

## STATE INTEROPERABILITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010  
OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE  
1 S. PINCKNEY STREET, STE 615  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703  
10:30AM

### MEETING MINUTES

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 10:40 AM

#### ATTENDANCE

- MEMBERS
  - In Person
    - David Collins
    - David Mahoney
    - Rob Rude
    - Ben Schliesman
    - Randy Stark
    - Markley Wahl
    - Steve Hansen
  - VIA TELECONFERENCE
    - Matt Joski
- GUESTS
  - Gene Oldenburg
  - Carl Guse
  - BJ Buss
  - Andy Faust
  - Tim Pierce
  - Paul Wittkamp
  - Kent MacLaughlin
- OJA STAFF
  - David Steingraber
  - Jennifer Lord
  - Dave Spenner
  - Sabrina Fordyce

*Quorum Established*

#### REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MARCH 25, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

- MOTION
  - Motion made by Ben Schliesman to approve March 25, 2010 meeting minutes
  - Motion seconded by David Mahoney
  - Motion carries to approve

#### MUTUAL AID FREQUENCY COORDINATING GROUP REPORT – CARL GUSE

- OVERVIEW
  - MARC and Illinois presentation
    - Potential conflicts with Illinois
      - Don't run private line
      - People in various areas can hear though their radio systems need upgrading
        - Need to be willing to upgrade
        - Tone squelch feature would help
    - Going on for years
  - Pending applications from Racine and Lafayette Counties
    - Racine County has a long standing site
      - Adding a simulcast site
    - Reduce power
    - Find out how to use
    - Protection
  - Alternative would be to change MARC frequencies in the state
    - Would be too expensive
  - Recommendations regarding Mutual Aid Frequency Usage and Plan

- MCG proposes MARC 4 be designated for private entities to use according to a policy
  - Authorizations could be made on a case by case basis or specific requirement or flow-down from county level.
- Could provide a blanket authorization in each county and they approve for flow-down or have MFCG review each individually.
  - Want to establish first approval of the concept before determining how to handle
  - We could also recommend to RECCWG/FEMA Coordinating group similar strategy
  - We will reconsider under new business
- National naming conventions for Interoperability Channels
  - Development process has been going on for quite some time
    - NPSTC has requested FC to adopt naming standard – not adopted yet
  - Recommend that grant funded radios carry all twenty four channels
    - Radios being manufactured today typically have capacity
    - This would not increase cost
    - It is proposed WI adopt national naming and a national interoperability channel zone configuration into our communications plan.
    - We will reconsider under new business
- Mutual Aid Authorization letter presentation
  - Recommendation is to allow approvals to keep at county level
  - We will reconsider under new business
- Narrowband letter presentation
  - Due to postponement of IC meeting in July – OJA used the MFCG recommendations and published narrow banding guidance. This is for information only and no action is needed.

#### **STATEWIDE SYSTEM MANAGEMENT GROUP REPORT – CHAIRMAN MATT JOSKI**

- Sheriff Matt Joski not in attendance and we will consider this item later in the agenda.

#### **UASI NECP GOAL 1 REPORT – GENE OLDENBURD, SE RGN INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATOR**

- Present on behalf of Kurt Drezek
- Basis on congress spending federal money correctly
- Fourteen elements with multiple sub-elements
  - Three categories
  - Quality and continuity
  - NIMS consistent
  - Roles and Response
  - Background – Big Bang Fireworks
    - Tragedy happened
    - Unified command established
    - Participants
    - Dispatch operations
    - Routine event
    - After Action Report Draft
      - ID issues
      - Made recommendations
      - Standards would be worth looking at
      - Passed Goal 1
        - Demonstration could provide capability for routine event
        - Routine planned
        - Incident unexpected
    - Established demonstration
    - Report Recommendations:
      - Update UASI and TICP
      - Plan for unusual incidents
      - Develop ICS form

- Establish single interoperability talk path
- Training needed
- Open Sky had problems
  - Last communication was on the lakefront
  - Establish what to do if radio failure occurs
  - Management problems and state training problems
  - Recommend to provide a LE Communications Handbook
    - Use as a tool
    - Use as a training guide
    - Define system
    - What should happen when radio failure occurs?
    - Provide options
  - Comments on Handbook
    - Good recommendation
    - Value to community from an interoperability standpoint
    - Recommend to DOJ:
      - Use as a platform item to use in curriculum
      - Would help to understand how to solve problems
      - Invite someone from training and standards to next meeting

