

WISCONSIN INTEROPERABILITY COUNCIL

THURSDAY February 6, 2020

12:30 PM

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
2400 WRIGHT STREET, ROOM 230
MADISON, WI

MEETING MINUTES

1. Chair Matt Joski called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.
2. Quorum was established with 9/12 members present. Present in-person: David Cagigal, Chris DeRemer, Steve Hansen, Matt Joski, Jennifer Lord on behalf of Michael Warnke, and Darrell Williams. Present via teleconference: Jamie Formea, Kirk Gunderson, and Christine Westrich.

Members absent: Anthony Burrell, Sean Marschke, and Michael Woodzicka.

3. Review and Approval of November 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the November 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes by Formea. Seconded by Cagigal. Unanimous approval.

4. IC and Subcommittee Membership Updates
 - A. Review and Possible Action to Approve Subcommittee Applicants
 - 1) LMR Subcommittee
 - a. State EMS Communications Coordinator
 - Paul Eaton

This candidate is not a suitable candidate as he is not the State EMS Communications Coordinator. No action was taken.

- b. East Central Region Representative
 - Joe Massie

Motion to approve Joe Massie as the East Central Region Representative by Lord. Seconded by Hansen. Unanimous approval.

- c. Local Fire Service Representative
 - Thomas Heenan
 - Tucker McCumber

Motion to approve Tucker McCumber as the Local Fire Service Representative by Formea. Seconded by Hansen. Unanimous approval.

- d. Wisconsin Department of Justice Representative
 - Taylor Holum

Motion to approve Taylor Holum as the Wisconsin Department of Justice Representative by DeRemer. Seconded by Lord. Unanimous approval.

- e. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Representative
 - There were no applicants for this seat, but Lord shared that there is an interested candidate who will apply during the next round.
- 2) WISCOM Subcommittee
 - a. East Central Region Representative
 - There were no applicants for this seat
 - b. Northeast Region Representative
 - There were no applicants for this seat
 - c. West Central Region Representative (two seats available)
 - Paul Eaton
 - Kirk Gunderson

Motion to approve Paul Eaton and Kirk Gunderson as West Central Region Representatives by Lord. Seconded by Westrich. Unanimous approval.

- d. Wisconsin Department of Justice Representative
 - Marshall Ogren

Motion to approve Marshall Ogren as the Wisconsin Department of Justice Representative by DeRemer. Seconded by Hansen. Unanimous approval.

- e. Wisconsin State Patrol Representative
 - There were no applicants for this seat
- f. Southeast Region Representative
 - Tony Lash
 - Dan Weber
 - Derrick Hurley

Motion to approve Dan Weber as the Southeast Region Representative by Westrich. Seconded by Lord. The motion passed with Cagigal, DeRemer, Gunderson, Hansen, Joski, Lord, Westrich, and Williams voting in favor, and Formea voting against.

- 3) NPSBN Subcommittee
 - a. Badger State Sheriffs Association Representative
 - Dale Schmidt

Motion to approve Dale Schmidt as the Badger State Sheriffs Association Representative by DeRemer. Seconded by Lord. Unanimous approval.

- b. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Representative
 - John Schrader

Motion to approve John Schrader as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Representative by Lord. Seconded by Cagigal. Unanimous approval.

- c. Wisconsin Public Service Commission Representative
 - There were no applicants for this seat
 - d. Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services Representative
 - There were no applicants for this seat
- B. Joski read through the remaining vacancies for each subcommittee.
- 1) Formea expanded on why he voted against Dan Weber for the WISCOM Subcommittee Southeast Region Representative seat based on Dan's relationship to the system being that of a manager of an interconnected regional system, which may be more appropriate as a specific seat to be filled instead of having him fill what is intended to be a daily user seat.
 - 2) Molly Boss reminded the Council that the remaining vacancies would need to be formally opened for recruitment again if the Council would like to fill the seats at this time.

Motion to open the subcommittee vacancies by Cagigal. Seconded by Lord. Unanimous approval.

5. Public Comment – There was no public comment.

6. Old Business

A. 911 Subcommittee Chair Report – *Bob Frank*

- 1) Summary of membership vacancies.
- 2) 911 Subcommittee Year in Review
 - a. The subcommittee met 5 times in 2019
 - b. Wisconsin Act 26 was passed on November 19, 2019
 - No funds associated with this act
 - Dictates the rules and process for the NG911 grant program
 - Funding will need to be approved by the legislature in the next budget cycle
 - c. The CPR grant program will be completed in early 2021
 - d. Jessica Jimenez shared that the 911 Subcommittee is working on rewriting the strategic plan, with the help of their consultants, 911 Authority. It is anticipated that the updated strategic plan will be shared with the 911 Subcommittee at their April meeting, and will be presented to the IC after approval by the subcommittee.

