

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Western Massachusetts Regional Interoperability Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2017 12:30pm
Hatfield Fire Department
3 School Street, Hatfield, MA 01330

In attendance: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Robert Garriepy (Huntington PD), Tom Grady (BCSO), Bob Hassett (Spfld. CMED), Peter Cowles (WEMA), Walter Tibbets (FCECS), Steve Kozloski (WMLEC), Rick Viruet (Springfield PD), Alex Rock (Springfield PD), Anthony Gentile (Wilbraham Dispatch), Lindsay Stromgren (Amherst FD), Butch Garriety (Shelburne Dispatch) Bob Dean (FRCOG).

This meeting is audio recorded.

Bob Hassett called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the October 17, 2017 meeting.

<p>Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017 meeting as presented. Steve Kozloski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair

SIEC Update – No updates.

Project Updates

WMLEC Gap Solutions – Steve Kozloski reported the command pod is in the process of being built, and noted the Field Comm 40 radios have not arrived yet. Steve will follow up with Manny on the specs for the WMLEC trailer, and the status of the radios.

Berkshire County – Tom Grady noted Berkshire County is working on the next stage of the project under the State 911 Development Grant.

Franklin County – Walter Tibbets noted the timing problem was due to interplex unit issues, and not with the GPS clocks. Discussion continues between FCECS, EOPSS & MSP and they feel confident money is coming through for the 800-megahertz radio system to be completed.

Hampshire County – Robert Garriepy noted the 800-megahertz radios are not updated, as MSP has one person doing programming, posing a challenge to get movement on coordination with local PD's code plug.

WMLEC – Steve Kozloski noted there are some systemic breakdown of the rectifiers that power the sites, which seems to be a common power supply issue. He is currently identifying and evaluating options to address the problem.

CMED – Bob Hassett asked Officer Viruet to provide an overview of some of the current CMED challenges throughout the Pioneer Valley. Officer Viruet provided the committee with a detailed

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overview of recent site visits. He is working with the power companies to ensure updates are made to the Hovey Hill tower so the FFY2017 project at this site can get underway.

MSP – Butch Garriety sent a message to Matt Barstow and Blair Sutherland to inform them of the growing frustration with the lack of programmed radios in the Hampshire project. Bob Hassett agreed to discuss the issue with the SIEC.

Other - No updates.

Budget Review

Raine gave an overview of FFY16 budget concerns; she is waiting on the specs for the WMLEC gap solutions project. FFY17 contract is in place, and we can start moving those projects forward.

Requests - None

Old Business

Video Downlink Discussion:

The goal is to upgrade the software in three counties and buy new software for Berkshire County.

Helicopter Communication: - Lindsey Stromgren updated the subcommittee on the recent class he attended. He feels that communication with the helicopters are set back a few years, as it seems the administration level of the helicopter companies do not give the helicopters the correct dispatch channels. Bob Hassett will invite the helicopter representative to a future WMRIC meeting.

New Business –

FFY2018 Investment Plan – no updates.

Business Unforeseen by the Chair –

The subcommittee needs to appoint a SIEC Rep from WMRIC, as Bob Hassett already represents MMRS. Further discussion on an appointment will take place at the next meeting.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2018, 12:30 pm at the Hatfield Fire Department, 3 School Street, Hatfield, MA.

There being no further business Walter Tibbets moved to adjourn. Steve Kozloski seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously.

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The meeting adjourned at 1:27pm

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- Minutes from November 21, 2017 meeting
- WRHSAC FFY16 State Homeland Security Budget Spreadsheet- 12/15/2017

Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne,
Franklin Regional Council of Governments