

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Interoperability / Information Sharing Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2013 12:30 pm
WMEMS, 68 Industrial Drive, Northampton, Ma.

In attendance: Sue Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Tom Grady (BCSO), Dennis Nazzaro (DFS/NFD), Suzanne MacBain (SAIC), Russ Sienkiewicz (NPD), Bernard Forgea (CFD), Ann Shea (MMC), Gary Cromack (SAIC), Jason Breault (PPD), Terry Dun (FCECS), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm), John Taylor (SFD/DFS), Steve Kozloski (MPD), Manny Litos (Motorola).

The meeting was brought to order by Russ Sienkiewicz, Chair, at 12:33 pm. A round of introductions followed.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the April 16, 2013 meeting.

<p>Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2013 meeting as submitted. John Taylor seconded. Motion passed.</p>

Interoperability Consultant

Russ stated that the Consultant report would be given first because Gary needs to leave the meeting early to meet with a consultant.

Gary stated that DCR will not allow the microwave installation on Borden until the tower is fully upgraded. Gary has designed a work around to upgrade the existing microwave. This will allow the system to work with the analog system. The true mix load analog and digital system will not work until the full upgrades are completed and the P25 software is released.

Russ stated that the Council approved additional funds for the engineering structural analysis as well as the funding for the electrical work at the MSP shared sites. Russ stated that he will continue to negotiate with DCR. Gary stated that seven sites are wired. The project is moving forward. Gary left the meeting to meet a consultant to work on the Franklin County to Berkshire IP cloud.

Melissa stated that the CMED project has been updated and should be acceptable to SIEC.

Project Updates

Berkshire Simulcast

Russ stated that the project is moving along.

FCECS Route 202

Terry stated that the lighting equipment has been installed on the tower. The equipment for the shelter is arriving. The project is on track.

WMLEC Expansion

This project was discussed earlier in the meeting.

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IMC Node Linking

Sue stated that the project is on track and will be tested next month.

WMEMS MDTs

Sue stated that the MDTs have been delivered and the project is finished.

WMFCA MDTs & GIS

Sue stated that the bid came in \$250 over the original budget. The Council approved the additional funds.

WMRIC

Sue suggested that the project should be done in two phases. The first phase will be to gather information and present to stakeholders. The next phase will be to implement. The implementation phase would be dependent upon positive outcome of the outreach phase. Sue will prepare an RFP. Discussion followed.

Reprogramming Grant

Sue stated that there have been major challenges to this project. Sue does not have a count of all the touched radios but will soon. Sue was informed last week that a number of the radios have been programmed incorrectly. Comtronics is trying to fix the incorrect radios but there is very little time and many radios are waiting to be reprogrammed. Discussion followed on how to handle the payment to the consultant.

Reprogramming MDTs

Dennis acknowledged that there have been some complications of software and cables related to the MDTs purchased for reprogramming radios. Sue asked Manny to work on changing the software license MAPC to the towns or another entity.

Berkshire 385

Sue stated that this project is in serious jeopardy if the FFY10 fund do not get extended. The EHPs are not completed yet and the project is dependent upon successful completion and approval of the EHPs.

Gaps and Analysis

This discussion was tabled until later in the meeting.

Requests

No requests were presented.

Old Business

FFY2011 CMED

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

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Hampshire Hills Police 800Mhz radios

Russ stated that the Hampshire Hills Police 800mhz radios project will be a place holder until funding can be identified.

New Business

Terry stated that two field comm units in Berkshire and Greenfield need radio upgrades to be fully interoperable with the new WMLEC and MSP 800Mhz P25 radios. They cost approximately \$5,000 per unit. Sue suggested bringing the request to the full Council at the June meeting.

Motion: Melissa Nazzaro moved to upgrade up to two radio units for each Western Mass Field Communications to P25 radios depending on available funds from the Council at the June meeting. John Taylor seconded. Motion passed.

Dennis stated that the adapter cables for the older radios will cost about \$4,000. The cables are needed to accompany the radio programming MDTs.

Motion: Terry moved to approve up to \$5,000 for software for the new Motorola radios and flash adapters subject to available funding from the Council at their June meeting. John Taylor seconded. Motion passed.

Dennis stated that he there is a need for a communications training to train on all the upgrades done to the regional system and how to use the system efficiently. Russ stated that he would like a DVD of the training be created as well to keep it sustainable. Discussion followed. The Subcommittee was in support of proposing Communications training to the Training and Exercise Subcommittee next month.

Gaps and Analysis

Suzanne left the meeting. Sue stated that two applicants responded to the RFP. Discussion followed discussing if SAIC was a valid applicant. Russ asked that subcommittee members review the proposals and score them both by the middle of next week.

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

No unforeseen business was discussed.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

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

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

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The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

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