

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council  
Interoperability / Information Sharing Sub Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
December 18, 2012 12:30 pm  
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, Ma.

**In attendance:** Russ Sienkiewicz (NPD), Sue Brown (FRCOG), Gretchen Johnson (FRCOG), Ann Shea (MMC), Tom Grady (BCSO), John Taylor (SFD/DFS), Robert Garriepy (HPD), Dennis Nazzaro (DFS/NFD), Melissa Nazzaro (Spfld Comm), Butch Garrity (Shel. Control), Terry Dun (FCECS), Lindsay Stromgen (AFD/Hamp. Chiefs), John Moriarty (NFD/DFS), Steve Kozloski (MPD), Suzanne MacBain (SAIC), Gary Cromack (SAIC); Linda Moriarty (WMEMS)

The meeting was brought to order by Chair Russ Sienkiewicz at 12:43 pm. A round of introductions followed.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the November 20, 2012 meeting.

<p><b>Motion:</b> Butch Garrity moved to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2012 meeting as submitted. Tom Grady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### **Project Updates**

#### *Hampshire Hills Interops*

Sue stated that the project is on schedule to be fully installed by this Friday. The system will go live right after the Christmas holiday.

#### *Berkshire Simulcast*

Tom stated that the project is moving along.

#### *FCECS Route 202*

Terry stated that the New Salem portion of the project is only waiting for two receivers to be delivered. The Orange portion is in serious jeopardy due to the required FAA study. Sue stated that there has not been a determination on the FFY09 extension yet. EOPSS did recently ask for more information based on questions received from DHS. Discussion followed.

#### *WMLEC Expansion*

Russ stated that the DCR agreed to allow the guy wire upgrades to move forward. The steel upgrades will need to be designed over the winter. Additional equipment cannot be added to the tower until all of the upgrades have been completed. The Borden Mt aspect project will be put on hold until the Spring. Sue stated that the new engineering study needs to be bid out as soon as possible. Russ asked that himself, Gary and Sue will met following the meeting to coordinate the remaining tasks and the timeline to ensure that the project is completed by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

#### *IMC Node Linking*

Sue stated that there has been some confusion regarding the equipment and the number of sites but it has been cleared up and the project should meet the funding deadline. The FRCOG is not going to recent additional funds to assist with further rollout of the Spillman software in Franklin County.

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council  
Interoperability / Information Sharing Sub Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
December 18, 2012 12:30 pm  
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, Ma.

*WMRIC*

Russ stated that there was a discussion at the Council meeting about updating the Statewide Homeland Security Strategy. This will be a good opportunity to further discuss developing SOGs and other issues regarding WMRIC.

**Interoperability Consultant**

Gary Cromack stated that most of the updates had been covered earlier in the meeting. Gary sent a draft amendment of the MOU with the MSP on November 26<sup>th</sup> and has not heard back yet. Captain Sprague has not retired yet. Butch stated that he would contact Captain Sprague.

Gary stated that a quick quote was done last Friday for the Franklin County interface to the WMLEC IP cloud. This is the last big item needed to be bid out. All the other equipment needed will be under \$5,000. Suzanne stated that SAIC will prepare a table of the remaining items needed. Discussion followed.

**Requests**

No requests were presented.

**Old Business**

*Reprogramming Grant*

Sue stated that the FFY09 portion of IEGCP grant was not granted an extension. She is not sure how this will affect the grant applications. Melissa stated that Jen Ball informed her that each of the application amounts will be reduced to fit the funding available from FFY10. The contracts will be awarded soon.

*Berkshire 385 Update*

Sue stated that the project will be presented at the January meeting. Tom stated that the reason for the delay is related to serious health issues of the subject matter expert. Russ stated that he will not be able to attend the January meeting. Tom offered to chair.

**New Business**

*FFY2011 WMSIN Module*

Sue stated that she spoke with John Kenney to discuss if the project is going to move forward with the DA module or the Medical module. He said that he hasn't had any further discussion with the DA. Tom stated that a representative for the project needs to attend the Subcommittee meetings. Discussion followed.

*FFY2011 CMED*

Sue stated that this is the only 2011 Interops project. The project is supposed to identify and implement solutions to the communication gaps in our region. Sue will need additional information to complete the Project Justification. The project was initiated by Steve Cote. Linda stated that she will convene a communication committee and identify a lead for the project by the January meeting. Discussion followed.

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council  
Interoperability / Information Sharing Sub Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
December 18, 2012 12:30 pm  
WMEMS, 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton, Ma.

*Franklin County Reprogramming Template*

John passed out a Communications Resource Availability worksheet. The purpose is to improve interoperability by standardizing the channel configurations, channel names, etc. The naming in the second column is now consistent with the MIFOG. The CMED information needs to be finalized. Dennis will forward to Sue the UHF, VHD and 800 information. Ann asked that the hospitals be kept up to date on the changes to the radio programming. Tom asked that Sue include in the bid document that the template is property of WRHSAC and that all code plugs created will also be owned by WRHSAC. Discussion followed.

**Motion:** Butch Garrity moved to use the Communication Resource Availability worksheet, pending the finalization of the CMED information, as the template for the IECGP reprogramming project. Terry Dun seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Business Unforeseen by the Chair**

Suzanne stated that SAIC has been working on a grant application with MEMA and WGBH that will allow receivers to send encrypted video. If the Subcommittee is interested Suzanne will recommend to WGBH that WRHSAC be included in the pilot project. The receiver will be portable and could be tested in various parts of the Western Region to send encrypted video to specific groups. The application is due in January. Discussion followed.

**Motion:** John Taylor moved support the Interops Subcommittee participation in the pilot encrypted video project with SAIC. Butch Garrity seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Suzanne will draft a letter of support for Russ to sign and send with the application.

**Next Steps/Future Meetings**

Russ asked Dennis to table the PowerPoint presentation on the situation/response in New York until next month.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 at the WMEMS.

There being no further business John Taylor motioned to adjourn. Butch Garrity seconded. Voted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:44 pm.

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