#### **OJA UPDATE – JENNIFER LORD AND DAVE SPENNER**

- Regional SCIP Implementation Councils
  - Introduced four new member as regional interoperability coordinators
    - Introductions
    - Next meeting in early October to discuss by-laws
  - New Regional Coordinator (not present) Jeff Stauber
  - First council meeting to convene the last week of November
    - Working on TICP
  - OJA will get RICS council together
    - First meeting to convene in the first quarter of 2011
  - State Agency SCIP Group
    - TICP Workshop on November 9
    - OEC technical assistance will facilitate the workshop
    - Membership is dependant on regular SCIPs
  - SIMCOM 2011
  - WEM Exercises
  - Captain Jason Crabb, National Guard
  - US Northcom has accepted to host COMX in 2011
  - Next SIMCOM will have an aspect of federal funding
- RECCWG Activity
  - Group is hosted by FEMA Region Five
  - Three representatives from each state
  - Heavy focus on catastrophic events and post recovery
  - Interoperability coordinators from each state participate
  - Monthly conference call with an additional two to three times per year in person
  - Recently formed by-laws with rotation of workgroup membership
  - Another activity is an SOP utilization of National Interoperability Channels
    - Two federal representatives work with RECCWG. One is from FEMA Region Five. The other is from the Office of Emergency Communications.
  - Progress on WISCOM Expansion with Stimulus and HSGP Funding
  - Concept Papers
    - Funded consult for platform of daily user technical grants
    - Expires on October 1, 2010 with extension under review
    - Funding could rise to \$5,000,000

- Two applications are in negotiations
- Public Safety Wireless Broadband
- 700 MHz – new blocks of radio frequency available to be used by public safety
  - Transfer to wireless
  - Struggle to roll out nationwide
  - In Wisconsin, FCC waiver granted
    - Calumet county
    - Outagamie county
    - Winnebago county
  - Counties may be eligible for stimulus money
  - Request FCC – show Interoperability to FCC
    - Expectation for coordination with proper state authorization
    - Letter sent to counties with eligibility for grant funding
    - OJA is the proper state agency to coordinate with
- MOTION
  - Motion made by Dave Collins to keep on the agenda asking waiver counties to keep IC and OJA informed.
  - Ben Schliesman seconded the motion
  - Motion carried

**ADJOURN FOR LUNCH AT 12:10PM**

- Meeting resumed from lunch at 12:40pm

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Statewide Communication IO Plan – SCIP Implementation Workshop Report
  - REVIEWED REPORT
    - Workshop
      - Realigned goals and objectives to the Interoperability Continuum
    - Not well defined in a number of areas regarding implementation detail
    - Will be reviewed and returned to discuss
      - Spending Plans – Fiscal Statement to Objectives
    - Dave Spenner to report back with revisions of Goals and Objectives
      - Not likely to meet again in 2010
      - The deadline for submission is not definite but due in the fall of 2011 along with the SCIP Implementation Report
  - DISCUSSION
    - We do not want to adopt new statements and total exclusion of prior SCIP Goals and Objectives
    - IC members agree to individual review for two weeks to offer input, and following that period OJA can accept revised set of goals and objectives from the report but also allowing OJA to add topical areas from the prior plan. Revised goals and objectives should go into the SCIP Implementation Report. IC always has the ability at future meetings to amend the goals and objectives since it is a living document/plan.
      - Reconcile proposing dilemmas
      - May need to arrange meetings for more discussion on implementation
      - Changes made according to comments and feedback
      - Post on website
      - Grant plan has to follow SCIP
  - MOTION
    - Motion made by Markley Wahl to have an additional two-week period available for public comment.
    - Steve Hansen seconded the motion
    - Motion carried

**STATEWIDE SYSTEM MANAGEMENT REPORT – CHAIRMAN MATT JOSKI**

- Resume Report from earlier – Sheriff Joski joined in via teleconference
  - Project Status
    - Continuing physical work of WISCOM
    - System acceptance testing in Texas with Tony Barthuly
  - Kimball is helping define and structure fees and formulas to integrate people into the system.
    - Will need full support
  - Legislative Audit Committee meeting
    - Concerns have been expressed by daily users about system
    - Solution is to continue outreach

