

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
State of Louisiana
<http://gohsep.la.gov/SIEC>

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



CHRIS GUILBEAUX
CHAIRMAN

MINUTES
January 27, 2016

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at the Department of Public Safety Services, Management and Finance Building, Third Floor South Central Training Room, located at 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Chris Guilbeaux called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

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

The following SIEC members were present or absent as noted:

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Chris Guilbeaux	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
Neal Underwood	Division of Administration (DOA)
SFC Stephen Cockerham, designee for Major Alan Dunn	Louisiana National Guard
Captain Andrew Murphy, designee for Chief Mike Knaps	Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
Chief Robert Benoit	Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association
Dick Gremillion	Regional Parish Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee
Lt Chris Eskew, designee for LTC Adam White	Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services (DPS)
Bill Vincent	Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO)
John Taylor	Louisiana Rural Ambulance Alliance
Lorn Bourgeois, designee for Aaron Miller	Region 1
Billie Giroir	Region 2
Kory Latiolais, designee for Stacey Blanchard	Region 4
Sonya Wiley-Gremillion	Region 6
Wes Edge	Region 7

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Sean Christian	Region 8
Chief Merrick Tassin	Region 9

Committee Members Absent	Representing Agency
Ricky Edwards	Louisiana Sheriffs Association
Eric Deroche	Region 3
Lloyd Miller	Region 5
Vacant	Governor's Office of Indian Affairs

III. Approval of Minutes

Merrick Tassin made a motion to approve the October 28, 2015 meeting minutes. Sonya Wiley-Gremillion seconded. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2015 meeting.

IV. Chairman's Report

- A. New Personnel – Chairman Guilbeaux informed the committee of the recent personnel changes at GOHSEP and Office of Technology Services (OTS) Radio Communications. James Waskom is the new GOHSEP Director and the new Chief of Staff is William Rachal. Both are experienced emergency managers and will try to attend the next SIEC Meeting.

Chairman Guilbeaux also introduced Vernon McFadden with OTS Radio Communications who will be handling the system reporting duties going forward due to the retirement of Terry Waguespack.

The chairman also recognized Greg Boren, FEMA Region 6 Disaster Emergency Communications Coordinator in attendance.

- B. Subcommittee Appointments – At the October meeting the regional members were asked to submit nominations for subcommittee members. After review, Chairman Guilbeaux made the following subcommittee appointments (*only changes are noted*): Ralph Ladnier was added to the Budget and Finance Subcommittee representing the West Feliciana Parish Sherriff's Office. Anthony Summers from the West Baton Rouge Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and 9-1-1 was added to the Policy and Planning Subcommittee. The Technical Subcommittee added Billie Giroir of the West Feliciana Parish Sherriff's Office as Chairman, and Sammy Williams, OTS Radio Communications as a new member. The updated list of members and subcommittee members can be found on the SIEC website.

- C. Region 5 LWIN / Southeast Texas Regional Radio System (SETRRS) radio patch – Chairman Guilbeaux asked Dick Gremillion to report on the

progress of the project. Mr. Gremillion noted that a planned meeting on the subject was postponed due to the death of Mr. Perry Vincent's father. Mr. Vincent is the owner of Louisiana Radio Communications, the main project vendor. Mr. Gremillion noted that Mr. Robert Vincent was an "icon" who worked in the radio industry since 1950.

Chairman Guilbeaux asked Mr. Gremillion to pass on condolences to Mr. Vincent on behalf of the committee.

Mr. Gremillion said the project was progressing and there would be a full report at the next meeting.

- D. South Baton Rouge Tower Site Relocation Request – Due to the numerous discussions ongoing about the project Chairman Guilbeaux asked the Technical Subcommittee to defer its report until the next meeting to allow time for further review with all stakeholders.
- E. Recent LWIN Interoperability activities and talk group request. - Since the last meeting 114 LWIN interoperability talkgroups have been assigned for events such as: Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry wildfire support, LSU football, Region 9 Railroad Exercise, Multiple I-10 Closures, the Natchitoches Christmas Parade, Governor Edwards Inauguration, Mississippi and Atchafalaya River Flood fighting, the Baton Rouge Presidential Visit, the Louisiana Marathon, and others.

V. Statewide System Maintenance

Vernon McFadden with OTS Radio Communications provided the LWIN System Maintenance Report. A copy can be found on the SIEC website. Chairman Guilbeaux thanked Mr. McFadden and remarked on the progress of the system since 2008; noting that in his opinion the growth and operation of LWIN is the biggest success story in Louisiana since Hurricane Katrina.

Chief Merrick Tassin asked to explain the legend and difference in tower locations. Secretary Travis Johnson informed the committee the map showed portable on-street coverage and the darker colored locations were the simulcast sites in operation. Chief Tassin inquired about the availability of LWIN coverage maps showing in-building coverage. Chairman Guilbeaux requested they be added to the System Report for the next meeting.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

A. Budget and Finance Subcommittee (BFSC)

Christina Dayries provided the following report on behalf of BFSC Chairman Ricky Edwards. The subcommittee has not received the

governor's executive budget for fiscal year 16-17. GOHSEP submitted their budget package that included the \$11.4 million LWIN system software/hardware upgrade, which includes the console upgrade incentives. It is anticipated that the executive budget will be presented the legislature on February 13th. Ms. Dayries reminded the committee that they do not know if the request will be included in the executive budget, and that SIEC members can contact their representatives to make them aware of the upgrade.