B. Land Mobile Radio Subcommittee Chair Report – *Jim Westover*

- 1) Westover and Josh Ripp met with the MABAS Communications Board on 11/16/2019 to discuss the proposed channels of Fireground GRAY/8TACGRAY as the primary channel and Fireground BLACK/8TACBLACK as the secondary channel for LZ coordination. They are waiting to receive official concurrence from MABAS on this plan.
 - a. Steve Hansen stated that this will be discussed at the February 21, 2020 MABAS gathering and they will give Westover their response shortly after that meeting.

C. Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) Subcommittee Chair Report – *Gerry Klein*

- 1) A major project for 2019 was the FirstNet Priority Setting Guide which was finalized this past fall. At the next subcommittee meeting the group will devise a plan to distribute this information to public safety users.
- 2) In 2019 the subcommittee met with three major phone carriers to discuss their public safety broadband offerings; AT&T FirstNet, Verizon, and US Cellular.
- 3) The group will meet with FirstNet at the next meeting to discuss the FirstNet rollout.

- 4) The subcommittee is planning to look at new technologies; one of the first technologies they'll explore will be push-to-talk over an IP network.
- 5) Klein is planning to bring in a guest to discuss how 5G rollout in Wisconsin will affect rural networks.
- 6) The NPSBN Subcommittee is planning to host a combined meeting with the 911 Subcommittee to discuss the interaction between broadband and the ESInet.

D. WISCOM Subcommittee Chair Report – *Keith Kesler*

- 1) Discussed the ongoing issues achieving quorum at meetings, as well as the plan to track absences on meeting minutes.
- 2) The WISCOM Subcommittee approved the plan for Air Ground Medical LZ Coordination on WISCOM. HSEMS channels 1, 2, and 3 will be reserved for air medical purposes and HSEMS channels 5 and 4 will be used by ground units.
- 3) There is a WISCOM User Agreement Workgroup meeting scheduled for March 3, 2020.
- 4) The WISCOM Subcommittee held annual officer elections
 - a. Keith Kesler was reelected as Chair of the subcommittee
 - b. David Gribble was elected as Vice Chair of the subcommittee
- 5) The subcommittee discussed issues with WISCOM in hospitals. They discussed the idea of having two radios at hospitals to eliminate the need for hospital staff to program talk groups; one radio for hospital staff to communicate, and one radio for incoming medical units to communicate with the hospital.
- 6) The National Weather Service is interested in continuing to use WISCOM beyond their pilot at the Milwaukee/Sullivan office.

E. WISCOM Update

- 1) DOT Report – *Jim Westover*
 - a. A bureau in-service will be held next week, followed by 3 days of vendor training sessions by EF Johnson to train WISCOM technicians on the software updates and NMS updates. There will be a 2nd NMS training session with EFJ for the other half of the WSP technical staff later in the year
- 2) DMA Report – *Heather Harris-Fatty*
 - a. In January of 2020, the number of total push-to-talks on the system was 2,031,416 with airtime totaling 6,918,607 seconds. The number of busies was 7,398, which equates to 0.004 busies per push-to-talk. The number of talk groups in the system is 2,420; out of that number, 555 had actual airtime in January.
 - b. The NMS system update (18.1.4), started February 3. The updates started in the northwest region, (the sites in Hayward and Cable were not updated due to the Birkebeiner). Updates will begin in the north-central region on February 17, and the southwest and southeast regions will begin on February 24. MRGW upgrades will not be occurring until March, when a new software is released by EF Johnson. The MRGW upgrades will start in the northwest region, and will continue by region, like the NMS updates.
 - c. The Birkebeiner event is at the end of February. The Site on Wheels (SOW) will be at the event to support the public safety agencies working along the racecourse. The SOW fills in radio coverage in areas not covered by the permanent sites in Bayfield and Sawyer Counties. A FirstNet SatCOLT (Satellite Cell on Light Truck) will be utilized as a backhaul to the rest of the WISCOM system. A test gateway device will be set up to allow a FirstNet phone, with an enhanced push-to-talk application, to test interoperability with WISCOM on LMR devices.

- d. Green County EMS Agencies would like to join WISCOM for itinerant travel purposes when they are transporting outside of Green County. RCALL11 will be utilized as a test connection from the ambulance to Green County dispatch, this is due to Green County dispatch only having a single WISCOM radio. They are working to have a second radio. They will also be utilizing WISCOM and DaneCOM's ISSI connectivity to communicate directly with hospitals. Green County EMS also does transports for local hospitals when other services aren't available.
- e. The North Tower in Juneau County required a frequency change. Josh Ripp has met with the Fire/EMS there and they are working on a primary admin channel. Westover is working with a representative from the U.S. Department of the Interior to get the new frequencies licensed and channels established.

