



State Interoperability Executive Council

<http://www.oregon.gov/SIEC/>

Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2007

SIEC Members Present (14): Kristi Wilde, Rock Rakosi, Sean McSpaden, Jeff Johnson, Dave Hard, Bob Strosser, Peter Spirup, Clark Seely, Peter van den Berg, John Koreski, John Minnis, Chuck Riley, Kathy George and Pierre Jones

OWIN Staff Present: Lindsay Ball, Mike Zanon, Steve Noel, Don Pfohl, Ben Garvey, Thomas Dunbar, Tom Wynkoop and Elizabeth Skinner

Interested Parties: Rick Hinthorne, Rod Ashmore, Craig Campbell, Zach Phillips, Randy Kruger, Rob Jones, Rob Russell, Paul Pedersen, Rob Reish, Eulus Newton, Steve Hill, Rick Williams, Onno Husing, Nancy Harvey and Nancy Jesuale

Chief Johnson called the meeting to order, asking for approval of the minutes for October and November, held October 9, 2007 and November 13, 2007 respectively.

Motion: Mr. Rakosi

Second: Mr. Stosser

Discussion: None

Passed.

Chair's Report ~Jeff Johnson

Chair Johnson introduced Lindsay Ball who was appointed by the Governor's Office to OWIN to provide additional executive branch leadership. Chair Johnson discussed the trip to Washington, D.C. that Mr. Ball and others attended which regarded deliberations about the Public Safety Spectrum Trust (PSST). The PSST is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the District of Columbia. It has been selected by the FCC as the Public Safety Broadband Licensee for the 10 MHz of 700 MHz public safety nationwide broadband spectrum. The PSST's mission is to provide an organizational structure through which decisions of national public safety leadership can guide the construction and operation of an interoperable nationwide public safety-grade broadband network. The network will be built and paid for by the commercial D Block auction winner, consistent with the Network Sharing Agreement (NSA) to be negotiated between the PSST and the D Block licensee.

This national network will cover 75% of the population in five years, 93% of the population in seven years, and 99.3% of the population in ten years. The system will be built by whoever is the successful bidder in the January auction. The system is not designed or intended to replace the system of local or state government. It is a broadband system that is intended to create a nationwide system that the state can use and create the ability for commercial users to use the data system which would generate revenue. The State of Oregon went to Washington D.C. with the intent to be one of the first states to be built out of. The PSST would like to have a few states

as their pilot states. The partnership would depend on two variables, 1) which of the five models would best suit Oregon, and 2) the successful winner of the D-Block auction. Chair Johnson explained that the legislature expressed they wanted partnerships with public and private agencies which might mean sharing tower space or a building with other agencies. The Washington team is currently discussing a model to be determined by January 16, 2008. The PSST system would primarily be a low site/low power system. Chair Johnson would like a recommendation from the Technical Committee regarding the high site/high power vs. low site/low power before making a decision on a model for the partnership and how it relates to cost.

Mr. Ball listed the team from Oregon who attended traveled to Washington D.C. They were: himself, Jeff Johnson, Chair of the SIEC; Allen Alley Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor; Joe O'Leary, Public Safety Advisor; Terry Meehan, Legal Council; Doug Wilson, Legislative Fiscal Office; Don Pfohl, OWIN and Peter van den Berg, Oregon Department of Transportation. Mr. Ball thought they had a well rounded team that represented Oregon well. Chair Johnson and Mr. Ball attended a social dinner that honored the Federal Communications Chair which discussed the January 16th auction. Mr. Ball discovered that the auction for the 700 D-Block was held in high regard in the Washington D.C. area.

Mr. Pfohl felt that the meeting in was a great opportunity for the State of Oregon to be on the forefront of this nationwide system. He also agreed with Chair Johnson that the system will not replace the mission critical radio systems, but it will augment the system that has today and will build in the future.

The Oregon team members met with representatives of Cyren Call, a private firm selected by the FCC to advise the PSST. Cyren Call members admitted that they learned much from the State of Oregon.

