



State Interoperability Executive Committee Minutes

August 20, 2020

1:30 – 2:45 pm
Virtual Only via WebEx

1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees:

Robert Connal (Chair/WaTech)	Comm. Bobby Jackson (WSAC)	Angela Knight (OCIO)
Spencer Bahner (City of Seattle)	Scott Loerts (LNI)	Cece Zenker (OCIO)
Chief John Batiste (WSP)	Anton Damm for Chuck Turley (DNR)	
Sheriff Blakeslee (WASPC)	Robert Ezelle (MIL)	
Keith Flewelling (APCO-NENA)	Jose Zuniga (DOC)	
Mayor Jennifer Gregerson	Crystal Hottowe (ATNI)	
Captain Phillip Johnson (DNR)	Charles LeBlanc (WSP/FPB)	

Review of June 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Approve June 18, 2020, meeting minutes with no corrections. This motion was moved, seconded and carried. Effective date August 20, 2020.

2. NEWS AND INFORMATION ROUNDTABLE

Zuniga (DOC) – Jose informed the committee that the SAW group will be meeting next Tuesday to update the state SCIP markers. Once the updates are complete, Jose will send them to the SIEC committee for review and approval to amend a particular portion of the SCIP. Jose extended thanks to the Military Dept. for their work on the Field Operations Guide first draft review which has been received by the committee. This amendment is on track and will be finalized in December 2020. DOC is moving forward with the installation of a radio system upgrade for the Olympic Correction Center. Jose thanks the SIEC for their approval. The installation should be complete in the next sixty days. Also, Jose Zuniga will be leaving SIEC on March 1, 2021. He will be looking for a replacement for a lead on the SIEC Work (SAW) Group which functions as the state Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC).

Ezelle (MIL) – Reported major news. As of the end of July the carrier cut over on the next generation ESI net has been completed. He also mentions the state 911 office and the massive amount of work they attributed and the community partners as well in seeing the project through so that all 911 calls are currently routing over the contact network and no longer using Century Link. This project has been a huge success. Robert thanked all efforts that made this possible. The team is now working on lessons learned. Robert also mentioned that COVID-19 has kept his team busy and they found that their early decision to migrate their operations to the Cloud was beneficial because it facilitated the ability of the team to remote work and others to connect with them entirely through the Cloud although they did experience some challenges with their Legacy Command Control System. However, they will determine what needs to be done to bring this into the 21st Century. Robert thanks their IT Team and those at WaTech who made this possible.

Bahner (Seattle) – Spencer reported on the technical detail of communications discovery during their ongoing protest incidents in regard to both lawful and those that displayed destructive behavior are savvy at monitoring radio communications. Once the level of monitoring was clear to Law Enforcement a decision was made to move over to some of the encrypted radio channel resources. This deterred the monitor’s knowledge of Law Enforcement’s intended next move. The need for encryption resources regionally is necessary. This will be a part of the program within King County and Regional partners local & state. There will be more use of encryption as we move into the P-25 environment as a part of the PACER project.

Blakeslee (WASPC) – Reported that they will be upgrading their microwave system on their radios. This upgrade will connect the I-5 corridor from Snohomish to Thurston County. They are currently looking for funding to replace the system.

Anton Damm for Turley (DNR) – Reported that Chuck Turley can’t be with us today & is participating in a multiagency coordination in Portland OR as our region is at the preparedness level 4. 5 is the max level nationally for wildfire preparedness. The Governor declared a fire emergency and as of yesterday there were over four-hundred communication technicians and leaders deployed. The National Guard is standing by to assist. Lastly, there was a COVID-19 scare in Boise ID which led to no access to tens of thousands of radios for approximate one week. They are currently back online. However, this made them reflect that the communication resources should be spread out and not all in one location.

Connal (Chair/WaTech) – Reminded the members to share ideas for future agenda topics. Robert shared that he is interested in what is happening on the Federal level, Legislative updates, relative and timely information in regard to frequencies for public safety to advocate them & SIEC. Robert noted PowerPoint information from the prior SIEC meeting that indicated that private vendors are lobbying to further degrading set aside frequencies for public safety. Anton volunteered to provide briefings from the National Association of State Foresters on the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council that help steer the FCC towards Public Safety. This can help aid to make sure that our federal representatives are informed. It’s agreed that keeping an eye on the latest trends and technology is important.

Flewelling (APCO-NENA) - interested in a rolling agenda item during the legislative session on any public safety legislation submitted by any of the SIEC member associations and how we can support those initiatives.

Alicia King offered to share updates from the Federal Emergency Communications Interoperability Committee meetings as a part of a DHS workgroup she supports.

3. 2021-23 BUDGET DECISION PACKAGES – WSP

Per Chapter 10 of the 2021-23 Budget Instructions, agencies must receive written approval from the SIEC before beginning any significant investment in radio, Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP) or public safety communication systems development, enhancement or acquisition. WSP presented four decision packages, were reviewed and approved during the meeting:

- **C-3 Mobile and Portable Radio Standardized Technology Replacement (Policy-level):** Replace mobile and portable land mobile radios (LMR) with the next generation of Motorola APX-series radios, the APX-8000 (portable) and APX-8500 (mobile).
- **A2 – Land Mobile Radio System Upgrade Program (Maintenance-level):** Maintenance-level request for continued funding to maintain the LMR system upgrade agreement through the full term of six-years (2026).

- **A3 – Communications Infrastructure Maintenance (Maintenance-level):** Maintenance-level request to continue replacement of the microwave and LMR radios, as well as to complete replacements of failing site batteries.
- **C4 – Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System Strategic Plan (Policy-level):** Funding to engage an engineering firm in order to incorporate recommendations and observations from the 2018 WSP LMR system engineering study and develop a long-term (10-12 year) strategic plan for the radio system. Additionally, this proposal will establish a strategy to achieve the minimum radio coverage standards documented in the engineering study and assessment.

4. GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Kristi Wilde - FirstNet Authority, the board made a reinvestment decision as a result of data collected during 2019 that will be preparing the core for 5G – phase 1 and increasing coverage of the deployable fleet. For 2020, continuing to gather data to identify trends, common challenges and promising technologies. New board chair is Tip Osterhaler. Vice Chair, Sherriff Stanick’s term is also ending, but no replacement yet. FirstNet is sponsoring a series of topical webinars. Kristi will share the information through Adam Wasserman.
- Ryan Carroll – FirstNet in Washington. Highlighted a few recent deployable requests – Colville Tribe in mid-April for pop-up cellular coverage; in July Tonasket fire in Okanogan County, Glenwood, WA and Mansfield, WA; August Indian Creek fire requested by WA DNR; FirstNet customers can request these deployables for no charge.
- Spencer Bahner – City of Seattle. Kudos to AT&T/FirstNet for quickly setting up an in-building solution to support two precincts sharing one location for a period of time. Asked about rural FirstNet coverage progress. Ryan indicated they are about 80% complete on improving rural coverage.
- Bob Fletcher (Verizon) – would like to do a presentation at the next meeting to touch base on trends, 5G, public safety and spectrum allocation.
- Larsen (Motorola) – would be happy to present their trends in the industry; looking for feedback on changes state would like to see; will pass on any federal legislation information.
- Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Next SIEC Meeting:

October 15, 2020

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Virtual only via WebEx