

## Shared Radio Resource Working Group (SRRWG) Activities

Prepared by Michael Marusich, Sr. Program Manager, [michael.marusich@ocio.wa.gov](mailto:michael.marusich@ocio.wa.gov)

### Presenter(s)

Alex Alben – State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC), Chair  
Michael Marusich – SRRWG Program Lead / OCIO Sr. Program Manager

### Purpose of Appearance

Provide background and update on recent SRRWG activities that impact Washington state agency interoperable public safety communications, proposed procurement and Investment authorization policies, and other activities of significance.

### Background

Recent state agency radio expansion and replacement projects were cause for legislative inquiries regarding the processes, procedures, and policies governing the justification and procurement of state agency wireless communication systems. Additional concerns and inquiry focused on the need for the sharing, reuse, and improved level of interoperability among state agency radio operations.

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) appointed a multiagency subcommittee – the Shared Radio Resource Working Group (SRRWG), to review existing state agency radio procurement best practices, procedures, and policies, and to make recommendations for increasing radio infrastructure sharing and improving interoperability between state agencies through the development and adoption of new or revised policies, standards, and recommended best practices. Additional consideration was to be given to the identification of policies and procedures that allow state agencies to develop “partnering” opportunities with regional, county, and local government entities; thereby reducing radio system procurement costs or improving interoperability through shared radio system investments / use and spectrum sharing.

The initial SRRWG member composition consisted of representatives from the following agencies / divisions:

- Office of the Chief Information Officer
- State Interoperability Executive Committee
- OCIO – IT Project Oversight Consultants
- Washington State Department of Transportation
- Washington Department of Corrections
- Washington State Patrol
- Washington OneNet

### Status

#### SRRWG Status

The SRRWG met on five separate occasions from 2017 through 2018 to review and discuss prior and pending radio system procurements, assess the effectiveness and outcomes of existing procurement processes and governing policies, and to identify and draft state agency procurement authorization / approval guidelines and their governing policy.

The OCIO Policy Office was engaged to document and draft the Radio Frequency (RF) Procurement Standard and Policy, as well as flowcharts identifying the process flow. A dictionary of unique and applicable RF terms and acronyms was also developed.

Additional state agencies were added to the SRRWG to expand participation and garner additional input and feedback regarding state agency radio system sharing, enhancing interoperability, and to identify additional best practices for the repurposing, reuse or reassignment of state agency radio equipment. New member agencies include the following:

- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Office of the Attorney General

Additional member agencies will be added or consulted as SRRWG participation or assigned responsibilities require, as well as to promote improved interoperability and the education, adoption, and compliance with final RF procurement / investment policies, standards, and established best practices.

#### RF Procurement Policy Status

Draft RF Procurement Standards and Policies, and their supportive documentation, were presented to the SIEC Advisory Workgroup (SAW) for external review. Recommended edits were incorporated. The revised policies were presented to the SAW and approved for presentation to the SIEC with a recommendation for approval to proceed with formalization of the policies.

During the February 2018 SIEC meeting, the initial RF Procurement Policies were presented and unanimously approved for further governance processing. The policies are currently under review and revision within the OCIO Policy office. Any Policy Office recommended edits will be incorporated and, upon approval, the RF Procurement Policies will be scheduled for presentation to the TSB for review and approval. Final / revised policy documentation is anticipated to be in TSB presentable format within 30 days.

#### **SIEC Strategies**

The Committee and staff continue to monitor and pursue an over-arching objective to identify and address policies and best practices that enhance interoperable communications within and among all government entities in Washington, as well as encourage and support the continued review of such policies and best practices to continually improve state / local cooperative system deployments.

Additional efforts will focus on the need for state agencies to design and deploy state agency licensed spectrum to meet interoperability data and voice requirements, from the start and to enable priority public safety communications roaming on public and commercial networks when required. As part of the approach, the will SIEC continue to focus on the following strategies:

- Leverage SIEC members, existing relationships, and other governing bodies to plan for shared decisions and use of current and future spectrum licenses and uses;
- Gain and retain state and local public sector control of available state and public safety spectrum allocations;
- Determine the parameters and shared goals for future public-public relationships to construct and maintain the use of allocated state, shared and/or interoperable spectrum; and,
- Advocate and support efforts to secure federal and state funding to construct and maintain interoperable communications networks.

#### **Previous Appearances before the Technical Services Board**

None