

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Western Massachusetts Regional Interoperability Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2017 12:30pm
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, Ma.

In attendance: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm.), Walter Tibbets (FCECS), Matt Barstow (MSP), Anthony Gentile (Wilbraham Dispatch), Lindsay Stromgren (Amherst Fire, HCFCA), Bob Hassett (Springfield CMED), Tom Grady (BCSO), Dennis Nazzaro (Northampton FD), Nancy Morrissey (Springfield CMED), Robert Garriepy (Huntington PD), Ann Dunne (FRCOG),

This meeting is audio recorded.

Melissa Nazzaro called the meeting to order at 12:35pm.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the January 17, 2017 and the February 14, 2017 meeting.

Motion: Walter Tibbets moved to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2017 meeting as presented. Dennis Nazzaro seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Matt Barstow moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2017 meeting as presented. Walter Tibbets seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair

SIEC Update - Melissa Nazzaro announced that Steve Staffier, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator has taken a job at MASSPORT, and Curt Wood /EOPSS is working on the process to fill the position. The FirstNet Advisory Board anticipates a spring award, for the next step of the FirstNet focusing on the successful development and delivery of State Plans. NextGen has 56 sites up and running. The Statewide Radio Survey was submitted to EOPSS for review, and we should see the final document soon. The Council and EOPSS approved the additional funding for the Hampshire Hills Control Station.

Project Updates

WMLEC Tactical Command Trailer – Dennis Nazzaro updated the subcommittee on the status of the trailer on behalf of Steve Kozlowski. Steve is making preparations for the delivery of the trailer this afternoon. WMLEC has received a request for use of the trailer at the Amherst, Blarney Blowout in March.

Hampshire Hills 800 – Raine Brown is working with the departments receiving the radios, to gather technical information for Motorola, and procurement will go out in the next few weeks.

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FCECS GPS Clocks – Raine sent the specifications to MAPC on Friday, and the procurement will go out this week. The FCECS oversight committee decided to prepare a RFP, so they can score the responses.

Hampshire Hills Control Station- This project received full Council approval, and Raine will confirm she has the correct specifications and send it out to bid.

Western Mass Interoperable Systems Update

Berkshire County – Tom Grady noted the NextGen 911 installation in Berkshire County has been re-scheduled many times. The State 911 is waiting to make sure the satellite connectivity is operational before moving forward with the project. Tom is concerned about the timeframe and training, as they are six weeks out from the original date to go live. The console upgrade project request for talk group access was denied by MEMA & DFS. The final decision is with Undersecretary McMurray; Jason Breault will reach out to the COML group, as Berkshire needs the capabilities for large-scale events.

Franklin County – Walter Tibbets reported the FCECS is working on the RFP for the antennas. The failed GPS clock was programmed for a NY location when originally tested, and was not reset before installation in Franklin County, causing the system failure a few weeks ago.

Hampshire County – No updates.

WMLEC – Steve is overseeing the delivery of the trailer this afternoon.

CMED – Bob Hassett reported that CMED is waiting on National Grid to update the guy lines at the Hovey Hill Tower, before they can replace their equipment.

MSP – Matt Barstow reported the NextGen installation at Shelburne Control Dispatch Center is scheduled for April.

Other- Dennis Nazzaro noted that Northampton has finished the console upgrades. Phase Two will begin soon, to include installation of six new interoperability radios.

Budget Review

Raine reported the FFY15 funds are now allocated, and there is \$200,000.00 in FFY2016.

Melissa noted the Council agreed on budget decreases to stay within the anticipated level funded grant award of \$936,315.00 for FFY2017.

Requests- Jason Breault had submitted his request for funding for the purchase and installation of a Motorola UHF GTR 8000 repeater/base station radio into the BC Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Center. Because Jason was unable to attend the meeting, the subcommittee decided to wait until next month to discuss.

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Old Business

BCSO Satellite Internet

Jason is not available to discuss, and this request will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

Helicopter Communication - MIFOG

Melissa Nazzaro reported that the frequency/dispatch protocol was sent as an email notification by MIFOG to all stakeholders, Melissa asked for a copy to confirm the recipients. She will follow up with LifeStar on recent air/ground miss communications with dispatch centers.

New Business - none

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

Matt Barstow updated the subcommittee on the on going progress of the Hampshire Radio System project.

Tom Grady noted that the T&E subcommittee had allocated \$20,000.00 for basic radio training from FFY16 funds, and asked the WMRIC subcommittee for guidance on planning and training.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2017, 12:30 at WMEMS at 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, MA.

There being no further business Melissa Nazzaro moved to adjourn. Anthony Gentile seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- Minutes from January 17, 2017 meeting
- Minutes from February 14, 2017 meeting
- WRHSAC FFY15 State Homeland Security Budget Spreadsheet
- Motorola UHF P-25 GTR Request from Jason Breault, Berkshire County Sheriff's Office
- Accelerated Media Technologies, Inc. quotation for Viasat Antenna, from Jason Breault, Berkshire County Sheriff's Office

Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne
Franklin Regional Council of Governments