

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Public Safety Interoperability Communications Committee
MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2009
DOIT, 101 East River Drive, East Hartford, CT 06108

Welcome & Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 1303 hours by Co-Chair Michael Varney. The following individuals were in attendance: Stephan Brown (DOT/Bradley), David Coyle (CSP), Robert DiBella (Glastonbury), Sandra Baker (DEMHS), Jim Farkas (Region 5), Brian Fernandez (Red Cross), John Gustafson (DEMHS), William Hackett (DEMHS), John Masciadrelli (OSET), Jeffrey Merwin (Region 1), Philip Mikan (USCG), Jeff Otto (Region 4), Gerald Sakalouski (DOC), Joe Salmeri (DPS), Dan Soule (LCD), Matt Valteau (CAP/DPS), Michael Varney (DOIT), Stephen Verbil (OSET), Keith Victor (Region 3), Ed Wilds (DEP), Jerry Zarwanski (OSET), Paul Zito (DPS), Len Lucien (CT Transit), Mark Matson (DPS), Tim Dibiasi (DOC), George Pohorilak (DPS), Bill Callion (Stamford), Kerry Flaherty (Stamford), Frank Kiernan (Meriden), Peter Matos (DEMHS), Daniel Warzoha (Greenwich), Joseph Soto (CT EMS Advisory Board), and Bob Davis (Verizon Wireless)

Public Comment:

Bob Davis reminded meeting participants of the invitation to attend a Verizon Data Symposium on November 12, 2009 at the Courtyard Marriott in Wallingford.

Review of Minutes:

Motion to accept meeting notes of September 15, 2009 - first by Keith Victor; seconded by Jeff Merwin; motion unanimously approved.

PSIC Grant Update:

IJ1 – Report provided by Stephen Verbil and Mike Varney - There are no changes to report on the procurement process. The grant performance period extension from October 2010 to October 2011 is being considered. Committee members will be informed if approved. Project plans remain the same; on schedule for October 2010 for existing PSIC Grant. Public Safety Data Network site visits should be completed in November. Schedule is on-time to have network up this spring; winter of 2010 & 2011 accepting system.

State Broadband committee has filed an application for Federal stimulus money to fund a statewide broadband network. If this is successful Phase 2 of PSDN will be funded from it. Results of this proposal should be known by the end of the year.

IJ2 – Report given by John Gustafson - Preparation for procurement of mobile communications vehicles and Strategic Technical Reserve proceeding. DEMHS is preparing to hire a consultant to help with this process.

IJ3 – Report given by John Gustafson - Several sustainment costs have been applied to IJ3 (maintenance of ICALL/ITAC portables and control stations, maintenance of STOCs CBR units, maintenance and recurring service on the mobile EOC). Funds have been identified to give embedded communications capability to special service units, USAR, Regional Hazmat Teams and SWAT/ESU Units upgrading and replacement of equipment operated by regional emergency communications systems. Special attention will be paid to regional needs to meet the FCC's 2013 narrow banding mandate. John also commented on the need for regions to identify a method of funding the sustainment of regional systems they have developed over the past years with Federal Grant funds.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- a. Technical Workgroup – No Report
- b. Training & Exercise Workgroup – No Report
- c. 700 MHz Planning Workgroup – The workgroup met on 10/13/09. CTS reviewed plans. Committee recommended UASI plan be sent to R19. Full body committee needed to review and approve Stamford's request. Co-chair moved discussion regarding Stamford's application to new business.
- d. 4.9 GHz Workgroup – No Report

Report of Interoperability Usage and incidents during previous months:

There were 4 activations for the month of September – 9/2/09 Monroe Police Department – ITAC 4 for a warrant execution; 9/7/09 New Haven Police Dept – ITAC 3 for radio back up during a road race and multiple alarm fire; 9/12/09 CSP 2106 – ITAC 3 to support a drill; 9/28/09 Greenwich Public Safety – ITAC 1 and ITAC 4 for radio back up during relocation of communications center. 9 ITAC tests were conducted during this period.

Old Business:

- a. Transit Security Grant – Purchase orders were released for procurement of portables.
- b. Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – No report
- c. CSPERN System – 200 units deployed; received another 200 units; expect all 800 units to be deployed by early 2010. Paul Zito recommended providing SOPs for using CSPERN when distributing radios. John Gustafson advised the committee that DEMHS and the Police Chiefs Association will review and revise the SOPs. STOCs deployment briefing was given by John Gustafson – 62 boxes deployed; 42 boxes to be deployed; Phases 1 and 2 are complete; boxes on reserve for Regional Incident Management Team.

Regional Reports:

Region 1 (Jeff Merwin) – Region 1 Chair is stepping down and a replacement is being sought. The sitting Vice Chair will assist with the transition.

Region 2 (Gregg Prevost) – Vice Chair provided Regional update. Region 2 TIC Plan dates changed to November 5 & 6.

Region 3 (Keith Victor) – Reported on Regional Emergency Support Plan and the Bradley drill participation.

Region 4 (Jeff Otto) – Region is working on the list of vendors for its project; continuing work on TIC Plan; due to retirement there has been a change in REPT Vice Chair.

Region 5 (Jim Farkas) – Work in progress.

New Business:

a. Presentation for review and action by DPS of DEMHS Region 1 UASI 700 MHz application: Region 1 application was endorsed by full committee to send to Region 19. Motion made to send application to Region 19, first by Keith Victor; seconded by Jeff Merwin; unanimously approved. A letter will be drafted to move the motion.

b. Presentation for review and action of City of Stamford 700 MHz application: Kerry Flaherty gave a presentation on Stamford's application process. Jerry Zarwanski provided information on what is acceptable based on Region 19 requirements. Kerry Flaherty submitted a coverage map to John Gustafson and will update the original request to meet application requirements. Changes will be submitted as required by 700 MHz workgroup. Mike Varney asked would it be appropriate to move the application along based on the additional information provided. Stephen Verbil answered yes, and that all issues have been addressed and requirements met.

A motion was made to move Stamford's application to Region 19; first by Jeff Otto; seconded by Keith Victor; unanimously approved.

Issue of Licensing State Allocated Channels:

Mike Varney and Bernie O'Donnell will call a meeting of state agencies. The project should take 6–9 months to complete. Mike Varney will report on the status as the process moves along.

RECWEG Meeting:

Mike Varney and Stephen Verbil briefed the committee on the meeting that was held in Maine. States went through their plans and discussed their active projects. The next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2010 in Maynard, MA. Formal governance and by-laws are scheduled to be adopted at the next meeting.

Correspondence/Grant Reviews: Nothing to Report

Interoperability Grant Approvals:

Region 1 Portable Radio Cache – Approval obtained to buy batteries and chargers for radios.

Next Meeting: November 17, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 14:05 p.m.