WISCOMM State System Management Group
Sustainability Subcommittee
April 9, 2008
12:30 PM
Appleton
Radisson Paper Valley Hotel
Mahler Board Room

Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Jennifer at 12:40 PM

In attendance were:
Jennifer Lord Kouraichi (chair), Clark County Emergency Manager,
    SSMG WEMA representative
Rich McVicar, Dane County PSC Operations Manager,
    SSMG APCO Representative
David Spenner (OJA observer).
John Sweeney, Oneida County SO Chief Deputy
    SSMG Member at Large
Keith Tveit, WEM Fire Services Coordinator,
    SSMG State Agency Representative
Paul Wittkamp, (secretary) DHFS / EMS Communications Coordinator,
    SSMG State Agency Representative

The statewide IFERN channel plan was discussed.

The Wisconsin Counties Association is looking to their respective Sheriffs for further information on where they stand on the plans of the SSMG to go forward with a statewide communications backbone.

Getting buy in from county users was discussed at length. Should legislative action to obtain GPR monies for sustainment be considered? Should user fees be charged for sustainment? It was stated that this may lead to user concerns regarding "unfunded mandates" by the state.

Our committee's first goal should be to draft a mission statement to chart the direction we'll be taking. LL11 should be considered when drafting this statement.

We should invite a Public Safety Commission representative to our meeting to describe the 911 surcharge distribution scheme.

AB 321 will have no impact on the operation of our sub committee. This Assembly Bill gives the SIEC, now called SIC, statutory authority, but the committee stays intact as it is.

By the next meeting, we need to research similar goals and actions regarding state-wide communications systems in other states top use as a model for our efforts:

Minnesota: Jennifer
North Dakota: Paul
Michigan, Virginia (CTA):   John
Illinois (Starcom):   Rich
Wyoming, Ohio: Keith

Questions to consider for research:

1) What does the system do?
2) How do you provide sustainability for the system? Are there subscriber initial
        dollars, ongoing dollars, or other user fees involved?
3) What are your lessons learned or best practices?
4) What are your portable expectations for the system?
5) What do your subscribers want from the system?

The cost for portable coverage was discussed and how portable coverage will drive up costs for the backbone exponentially.

The concept of "regional overlays" was discussed. The SSMG should consider the regional concept and how the backbone could provide an ISSI standard for inter-connect.

Our committee, at some point, needs to develop a cost estimate for annual maintenance. Who will be the POC for maintenance issues? The SMMG? Our committee? We could be tasked with monitoring system operations to determine if future maintenance issues would be developing.

Initial and ongoing training of system users will be a huge need. The vendor chosen to build out the backbone should be providing a "train the trainer" type overview.

MOUs for system users will need to bee considered. A rough draft created by Dave Spenner, not for release yet, of a sample MOU was passed around for further consideration at the next meeting.

Another future agenda item will be to determine system outreach needs to promote the facts and correct bad information and rumors. We need to partner with the Technical Committee to develop a list of what the system will do to help marketing efforts.

One big advantage of the statewide communications backbone will be to provide communications ability between PSAPs.

A selling point for the system will be to partner with counties and local agencies using trunking systems by strategic placement of Wiscomm controllers. In this way, the controllers can be serving a dual need. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next Sustainment Subcommittee meeting will be Tue 5-20, at the Stevens Point FD Headquarters. The meeting will begin at 10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Wittkamp, Sec.