

**New Hampshire Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) Meeting**  
**New Hampshire National Guard Training Facility, 722 Riverwood Drive, Pembroke, NH**  
**May 12th, 2017**  
**9:00am**

**I. Welcome and Introduction**

Meeting called to order @ 9:07 AM.

**II. Accepting Minutes from February 3rd, 2017 Meeting**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Chief Sitar from the Tilton/Northfield Fire Department and was seconded by Kurt Blomquist. Carol Miller abstained from the vote, the minutes were approved.

**III. Multi-State/Multi-Jurisdictional Interoperability Table-top Exercise (TTX) – Rick Andreano**

The New Hampshire TTX took place on February 16, 2017 at the Manchester Police Department in Manchester, NH. The TTX included 66 participants from 15 local and state agencies. The After Action Report (AAR), and the improvement plan was discussed. The improvement suggestions will go to the Working Group committees. Known coverage gap areas were discussed, such as along the area of the Merrimack River. The suggestion was made to document these coverage gap areas. Under PSAP and dispatch centers, the suggestion was made to investigate the feasibility of a roll-over plan. Several inconsistencies were identified in relation to common naming conventions. Dispatch to dispatch communication has a high reliance on the public switch phone network. The suggestion was made to update dispatch SOPs to include new communications pathways and technology, as well as determining ways to patch channels for cross-band VTAC talk-groups. Basic radio training was suggested for command staff. The lack of Government Emergency Telephone Services (GETS) access in dispatch centers was identified, as well as the tactical use of simplex channels. Use of proprietary encryption and encryption strength in regard to P25 compliance was also suggested.

John Stevens thanked Rick and the OEC for providing the program through the technical assistance program, which is free of cost to the state. This allowed the state to create a template in response to an emergency incident within the state. The planners were contacted after the AAR was released, and will be invited back to a meeting set for later this fall.

**IV. Senior Executive Management Group – SIEC Chairperson Ernie Petrin**

The charter, which has been a work in progress for the past several months, was put forth for approval by the SIEC. Carol Miller made a motion to accept the charter, Phil Tirrell seconded the motion. The charter was approved.

**V. Working Groups Status Updates:**

- **Frequency Working Group – Chair - Supervisor Tom Andross**

The WG has met twice, on March 15<sup>th</sup> and April 19<sup>th</sup>. Zone-H use has been discussed. There is a google notification list, please notify Tom if you wish to join. The MOU has been finalized for license holders, which they will receive soon. On April 19<sup>th</sup> the WG met with the TERT regional coordinators to discuss regional exercises, and incorporating communications into those exercises. The WG invited radio vendors to a second meeting held that same day, which had a great turnout with over 30 people who attended. They discussed programming issues, naming requests, and radio IDs. Seven radio shops attended, and have committed to meet with the WG again.

- **Operations Working Group – Chair - Chief Mark Doyle**

Work continues on the Zone-H de-confliction, a final draft will be circulated prior to submitting to the SWIC's office. They are working with the google notification list.

- **CommL/CommT Sub-committee – Chair - Supervisor Cecily McNair**

The CommT certification requirements were submitted for approval for the SIEC. A motion to approve was made by Tom Andross, which was seconded by Mark Doyle. The CommT certification requirements were approved.

- **Data Communications/FirstNet Working Group – Chair - Director Carol Miller**

The WG continues to work on evaluating the best option for the state. They are providing each plan equal time and consideration. Priorities for the state include: interoperability, coverage, affordability, and handsets.

John Stevens spoke about the opt-in/opt-out options, and how NH is the only state in the country that has developed an alternative draft plan in order to service the public safety community.

## **VI. FirstNet Presentation – Michael Varney – Region I Coordinator**

The value proposition that FirstNet will provide was conveyed regarding availability, operability, and innovation. The presentation was quickly turned over to AT&T.

