

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Interoperability / Information Sharing Sub Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2012 12:30 pm
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, Ma.

In attendance: Russ Sienkiewicz (NPD), Sue Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Ann Carroll (MMC), Steve Kozloski (MPD), Tom Grady (BCSO), John Taylor (SFD/DFS), Dennis Nazzaro (NFD/DFS), Lindsay Stromgren (AFD/HCFCA), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld. Comm.), Bob Dean (FRCOG), Butch Garrity (SC), Robert Garner (HPD), Lucy Ann Britton (BMC), Suzanne MacBain (SAIC), Gary Cromack (SAIC), Peter Rosamilia (SAIC)

The meeting was brought to order by Chair Russ Sienkiewicz at 12:40 pm. A round of introductions followed.

Minutes

Russ tabled the minutes until Suzanne MacBain arrived at the meeting.

Project Updates

Franklin County Data Sharing

Bob Dean stated that the F.C. Data Sharing project is in jeopardy. Captain John Newton was the main project supervisor and has since retired. The FRCOG has convened several meetings with the Franklin County Police Chiefs, the Sheriff and other interested parties. Several issues need to be resolved before towns will commit to the project. Five to six towns are committed to the project. Originally there were 11-15 towns. Some of the towns are willing to reconsider if the following are answered:

- Price
- Reconnection to IMC system if this system does not work out
- Governance

Russ asked about the obligation of the Council if the project fails. Sue stated that for all intents and purposes the project was attempted in good faith. The equipment may have some restrictions. Sue will look into that. Sue stated that IMC bid on the project originally but came in at a much higher price than Spillman. John Taylor suggested doing an analysis of all three vendors, Spillman, IMC and Hunter Cad.

The questions that need to be answered include:

- Why was the GIS portion not included in the original contract
- Licensing fees
- Data conversion – paid in lump sum or by town
- Is the fire module included
- What is the sustainability of the project if only a few towns sign on
- A letter of commitment from the Town of Greenfield

It was decided that all of the questions above need to be resolved by August 14th to give the subcommittee time to review them prior to the next Council meeting. Discussion followed.

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Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve \$12,250 from FFY10 System Hardening to support the FRCOG Franklin County Data Sharing project contingent on answers to the questions outlined above. Melissa Nazzaro seconded. Motion passed. Butch Garrity abstained.

Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the June 19, 2012 meeting. Russ asked Suzanne about the WMRIC summary from Bob Desordious. Suzanne said that she will send it out by the end of the week. Russ made a typo correction to the minutes.

Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2012 meeting as corrected. Butch Garrity seconded. Voted unanimously.

Hampshire Hills Interops

Sue stated that the Council approved the project. Weekly conference calls are occurring to keep the project on track.

Berkshire Simulcast

Tom Grady stated that this project is all set.

FCECS Route 202

Sue stated that there is a delay with the Orange EHP.

WMLEC Expansion

This discussion was held for the consultant report.

EHPs

Sue reported that there are three EHPs that are outstanding.

WMRIC – Bylaw review

Sue stated that there is a copy of the bylaw in the meeting packet.

WMSIN Medical Module

Sue stated that the purchase order has been issued and the project should be able to move forward soon.

IMC Node Linking

Sue stated that the purchase orders have been issued.

PSIC Grants

PSIC Trans-regional

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Russ thanked Sue for all her hard work to get this project done. It literally was completed on June 29th.

Interoperability Consultant

Sue stated that the Consultant report was included in the meeting packet. Gary Cromack stated that the Borden tower repairs will require hiring an Engineer with a P.E. for approximately \$10,000 and the repairs should cost about \$25,000.

Motion: Melissa Nazzaro moved approve up to \$10,000 to hire an engineer to conduct the design work for the Borden Tower repairs. Tom Grady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Tom Grady moved approve up to \$25,000 to conduct the Borden Tower repairs. Steve Kozloski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The \$10,000 motion for the engineer can move forward immediately because Russ has the authority to authorize purchases up to \$10,000. The \$25,000 vote for the repairs will need to be approved by the full Council. Gary will send Sue the scope of work and the quote from the engineer that he got the quote from and the names of two other qualified engineers.

Requests

Berkshire EMS Radio Request

Lucy Ann Britton stated that the existing radio communication to the hospitals in Southern and Central Berkshire County does not work well. The proposal is for \$44,000 to upgrade the radio communications. The new equipment will integrate with the existing system. Discussion followed. It was recommended to increase the funding to \$51,000 to include EHP expenses.

Motion: Melissa Nazzaro moved approve up to \$51,000 from FFY10 System Hardening for the Berkshire EMS Radio project. Butch Garrity seconded. Motion passed. Tom Grady abstained.

Business Unforeseen by the Chair

No unforeseen business was presented.

Next Steps/Future Meetings

Russ stated that the WMLEC project is going to be featured in an urgent communications magazine. Steve Staffier was appointed as the state Interops Coordinator. Melissa Nazzaro was nominated for and won the 911 Grossman award for outstanding work in communications. A round of applause followed.

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The next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2012 at 12:30 at WMEMS. The September meeting will be held at the Northampton Police Department. Russ suggested parking in the parking garage.

Melissa announced that the ERV is complete. The TACStac will be rolled out in September as part of Preparedness month activities. The Central region took a vote and decided not to move forward with the command and control center due to maintenance cost concerns and lack of end-user agreement about participation. This means that the PSIC project will not coordinate as far to the east as was hoped.

There being no further business Butch Garrity motioned to adjourn. Tom Grady seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:48 pm.

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