

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Interoperability / Information Sharing Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2014 12:30 pm
Northampton Police Department, 29 Center Street, Northampton, Ma.

In attendance: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Dennis Nazzaro (DFS/NFD), Ann Shea (MMC), Peter Cowles (WEMA), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm.), Manny Litos (Motorola), Victoria Grafflin (EOPSS), Terry Dun (NWMIMT), Dennis Annear (NWMIMT), Bernard Forgea (CFD/CPD), Charles Garrity (MSP), Jason Breault (BSCO), Lucy Britton (CMED).

The meeting was brought to order by Melissa Nazzaro, at 12:30 pm. A round of introductions followed.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the December 17, 2013 meeting.

<p>Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2013 meetings as submitted. Charles Garrity seconded. Motion passed.</p>

Project Updates

WMRIC

Raine stated that the Collins Center is preparing to send out the survey. The feedback will go into a report. At the February meeting, Phase I will be reviewed and the Subcommittee will decide if Phase 2 is viable. The survey will go out to the Subcommittee and the Council.

Berkshire 385

Tom stated that the installation of equipment has been completed except for a small item at BHC. Some initial testing has been done and the coverage is better than expected.

CMED

Raine stated that three of the EHPs have been approved. One EHP is outstanding. Victoria stated that she will look into the outstanding EHP.

Hampshire Hills 800

Raine stated that all of the portable and mobile equipment has been delivered. The project is moving along. MOUs have been sent to the Towns depicting that if the equipment is no longer being used that it needs to be brought to the Council in order to offer the equipment to other towns.

Field Communication Unit Cell Boosters

Raine stated that Jason Breault will be following up on this project when the new FCC equipment specs are released in February.

Requests

Cache Radio Batteries, etc.

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Raine stated that the Council approved \$70,017.18 for the Interops Subcommittee to spend down.

Terry explained that the NWMIMT has requested some equipment to upgrade the Field Comm Unit. Terry reviewed the equipment requests itemized in the handout in the meeting packet. Items 2, 3 and 4 will go to the Planning Subcommittee for consideration.

Dennis Nazzaro advised that item #6, the voice recorder should record all 12 channels and not just 8. Melissa agreed. Dennis Annear stated that to record all 12 channels would be an additional \$1,000. Tom stated that both Field Comm Units should be upgraded equally for all communications equipment. It was noted that the Smartboard is specific to the NWMIMT needs, and could be purchased for Field Comm Unit 40 only. Tom will reach out to the Pittsfield Field Comm Unit personnel and coordinate with them about the equipment upgrades.

Motion: Jason Breault moved to approve \$39,630.62 to equip both Field Comm Units with two 12 channel recorders and 2 sets of the item #5 of miscellaneous equipment, and a Smartboard for Field Comm Unit 40 only. Peter Cowles seconded. Motion passed. Charles Garrity and Terry Dun abstained.

Lucy stated that the Berkshire 385 project did not originally include upgrades for North County because they had a solution. However, it has become apparent that the solution is not as robust as originally anticipated. To make the system more robust a repeater is being requested. No EHP is needed because it is replacing a piece of equipment on a rack.

Motion: Terry Dun moved to approve up to \$15,000 to upgrade the Berkshire 385 North Berkshire Extension. Charles Garrity seconded. Motion passed. Tom Grady abstained.

Tom suggested discussing the cache of radio batteries. Discussion followed. Raine will obtain a quote for up to 200 batteries or as many as can be purchased with the remaining unallocated funds.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve \$15,447.56 to purchase of up to 200 radio batteries. Charles Garrity seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Interops Consultant – project update

Raine stated that the proposals were reviewed and the group felt there was enough information to make a decision. SAIC was selected as long as the price proposal is within budget. Raine opened the price proposal which was within budget at \$159,979.

Motion: Charles Garrity moved to select SAIC as the Interops Consultant. Tom Grady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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Victoria asked what were the aspects that made SAIC preferable. Tom stated that their knowledge of the project, the area and our past working relationship made them the best candidate. Gary Cromack stayed with the WMLEC project after his funding had been exhausted to see the project through until its completion.

Communications 101 Training Video

Dennis Nazzaro stated that originally the SOW was to draft a single twenty minute script. As the project progressed it was decided to do twelve minute to minute and a half videos on single subjects. The finished videos will be available on the WRHSAC website. Discussion followed concerning making the videos longer with local voice overs. Raine stated that the budget is limited. Dennis stated that he will reach out to system owners to review the scripts and have them ready for next month.

IMC Node Linking

Raine stated that we received approval from C-JIS. Amherst will be the super hub for the four node links. Amherst will upgrade to the new software and then roll it out to the other locations. Anyone using the system will also need to upgrade their software as well. Terry stated that Greenfield is switching to IMC as well.

New Business

No new business was discussed.

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

No business unforeseen was discussed.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for February 18th at 12:30 at WMEMS.

There being no further business Tom Grady motioned to adjourn. Dennis Nazzaro seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Gretchen Johnson
Homeland Security Program Assistant
Franklin Regional Council of Governments