

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Public Safety Interoperability Communications Committee
MEETING MINUTES
June 15, 2010
Department of Public Safety
1111 Country Club Road, Middletown, CT 06457

Welcome & Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 1304 hours by Co-Chair Michael Varney. The following individuals were in attendance: David Coyle (CSP), Robert DiBella (Glastonbury), Sandra Baker (DEMHS), John Gustafson (DEMHS), William J. Hackett (DEMHS), Phil Mikan (USCG), Jeff Merwin (Region 1), Jeff Otto (Region 4), Roy Piper (DEMHS), Gregg Prevost (Region 2), Joe Salmeri (DPS), Matt Valleau (CAP/DPS), Michael Varney (DOIT), Stephen Verbil (OSET), Keith Victor (Region 3), Kris Wohlgemugh (DOIT), Joseph Soto (EMS Advisory Board), Len Lucien (CT Transit), Dan Warzoha (Region 1), Frank Kiernan (Meriden), and Robert Grega (CSP-HQ), Steven Pappas (GovCentric), Dave Rocco (GovCentric) Ariel Gorski (CAP), and Chris Marvin (CREPC).

Public Comment: None

Review of Minutes: Motion to accept March 16 and April 20 minutes; 1st by Jeff Otto; 2nd Jeff Merwin.

PSIC Grant Update:

IJ1 (Steve Verbil) – Preparations underway for the IJ-1 grant extension request; currently working with DEMHS staff on paperwork. According to Paul Zito, equipment will be tested by the middle of the month; Mike Varney provided an update on the Public Safety Data Network – Contacted by NTIA regarding stimulus package funds. State requested \$80 million in addition to the \$20 million allocated and are currently in negotiations with NTIA. An update will be provided at the next meeting. Federal auditors found discrepancies and corrective actions are being taken.

IJ2 (John Gustafson) – Quotes have been received from vendors. A meeting will be conducted to review final three proposals.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- a. Technical Workgroup – John Gustafson distributed handouts and gave a brief on standards for EMS radios and addressed questions/concerns by meeting participants. This issue will go back to the committee for further review and reported on at next month's meeting.
- b. Training & Exercise Workgroup – Workgroup has not met due to scheduling conflicts. Mike Varney will send out a meeting notice prior to the next month's Interoperability meeting. CASM training is scheduled August 15, 16 and 17 from 0800 – 1300 at the Department of Information Technology in East Hartford. Accommodates 20 students per session. Only need to attend one session.
- c. 700 MHz Planning Workgroup – No meeting held; Steve Verbil recommends a meeting be conducted prior to next month's Interoperability meeting.
- d. 4.9 GHz Workgroup – No report.
- e. Field Operations Guide (FOG) Workgroup – June workshop was not held. Mike Varney met with the individual who developed the National FOG. He agreed to review CT's guide and provide feedback.

Report of Interoperability Usage and incidents during previous months:

4 Activations (5/1/10- Old Saybrook PD incident at DMV; 5/8/10- New Haven FD water search & rescue; 5/23/10- Winsted PD Hazmat Drill; and 5/30/10 Troop E spot check) and 2 tests.

Sgt Robert Grega has been assigned as the new commander of the Communications Center.

Paul Zito provided information on how to request an interoperability resource. Individual must be the operator or Manager of the resource (system) and a member. When calling the Message Center, the requestor of the resource must be specific with needs. If not sure, let the message center know and they will contact him for assistance.

Jeff Merwin reported that R1 had a federal evaluated event at Sherwood Island. ITAC/ICALL 4 was activated. Dan Warzoha briefed on the medical aspect. A hotwash was held and positive feedback was received from evaluators.

Old Business:

- a. Transit Security Grant – All equipment has been received. Motorola has portables for reprogramming. All ICALL/ITAC radios will be switched upon completion of programming.
- b. Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – Grant funds are not being utilized. An extension has been requested. TIC Plans need to be updated, signed by ESF 2 Chairs, and forwarded to DEMHS.
- c. ICALL/ITAC Channel Scheme – John Gustafson handed out the revised Channel scheme for review. There were questions and discussions regarding the number of channels that can be programmed into the radios and having digital vs. analog channels.
- d. Development of NECP Goal 2 Measurement Criteria – Mike Varney provided an update. Goal 1 was completed for Region 1; Region 3's will be held at the end of the month. Goal 2 measurement criteria concept CT would publish site Region 2 ESF2 Chair will be informed. Locals and Regions will fill out forms over the course of next year to get 70% of completion to show achieved interoperability. The website URL will be forwarded to everyone. R1 and R3 has already met requirement. Region 1 will make Communication Plans available to other regions for review.

Regional Reports:

Region 1 (Jeff Merwin) – Continuing work on governance issues; held a conference call with state partners and vendor. Project 99% complete with inventory. July 12th meeting scheduled for finalization.

Region 2 (Gregg Prevost) – Met with DEMHS to identify remaining governance issues; Regional IMT progressing; received TIC-P initial draft and hope to have completed in the fall.

Region 3 (Keith Victor) – Updated four communications vehicles with onboard phone system and UHF radios. Inner-city is fully narrow-banded UHF/VHF; Evaluated at Pro-Am on the 27th; OEC will evaluate system; hotwash will be held; met with Police Dept to discuss the process.

Region 4 (Jeff Otto) – Equipment for regional system will be delivered by the end of the week; discussed PSDN hook-up; IECGP is behind schedule; TIC Plan work in progress.

Region 5 – No Report

New Business:

- a. FCC Broad Band Wireless Report (Steve Verbil) – No Report
- b. National Emergency Communications Plan (Mike Varney) – A conference call was held; currently waiting for the slide presentations; will share with the group when received.

Co-Chair Bill Hackett provided a brief to meeting participants on the State Directors' Meeting; NE Regional Science and Technology Summit from DHS; NWS Hurricane Preparations; July EMD Hurricane Workshop; Presidential Individual and Public Assistance Disaster Declaration; and Regional After Action Meetings/Reports.

Matt Valleau introduced Major Azriel Gorski of the Civil Air Patrol as the new representative for the monthly Interoperability Communications meetings.

Correspondence:

None

Grant Reviews:

- (1) Region 4 Communications Trailer approved on 6/14/10

Next Meeting: July 20, 2010 at 1:00 p.m., Location TBD

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 13:59 p.m.