F. NG911 Program Update – *Jessica Jimenez*

- 1) Update on the ESInet RFP. Responses are due March 10, 2020, and then that will move into the evaluation phase. Awards and contracts will hopefully be put in place in the spring.
- 2) A GIS Gap Analysis RFP was released. Responses are due on February 20, 2020. The goal is to hire consultants to conduct a GIS gap analysis across the state to determine data gaps and discrepancies.
- 3) Federal 911 Grant
 - a. \$2.9 million dollars was received for NG911 equipment and projects.
 - b. Applications were due Tuesday, February 4, 2020. 29 applications were received and are currently being evaluated
 - c. The OEC is anticipating awards to start being distributed in March.
- 4) 2019 Wisconsin Act 26
 - a. The Governor signed 2019 Wisconsin Act 26 (formerly 2019 Assembly Bill 471) on November 19, 2019. The Act requires DMA to work with the 911 Subcommittee to promulgate rules for a state NG911 grant program.
 - b. OEC is currently working on a scope statement, which is required to be completed and approved before state employees can draft rules.
 - c. DMA is currently without a legal counsel so that may cause some delays in drafting rules.
- 5) In anticipation of the grant awards for the ESInet, OEC is planning to hold 6 regional meetings throughout the state for PSAPs to get an understanding of what is next for buildout of the ESInet. The timing of this will be contingent on having the ESInet vendor in place to come to these meetings as well. Jimenez is tentatively planning on June for these meetings.
- 6) There was general discussion about potential PSAP consolidation.

G. Public Safety Broadband Program Update – *Jessica Jimenez*

- 1) DNC planning discussions are ongoing, AT&T has over 300 active projects related to the DNC in Milwaukee.
- 2) FirstNet tower sites are on schedule.
- 3) OEC is still working on hiring a Public Safety Broadband Program Specialist.

H. WISCOM RFP – *Erik Viel and Andrea Welch*

- 1) Meetings were held with vendors in early October and the vendor feedback was shared with the Interoperability Council at the November 2019 meeting.
- 2) Viel has met with senior leadership at the Department of Administration and the Department of Transportation to discuss the vendor feedback and plan the next steps.
- 3) Welch described the concept of a request for innovative ideas or a problem statement being issued to vendors, in order to allow vendors to suggest solutions for the statewide

interoperable radio system. The team working on this RFP could then take those ideas to formulate the direction of the project and the RFP. The problem statement is anticipated to be released in March.

- 4) There was general discussion about the background, intent, and parameters outlined in the interoperable radio system problem statement.
- 5) This will be a two-part procurement. One part will handle the interoperable radio system, and the other part will handle tower site infrastructure assessments and repairs or enhancements needed to support the new radio system.

I. WI OEC/SWIC Update – *Erik Viel*

- 1) Jefferson County received a grant to put on a COMDEX event. The goal of this event is to provide learning opportunities for COMLs and COMTs who need signoff on their position task books. The event is anticipated to be able to accommodate 25-30 COML and COMT trainees. It is scheduled for August 12-14. It is tentatively scheduled to be held at Waukesha County Technical College.

7. New Business

A. Discuss Subcommittee Expired Terms – *Molly Boss*

- 1) Boss led a discussion and requested direction on the topic of IC subcommittee members' expired terms and IC subcommittee members' attendance at 2019 meetings.
 - a. After discussion, the Council elected to open up recruitment for all of the subcommittee seats with expired terms.

Motion to open the expired subcommittee seats for recruitment by DeRemer. Seconded by Cagigal. Unanimous approval.

- 2) Boss also suggested adding upcoming expired terms to IC meeting agendas going forward.

B. WECS Review

- 1) Boss shared that the IC subcommittees will start reviewing their goals associated with the 2019 Wisconsin Emergency Communications Strategy (WECS) at each meeting, and asked if the IC would like to do the same. Boss also suggested that the subcommittee chairs could report on the WECS goals during their subcommittee reports at IC meetings.
 - a. Lord asked for status to be documented within the spreadsheet.

C. Volunteer to Host Next Meeting

- 1) It has been proposed that the LMR, WISCOM and IC meetings all meet in Wausau for the March meeting.

8. The next meeting will be held on March 26, 2020 at 12:30pm at Wausau UW Extension

9. Meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.

Motion to adjourn by Lord. Seconded by Cagigal. Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Hauge
DMA/OEC