



***State Interoperability Executive  
Committee***  
*June 18, 2009*

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# State Interoperability Executive Committee

DIS Boardroom, James R. Larson Forum Building  
605 11<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Olympia, Washington

June 18, 2009

1:30 p.m.

*Agenda*

1:30 – 1:35 (5 min)	<b>Call to Order and Introductions</b>	Jim Broman, Co-Chair
1:35 – 1:40 (5 min)	<b>Approval of Meeting Minutes</b> <b>Action Item:</b> Approve meeting minutes from April 16, 2009. (section 2) <b>National Emergency Communication Plan Objective:</b> <b>Formal Governance Structure (1.0)</b>	Jim Broman, Co-Chair
1:40 – 2:10 (30 min)	<b>Lead Agency Report</b> <b>Status Report:</b> Update the Committee on the activities and effectiveness of the lead agency. <b>(section 3)</b> <b>National Emergency Communication Plan Objective:</b> <b>Formal Governance Structure (1.0)</b> <b>Disaster Communication Capabilities (7.0)</b>	Alan Komenski, WSP Laura Kingman, WSP Bob Schwent, WSP
2:10 – 2:25 (15 min)	<b>Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grants</b> <b>Status Report:</b> Update on the status of PSIC projects and provide input on the oversight process undertaken by the Military Department in their role as the State Administrative Agency for the PSIC grants. (section 4) <b>National Emergency Communication Plan Objective:</b> <b>Coordinate Federal Activities (2.0)</b>	Don MacSparran, EMD Jennifer Schaal, EMD
2:25 – 2:45 (20 min)	<b>Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Radio over Internet Protocol (RoIP) Project</b> <b>Status Report:</b> Update on the status of the DFW RoIP communication project. (section 5) <b>National Emergency Communication Plan Objective:</b> <b>Standards and emerging Communication Technologies (4.0)</b>	Bruce Bjork, WDFW John McIntosh, WDFW
2:45 – 2:55 (10 min)	<b>Member Update</b> <b>Status Report:</b> Members share information about activities. <b>National Emergency Communication Plan Objective:</b> <b>Formal Governance Structure (1.0)</b>	All
2:55 – 3:30 (5 min)	<b>Meeting Summary and Adjourn</b>  <b>Next Scheduled Meeting</b> June 18, 2009	Jim Broman, Co-Chair

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**State Interoperability Executive Committee**

April 16, 2009 Meeting Minutes  
Department of Information Services  
James R. Larson Forum Building  
605 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE  
Olympia, Washington

**Members Present:**

Lowell Porter (Co-Chair, WTSC)  
Jim Albert (DIS)  
John Batiste (WSP)  
Al Compaan (WASPC)  
Mike Doherty (WSAC)  
Bill Frare (DNR)  
Timothy Lowenberg (MIL)  
Bill Mahoney (WASPC)  
Mike Matlick (State Fire Marshall)  
Jim Mullen (MIL)  
Bob Stewart (AWC)  
Ted Trepanier (DOT)

**Members Absent:**

Jim Broman (Co-Chair, Lacey Fire Chief)  
Jim Fernando (WA Tribes)  
Tom Griffith (WSEMA)

**Roll Call**

Co-Chair Lowell Porter called the meeting to order. A sufficient number of members were present to constitute a quorum.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** A motion was made to approve the February 19, 2009 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Washington State  
Department of Transportation  
Request for Allocation of  
Spectrum**

Terry Miller, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), requested approval for the use of radio frequency spectrum to meet the agency's needs for communications on several upcoming projects.

As background, Mr. Miller provided a summary of the Smart Snow Plow communications support pilot project. He reported that the project supports the North Central Region's efforts to automate the reporting of equipment activity during snow and ice removal. Project engineering, procurement, and installations have been completed. Coverage and operational testing have begun. Initial operations and coverage characteristics have exceeded expectations.

Mr. Miller provided a summary of 10 projects that require State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) approval for the use of new and additional use of spectrum to meet the agency's operational, coverage, and target improvements.

**Motion:** A motion was made to approve WSDOT's request for the use of radio frequency spectrum as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Lead Agency Report**

Alan Komenski, Washington State Patrol (WSP), provided a review of Lead Agency activities. Activities included:

- Participating in cross-border communication efforts.
- Making progress on the National Governors Association Policy Academy activities.
- Developing the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) refresh and update.
- Attending the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) Goals Workshop Meeting.
- Assisting Stevens, Pend Oreille, and Ferry Counties with the kickoff meeting for their 2008 Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) Project.
- Continue working on organizational and administrative activities associated with the Communications Asset Survey Mapping for Washington State users.
- Participating in the Office of Emergency Communications NECP Goals Measurement Workgroup.