## **VII. AT&T Presentation – Jim Bugel – Vice President – Public Safety Solutions & Field Services**

AT&T values the commitment to build the best plan for first responders and residents. NH has led the debate and improved the dialogue about what FirstNet could and should be. A Public Private Partnership has been established between AT&T and FirstNet. There will be a minimum of a \$40 billion investment made nationally over the 25 years. The coverage areas that need to be built will be built over the 5 year and 25 year timeline with tower sites and the use of deployables where needed.

First responders will receive priority on AT&T LTE networks on day 1 of opt-in. During the fourth quarter of 2017 preemption will be available on AT&T's commercial network. Sapient is their application developer. Applications will be developed and tested and then made available to first responders. The latest technology will be available, 5G, etc. Customer care will available 24/7. There will be the ability to request deployables on demand for coverage extension and coverage replacement. Coverage will be deployed in rural and urban areas. One deployable truck will be available to the state.

A question was asked from a representative from the Town of Bristol: Will deployables be set up on a permanent basis? AT&T answered, that the typical use will be temporary. They have hundreds of COLTs/COWs available, as well as a cell-on-wings available on a drone (different sizes available). There is 109-180 MHZ of spectrum in NH available through AT&T.

Carol Milled asked if customers will need to maintain their deployables, and will we need to buy them? AT&T answered that they will work with NH to build out the deployables.

AT&T wants to monetize and make use of state assets. Interoperability with Canada is available. FirstNet will have its own security office, and access to Amazon's government cloud.

Mike Varney spoke about the upcoming SPOC meeting taking place on June 7-8. He also spoke about the state plan timeline with draft state plans due in mid-June with a 45 day review period. FirstNet will review comments in August/September, official plans will be distributed to the governor no later than mid-September. The price will be competitive, and inclusive of priority and preemption. There are financial and market incentives to build a great network.

Phil Tirrell asked what kind of devices will be provided and at what cost? AT&T answered there will be a device eco system which will expand and lead the way with MCPTT, a roadmap from LMR to LTE.

Kurt Blomquist asked during larger events what kind of devices will be available? AT&T answered on LTE they will be the same interface.

Brian Shepperd asked about the governor's plan, and how will NH's input for prioritization for the buildout be incorporated? AT&T answered that there will be a 5 year buildout plan, and will go beyond that 5 year plan to 25+ years.

Break called @ 10:45 AM  
Reconvene @ 10:50 AM

John Stevens let everyone know that the Data Communications WG and his office are available for any questions that anyone may have.

#### **VIII. Rivada Networks Presentation – Chris Moore – Senior Vice President**

John Stevens spoke about the contract signed with Rivada Networks back in September of 2016.

Chris Moore asked whether first responders and the state wanted a dedicated network or a commercial network? Rivada Networks has provided a draft alternative plan that features statewide coverage, little to no cost service, as well as devices. The state is in a much better spot today than the state would have been had an RFP not be issued. Rivada Networks is committed to provide the best plan possible for the state. During Hurricane Katrina all the commercial networks went down, Rivada was called in to deploy a communications network. They are trying to provide first responders with the best tools to accomplish their jobs. The state is driving the narrative for not only for NH but for the rest of the country.

A representative from the Town of Bristol asked how will the consortium match AT&T? Chris answered that Nokia, and Ericson are working with them, and that 8 top Wall Street banks are backing them, the financing is lined up. Once a contract is in place, when the governor decides, Rivada will deploy faster than anybody else.

**IX. General discussion**

Kurt Blomquist asked when can we expect to see products and proposals? John Stevens answered that will occur over next 6 months, and that we can expect a draft state plan in the middle of June.

Carol Miller informed everyone that if they would like to attend the Data Communications WG meetings to let us know. John Stevens informed everyone to notify the Office of Interoperability if they have any questions regarding either of the plans.

**X. Next Meeting**

September 19, 2017

**XI. Adjourn**

Cecily McNair put forward a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Tom Andross @ 11:23 AM.