WISCONSIN INTEROPERABILITY
SEAMLESS STATEWIDE · PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

TONY EVERS,
Governor

MATT JOSKI,
Chairperson
Interoperability Council

WISCOM Subcommittee Meeting

July 26, 2023
12:30 pm

Meeting held via TEAMS

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting Convened by Chairperson Kesler at 12:30 pm.

2. Roll call: Quorum was established with 14 of 21 members present.

   Members present: Joseph Baasch, Darren Chappuies, Patrick Deethardt, Steven Fenske, Kirk Gunderson, Grant Hones, Keith Hurlbert, Keith Kesler, Marshall Ogren, Torre Peterson-Waldvogel, Chris Reynolds, Jan Victorson, Dan Weber, Logan Zinsli.

   Members excused: Tim Slater.
   Members absent: Tim Halbach, Katherine Johnson, Christopher Lehner, Logan Milton, Tyler Tuttle, Ben Warrington.

3. Meeting Minutes:
   Review and Approval of the May 24, 2023 meeting minutes

   *Motion by Baasch, seconded by ~~Lehner~~ **Zinsli** to approve the May 24, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.*

4. Public Comment:

   There was no public comment.

5. Old Business:

   A. Questions received concerning WISCOM upgrade – Keith Kesler.

      Legislative support for WISCOM has been more difficult to obtain due to local Sheriff's attitude toward WISCOM in some areas. Questioning if support has been obtained from Badger Sheriff's Association and shared with local Sheriff personnel.

   B. WISCOM Outreach – Keith Kesler

      Ongoing education needed on use of WISCOM, particularly vendor options available for radios. L3Harris radios will not be required (similar to present, with multiple vendor radios being used on the current EFJohnson system).

6. New Business:

A. WISCOM Upgrade Update – OEC Staff/Erik Viel

Viel reported.
- $45 million was designated in the budget to the WISCOM upgrade deployment. This is only half of the amount requested. [$94 million bid does not include detail/design of additional tower sites or radio equipment. Two systems may be required to be operational for a period of time.)
- Contract negotiations continue, including daily user awareness and designation of proposed site locations.
- Phase II of tower project continues with $13.6 million designated for upgrades and enhancements to state owned/leased sites (DOT, DHS, DOC, DNR).
- $2 million allocated for radio grant 2025. The hope is that this grant will be expanded for multiple years. 75% of funding will be designated for daily users; 25% designated for interoperable use.
- No schedule or timeline for system enhancements. Goal is to have contract in place by end of the year.
- Those who are planning on being daily users should commit as soon as possible. Concern about low amount of grant funding for counties.

B. OEC Update – Meredith Hauge

Hauge presented an overview of WISCOM system activity and trends. PTT and busies are trending back down. 23,500 subscribers in June. (Information was also forwarded to subcommittee members.)

C. WISCOM Subcommittee Applicants – Keith Kesler.

Dan Weber (system administrator), Joseph Baasch (SE WEM Region) , Keith Kesler (NW WEM Region) and Jan Victorson (NW WEM Region) were reappointed to the WISCOM Subcommittee at the IC meeting on May 25, 2023.

Applications were received from Kirk Gunderson (WC WEM Region), Keith Hurlbert (SE WEM Region), and Timothy Slater (SW WEM Region), one for each vacant position. Applicants will be forwarded to the IC for approval.

D. Update on Member's Terms – OEC Staff.

Sheriff Miller has resigned his position on the WISCOM Subcommittee.
Tyler Tuttle is no longer involved in communications.
Request that the IC open applications for those positions.

E. WISCOM and LMR Subcommittee – Keith Kesler

Discussion that the WISCOM Subcommittee will have an increased workload with the implementation of the upgraded WISCOM system.
Consensus to remove this item from the agenda.

F. WI Public Records Training – Keith Kesler.

Kesler reminded all Subcommittee members to complete the mandatory WI "Public Records Law and Ethics for Public Officials" Training online. Note the use of the word mandatory.

G. 2022 Assigned SCIP Goals – Keith Kesler

Goal 7.1 – Create radio purchasing recommendations and develop stakeholder education for decision makers and vendors on subscriber unit replacements.
- Future planning
- Need for education to order appropriate equipment.

Goal 7.2 – Assist DMA with identifying, configuring an executing future grant programs for WISCOM.
- Future funding
- Gather information on potential grant funding
- Work with legislators
- WEM/OEC Committee
- Develop statement of need. (Example: Loss of capacity will move us back 20 years in communications capability.)
- Outreach to state and federal resources – DNR, AFG, legislators
- Include "grant funding" as ongoing agenda item.

Goal 9.1 – Develop WISCOM participation funding transition and sustainability plan.
- Determine life cycle of infrastructure – state responsibility?
- Determine life cycle of subscriber units – local?
- Determine life cycle of network equipment – state?
- OEC Leadership identify issues to address with funding plan
- Locals – need to identify local needs, convey needs to legislators, and identify potential grant opportunities.

H. Future activities.

Resolve to continue discussion and develop plan to address issues related to SCIP goals.

7. Future Agenda items:

Document listing of sources for grant funding; develop list to be made available as resource.

8. Next meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for September 27th, 12:30 meeting time. Location to be determined.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Joe Baasch, seconded by Jan Victorson, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Victorson