Ms. Dayries reported that GOHSEP, the DOA Commissioner, and the State Chief Information Officer (CIO) signed an agreement with Motorola to secure the pricing proposal for the LWIN upgrade in late December, 2015.

B. Policy and Planning Subcommittee (PPSC)

PPSC Chairman Bill Vincent provided the following report:

The subcommittee met in December and presented the following recommended updates to the SIEC Bylaws and the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP).

1. SIEC Bylaws

Proposed Changes: change "BYLAWS" to "AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS Revised Version Adopted January 27, 2016"; change "Act 797" to "Louisiana Revised Statute , Title 29, §725.6"; Section 3.1.1 change "the Chairman or his designee from each of the nine Regional Interoperability Committees" to "one representative from each of the nine Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) regions. The member shall be selected by the Regional Interoperability Committee (RIC). In the absence of a RIC appointment the member shall be appointed by the SIEC Chair"; Section 3.8 change "Proxy" and "proxies" to "designee" and "designation"; Create section 5.1.1.4 to make the Broadband Subcommittee a permanent advisory committee; update Chairman information.

Merrick Tassin motioned to accept the SIEC Bylaws as amended by the PPSC. Sonya Wiley-Gremillion seconded. The SIEC voted unanimously to accept the SIEC bylaws as amended by the PPSC.

The updated SIEC Bylaws can be found on the SIEC website.

2. SCIP

Proposed Changes include: Change “inter-State” to “interstate” throughout; Update LWIN User count throughout; update Broadband Subcommittee responsibilities to match the SIEC Bylaws; Update Louisiana FirstNet activities section; change “Homeland Security regions” to “GOHSEP regions”; update LWIN tower numbers throughout; change “multi-State” to “multistate” throughout.

Travis Johnson pointed out a minor typo on page 9. Merrick Tassin motioned to accept the SCIP as amended and corrected. Sonya Wiley-Gremillion seconded. The SIEC Voted unanimously to accept the SCIP as amended by the PPSC.

SFC Cockerham asked if the goal listed on page 19 to develop a multistate interoperable communications plan was completed with the “GulfWIN” system during the 2010 Gulf Oil Spill. Travis Johnson reminded the committee that although the interstate communications system was implemented and is still partially operational, no plan for interstate communications goals and procedures was written.

The updated SCIP can be found on the SIEC website.

C. Technical Subcommittee (TSC)

TSC Chairman Eric Deroche was not in attendance; SIEC Secretary Travis Johnson provided the following report.

East Feliciana Coverage – OTS Radio Communications met with representatives from the parish. The parish previously installed a bi-directional amplifier (BDA) to alleviate a coverage issue. The BDA antennas were relocated to mitigate interference with the Jackson LWIN tower site. The parish will turn the BDA on as needed until a permanent coverage solution can be found.

Digital Vehicular Repeater System (DVRS) – After reviewing the technology the TSC approved DVRS to go through normal Subscriber Device Acceptance Policy (Policy 008) process if requested.

D. Broadband Subcommittee (BSC)

BSC Chairman LTC Adam White was not in attendance; Louisiana FirstNet Program Manager Allison McLeary provided the following report.

Over the last quarter, Colonel Edmonson and LA FirstNet staff members attended the Statewide Point of Contact (SPOC) meeting, FirstNet Board Meeting, LTE Conference, and the Southeast States Broadband Conference. Additionally, one BSC meeting was held on December 15, 2015 and those who were present were updated on all Federal FirstNet and Louisiana FirstNet activities including the release of Key Interpretations by federal FirstNet pre-RFP concerning opting out, rural coverage, the timeline and evaluation criteria of the FirstNet RFP, and the 2016 Outreach, Consultation and Education Plan.

The BBSC also reviewed the proposed SIEC Bylaws changes recommended by the Policy and Planning Subcommittee.

RFP Release - On Wednesday, January 13, 2016 FirstNet issued its RFP for the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network deployment. Our LA FirstNet staff is reviewing the RFP in detail and will provide us an overview at a future meeting. The staff has also created a webpage dedicated to the RFP.

Governance Consultation – Ms. McLeary notified Chairman Guilbeaux that the Federal FirstNet staff would like to attend our SIEC in April to address their recent activities and plans for the Network and answer questions. Chairman Guilbeaux stated that he would add to the agenda for April and advised the members that the SIEC meeting may be longer than usual due to the Federal FirstNet presentation.

E. SIEC Vice-Chair Election

Chairman Guilbeaux opened the floor for nomination for the Vice-Chair position of the SIEC. Dick Gremillion nominated Sonya Wiley-Gremillion. Wes Edge seconded the nomination. No other nominations being heard, the SIEC voted unanimously to re-elect Sonya Wiley-Gremillion as SIEC Vice-Chair.

VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

There was no new business.

IX. Public Comments

Julio Peck from OTS Radio Communications informed the committee that Radio Communications was working with the TSC to address a request from

the Region 2 RIC to look into adding an additional LWIN tower site in the northeastern part of East Feliciana Parish to address the coverage issue there. Chairman Guilbeaux asked Billie Giroir to have the TSC continue looking into the issue and report back to the committee.

X. Adjournment

Chairman Chris Guilbeaux recommended that next regular meeting be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016. All members concurred.

Wes Edge made a motion to adjourn. Billie Giroir seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn.