

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Western Massachusetts Regional Interoperability Committee
Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 12:30pm
Hatfield Fire Department
3 School Street, Hatfield, MA 01330

In attendance: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Bob Hassett (Spfld. CMED), Nick DaDalt (EOPSS), Robert Garriepy (Huntington PD), Tom Grady (BCSO), Lindsay Stromgren (Amherst FD), Bernie Forgea (CFD/CPD), Dennis Nazzaro (Northampton FD), Butch Garriety (Shelburne Dispatch), Walter Tibbets (FCECS), Jeremy DeMar (Springfield Emergency Comm), Matt Goldstein (Emerging Response LLC), Melissa Nazzaro (EOPSS), Matt Barstow (MSP), Nicholas Chirekos, (Amherst FD), Kathleen Haniffy (AMR), Matt McBra (AMR), Ann Dunne (FRCOG).

This meeting was audio recorded.

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

The committee reviewed the minutes from the December 18, 2018 meeting.

<p>Motion: Dennis Nazzaro moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2018 meeting. Tom Grady seconded. Voted unanimously in favor.</p>

A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair

SIEC Update – Melissa Nazzaro noted that delays in processing EHP's due to the partial Government shutdown, could also impact T&E projects deadlines. Raine noted that all EHPs for WMRIC projects were completed in the fall.

SWIC Update – Melissa noted the Massachusetts Interoperability Field Operations Guide (MIFOG) project updates are near completion and will be shared with the stakeholders for review. The electronic version of the MIFOG will be available in an app. format later in the year. The policy and procedures committee of the SIEC is reactivated, and is focused on COMU governance. Melissa invited the Council members to become involved.

The Commonwealth released an RFP for a radio system engineer to draft a transition plan to convert the statewide radio systems from analog to digital. Currently the MSP and some agencies use the 800MHz radio system. The contract should be in place by mid-February.

Project Updates

WMLEC Gap Solutions – WMLEC is waiting on Motorola to provide a specialty cable to finish the upgrades to the RapidComm Trailer. The invoice was processed as this is a FFY16 project.

CMED Hovey Hill – Raine will check on the procurement process with MAPC. The specifications for the project were provided to MAPC in December.

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Holcomb Road Project – A construction date will be scheduled with Green Mountain Company in the near future. They are hoping to be able to get to the site during a break in weather.

COMU Go Kits – The project is ready to go. Raine needs specific details on the miscellaneous connecting cables for the procurement specifications. She will follow up with Steve & Dennis.

Western Mass Interoperable Systems Update

Berkshire County – The State 911 development project will resume in the spring. The next development grant application is now available.

Franklin County – The Radio System Manager is conducting site visits and becoming familiar with the system. FCECS will vote at their next meeting on the contract for a radio repair company. The FRCOG has scheduled an informational session January 31, 2019 for municipalities to discuss the available radio system options.

Hampshire County – The Board of Overseers are meeting to discuss the operational impact of the separation of the 800MHz system from the VHF radio system and the possible solutions moving forward.

CMED: No Report.

WMLEC – No Report.

MSP – Matt Barstow reported on the ongoing radio console upgrade in preparation for the statewide core upgrade. The project is on track.

Other – No Report.

Budget Review – Once the procurement bid for the CMED project is received, Raine noted the remaining FFY17 funds from the Hampshire Hills project will be available for consideration.

The FFY18 contract is in place. Raine gave an overview of the projects.

Requests – None

Old Business - None

New Business – Matt Goldstein, Emerging Response LLC presented a Realtime Situational Awareness software program (IncidentAlly). This new technology offers increased accuracy, faster incident turnaround, and a customizable interface. The goal is to enhance public safety operations and community preparedness. The cost factor is based on the population size by municipality. Chicopee currently uses this software.

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Nick Hamel is the new contact person at Motorola Solutions.

Tom shared some new communication technology. A “Plum Case” is a portable broadband kit with technology to provide secure, reliable high-speed internet anywhere. Tom expressed concerns about the recent State 911 outage and the challenges it caused in Berkshire County. Tom asked if an AAR review will be conducted.

**Business Unforeseen by the Chair -
Next Steps/Future Meetings**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2019 12:30 pm at the Hatfield Fire Department, 3 School Street, Hatfield, MA.

There being no further business, Walter Tibbets moved to adjourn. Tom Grady seconded.

Voted unanimously in favor. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- Minutes from December 18, 2018 meeting
- WRHSAC FFY16 State Homeland Security Budget – 01/14/2019
- WRHSAC FFY17 State Homeland Security Budget – 01/14/2019
- WRHSAC FFY18 State Homeland Security Budget – 01/14/2019

Respectfully Submitted by Ann Dunne
Franklin Regional Council of Governments