

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**Public Safety Interoperability Communications Committee**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 20, 2009**  
**DOT Research Lab, 280 West Street, Rocky Hill**

**Welcome & Introductions:**

The meeting was called to order at 1305 hours by Co-Chair Bill Hackett. The following individuals were in attendance: George Carbonell (DOT), Anthony Diaz (Hamden PD), Robert DiBella (DEMHS), Jim Farkas (Region 5), Brian Fernandez (ARC-DST), MSgt Theresa Freeman (CSP), Charles Fuller (OSET), John Gustafson (DEMHS), William Hackett (DEMHS), John Masciadrelli (OSET), Jeff Merwin (Region 1), Philip Mikan (USCG), Jeff Otto (Region 4), George Pohorilak (OSET), Gregg Prevost (Valley Shore), Gordon Shand (DPH), Joseph Soto (Greenwich EMS), Dan Soule (LCD), Mike Stemmler (DPS), Matt Valteau (CAP/DPS), Stephen Verbil (DPS), Keith Victor (Region 3), Edward Wilds (DEP), Jerry Zarwanski (OSET), Paul Zito (DPS), Frank Kiernan (Meriden), Bob Davis (Verizon Wireless), and Michael Dion (CTNG)

**Public Comment:**

Bob Davis, Verizon Wireless, advised the Committee of a Verizon Technology Summit on 2/5/09 at the Sheraton Hotel in East Hartford, CT.

**Review of Minutes:**

A motion was made to waive the minutes until next month's meeting; first George Pohorilak seconded by Gregg Prevost; unanimously approved.

**PSIC Grant Update:**

The PSIC meeting will be held on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1300 hours at DOIT.

Updates were received from George P. and John G. on IJ1, IJ2 & IJ3

**Sub-Committee Reports:**

- a. Technical Workgroup – The workgroup is working with the vendor on the battery issue. The committee will be kept apprised of the outcome.
- b. Training & Exercise Workgroup – No report
- c. 700 MHz Planning Workgroup – No meeting was held on 1/19/09 due to the State holiday. The Committee discussed the modification to the amended Region 19 plan that was issued by the FCC.
- d. 4.9 GHz Workgroup – No Report

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

Written report submitted by Master Sergeant Freeman, CSP - 11 ITAC tests conducted and 1 activation during the month of December. On 12/6/08 – Chief Nick Delia from Groton City Fire Department utilized ITAC 1 & 4 for the Extreme Home Makeover building in Voluntown.

### **Old Business:**

- a. Status on Portable Radio Inventory & Training Programs – John Gustafson provided an update on the inventory process. The inventory will be tied to the issuance of new batteries. The procedures will be drafted and submitted to the DEMHS Commissioner for review and approval.
- b. Transit Security Grant – No Report
- c. State Foam Trailer Program Communications – No report
- d. Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – The sub-grants will be out to the Regions and REPT Chairs later this week. REPT's must determine which municipality or RPO will administer the grant on behalf of the REPT. Region 4 & Region 5 are planning to schedule their TIC Plan kickoff meetings. Meeting dates were sent to Doug Harder for scheduling purposes.

### **Regional Reports:**

Region 1 (Jeff Merwin) – No Report

Region 2 (Greg Prevost) – The Region's MOAs are complete. Plan to meet w/vendor in the coming week. In the process of forming new workgroups to complete remaining tasks.

Region 3 (Keith Victor) – No Report

Region 4 (Jeff Otto) – The Region resumed activity in screening proposals from the 17 vendors for the IP based interoperable communications hardware/software and currently have two more meetings to resolve the issue. Jeff Otto attended a meeting at Mohegan Sun that was sponsored by the Yantic Fire Department to publicize the interoperable communications system that Yantic put in place using the Fire Fighters Assistance Grant. A summary of the meeting was provided to the Committee by Jeff Otto and a discussion took place regarding Yantic's communications system and whether an invitation should be extended to Yantic to brief the Committee on their system.

A motion was made for the Region 4 representative to contact the Chief in Yantic to invite him to the next Interoperable Communications Meeting or possibly hosting it in their Region. Motion accepted unanimously.

Region 5 (Jim Farkas) – Region 5 is working with Hazmat teams in the region to assist them with their communications plans and the purchase of communications equipment.

### **New Business:**

- a. Travel Ban
- b. USCG Port Security Risk Assessment Gap Analysis DEMHS and DPS Emergency Telecommunications Managers to assist USCG.
- c. June edition of DEMHS Newsletter will be dedicated to Communications. Contact John Gustafson to submit articles for the newsletter.

**Correspondence/Grant Reviews:**

Region 1 grant applications have been sent to Technical Committee for review.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2009 – 1:00 p.m., DOT Research Lab, Rocky Hill**

**Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1413**