Mr. van den Berg concurred with Mr. Pfohl that there was a great exchange of ideas from both sides of the deliberations. It also seemed to Mr. van den Berg that Cyren Call was still feeling out what their role would be in the future, but he felt that the system would work for the State of Oregon and was pleased with the outcome from the deliberations.

Mr. Ball explained that Cyren Call had a greater understanding of the complexity of the systems at the state level and that they were not aware of what existed at the state and local government level. Cyren Call learned that their system ideas would not fit all the needs of other states once they heard the complexity of the different systems that the State of Oregon had.

Chair Johnson discussed the Office of Emergency Communication (OEC) which is responsible for interoperable communication with the Federal agencies. Chair Johnson and Mr. Pfohl had been working with the federal government to create a national plan for interoperability.

Chair Johnson announced a special recognition to Mr. Pfohl for his induction into the Radio Club of America (RCA) as a "Fellow" for his years of wireless communication work. To become a "Fellow" you must be nominated by your peers. Mr. Pfohl expressed that it was a lifetime achievement for him. During his forty years of working in the wireless communication industry,

he worked for three great employers, the City of San Francisco, California, City of Mesa, Arizona and the State of Oregon.

OWIN Director's Report ~Lindsay Ball

Mr. Ball also recognized to Mr. Pfohl for his dedication and hard work in which he achieved his Fellow status. He expressed his appreciation especially for his attendance and participation at the previous trip to Washington, D.C. Mr. Ball then explained his background to the Council. He started his career with the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division, Department of Fish and Wildlife as Director, Department of Administrative Services as Director and then appointed to OWIN as Director by the Governor. The Governor knows that OWIN is an important aspect to public safety in the State of Oregon and directed Mr. Ball to make every effort to move OWIN forward. Mr. Ball believed that the trip to Washington, D.C. was a necessary first step in moving forward and getting the OWIN group recognized for the State of Oregon. Mr. Ball met with representatives from Oregon's congressional delegation. The delegation had many questions which regarded the recent storm that had come through the state which had severed or reduced the capacity of communication and interoperability.

Mr. Ball also shared the structure of OWIN would be controlled and owned by the State of Oregon which is the position of the Governor and others. Mr. Ball believed that a deferred maintenance account needs to be built into the system to maintain it and had discussions with Doug Wilson regarding such an account. OWIN is also in the planning phase of consolidation of four separate radio systems into one for Oregon which will be discussed soon with state agencies. Rep. Riley acknowledged and appreciated that Mr. Ball was moving the OWIN project forward.

Mr. Reish described the outcome from the recent storm with regards to state communication outages. He stated that overall everything worked well. There was a loss of commercial power to fifteen communication sites but backup generators came online. No ODOT or OSP microwave site suffered an outage or damage with hurricane force winds over 100 mph. Additionally, no ODOT radio sites went down and only one OSP site had an outage. Only one site, Wickiup had to have technicians dispatched to recharge the batteries after they had been running several days on battery back up. One main reason that ODOT/OSP sites did not go off line during the storm was because of recent upgrades to the sites, such as generators, battery plants and retrofitted sites. A summary of the storm outage was that ODOT/OSP maintained a scheduled maintenance plan with regards to upgrades etc. to sites which prevented outages; remote sites needed a minimum of five to seven days of reserve fuel because of an encumbered access to those remote sites; and finally state owned sites back up power worked but sites that were owned by others the generators or batteries did not go online. Ms. Wilde commented that the sites the state partners with not only need to build to OWIN standards, but maintain those sites to OWIN standards. This requirement may need a document stating a standard maintenance schedule that is expected and adhered to. Chair Johnson commented that it is hard to know the reliability of another site that the state partners with. Mr. Ball also commented that the state has a responsibility to the citizens to provide security and public safety communication. The state can't rely on a public partner to adhere to the same standards we set forth, that's why it's important for the State of Oregon to own its own system. Mr. van den Berg, Mr. Newton and

Mr. Pfohl commended Mr. Reish and his team for their hard work in keeping the system functioning during the storm.

