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State of Louisiana
Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
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PAT SANTOS
CHAIRMAN
SONYA WILEY-GREMILION
VICE CHAIRMAN

MINUTES
January 23, 2013

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at The Louisiana State Police Headquarters, Conference Room B, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Pat Santos 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 or absent as noted:

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Pat Santos	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
Mike Gusky (Proxy for Ed Driesse)	Division of Administration
Major Brant Mitchell	Louisiana National Guard
Ricky Edwards	Louisiana Sheriffs Association
Randall Dunaway (Proxy for Chief Mike Knaps)	Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
Chief Ronald Bourque	Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association
John Taylor	Louisiana Rural Ambulance Alliance
Jeya Selvaratnam	Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services (DPS)
Woody Glover (Proxy for Bill Vincent)	Association of Public Safety Communications Officials
Ken Hughes	Region 1
Lt. David Luker (Proxy for Billie Giroir)	Region 2
Eric Deroche	Region 3
Lee Hebert	Region 4
Lloyd Miller (proxy for Doug Hebert)	Region 5
Sonya Wiley-Gremillion	Region 6
William Edge	Region 7
Artice Dowdy	Region 8
Chief Merrick Tassin	Region 9

Committee Members Absent	Representing Agency
Vacant	Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
Richard "Dick" Gremillion	Regional Parish Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee

III. Approval of Minutes

Sonya Wiley-Gremillion made a motion to approve the October 24, 2012 meeting minutes. Chief Merrick Tassin seconded. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2012 meeting.

IV. Chairman's Report

Chairman Pat Santos began by updating the SIEC on the Broadband subcommittee membership. Jeya Selvaratnam from DPS has been selected as the Subcommittee Chair. Ricky Edwards from the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, William Daniel from Baton Rouge, and Ken Hughes from New Orleans. As a reminder Baton Rouge and New Orleans jointly filed for a broadband waiver with the state. Jeya is going over additional potential candidates and the full membership will be announced by the next meeting, possibly sooner.

Chairman Santos updated the SIEC on the state of Super Bowl communications in New Orleans. A new Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN) Site was set up in the Superdome. It was tested during the Sugar Bowl and all went well. Also, DPS technicians will be on site the entire week of the Super Bowl, as well as February 8-12 for Mardi Gras. As a reminder please adhere to the "eavesdropping" section of Policy 003 for the Super Bowl. Failure to follow the policy could cause busies for first responders involved in active operations. Please help get the word out to adhere to the policy.

Chairman Santos next provided 24 x 7 contact information for DPS Radio Maintenance. If anyone has any radio issues these are the numbers to call. This information is contained in your binder.

Chairman Santos then discussed SIEC subcommittees. We would like to provide the opportunity for new members to serve on subcommittees if they are interested. If you are interested let us know and we will see about fitting you into a subcommittee. For those that have been serving for a while, thank you for your service, and we ask that you continue to serve if you would like. If you have any issues let us know and we will see about finding a replacement for you. If anyone who is not a member of the SIEC would like to serve, contact us and provide some background information and we will see about finding a subcommittee where we could use your help.

Chairman Santos briefed the SIEC on communication issues that were brought to light during Hurricane Isaac after action reviews with the parishes dealing with commercial wireless infrastructure. After hearing the concerns, we scheduled a meeting with AT&T to discuss some of the issues. During the meeting we asked them to come to today's meeting and provide a short presentation covering their emergency preparedness and disaster recovery measures. We also asked them to reach out to the parishes to share information and develop relationships that can be used during events.

Mel Samples with AT&T provided a PowerPoint presentation that is available on the SIEC website under the January 23rd 2013 SIEC Meeting files.

At the conclusion of the presentation Mr. Samples and other AT&T representatives conducted a lengthy question and answer session. It was determined that a separate follow-on meeting covering this topic was needed, and Chairman Santos would contact the parties involved to facilitate.

Chairman Santos reminded the committee and the public in attendance that during an event there are representatives from AT&T and other utility companies at the State Emergency Operations Center, and that if they have any issues they can contact GOHSEP through WebEOC, email, or telephone to submit an issue for assistance from ESF-2 (communications).

V. Statewide System Maintenance

DPS provided a LWIN System Maintenance Report. A copy can be found on the LWIN website.

Jeya Selvaratnam provided a presentation on the status of the National Broadband Plan. A copy can be found on the LWIN website.

VI. Sub-Committee Reports

A. Technical Sub-Committee

Chairman Eric Deroche advised the committee that the Technical Subcommittee met in December. One issue discussed was a coverage gap in Jennings. Jeya Selvaratnam informed the committee that DPS and the Jennings Chief of Police were working on the issue with Perry Vincent from Louisiana Radio. A new tower is being built that should address the coverage issues around May, 2013.

The Technical Subcommittee (TSC) also approved a request from the city of Monroe to add data connections from backup dispatch centers to pass data through the T1 line serving the local LWIN tower site to the Master Site. DPS

and Motorola made sure there would be no capacity issues, the request was approved.

The TSC also approved Thales radios for use on the LWIN system pending the results of testing by DPS Radio Maintenance per Policy 008 Subscriber Device Acceptance Policy.

The subcommittee was briefed on the latest developments on the St. Tammany parish LWIN expansion project. Woody Glover advised the committee that he believes they are close to signing the contract with Motorola to add a switch and five additional towers in St. Tammany parish.

The next topic was National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) Standard 1221 (Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Emergency Services Communications Systems). There is a huge potential impact to fire districts that are primary LWIN user's insurance ratings, effecting homeowners and businesses insurance premiums. The main issue is conflicting information in the codes, some stating that generators for radio system transmitters must be tested under load for one hour per week.

Lee Hebert from Region 4 reminded the TSC that the intersection of the southwest corner of Acadia parish and northwest corner of Vermillion parish south of Jennings is experiencing LWIN coverage issues that should be kept in mind while addressing the Jennings communications issues.

B. Policy and Planning Sub-Committee

Travis Johnson advised the committee that there was no report from the Policy and Planning subcommittee at this time.

C. Budget and Finance Sub-Committee

Ricky Edwards briefed the committee that at midyear the SIEC budget received a \$290,000.00 cut. The cut was the result of the consolidation of GOHSEP and DPS communications staff salaries and benefits.

Chief Merrick Tassin asked the committee to look into the possibility of a dedicated funding source for the LWIN system. Ricky Edwards said several possibilities had been looked into, and if anyone has any suggestions they would be explored.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Public Comments

X. Adjournment

Chairman Santos recommended the next SIEC meeting be scheduled for April 24th. After hearing from several members that that date conflicted with another communications industry event, Chairman Santos suggested and it was agreed that the next meeting date would be Wednesday May 1, 2013.

Chief Ronald Bourque made a motion to adjourn. Ricky Edwards seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn.

DRAFT