



# Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) Subcommittee Meeting Notes

10/18/2018

10:30am-11:30am

Helen Sommers Bldg., Olympia WA

Conference Rm 4022

## **Attendees:**

Tom Wallace (WSP), Chair

Bob Schwent, WSP

Steve Noel, Ofc of Emergency Communications

David Mendel, King County

Spencer Bahner, City of Seattle

Chris Lombard, Seattle Fire Dept

Shelley Westall, Office of the CIO

Jose Zuniga, DOC

Tim McDowell, WSDOT

Angela Knight, Office of the CIO

## **Meeting Agenda:**

Introductions

SWIC Subcommittee Expectations

SIEC Governance Subcommittee

SWIC Job Responsibilities

- DHS Expectations
- Current Responsibilities
- State Expectations

SWIC Relationship to the SIEC

Next Steps

- Other State's Experience

## **Introduction:**

Tom appreciates everyone's time on this subcommittee. Good mix of agencies. DHS instrumental in creating program for the states. Bob Schwent is part time SWIC. Not a sustainable model. DHS recommendations, other states swic program. SIEC looking for actionable recommendations to make change.

Shelley briefed the group on a recent legislatively mandated Zero-Based Budget Review for CTS/WaTech of the agency's services, conducted by Gartner. One of the key recommendations from that review is for the OneNet Program, currently housed within the Office of the State CIO, to move to MIL. MIL submitted a budget request for funding to take the program.

Chris Lombard shared he is seeing a lot of things that may be convenient for the state that aren't necessarily good for first responder community. The work of these two subcommittees may help better inform decision-makers.

**SWIC Subcommittee Expectations:**

Subcommittee will evaluate the role and responsibilities of the SWIC and offer recommendations to the SIEC on future direction of the position. The mission is to:

- Evaluate current responsibilities as compared to federal and state expectations for the position
- Determine a relevant and realistic full-time position description
- Identify a sustainable funding strategy for the position
- Make actionable recommendations to the SIEC on the future direction of the SWIC in Washington State

Also part of NGA Workshop in Portland and recommended through the Governor's office.

Funding mechanism most challenging.

Will be reporting results to the Governor's office.

Will also reach out to other states.

**SIEC Governance Subcommittee:**

Connie Michener is Chair.

Surveying other states about their program structure.

Robert Ezelle will give an update at this afternoon's SIEC meeting.

CA SWIC is presenting to SIEC today.

Steve will find out if he has some information about another state's full-time SWIC.

**SWIC Job Responsibilities:**

Steve reviewed DHS Expectations – NECT. Use the SWIC to implement the goals in the SCIPP. Support interop voice, 700 mhz and align, mobile data. How do you get everyone on same page?

Grant guidance – all DHS grants must designate a SWIC in the state. SAA must certify with the SWIC for interoperability plans.

Most SWICs are not full time.

Fully funded, authority to carry out duties.

SWIC can be seen as a resource for all entities in the state, not just state agencies.

Resource as technical assistance, like engineering studies, associated with a current goal in the state interoperability plan. Ex: field frequency guide?

SWIC would leverage technicians throughout the state on behalf of SIEC.

Seven technicians currently in WA State.

Two meetings a year. National organization.

Major challenge is funding.

SWIC to be primary staff to SIEC, not chair. Leverage local govt groups and associations.

Chris – we are not unique, other states are facing same issues of no full time SWIC.

- Crossover between two subcommittees – how does SWIC govern change from where it is today?
- More connection with the Governor's office.
- SIEC past functions vs current functions. Strengthen the role of SIEC. SAW and SWIC informs the SIEC to have better conversations.
- Tom wants to see Chief Batiste, TAG back at the table.

Steve - SCIP 2.0, Information Technology ?? (ITSL) course in 2019 for training for an ICS environment.

Chris – grants reducing but need is rising.

We are also unique with our geography. Keep collaboration with major metro areas such as Seattle.

Current Responsibilities:

Bob - COMU wkg grp for COML, COMT

- Tech asst.
- SCIP
- TA requests
- Regional interop
- State preparedness rpt for 5 yrs
- FEMA in regional wkgrps
- Cascadia exercise in 2 yrs
- 700/800 regional work

Bob will send more complete list.

From state perspective, how do we prioritize to capture what's most important?

What is target for being done? Based on legislative cycle, by mid-year 2019, for funding request in supplemental.

Are there examples of funding requests from other states for swic?

Any data on effectiveness on part-time vs full time SWIC? Steve will research.

How are SWICs used in real world situations? How did swic affect outcome?

Jose – in order to elevate authority for swic/siec, need to be under sr policy

What is the SWIC authority? Should SWIC chair the SAW?

Next Steps:

Monthly meetings going forward. Tom will schedule.