Committee Reports

Technical Committee ~ Sean McSpaden

Technical Committee meeting was cancelled. Mr. McSpaden stated that there were two pending deliverables. First, the Technical Committee finalized a draft statement of work for a potential statewide contract that would offer frequency coordination services, budget services, siting assistance, etc. and will continue to work with the OWIN team to complete the project. Second, the Technical Committee worked with the Partnership Committee on the OWIN architecture document and submitted comments regarding the document to the OWIN team for their review. Chair Johnson expressed his appreciation for Mr. McSpaden's work as Chair of the Technical Committee and announced that Mr. McSpaden had given his resignation as Chair of the Technical Committee. Chair Johnson announced that if someone would be interested in the position to send him a request in writing for consideration and that the committee would like to appoint someone within thirty days.

Partnership Committee ~ Sheriff Russ Burger

Partnership Committee meeting was cancelled. No report.

Strategic Planning Committee ~ Kristi Wilde

Ms. Wilde stated the State Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) was adopted by the council on November 28, 2007. The SCIP will be posted to the SIEC website for review to see the changes but the changes would not alter the strategic goals or objectives. Ms. Wilde thanked everyone who worked on the SCIP. Next, Ms. Wilde explained the update on the Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) Grant process which included the Investment Justifications (IJ's) which the OWIN team provided and were a precursor to the PSIC process and needed to be accomplished and turned in during the same time frame as the PSIC. There were five IJ's that were submitted and expected to be altered in the future. The first one was the Strategic Technology Reserve for the backup communications. Second, was the P25 master site trunked system to tie the northern part of I5 metro area to Lincoln County. The last three were regional multi-jurisdictional IJ's. The first one, Southern Oregon regional which was Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Klamath, Jackson, and Josephine Counties. The second one was for Central Oregon which was the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Crook, Jefferson, Gilliam and Sherman. The third one was for the Northeast Regional area which included Grant and Union Counties. These IJ's were formed from the regional workshops where some of the counties received partial or no funding to prior grant requests. Ms. Wilde continued with the PSIC Grant Guidance memo from Ken Murphy, Director, Office of Emergency Management to Chair Johnson to call for an approval, a copy of the memo was provided to all members. Chair Johnson called for a motion, motion was carried and approved.

Ms. Wilde explained that from a conversation with Mr. Zanon additional information from the regional workshops could be posted on the SIEC website as a resource for others as they work on interoperability communication projects such as name and contact number. Ms. Wilde would

like either the Technical or Partnership Committee to gather the information and list it as a separate document. The Technical Committee will then forward information to OWIN for posting to the SIEC website. One note to mention was that this needed to be investigated to be sure it would not violate any type of confidentiality issues.

Ms. Wilde would also like an additional debriefing in January 2008 regarding the storm on issues such as, what worked and what didn't work for communications. Chair Johnson suggested that maybe someone could explain the nature of commercial communication failures that have been in the newspapers. Ms. Harvey suggested to Chair Johnson the possibility of checking with the Public Utilities Commission for that information.

Finance Committee ~ Clark Seely

Mr. Seely gave an update about the state agency budget and benchmark information. He has had additional conversations with the Oregon State Police management staff to get clarification and good comparative numbers. He expected to have that information by the end of the month which should not change the figures drastically among the four agencies.

Open Discussion/Questions

Ms. George commented that Nextel was working in Northwest Oregon during the storms and had service back up very quickly. There was a great sense of cooperation from all involved. One item learned was the need for redundancy.

Mr. Pfohl commented on the 700 MHz band in which the commission took half of the Public Trade frequencies away to transfer to the auction winner which resulted in a loss of frequencies for Oregon. In order to license in the 700 MHz band there needs to be an adopted regional plan which Oregon does not have. Oregon State Police currently holds a license for the state 700 MHz spectrum. Mr. Pfohl discussed the Federal Partnership Interoperable Communications (FPIC). There were two other discussions with federal agencies for interoperability, they need to expand federal frequencies that Oregon can use to make repeater repairs out of VHF interoperability channels. Mr. Pfohl was able to convince FPIC that it needed to be expanded from Marion County to all of western Oregon. Also Oregon will be able to retrofit the first four systems that were installed to analog and digital. Ms. Harvey suggested that a memo be written from the SIEC to the 700 membership committee to show that the SIEC is interested in the plan.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.