



State Interoperability Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting:

November 11, 2009; 1:30 p.m.
Dept. of Public Safety Standards &
Training/Hall of Heroes
Conference Room
4190 Aumsville Hwy, SE
Salem, Oregon 97301

[http://www.oregon.gov/SIEC/
owin.info@state.or.us](http://www.oregon.gov/SIEC/owin.info@state.or.us)

Attendees Include:

Jeffrey Johnson – Chair
Kristi Wilde – Vice Chair
Lindsay Ball
Rock Rakosi
Russ Burger
Dave Brooks
Craig Durbin

Dugan Petty
John Sneed (for Ken Murphy)
Kathy George
Joe Kuran
Paul Bell
David Hard
Luci Moore

Meeting

On Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at 1:30 pm, having established that a quorum was present, Chair Jeffrey Johnson called the monthly meeting of the State Interoperability Executive Council to order.

Council Minutes

Chief Rock Rakosi moved that the October 2009 Council minutes be approved. The motion was seconded; and passed unanimously.

Chair's Report

Chair Johnson began the meeting by announcing public testimony would be held later in the meeting to consider whether Oregon should seek a waiver from the FCC to build a 700MHz statewide broadband data network into the planned national public safety broadband network.

At the December 8th SIEC meeting there will be a comprehensive review of where the SIEC and OWIN have been in the past, where they are in the present and where they are going in the future. This review will be for the benefit of new SIEC members and those who have been members for a while but would appreciate an informational presentation such as this. It will cover subjects ranging from technology to governance. The review will be presented at the end of the Dec. 8th meeting so those who do not wish to attend can opt out. A survey will be

circulated to solicit input on what type of information would be beneficial to have presented at this meeting.

Chair Johnson also briefed the Council on the meeting held just prior on the same day between the SIEC Executive Committee, members of the TriMet project team, representatives from the Region 35 700MHz RPC, and OWIN staff to discuss frequency needs with a focus on potential solutions for frequency distribution within the Metro area. While there are agencies in the Metro area that are ready to deploy systems; other areas around the state may still need to meet to address these issues.

Chair Johnson also noted that a work session will be held on November 17th between the SIEC Executive Committee, OWIN staff, and the Region 35 700MHz RPC to address potential areas of conflict resolution when it comes to 700MHz frequency allocation, with a goal to defining the roles and responsibilities of each of the agencies.

Chair Johnson told the Council that he had recently met with Rear Admiral Jamie Barnett, Chief of the FCC Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau regarding the activities of the Oregon SIEC, the OWIN project, and various related issues including the 700MHz waiver requests submitted to the FCC, and Oregon's 700MHz propagation study. Admiral Barnett indicated the federal government holds Oregon's model in high esteem and would like to continue a dialogue. He further indicated the federal government is considering following Oregon's model.

This Friday (Nov. 13) Chair Johnson will attend a meeting in New York City with the New York Police Department, which is hosting a Public Safety Spectrum Summit to discuss pending FCC Legislation relative to the 700MHz spectrum allocation.

OWIN Director's Report

Lindsay Ball noted that things have been picking up at OWIN. New staff has been hired including two new support assistants, a Radio Technician, and a Site Acquisition Manager. In addition, a lease agreement has been signed on a new location near the current offices. This site will include room for offices, equipment storage, and safe parking of equipment. The move is currently planned for mid to late January.

Director Ball recently attended meetings with Umatilla and Morrow counties and also Umatilla Tribal officials to discuss the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Plan (CSEPP) project. Discussions surrounded what to do with the site once the burn is over and included considerations such as the site public safety communications resources being taken over by other entities. A partnership agreement relating to this matter is being reviewed by legal counsels in Morrow and Umatilla counties. Once approved, further meetings will be held to determine which sites will be selected for use by OWIN. A sharing agreement was also provided to Umatilla Tribal officials in the event they have a site that might be advantageous for OWIN to use.

There was interest shown by Morrow County in sharing the 700MHz bandwidth, indicating that local governments are starting to recognize this option might be beneficial to them.

Committee Reports

Partnership Committee – Russ Burger

Sheriff Burger asked Council members to consider adoption of the proposed resolution supporting statewide interoperability that has been developed for consideration by local governments throughout Oregon. Once approved, he will send the resolution out to counties, local governments, and others for consideration. (A copy, Exhibit A, was included in the packet of information distributed at the meeting.)

