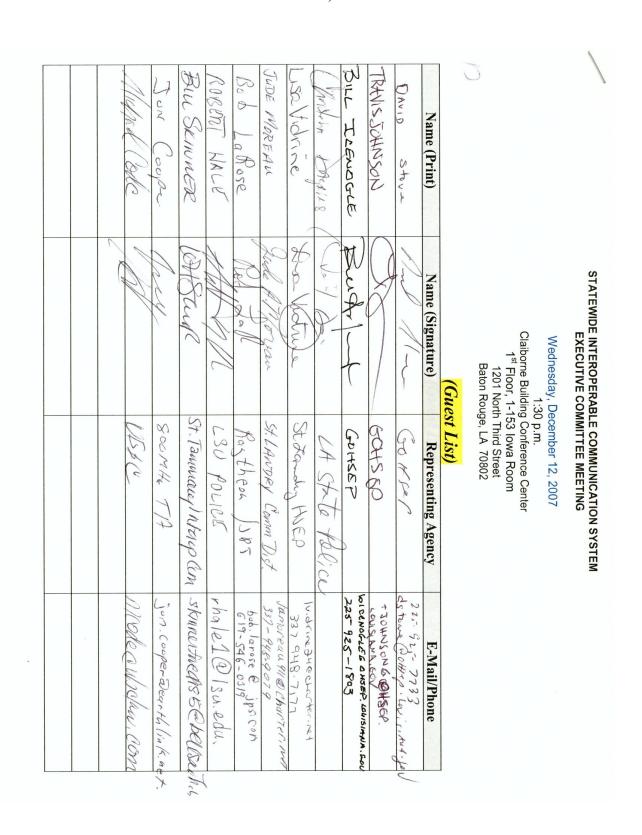
On a motion by Lt. Col. McMorris, seconded by Sgt. Murphy, the committed voted to allocate \$20K from the SIEC budget to give to Region 1 for site prep for WDSU replacement tower. This will represent an in-kind match for PSIC grant.

Lt. Col. McMorris discussed the issue of purchasing each parish a program software for programming the EF Johnson radios issued to them by the SIEC. Mr. Gremillion advised that he would check with the OEP Directors to determine how many were needed and report to us at the next scheduled SIEC meeting.

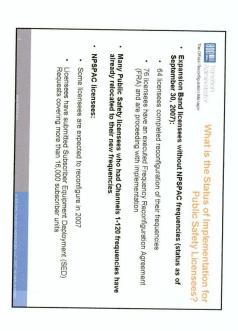
Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee was adjourned by the Chair at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Appendix A1 December 12, 2007

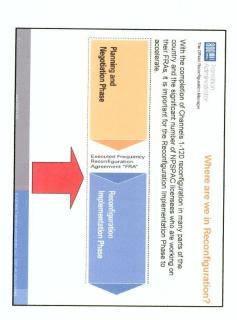


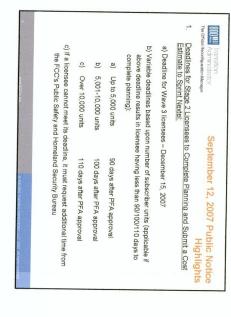
Appendix A2 (pp 1-5) December 12, 2007

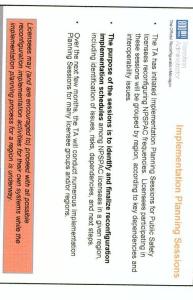














System Type, Number of Subscriber Units, and Site Description.

Milestone Dates including signing of Vendor Agreement, beginning & completion of Subscriber & Infrastructure Deployment, and estimated

reconfiguration completion.



Reconfiguration Status, potential dependencies & assumptions

Description of interoperability

Between agencies

Reconfiguration plans for nationwide mutual aid channels in your area

Dates for multiple subscriber/infrastructure touches and any additional issues & potential risks.

Wave or Stage or adjacent NPSPAC region boundaries and any special timing considerations related to operational or interoperability needs.

Special circumstances in your region.

Of Seen the variety of legal structures and arrangements that apply to interoperability groups, funding vehicles need to be flexible. At a minimum, any expenses for regional coordination need to be identified by an individual licensee and/or a Lead Agency as separate line-flems in a PFA or an FRA.

☐ Consider – choosing a "Lead Agency" to address the coordination, planning, and implementation activities associated with the interoperability among the individual

□ Individual licensees and/or a Lead Agency should negotiate and reach an agreement with Sprint Nextel regarding these costs. All costs must be included in a Planning Funding Agreement (FFA) or a Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement (FFA). An Interoperability Letter or Agreement signed by each licensee in the group should accompany the PFA and/or FRA.

In situations requiring funding for interoperability planning and

implementation:

800

Funding for Interoperability

