

**STATEWIDE SYSTEM MANAGEMENT GROUP
TECHNICAL WORKGROUP**

JANUARY 20, 2011
OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
1 S. PINCKNEY STREET
MADISON, WI 53703
1:30PM

MEETING MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER –
ATTENDANCE**

MEMBERS

- Carl Guse
- Gary McClelland
- Keith Butler
- Kevin Lemke
- Alan Wisler
- Kent MacLaughlin

VISITORS

- Kathleen Lordo, DOT
 - Joe Liekhim, L.R. Kimball
- OJA STAFF**
- Dave Spenner

RECOMMENDATION TO SSMG ON TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP

- OJA now requires that all members of workgroups related to justice programs complete a conflict of interest form. This form will be distributed to all members of SSMG workgroups.
- Carl Guse thanked Doug Meier, who is retired as of January 21, 2011, for all of his work and dedication to the SSMG and the technical and sustainability workgroups.
- Member Additions
 - A replacement for Doug Meier was discussed. Steve Hansen, Kent MacLaughlin, and Jennifer Lord have expressed interest in joining the technical workgroup.

MOTION

- Motion requested by Carl Guse to appoint Jennifer Lord and Kent MacLaughlin to the Technical Working Group.
 - Motion made by Keith Butler
 - Motion seconded by Kevin Lemke
 - Motion carried
- Vice Chair Determination

MOTION

- It was determined that a Vice Chair should be elected to the Technical Working Group. Carl Guse recommended that Kevin Lemke be elected Vice Chair.
 - Motion made by Keith Butler
 - Motion seconded by Kevin Lemke
 - Motion carried

RECOMMENDATION TO THE SSMG REGARDING TECHNICAL ISSUES

- As of the meeting date, there are 31 WISCOM sites on the air in wide-area trunking. The site implementation is moving along well and is on track for ½ of the 80 sites to be operational by the end of January.
 - The last shipment of 24 sites is scheduled for delivery in February.

- The State of Wisconsin has been granted National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) certification of Federal spectrum support for WISCOM. We will work with the Department of the Interior to get whatever support we can for the site-on-wheels as well as spectrum in the southern portion of the state.
- Mauston is a potential future site. It is under consideration to put existing equipment at Mauston that was intended for a site that is not yet constructed.
- Port Washington is under consideration for a UASI funded site.
- An interoperability meeting between Minnesota and Wisconsin occurred. A test is ongoing with a control station at Goodhue Co., MN that patches WISCOM into ARMER.
- A system to system gateway is under consideration for placement at LaCrescent tower. Both WISCOM and ARMER are at this tower. The gateway will connect the systems at the talkgroup level.
- 800 MHz Sites
 - An 800 MHz WISCOM site installed in Douglas, LaCrosse, St. Croix, or Pierce counties could be used for Minnesota officers who come across the border. This would require that the WISCOM system be programmed into the Minnesota radios. The officers would have to manually switch to WISCOM.
 - Keith Butler commented that any cross-border connections that can be made would be valuable. An ARMER control station for LaCrosse Co. has been discussed.
 - The Department of Corrections requires 3.2 version software to tie into WISCOM.
 - David Spenner would like for the workgroup to consider how WISCOM will progress into areas of the state where 800 MHz is in use. Perhaps a pilot project could be funded to create an 800 MHz WISCOM site. The workgroup would help to create the scope and criteria for the project.
 - Carl Guse would like to see an 800 MHz site in the southeast corner of the state (Waukesha, Milwaukee, and Ozaukee counties). There are many 800 MHz users in the Milwaukee area and a pilot project in that area would create interest in that part of the state and encourage users to include WISCOM in their future planning.
 - Keith Butler would like to have an 800 MHz site in the LaCrosse area.
 - 800 MHz equipment could be installed at any existing WISCOM site or any site that has connectivity to the WISCOM system. If there is no 800 MHz equipment at the site, installation of antennas, line, and combining would be necessary. This will cost approximately \$100,000 to \$120,000 including three repeaters. If there is currently 800 MHz at the site, only the repeaters, and perhaps combining, would be necessary.
 - Kevin Lemke voiced that is critical to tie into 700/800 MHz as much as possible. There is also a need to tie into Brown, Manitowoc, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties.
 - One 800 MHz WISCOM site can ideally create good mobile coverage across a county and perhaps one and a half counties.
- County-Level Radio ID Plans
 - Carl Guse has written a letter to be distributed to counties regarding creating a P25 compliant radio ID's at the county and local levels. These ID's should be in created in concert with the state plan.
- Advanced System Keys (ASK's)
 - Radio keys can be either hardware or software based. ARMER uses hardware keys on their multi-band radios. ARMER radios that will be used on WISCOM require an ASK for the WISCOM system. Once a radio is programmed with to use a hardware key, then only hardware keys can be used on that radio. A combination of hardware and software keys is not possible on an individual subscriber unit. Therefore, if Minnesota is to use WISCOM, they must use an ASK.
 - The owner of the system must request the ASK's. The cost is \$500 for a parent key and five daughter keys. Additional daughter keys can be created by the owner (this costs \$30/key).

- A Motorola sales representative has offered to give WISCOM a parent key so that daughter keys can be made for Motorola radios to use WISCOM.
- Daughter keys expire and this creates an ongoing expense for a user. The benefit of this expiration is that a key cannot be duplicated and used repeatedly, whereas a software key can be extracted and duplicated indefinitely. The potential downfall of this type of key with WISCOM is the ongoing expense it poses and the inability to use both hardware and software keys together.
- ASK's will not be made a system-wide requirement. WISCOM will offer both hardware and software keys in order to accommodate all potential users. Users can determine what they require on a radio-to-radio basis. The cost associated with the hardware key will be placed upon either the vendor or the agency requesting the daughter keys.
- Regional Interoperability Talkgroup Naming
 - Carl Guse asked if the names of the regional mutual aid talkgroups on WISCOM should be re-named to reflect the region. For example, instead of RTAC11-14, they would be named SWRTAC11-14. It was determined that the names are adequate, and that users will know which set is for their home area. This is more of a training issue.
- Service Specific Interoperability Talkgroups
 - Randy Pickering has previously mentioned the idea of adding interop talkgroups for specific services such as MABAS, bomb squad, IFERN, Collapse Rescue, and HAZMAT. These would be lightly used to coordinate these services and perform training exercises.
 - The addition of more statewide mutual aid channels could create extra stress to the system. Also, having service specific talkgroups could lead to a communication gap with other agencies. Agencies may communicate on different talkgroups or may not have a service specific talkgroup programmed into their radios.
 - It was decided to table this issue until Randy Pickering is in attendance and can speak to the topic.
- Subscriber Certification Process
 - Joe Leikhim of L.R. Kimball spoke about the criteria for WISCOM subscriber certification. He will be reviewing the compliance assessment program (CAP) tests for subscriber units. He will also examine the programming parameters, especially those related to roaming. Portables roam differently than mobiles, so he will look at both. Also to be considered are system key policies and encryption.
 - The kick-off of the certification process was two weeks ago. Vendors were invited to discuss the criteria with Kimball.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

MOTION

- Motion made by Keith Butler to accept the minutes from September 8, 2010
- Motion seconded by Gary McClelland
- Motion carried

THE NEXT TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP WILL BE SCHEDULED AS NEEDED

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

- Motion made by Keith Butler to adjourn
- Motion seconded by Al Wisler
- Motion carried

MEETING ADJOURNED