

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**Public Safety Interoperability Communications Committee**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 15, 2009**  
**DOT Research Lab, 280 West Street, Rocky Hill**

**Welcome & Introductions:**

The meeting was called to order at 1306 hours by Co-Chair William Hackett. The following individuals were in attendance: Stephan Brown (DOT/Bradley), George Carbonell, David Coyle (CSP), Robert DiBella (Glastonbury), Sandra Baker (DEMHS), Jim Farkas (Region 5), Charles Fuller (OSET), Joe Gaudett (Bridgeport), John Gustafson (DEMHS), William Hackett (DEMHS), John Masciadrelli (OSET), Jeffrey Merwin (Region 1), Jeff Otto (Region 4), Gregg Prevost (Region 2), Gerald Sakalouski (DOC), Joe Salmeri (DPS), Matt Valleau (CAP/DPS), Michael Varney (DOIT), Stephen Verbil (OSET), Keith Victor (Region 3), Ed Wilds (DEP), Jerry Zarwanski (OSET), Paul Zito (DPS), Len Lucien (CT Transit), Richard Stubbs (Red Cross), Kerry Flaherty (Stamford), Rob Ross (DPS/DFEBS), George Pohorilak (DPS/DFEBS), Drew O'Connor (Rocky Hill P.D.), Frank Kiernan (Meriden), Peter Matos (DEMHS), Daniel Warzoha (Greenwich), Joseph Soto (CT EMS Advisory Board), Kitty Ing (Verizon Business) and Bob Davis (Verizon Wireless)

**Public Comment:**

Bob Davis extended an invitation for meeting participants to attend a Verizon Data Symposium on November 12, 2009 at the Courtyard Marriott in Wallingford.

**Review of Minutes:**

Motion to accept meeting notes of August 18, 2009 - first by Gregg Prevost and seconded by Keith Victor; motion unanimously approved.

**PSIC Grant Update:**

IJ1 – Report provided by Stephen Verbil and Mike Varney. P25 switch to be installed at CSPCS in Rocky Hill; Public Safety Data Network purchase orders were cut; kickoff was three weeks ago; anticipate delivery of fiber on-time; site visits will be conducted; FiberTech is working on the project; Cisco equipment is under contract now waiting for final numbers; DOIT and other agencies filed a broadband grant application and waiting for approval from the federal government; broadband initiative was filed several weeks ago with the federal government and the scope would complete the build-out of the network to all PSAPS, fire and police organizations.

IJ2 – Meeting with vendors scheduled for end of the month.

IJ3 – 700 MHz plan formed last month; developing PSIC budget line for project.

**Sub-Committee Reports:**

- a. Technical Workgroup – No update on STOC Boxes; Firecom is working on resolving the headset radio interference issue; Technical Committee membership needs to be addressed.

- b. Training & Exercise Workgroup – No Report.
- c. 700 MHz Planning Workgroup – An update was provided to meeting participants by Jerry Zarwanski, Chairman and Stephen Verbil, Vice Chairman of Region 19. Version C of the Plan was adopted. Region 19 will submit state Plans to FCC and all other states for review. FCC approved Region 19 700 MHz plan in March 2009. 800 MHz workgroup held annual elections. Discussed new 806 MHz plan. Region 19 filed a plan to FCC to bring 800 MHz to 806 MHz and is waiting for approval. Members approved plan via vote. Region 8 is waiting for an approval letter from Region 19 for streamline plan. Frequencies requested were approved. Next meeting is December 8, 2009 at the Department of Public Safety in Concord, New Hampshire. Status of Stamford's request was addressed by Kerry Flaherty. Item addressed by Joe Gaudett was tabled to new business.
- d. 4.9 GHz Workgroup – Report given by Jerry Zarwanski.

**Report of Interoperability Usage and incidents during previous months:**

For the month of August there were 3 activations and 5 tests. 8/6/09 City of New Haven – ITAC 3 for radioactive material release drill; 8/16/09 Willimantic PD – ICALL/ITAC system used due to failure of department radio system; 8/23/09 CSP 2106 – ITAC 4 to support the Dream Ride operation in Farmington.

Paul Zito reported that CTS Unit deployed to the City of Shelton and had issues with responders setting radios to proper channels. Bill Hackett will discuss with DEMHS Commissioner the issue of sending an advisory bulletin to Fire, Police and the Academies. John Gustafson reported that ICALL/ITAC was used for the North Stonington exercise and worked well.

**Old Business:**

- a. Transit Security Grant – Purchase orders will be processed. \$20,000 being held to assist PSAPS with any problems.
- b. Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – 09 Grant applications distributed to Regions with deliverables.
- c. CSPERN System – Radios will be allocated. A total of 800 ordered for patrol cars. First 200 should be delivered this week.

**Regional Reports:**

Region 1 (Jeff Merwin) – Reported on Fairfield County CHIP Project; the next Region 1 meeting will be held on 9/16/09.

Region 2 (Gregg Prevost) – Reported on project proposal received from Motorola; and status of purchase order process.

Region 3 (Keith Victor) – Reported on interoperability training at POST in West Hartford; and 9/26/09 full scale operations exercise at CT State Fire Convention.

Region 4 (Jeff Otto) – Reported on TIC Plan development; progress on vendor selection for interoperability system; and work with OSET on high speed data network.

Region 5 (Jim Farkas) – Reported on TIC Plan development and COML Training Request.

**New Business:**

- a. **D-Block Application** – Recommendation to apply for D-Block by Joe Gaudett. Topic was opened for discussion. George Pohorilak stated that funds, resources and commitment are a must. The process is very extensive. Researching New York's request may help. Jerry Zarwanski provided a briefing on NY's request and the amount of spectrum they are seeking. Public Safety Spectrum Trust currently holds the license. Comments due to FCC by October 16. Individual member of Region 19 was tasked to send comment to FCC on how spectrum should be allocated.

Motion made to send comment to FCC for D-Block for Statewide use in CT; 1<sup>st</sup> Gregg Prevost; 2<sup>nd</sup> Keith Victor; unanimously approved.

Jerry Zarwanski read text from an article on broadband distribution that was published in the Communicator newsletter. He will email the document to meeting participants for review.

**Presentation for review and approval of DEMHS Region 1 UASI 700 MHz license request by**

**DPS:** No presentation available. Jerry Zarwanski briefed the committee on the application approval process. 700 MHz workgroup will assist in reviewing applications. Applications received by November 30<sup>th</sup> will be reviewed at the Region 19 full bodied membership meeting in December. Region 8 and Region 30 must then concur and submit to the FCC for approval of allocation. Representatives from Region 1 stated that funds will be in jeopardy if there is no commitment by March for UASI grant. Stephen Verbil will reach out to colleagues in other states to request that applications be reviewed ahead of time. 700 MHz applications must be on file with Region 19 by Oct 31<sup>st</sup>. All forms required are on the Region 19 website. A special meeting to discuss this issue will be called if needed.

**Correspondence/Grant Reviews:** Nothing to Report

**Interoperability Grant Approvals:**

Approved - Town of Orange EOC Communications; Town of Durham EOC Communications

**Next Meeting:** October 20, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 14:43 p.m.