### **Legislative Update**

Laura Kingman, WSP, provided a 2009 Legislative session update. She explained that Substitute House Bill 1496 had passed the House and is currently in the House Rules Committee for second reading. The bill would add a representative from a federal agency counterpart, the Urban Area Security Initiative, the Association Public-Safety Communications Officials/National Emergency Number Association, and four state legislators as non-voting members to the SIEC. Ms Kingman also provided a review of a presentation that was provided to the Governor's office, which is available on the SIEC website.

### **Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) Grants**

Jennifer Schaal, Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division (EMD) provided an update on the PSIC grants. She stated the PSIC grant provides funding to states and territories as a one-time formula based. The program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The intent of the program is to assist public safety agencies with equipment acquisition, deployment, and training that enables interoperable communication systems.

Ms. Schaal explained that EMD has contracted with Buford Goff and Associates, Inc., to provide technical assistance and develop and implement a sub-grantee monitoring plan. Monitoring tasks include activities to ensure technical

adherence to the following:

- PSIC grant guidelines;
- PSIC award terms;
- DHS regulations;
- Investment justification milestones;
- Performance targets;
- Interoperability baselines; and
- SCIP goals and objectives.

Specific tasks for the contractor include:

- Meetings with EMD and sub-grantees to review project status and exchange information;
- Review investment justifications and statements of work;
- Review equipment configurations, project schedules, and test plans;
- Review project progress reports;
- Conduct field inspections; and
- Review acceptance testing data.

Ms. Schaal explained that EMD is also working to address issues with the federal environmental planning and historic preservation requirements for grant funded projects. These requirements impact PSIC projects that involve constructing communication towers, physical security enhancements, new construction, renovation, and modifications to buildings and structures that are 50 years old or older. EMD is seeking clarification on the requirements and will provide the Committee with a summary of activities and results at the next SIEC meeting.

### **Member Updates**

John Batiste, WSP, reported that Deputy Chief Paul Beckley is retiring. Assistant Chief David Karnitz will be the new Deputy Chief.

Doug Mah, Department of Information Services, reported that he and Mr. Komenski would be attending the National Conference on Emergency Communications April 22-24, 2009.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned.

## **Lead Agency Report**

Prepared by Alan Komenski, WSP, (360) 705-5371, alan.komenski@wsp.wa.gov

### **Presenters**

Alan Komenski, SIEC Project Manager & Laura Kingman, Outreach and Public Affairs Coordinator

### **Purpose of Appearance**

Provide an update on the status of the interoperability projects and activities.

### **Status**

The SIEC has been briefed previously on the projects below. Updates will provide the current status of those projects and activities:

### **2010 Olympics IWIN/Interoperability**

#### **P25 Pilot Project with the DOJ**

#### **OEC Technical Assistance Projects**

**Interoperable Channel Planning**

**Regional Interoperability Executive Committee Framework Development (HLS Region 9)**

#### **Outreach and Communications**

#### **Cross-border Interoperability Workshop**

#### **FEMA Region X, Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group**

**Interstate Interoperability with Oregon and Idaho**

## Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) Grants

Prepared by Doug Mah, DIS, (360) 902-3574, dougm@dis.wa.gov; and Don MacSparran, EMD, (523) 512-7468, D.MacSparran@emd.wa.gov

### Presenters

Don MacSparran, Emergency Management Division  
Jennifer Schaal, Emergency Management Division

### Purpose of Appearance

Update on the status of Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) projects from the Washington Military Department (WMD) in their role as the State Administrative Agency for the PSIC grants.

### Status

The Emergency Management Division (EMD) of the WMD will provide an update on the sub-grantee monitoring tasks and provide information on anticipated sub-grantee challenges and successes. EMD will also provide an update on efforts to address issues with the federal environmental planning and historic preservation requirements for grant funded projects.

### Background

The WMD is serving as the State Administrative Agency for the PSIC grants and has responsibility for oversight of all projects associated with the PSIC grant. EMD contracted with Buford Goff and Associates, Inc., to provide technical assistance and develop and implement a sub-grantee monitoring plan. Monitoring tasks include activities to ensure technical adherence to the following:

- PSIC grant guidelines;
- PSIC award terms;
- Department of Homeland Security regulations;
- Investment justification milestones;
- Performance targets;
- Interoperability baselines; and
- Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan goals and objectives.

Specific tasks for the contractor include:

- Meetings with EMD and sub-grantees to review project status and exchange information;
- Review investment justifications and statements of work;
- Review equipment configurations, project schedules, and test plans;
- Review project progress reports;
- Conduct field inspections; and
- Review acceptance testing data.

The PSIC grant provides funding to states and territories as a one-time formula based, matching grant program. The PSIC program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The intent of the program is to assist public safety agencies with equipment acquisition, deployment, and training that enables interoperable communication systems.

PSIC funded projects include:

- Homeland Security Regions 1 and 2 Interoperability projects- \$7,378,500
- Spokane-Kootenai Regional Emergency Communications System- \$1,919,800
- Pierce County Interoperable Multi-Jurisdictional, Multi-Discipline Radio Network- \$2,313,115

- King County South Loop Microwave - \$1,935,995
- Puget Sound Next-Generation Voice/Data System—Urban Area Security Initiative- \$3,417,274
- Puget Sound Next-Generation Voice/Data System—Thurston County- \$1,620,253

**DIS/SIEC Staff Recommendation to the Committee**

Staff recommends SIEC review the EMD monitoring report and provide input on the oversight process.

**Previous Appearances Before the Committee**

April 16, 2009: The SIEC received status progress reports and an update from EMD regarding the proposed PSIC sub-grantee monitoring plan.

February 18, 2009: The SIEC received status progress reports from PSIC sub-grantees.

October 16, 2008: The SIEC received status progress reports from PSIC sub-grantees.

August 21, 2008: The SIEC received a briefing on the status of the overall grant activities and the anticipated reporting requirements.

## **Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Radio over Internet Protocol (RoIP) project**

Prepared by Doug Mah, DIS/MOSTD, (360) 902-3574, dougm@dis.wa.gov and Lieutenant John McIntosh, WDFW, (360) 902-2346, John.McIntosh@dfw.wa.gov

### **Presenters**

Chief Bruce Bjork, DFW  
Lt. John McIntosh, DFW

### **Purpose of Appearance**

Receive an update on the status of the DFW Radio over Internet Protocol (RoIP) communication project.

### **Status**

DFW is in the process of deploying and implementing a pilot project RoIP solution to connect VHF radio base stations at Regional Offices in Vancouver and spoke with the Department's new "WILDCOMM" Statewide Radio Dispatch Center located in the Natural Resources Building in Olympia. The RoIP solution utilizes existing state investments and customized software provided by the Department's system integrator vendor, National Interop and Twisted Pair Solutions. As of June 2, 2009 the department and vendor are on schedule to have the first phase of the system deployed and tested by June 30, 2009. The first phase includes the successful testing and operation of a base radio station in Vancouver and Spokane and should be online soon.

WDFW's RoIP system uses remotely controlled base stations to transmit and receive radio messages through the data network to WILDCOMM on the DNR's VHF "State Channel Repeater Network". When fully built out, the WILDCOMM/RoIP System should have 80 to 85 percent dispatch radio coverage of the state.

### **Background**

DFW identified an operational requirement to enable field communications between WILDCOMM and DFW Officers and other department staff across the state. Traditional investments in microwave technology controlling fixed mountaintop radio infrastructure were identified as cost prohibitive by the department. This fact, coupled with a lack of radio licensed spectrum and virtually no infrastructure made RoIP and partnering with the DNR radio system the only viable options. The department elected to pursue on a limited basis RoIP technology and solutions to meet operational requirements. As part of the deployment DFW will examine and assess the following areas:

- System reliability and expectations;
- Ability to meet operational requirements;
- Assess compatibility requirements;
- Identify financial constraints and constraints on the ability of DFW and DIS computer and network support staff to effectively support RoIP projects.

### **DIS/SIEC Staff Recommendations to the Committee**

Staff recommends that the SIEC continue to monitor and receive regular updates regarding the performance, operational, and financial impacts of the DFW RoIP project. Updates should be provided as part of an ongoing effort to assess the viability of future RoIP investments.

**Previous Agency Appearances Before the Committee**

None.