

November 21, 2006
SIEC Full Council Meeting Report
11:00am-2pm – Office of Justice Assistance

Members Present: Neil Cameron, Larry Nelson, Thomas Czaja, Doug Meier (DNR), David Steingraber, Randy Stark, Sue Riesling, David Collins, Mindy Allen,
Observers: Dave Spenner, Gale Sorum, Carl Guse, Paul Wittkamp, Lara Kenny

11:10 Meeting Called to Order

The meeting notes from September 19, 2006 were approved.

Sub-committee Reports:

1. Operations: Sue Riesling reported for the Operations sub-committee. Their plan is on track to decide on asking for more authority for the SIEC.

Neil Cameron will work with Dave Spenner to draft an operations plan to present to the entire SIEC. The draft will serve to begin a discussion on operations. Neil reported that he researched other states' SIEC plans and there is not much information on the topic of operations.

2. Outreach: Johnnie Smith, the chair of the Outreach sub-committee was absent from the meeting, so there was no formal news. It was noted that this sub-committee may need more members when new members are appointed to the SIEC. Larry Nelson reported that he pitched the SIEC to a group of mayors at a meeting a few weeks ago. He also gave them SIEC brochures. He will do this again at the next League of Municipalities meeting. Dave Steingraber noted that it would be a good idea to reach out to the Wisconsin Counties Association as well.

3. Technical: Tom Czaja reported for the sub-committee. When the technical sub-committee met on October 12, governance was the main topic of discussion. They decided that there needs to be some type of permanence of the SIEC to move forward, so there is some strength behind the technical plan that was passed at the last full council meeting.

Carl reported on behalf of David Collins (he was late to the meeting). He had several handouts. The first one was a one page summary of their last sub-committee meeting. This document had notes about WI-TERT. TERT stands for telecommunications emergency response team and Carl wanted to bring this to the SIEC's attention and then the operations sub-committee could speak with the TERT people about details for the program. Carl will get the operations sub-committee the appropriate contact information for TERT so they can discuss and make recommendations back to the full SIEC for discussion. It will be put on an upcoming agenda, if the operations sub-committee requests to do so. The next issue on the meeting summary document is JPS. Carl also handed out an email document related to this topic but said that council members could disregard it as the information on this document is more current. Carl clarified in response to a question, that this is truly a beta test; this is the first time it will be used in the field. The JPS applies to fixed station, not mobiles and portables. The first sight will be up and running next month. Carl will send an email when demos are available. The impact on the SIEC is that this could reduce costs to SIEC for technology needed to achieve interoperability. This is an interim, economical step to get systems to digital.

Next, Doug Meier discussed the third handout from Carl. Doug wrote this draft letter to address shops that are programming radios for OJA grantees. He said shops are picking what they want to program off the prioritized programming list in the technical plan; they are not following the guidelines laid out by the SIEC. Page C-22 of the Technical Plan is the priority list for re-programming radios. It was decided that OJA will do two things to rectify this problem:

1. OJA will takes steps to special condition C-22 list on future grants.
2. OJA will send out a letter from the SIEC drawing attention to the technical plan specifications, specifically C-22 so that shops are aware this is a prioritized list, not a pick list from them to choose from. The letter will have a link back to the SIEC website so people can see the entire technical plan. The letter will also go to local elected officials so they are aware that this is a condition of grants they are receiving from OJA. The last few items on the summary document for the Technical sub-committee were covered by Carl without any SIEC discussion on them.

Update:

-Gale Sorum posted the Cyren Call letter on September 28, 2006.

-Gale also has a letter drafted in response to Sam Steffan. Greg Engle will polish it and OJA will send it out.

-Neil Cameron said that the Department of Corrections letter is half drafted. He is still researching what other states are doing. He will send it out when it is done.

Working Lunch/Status Report on Short Term Technical Goal and Discuss Future Efforts on Short Term Strategy

Dave Spenner handed out document that had a power point presentation on it. He reviewed the capability statistics (from a WEM 2003 survey) and reported on grant funding from OJA for radios.

Discussion on Legislation for Interoperability Governance

Dave Steingraber summarized the intent to get the SIEC in the budget in order to be established as a stationary entity. All three topics on the agenda were discussed and some criteria were developed to send to the Budget office.

Dave Spenner handed out a document on governance. The 4 page document outlined how the SIEC is designed and had possible designs for how to operate if made into a permanent entity.

Points there were discussed regarding the handout:

-AIC would act more as an advisory council to the SIEC than as a voting house of representatives. The SIEC is still the executive policy making group for state interoperability.

-The definition of "region" was discussed. Sue had some concerns about not using the WEM regions but it was clarified that WEM regions would still be used for SOPs but it would not be a good idea to tell locals who should work together in cases of interoperability. Dave Steingraber said we are building a system of systems and Dave Spenner's model is advocating that without boundaries built into the existing system, it is not practical to tell people who must work together. For example, NEWCOM is in more than one WEM region. Sue suggested that maybe the AICs should be based on WEM regions for governance and then it is up to AIC who they include in their working groups.

-Randy Stark suggested getting rule-making authority so that SIEC can act on policy. This needs to be spelled out in the statutes. Neil Cameron pointed out this is how MABIS was built.

The criteria that the SIEC decided to send on to the Budget Office are the following:

- Expand the size of the SIEC to 17 to ensure including a county and municipal positions.
- Agreed that want to include, via statutory language, that an EMS person and county official be part of the official 15 member allotments in the Governor's mission for SIEC.
- Generic is preferred to specific
- Ruling-making component should be created
- Membership should be staggered in 4 year terms for council members.
- Ensure can adopt by-laws
- “Develop and Implement” should be in Governor's mission, not just “develop”

This will now go to the Budget Office from here. If it is accepted into the budget, OJA may not be able to update the SIEC on status because the budget is embargoed while details are worked out.

Neil Cameron cautioned the SIEC on loading up the council with any one aspect- for example, law enforcement has heavy representation on the council right now. SIEC should make sure that there is a geographic as well as first responder and local officials balance on the council. Again, the EMS and county official were stressed as key.

Future Meetings

Dave Spenner proposed establishing regular quarterly meetings with the option for the Chair to call special meetings if necessary. SIEC members were receptive to this idea.

The quarterly schedule is:

February 13

May 8

August 14

November 13

All meetings will take place at OJA from approximately 11am-2pm.

The next meeting is February 13 and any items that sub-committees want the full council to vote on must be submitted prior to the meeting. The council cannot vote, if the item is not on the agenda.

Meeting adjourned.