

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Public Safety Interoperability Communications Committee
MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2010
DOIT, 101 East River Drive, East Hartford, CT 06108

Welcome & Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 1302 hours by Co-Chair Michael Varney. The following individuals were in attendance: Stephan Brown (DOT/Bradley), George Carbonnel (East Hartford), Robert DiBella (Glastonbury), Joseph Gaudett, City of Bridgeport, Sandra Baker (DEMHS), John Gustafson (DEMHS), John Masciadrelli (OSET), Phil Mikan (USCG), Jeff Otto (Region 4), Gregg Prevost (Region 2), Gerald Sakalouski (DOC), Joe Salmeri (DPS), Dan Soule (LCD), Michael Varney (DOIT), Keith Victor (Region 3), Kris Wohlgemugh (DOIT), Jerry Zarwanski (OSET), Paul Zito (DPS), Joseph Soto (EMS Advisory Board), Jonathan Best (CT DPH), David Victor (North Central C-MED), Richard Stubbs (Red Cross), Brandon O'Dell (Verizon Wireless), Andi Celli (Motorola), Frank Kiernan (Meriden), Tim Dibiasi (DOC), and Chris Marvin (CREPC).

Public Comment: None

Review of Minutes:

Motion to accept meeting notes of December 15, 2009 - first by Gregg Prevost, seconded by Keith Victor; motion unanimously approved.

PSIC Grant Update:

A spreadsheet will be developed to show all projects. Draft will go out later this month.

1st phase of PSIC Grant is on schedule. PSAPs will be contacted regarding coordination of equipment.

The broadband grant was denied from NTIA. DOIT will be resubmitting application for round two of the broadband stimulus money installation.

John Gustafson gave an update on Mobile Communications Vehicles. A workgroup meeting was held to finalize the list of equipment to be included in the vehicles. Sent a request to 5 vendors and will begin meetings in April with vendors.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- a. Technical Workgroup – Draft Standards for MED Radios for EMS Units discussed. Project will be presented to Advisory Board. The draft will be sent to the Department of Public Health and the Connecticut EMS Advisory Board for review and comment. It is expected that a final vote on the standard will take place at the April or May meeting.

- b. Training & Exercise Workgroup – During the SCIP Plan update workshop in January, education outreach was discussed. A meeting to further discuss this issue will immediately follow today's meeting.

IECGP Grant allocated expenses for 1st year to non-conference specific to interoperability communications. Plan to schedule workshop mid-June in lieu of the June meeting. The grant must be used by the end of August. A program would be put in place June 15. If anyone has specific topics they would like discussed, send an e-mail to Mike Varney.

OEC will be conducting NECP Goal 1 review of both Connecticut UASI's; the venues have been identified in both DEMHS Region 3 and DEMHS Region 1.

- c. 700 MHz Planning Workgroup – No Report
- d. 4.9 GHz Workgroup – No report.
- e. Field Operations Guide (FOG) Workgroup – A guide for CT will be developed. A meeting will be held to discuss the process. The goal is to complete and hand out at the workshop in June. Mike Varney will continue to report on this issue over the next couple of meetings.

Report of Interoperability Usage and incidents during previous months:

During the month of February there were no ITAC activations; 7 tests were conducted. The town of Greenwich lost communications system during the severe weather on March 13, ITAC 4 was used for approximately 7 hours to support Greenwich operations while they brought their system back online. Portables worked with no issues. State Police responded to assist Greenwich through the Police Department.

Old Business:

- a. Transit Security Grant – All Purchase Orders are cut and PC-1s processed. Portable radios were issued. 68 radios pending. Motorola to channel radios. All new equipment will be 700/800 MHz capable. Talk group for transit are portable 700 MHz cable and trunk capable.
- b. Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – 2010 grant guidance went out. There are concerns about the lack of draw down activity and the potential loss of grant funds. Regions need to create a product and use funds for items in SCIP that are not hardware oriented. Funds can be used for training purposes & SOPs. Info will go out to regions to inform of January 15th deadline.
- c. SCIP Plan Workshop Results – Workshop results was sent out to the Committee. Training and Exercises was the biggest component. Feedback was good. Mike Varney will provide a copy if needed.
- d. STOCS Deployment – Proposed Phase 3 allocations have been distributed for review by regional ESF 2 groups and DEMHS Regional Coordinators.

Regional Reports:

Region 1 – Joe Gaudett provided an update for Region 1.

Region 2 (Gregg Prevost) – No Report

Region 3 (Keith Victor) – Provided update on IECP 08/09 funds. Completed interviews for hiring a contractor to work on TIC Plan. An all day regional exercise is scheduled for April 6th. There is a new RCC in Manchester. A system test will be conducted for Region 5 – Winsted.

Region 4 (Jeff Otto) – Interoperability Network meeting scheduled to discuss installation/wiring.

Region 5 (Jim Farkas) – No report.

New Business:

- a. 700/800 MHz Channel Scheme – John Gustafson discussed changes to the channel scheme for the ICALL/ITAC Portables. The committee will receive a draft prior to the next meeting. There will be a need to modify existing policy regarding local programming.

Phil Mikan, Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound, addressed the need to have 800 MHz spectrum for the Coast Guard in order to enhance mutual aid ability. Bob DiBella, Glastonbury, EMD, requested that portable charges for 800 MHz radios be considered.

Correspondence/Grant Reviews:

None

Next Meeting: April 20, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.,

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.