

Western Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council
Western Massachusetts Regional Interoperability Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2018 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), Lindsay Stromgren (Amherst FD), Melissa Nazzaro (EOPSS), Nick DaDalt (EOPSS), Jeremy DeMar (Spfld Comm), Rick Viruet (Springfield PD), Bernard Forgea (CFD/CPD), Nancy Morrissey (Spfld CMED), Ann Dunne (FRCOG).

This meeting is audio recorded.

Bob Hassett called the meeting to order at 12:31pm.

The committee reviewed the minutes from the January 16, 2018 meeting.

<p>Motion: Tom Grady moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting as presented. Peter Cowles seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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A round of introductions followed.

Updates from the Chair

SIEC Update – Melissa noted that AT&T First Net’s contract with the Commonwealth is not in place yet, and Melissa will share the memo from the Undersecretary regarding the opt-in process.

The DOD supports the Statewide Vigilant Guard exercise, and the Western Ma exercise will concentrate on the failure of the Harriman Dam in VT on November 6-8, 2018.

The upcoming COML class will take place in Harford, CT on April 9-11, 2018. The participants must have completed the updated ICS 100, 200 and 700 courses.

Melissa noted there was a statewide conference call with Motorola and the Homeland Security Council fiduciary team to address the issues in moving forward with several projects..

Melissa requested technical assistance to further develop two programs:

- The MIFOG manual, including the creation of a downloadable app which can be used in the field.
- COMU program development of policy and procedures.

Project Updates

WMLEC Gap Solution –Bob Hassett reported on behalf of Steve Kozloski: Steve is expecting the specifications from Motorola this afternoon. He will attend the Fire Chiefs Association meeting to ask for their participation on the WMLEC committee.

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Raine noted the Field Comm radio upgrades are underway and expects completion soon. The specifications for the Berkshire County component are waiting on MAPC approval, and should go out to bid soon.

Bob Hassett noted the Command Pod Unit was not bench tested before shipment. On arrival, it was discovered that the inverter was not powerful enough to handle all the radios. The Technical Representative replaced the inverter, and the Command Pod is now operational.

CMED Hovey Hill- Rick Viruet has sent the equipment list to Raine, and is working on the equipment costs. The project is at the justification level and will require approval from EOPSS.

Western Mass Interoperable Systems Update

Berkshire County – Tom Grady noted they continue to work on the console upgrade.

Franklin County – None

Hampshire County – The installation of the 800-megahertz radios project is in progress.

WMLEC –No additional updates.

CMED –None

MSP – None

Other - No updates.

Budget Review

Raine reviewed the FFY16 budget and expressed concerns on the delay receiving the WMLEC Gap Solutions final specifications, and noted the possibility of requesting an extension of the funds for this project. Work has begun on the FFY17 projects. The project justification will be submitted to EOPSS this week. Raine has requested Steve and Dennis' assistance to pull together specifications for the COML Go Kits.

Requests – Berkshire County Sheriff's Office IMT Antenna & Receiver Request.

Jason Breault submitted this request for the purchase and installation of the following equipment for the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Center.

- IMT Nucomm CIRAS- Single Channel Tower /Truck Mounted Receiver w/integrated antenna

- IMT VMS 2000 IP Aggregator Video Management System

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As Jason was not at the meeting to discuss, the request was tabled.

Old Business

Helicopter Communication: - Peter Cowles tried unsuccessfully to contact the helicopter agencies and was unable to discuss the radio frequency the helicopter companies are using. Bob Hassett agreed to follow up.

WRHSAC Representative:-

Jeremy DeMar, Director of Springfield Communications, introduced himself to the Council. Jeremy is willing to fill the WRHSAC Communication Representative seat. Nick DaDalt gave an overview of the approval process.

The Council made the following recommendation:

<p>Motion: Peter Cowles nominated Jeremy DeMar to fill the Communication Representative seat on the Council. Robert Garriepy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
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The Governor's Office approves the appointment.

New Business – None

Business Unforeseen by the Chair – None

Next Steps/Future Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2018, 12:30 pm at the Hatfield Fire Department, 3 School Street, Hatfield, MA.

There being no further business Tom Grady moved to adjourn. Peter Cowles seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm

List of Documents Reviewed at the Meeting

- Minutes from January 16, 2018 meeting
- WRHSAC FFY16 State Homeland Security Budget – 2/16/2018
- Jason Breault – IMT Downlink Antenna/Receiver and Install documents
- Melissa Nazzaro – Communications Unit Leader (COML) course offering email

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Respectfully Submitted by
Ann Dunne,
Franklin Regional Council of Governments