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State of Louisiana
Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
<http://www.ohsep.louisiana.gov/interop.htm>

BRANT MITCHELL
CHAIRMAN
SONYA WILEY-GREMILION
VICE CHAIRMAN

MINUTES
Wednesday May 26, 2010

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at The Louisiana State Police Headquarters, Conference Room C & D, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Brant Mitchell called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

The SIEC roll call was called by Travis Johnson, and a quorum was established.

The following SIEC members were present and absent.

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Brant Mitchell	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)-Office of Interoperability
Ed Driesse	Division of Administration
Colonel Freddie Morris (Proxy for COL Thibodeaux)	Louisiana National Guard
Ronald Bourque	Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association
Ken Harlow	Regional Parish Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee
Jeya Selvaratnam	Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services
Eric Deroche	Region 3
Lee Hebert	Region 4
Lloyd Miller (Proxy for Ken Harlow)	Region 5
Eric Deroche (Proxy for Sonya Wiley-Gremillion)	Region 6
Chief Merrick Tassin	Region 9
Woody Glover (Proxy for Bill Vincent)	Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, Louisiana Chapter
Committee Members Absent	Representing Agency
Mark Ford	Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
Donna Newchurch	Louisiana Ambulance Alliance
Ricky Edwards	Louisiana Sheriff's Association

Freddy Drennan	Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
Ken Hughes	Region 1
Billie Grior	Region 2
William Edge	Region 7
Gary Peters	Region 8

III. Approval of Minutes

Eric Deroche moved to amend the March 24, 2010 meeting minutes to reflect that he was absent. Lee Hebert moved to amend the minutes to reflect that he was present. Eric Deroche made a motion to accept the amendments and approve the March 24, 2010 meeting minutes as amended; A second to the motion followed from Lee Hebert. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2010 meeting.

IV. Chairman's Report

A. Opening remarks

Chairman Brant Mitchell began by complimenting Louisiana's successful response to provide communications and interoperability during the Mississippi Canyon 252 Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Incident. He expressed his gratitude for everyone's hard work and dedication during this disaster.

B. Broadband Brant Opportunity

Chairman Mitchell then mentioned the introduction of a new opportunity to pursue additional funding for LWIN through a Broadband Grant. He requested that the SIEC move forward with this proposal as quickly as possible because there is a short timeframe for submissions.

C. Gulf WIN

Chairman Mitchell gave the Committee an introduction to Gulf WIN, a partnership with Texas, Mississippi, and Orange Beach to provide seamless fingertip roaming along the gulf coast for the U.S. Coast Guard in response to the Mississippi Canyon 252 Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Incident.

Gulf WIN links the LWIN, MSWIN, Travis County, Harris County, and Orange Beach County radio systems together. Mr. Mitchell will be talking with the Arkansas SWIC soon about bringing the Arkansas system into Gulf WIN.

The connections to MSWIN and Orange Beach are being made through MOTOBRIDGE patches. The patches to the Travis County and Harris County systems are made with ISSI patches through Schaumburg, IL.

Gulf WIN is comprised of 16 talkgroups, GCI-1 through GCI-16. This is designed to fill an entire zone in a portable radio. This allows someone with a radio to roam from system to system by changing zones in the radio.

Currently MSWIN has GCI-1 through GCI-4 patched, Orange Beach only has GCI-1 patched due to limited capacity with a four channel site, and all 16 GCI talkgroups are patched into the Texas systems. GCI-1 is currently being utilized as Command and Control, GCI-2 as logistics, and GCI-3 is tactical. The Coast Guard is continuing to expand the number of radios they are using with this system.

Chairman Mitchell showed maps indicating the current coverage of all of the systems that are patched together to create Gulf WIN. Chairman Mitchell stated that on the ground tests have shown that the coverage actually extends farther out than what is shown on the maps.

D. SIEC Assets

The Coast Guard has been issued 150 radios from the State Cache, consisting of both EF Johnson and Motorola radios.

The LSA tower (Trailer 96) is deployed to Orange Beach, AL and Trailer 97 is deployed to Venice, LA. The GOHSEP Command Post and one Rapid Comm are deployed to Houma, LA. Two LWIN mobile tower sites, two Rapid Comms, and two LWIN backhaul trailers are on standby.

E. LWIN Performance

Chairman Mitchell stated that LWIN is performing very well and that there are currently no signs of stress from the additional usage in response to the Oil Spill.

F. Incident Command System

Chairman Mitchell stated that ESF-2 has developed a very robust IC-205 Communications Plan to coordinate incident communications in response to the Mississippi Canyon 252 Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Incident. Thanks to the COML courses that have been offered around the state, the ICS system has been implemented exactly as it is intended..

G. GOHSEP Press Release and FCC Blog Posting
Chairman Mitchell talked about the FCC Blog Post and the Governor's Office press release detailing the Gulf WIN system. Chairman Mitchell said that this is a great story about the phenomenal work that Louisiana is doing.

H. Regional and Parish Interoperability Committees

Chairman Mitchell discussed the intent that agency applications for LWIN should ideally be routed through their Parish and Regional Interoperability Committees for their approval before being sent to the SIEC for approval. Ken Harlow from Region 5 has taken the lead in establishing this procedure for his region.

V. Statewide System Maintenance

Terry Waggenpack provided an update on Infrastructure, system statistics, subscriber statistics, and system coverage. Mr. Waggenpack's report is attached as Appendix A.

VI. Sub-Committee Reports

A. Technical Sub-Committee

Eric Deroche discussed the timeline for taking down the analog 800 MHz SmartZone System. The northern part of the SmartZone System will be taken offline in the first part of the new Fiscal Year and the southern part after hurricane season is over

DPS and GOHSEP have been working with existing SmartZone users to assist them in migrating off of that system and onto LWIN.

B. Policy and Planning Sub-Committee

No Report.

C. Budget and Finance Sub-Committee

No Report.

VII. Old Business

No Old Business

VIII. New Business

Benjamin Bourgoyne introduced a new Broadband Stimulus Grant that may be available to provide additional funding for LWIN capacity increase. He proposed that we apply for Phase 3 of this effort and encouraged the Committee to move forward with this quickly due to the competitive nature and required steps of the application. Mr. Bourgoyne's presentation is attached as Appendix B.

Lee Hebert made a motion in support of the Broadband Stimulus Grant Application proposal and Ronald Bourque seconded.

IX. Public Comments

No public comments

X. Adjournment

Ken Harlow made a motion to adjourn. Donald Milligan seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn.