

WISCOM Subcommittee Meeting

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019
12:30 P.M.

WISCONSIN STATE PATROL-SOUTHWEST POST
911 NORTH STREET, DEFOREST WI 53532
TELECONFERENCE
877-411-9748 / PASSCODE: 1193649

MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting Convened at 12:30 p.m.
2. Quorum was not established with 6/14 members present. Present in Person: David Gribble and Keith Kesler. Present via teleconference: Darren Chappuies, Keith Hurlburt, Jennifer Lord, Gary McClelland, and Jan Victorson.
3. Minutes from the September 25, 2019 will be reviewed at the next meeting.
4. There was no public comment.
5. No membership updates.
6. Old Business
 - A. WISCOM System Update
 - 1) Juneau County
 - Josh Ripp reported that the north site in Juneau County has been shut down. Paperwork for NTIA frequencies was submitted by WI, but not processed through the federal agency. The Sheriff's Office is using the analog system in that part of the county. Jim Westover is working to get the agreements completed in their entirety to allow use of the "North Tower".
 - There is a Relm radio firmware issue. Some radios are experiencing an audio issue where there is a half second delay and then an echo of the last transmitted message.
 - B. WISCOM RFP Update
 - 1) Erik Viel reported that the WISCOM RFP Design Committee met for a vendor debrief on the RFP that was released and cancelled in late 2018. Four vendors participated in the debrief. Some key points became clear after the debrief.
 - The goals of the 2018 RFP were so broad as to be unclear.
 - It would be hard to expand the current system in the VHF spectrum band due to lack of frequencies and the noisy nature of VHF radio channels.
 - The requirement for 95% coverage to portables on the hip across the state is an unusual request for a statewide radio system.
 - No vendor supported the statement that broadband systems could replace a radio system at this time.
 - C. WISCOM User Level Definitions and WISCOM User Agreements

- 1) There was discussion on the user definitions and the many different types of “daily” users there may be.
 - 2) There was discussion on the agreements and the need to update them to meet the current needs of the system.
 - 3) A work group (WG) will be formed to define the daily and interoperable user groups and to write a new WISCOM agreement. The WG will be comprised of daily and interoperable users from different parts of the state and disciplines.
- D. Other Old Business
7. New Business
- A. Discussion on LZ Coordination and Air Medical Communications utilizing WISCOM
- 1) Ripp met with the Air Medical Council (AMC) to discuss LZ coordination and the use of talk groups for landing zone communications. AMC has created a work group to create a standard template for talk groups and conventional channels in all AMC aircrafts.
 - 2) Discussions on this issue will continue and a communication plan will be developed to be incorporated into a future EMS Communications Plan.
 - 3) Ripp and Westover will be meeting with MABAS next.
- B. WISCOM Propagation Study
- 1) Ripp reported that the OEC will have a Propagation Study done on the current WISCOM system. Data is still being gathered. The study will help develop more accurate maps of WISCOM and will also evaluate current coverage levels on a statewide level.
- C. Plover Tower Site
- 1) The tower has been built and antennas have been added to the tower, however, the microwave is still not connected. WISCOM equipment has not been purchased and would still need to be added to the tower.
- D. Molly Boss reported that the Interoperability Council approved updated Subcommittee By-laws that require that each subcommittee determine an advance schedule of the minimum required quarterly meetings for the next calendar year at the last meeting of the previous year. The newly adopted By-laws also dictate that each subcommittee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson at the first meeting of each calendar year.
8. There was discussion on the 2020 meeting schedule. No set schedule could be established because quorum was not met. OEC will send a survey to determine what will work for subcommittee members.
9. Meeting ended at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Harris
DMA/OEC