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Presentation, Discussion, and Action to adopt a reporting process for NECP Goal 2 and 3 Measurement
  - State Agency SCIP Implementation – Dave Spenner presented
  - Goal 1, 2, and 3
  - Goal 1 evaluations occurred in UASI regions
  - Preliminary findings
  - IC is asked to endorse method for achieving Goal 2 measurement
  - National report on Goal 1 will be forthcoming
    - Congress – findings will likely directly impact Homeland Security funds for the future
  - Gaps need improvement
    - Will help to fill gaps in widespread deficiencies
  - Role of SWIC is to coordinate Goal 2 data collection
    - Goal 2 capability data
    - Goal 2 performance data
    - Capability assessment
      - Collection to be accomplished in about forty five to sixty days
      - Sometime in 2010 – 2011
    - Measurement outcome leaves opportunity for positive impact
  - Performance Assessment for 2011
    - County or regional representatives to work together to collect capability data by each county that is representative of a county interoperability incident
    - Capability assessment for 2011
      - OJA will support with tool for regional use to present at regional meeting
      - Opportunity to allow them to decide what is the best methodology and event to report
      - New for everyone
- MOTION
  - Motion made by Rob Rude to adopt data collection strategy
  - Markley Wahl seconded motion
  - Motion carried
- Discussion and Action on FCC’s proposed “D Block” Spectrum Allocation
  - OJA offers to send letter from Interoperability Council to Wisconsin Delegation
  - Offer letter from Interoperability Council to Wisconsin Delegation
  - Legislature likely already introduced to issue
- MOTION
  - Ben Schliesman motioned to adopt letter
  - Rob Rude seconded motion
  - Motion carries
- Discussion and Action on Proposed Narrowbanding Policy and Mutual Aid Frequency Naming
  - Today’s recommendation is general policy and is guidance for OJA to develop into policy
  - Adopt a national naming to include:
    - WISPERN renamed to VLAW31 (after narrow banding), VCALL renamed VCALL10 (after narrow banding), and VTAC 1, 2, 3, 4 to be renamed VTAC 11, 12, 13, 14 (after narrow banding)
    - Advocate for a national frequency zone in subscriber radios that would incorporate in name changes

- WI Policy on Narrowband applies only to Mutual Aid channels
- At the time of these programming changes it is also the proper time to consider the minimum number of interoperability/mutual aid channels to be programmed into subscribe radios. Previously it has been fewer but now that radios come with a larger channel capacity, the IC recommends increasing the minimum mutual aid channel plan requirement in grant funded radios up to 24.
- MOTION
- David Collins motioned to adopt Narrowbanding Policy and Mutual Aid Frequency Naming and Channel Capacity requirements.
- Markley Wahl seconded motion
- Motion carried

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS FROM MEMBERS**

- SSMG Meeting - Trunking capable subscriber radios for SSMG members
  - Potential funding available within project or grant funds
  - Funding details need to be worked out
  - This is advice for IC to be aware but no motion is asked for
  - Round 6 Radio funding requirements
  - Request guidance from Interoperability Council
  - MOTION
  - Motion made by Steve Hansen to adopt the following:
    - To make future grant funded radios trunking capable
    - Provide 512 channel capacity
    - Program with 24 VHF mutual aid channels
    - Narrowbanding operation capable on all programmed channels
    - OJA should reconsider 25% match and consider elimination
    - Minimum capability of 128 control channels
  - Ben Schliesman seconded motion
    - Discussion of motion
      - Funding level must be sufficient
      - Balance for funding across the State of Wisconsin
      - Agencies have responsibility to have basic radio capabilities
      - Match allows ability to fund more radios
      - Must reset the maximum
      - Research
      - Set a cap for radios to allow them to buy more expensive radios that they can upgrade themselves
      - Radios must be trunking ready
      - Match is an issue
      - Research cost and set the maximum
      - Match allow OJA to stretch funding
      - Suggest additional discussion
    - Motion carried
  - WEMA Conference on October 20, 2010 at the Sheridan in Madison, Wisconsin with a WISCOM session
  - Randy Stark question on Narrowbanding and MARC Repeaters
    - License would not be in violation of FCC within the timeframe unless if license was changed to support only Narrowbanding.
  - Dave Steingraber discussed expected changes upon appointment of a new governor
    - The election of a new governor would affect appointments and positions on the Interoperability Council
    - The Interoperability Council may have vacancies
    - Dave Steingraber discussed technical standards for P25 radios
    - Congressional hearings will bring about a lot of questions
    - Not advancing on the rate of time expected
    - Little to no P25 ownership
      - Users become frustrated at delays

- Must pursue P25 compliance assessments and address government board
  - Set lab standards
  - Voluntarily used by vendors for certification that meets P25 standards
  - Situation has progressed to worse
- May reach a point where radios will not be able to talk to each other
- Carl Guse agrees with the assessment
  - Share frustrations
  - Testing is basic
  - If no testing is done, will not know how P25 will work in the environment
  - P25 has helped to enable Wisconsin to purchase radio capabilities at a lower cost
  - Success is due to P25
- Dave Spenner – remedy is to set standards and move on

**NEXT MEETING DISCUSSION**

- No meeting date is set however will consider January and February

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:35PM**

- MOTION
- Motion made by Ben Schliesman to adjourn
- Steve Hansen seconded
- Motion carried