

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Public Safety Interoperability Communications Committee
MEETING MINUTES
November 17, 2009
DOIT, 101 East River Drive, East Hartford, CT 06108

Welcome & Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 1306 hours by Co-Chair William J. Hackett. The following individuals were in attendance: Robert DiBella (Glastonbury), Sandra Baker (DEMHS), Jim Farkas (Region 5), John Gustafson (DEMHS), William Hackett (DEMHS), John Masciadrelli (OSET), Jeffrey Merwin (Region 1), Jeff Otto (Region 4), Gregg Prevost (Region 2), Dan Soule (LCD), Nick Varanelli (DEP), Michael Varney (DOIT), Stephen Verbil (OSET), Keith Victor (Region 3), John Warren (Military), Kris Wohlgemugh (DOIT), Paul Zito (DPS), Len Lucien (CT Transit), Kitty Ing (Verizon Business), Robert Scata (DEMHS), Frank Kiernan (Meriden), Joseph Soto (CT EMS Advisory Board), Bob Davis (Verizon Wireless), and Jerry Zarwanski(OSET)

Public Comment:

None

Review of Minutes:

Motion to accept meeting notes of October 20, 2009 - first by Keith Victor; seconded by Gregg Prevost; motion unanimously approved.

PSIC Grant Update:

Mike Varney reported that a meeting was held with DOIT, DEMHS and DPS Commissioners to discuss SCIP Plan progress. An agreement was made to have ongoing communications and coordination. Key interoperability project leads will meet on a monthly basis. First meeting conducted last week. Meeting notes will be distributed when finalized. DOIT conducts monthly project review meetings for state and non-state projects. All interoperability projects will be coordinated in order to provide quarterly briefings to include Commissioners. PSIC performance period has been extended one year by the federal government. Will continue to keep project on schedule and anticipate being done in a year.

IJ1 – Report provided by Stephen Verbil - Final billing and materials received for P25 System Controller. Finalizing funding and confident that timelines required will be met.

IJ2 – Report given by John Gustafson – DEMHS is approved to hire a consultant to assist with procurement of the Mobile Communications Vehicles and STR. The consultant will also assist with FCC license issues.

IJ3 – Basic budget established. Funds tentatively allocated to provide embedded communications for special service units (SWAT/ESU, Hazmat and USAR) and to assist regional systems with equipment needs focusing on narrow band compliance.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- a. Technical Workgroup – No Report
- b. Training & Exercise Workgroup – No Report
- c. 700 MHz Planning Workgroup – Region 19 meeting December 8th @ 10:00 a.m. in Concord, NH. A meeting agenda will be sent out to the Interoperability Committee.
- d. 4.9 GHz Workgroup – No Report

Report of Interoperability Usage and incidents during previous months:

During the month of October there were no ITAC activations completed by the Communications Center; 5 ITAC tests were conducted. Greg Prevost reported that the CSPERN System was used for a multi-jurisdictional pursuit and everything worked well.

Old Business:

- a. Transit Security Grant – PC-1s processed. Purchase orders pending. Portables ordered and received. Considering adding Regional 800 MHz channels. Channelization plan to be developed by DEMHS and DPS/CTS.
- b. Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – TIC Plan for Region 2 complete. All five regional plans should be done by the end of the year. DEMHS will use State IECGP funds to bring CASM training to the State. More details to follow in coming weeks.
- c. CSPERN System – 376 radios deployed. 727 requests received. Project working well. Master list will be sent to committee.
- d. STOCS Deployment – 66 deployed. Final allocations will be reviewed with regional ESF 2 groups and DEMHS Regional Coordinators.

Regional Reports:

Region 1 (Jeff Merwin) – ESF2 meeting will be held on 11/18/09 to discuss 2009/2010 funding.

Region 2 (Gregg Prevost) – Held a TIC Plan meeting. Draft plan should be done mid January.

Region 3 (Keith Victor) – Provided brief on receipt of UHF Hazmat Channels and interoperability classes conducted in West Hartford.

Region 4 (Jeff Otto) – Region is making a final decision on the vendor selected for its project. Decision expected the first week of December. Work is continuing on the TIC Plan.

Region 5 (Jim Farkas) – Region is continuing to meet monthly; finalizing spending; supplying towns with ITAC/ICALL chargers and creating a basic 20 minute video for new CEOs.

New Business:

a. Presentation on status of Public Safety Data Network (Gerry Werner/Steve Verbil):

Gerry Werner, DOIT Consultant presented an update on the Public Safety Data Network (PSDN); outlining the project details and progress to date. Installation is expected to begin in early 2010.

b. Presentation of STOCS Training Video (John Gustafson):

Bob Scata and Gary Ruggiero, DEMHS Training Division, presented a 16 minute video on the operation of the STOCS Cross Band Repeater units. This video was developed to allow providers a tool to quickly train their personnel. The video will be included with all STOCS deployments and posted on the DEMHS Web Page for on-line training use.

Correspondence/Grant Reviews:

1. Statewide Interoperability Coordinators Newsletter
2. SWIC meeting invitation (Mike Varney will attend)

Interoperability Grant Approvals:

Source of Funding Approved: Town of Vernon - portable radios and control station (EMPG); Town of Granby - mobile radios (EMPG); State Capitol Police – portable radios (State HSGP)

Next Meeting: December 15, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.