Chief Rakosi moved the resolution be adopted; Bell seconded the motion.

In the follow-up discussion it was recommended that other partners be added to the resolution and Burger indicated that the actual rollout would be the subject of the next committee meeting. At that meeting, members will consider if the resolution should be sent to additional entities for agreement. Therefore, members should hold off on taking the resolution to their agencies until after the Partnership Committee's next meeting. Discussions included:

- whether the words "City of" should be removed
- whether by accepting the resolution, members were accepting the concept and not the cost
- while the resolution should be able to go to all entities, Public Safety entities are currently the primary focus

Chair Johnson suggested the resolution be changed to delete the "City of", to which Burger added US to Department of Homeland Security. Rakosi withdrew his motion and moved to adopt the resolution as amended. Commissioner George seconded.

It was brought up that the date 2009 needed to be removed so the motion was again withdrawn and Rakosi again moved to adopt the resolution as amended striking the 2009 date. George seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Partnership Committee will meet to make the recommended changes.

Strategic Planning Committee – Kristi Wilde

Wilde stated that the Committee has not met since the last SIEC meeting. Issues the committee is working on include:

- Working towards ensuring that Oregon meets the first goal of the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP). Steve Noel is the point of contact with the Office of Interoperable Communications (OIC). NECP Goal One is that the UASI area (Urban Areas Security Initiative) be able to demonstrate response-level emergency communications within one hour for routine events involving multiple jurisdictions and agencies by 2010.
- Coming up with an action report to demonstrate how the SIEC will meet its goals.

- Prioritizing tasks for the next 12 months.
- Working on priorities with the Technical Assistance (TA) of ICTAP. The annual workshop to update Oregon's SCIP is being scheduled for April 2010.

Wilde reiterated that the committee's first priority is outreach.

Technical Committee – Dave Brooks

Brooks stated that the Committee has not met since the last SIEC meeting. Discussions were held prior to today's meeting regarding the 700MHz issue. Chair Johnson asked that Brooks have the committee identify technical recommendations regarding which reallocation plan the Committee should lean toward.

700MHz Regional Planning Committee Report

Joe Kuran reported that the 700MHz Regional Planning Committee (RPC) is moving along and they intend to meet monthly. They are currently working on a frequency allocation plan, as it is important to be able to get it finished this year. Once the body of the plan is complete they will begin working on the appendix.

As mentioned previously, a meeting was held just prior on the same day to discuss frequency needs. Another meeting will be held on December 1st to focus on frequency allocation. The Committee hopes to finish its work this year and move past the re-allocation issue. Chair Johnson said he was very impressed with the cogent and logical discussions and that collaboration and cooperation are essential.

Open Discussion/Public Testimony/Questions

The meeting was opened up for public discussion regarding the following question: "Should Oregon seek FCC authorization to build a 700MHz statewide broadband data network ties into the planned national public safety broadband network?" (Exhibit B) There was no public discussion. Chair Johnson mentioned that one more chance for public testimony will be provided at the December 8th SIEC meeting.

The question was raised that if Oregon seeks the waiver from the FCC, does that mean that any agency can build a system, or can only OWIN build the system? Chair Johnson stated that the concept has been that the state will apply and how that will break out is yet to be determined. There are many technical issues still to be pursued but first the Council needs to make sure the concept makes sense for Oregon. Ball mentioned that if 700MHz broadband is integrated, than it can be broadcast throughout the State of Oregon. One of the technical issues to be considered is whether the microwave will have the capacity to serve the entire state. The plan is to go after a 25 KHz segment in the A and D block. While there is still much work to be done, the 700MHz broadband could be very beneficial to the State. Additionally, Kuran pointed out that the issue is important because the original plan for a medium-band slot was taken by the FCC; therefore at present there is no upgraded path.

The hearing was closed.

Chair Johnson introduced Shana DeLuche of OWIN.

Chief Dave Hard extended Bob Strosser's apologies for not being able to attend, and also apologized for not being able to attend the last two meetings himself.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45p.m.

EXHIBIT A: Resolution in the Matter of Achieving Statewide Interoperable Communications for Emergency Responders

RESOLUTION

In the Matter of Achieving Statewide Interoperable Communications for Emergency Responders

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security requires that all states adopt statewide communications interoperability plans, and that all grant recipients submit a statewide communications interoperability plan, and;

WHEREAS, the criteria for a statewide plan provide an opportunity for partnership among local, tribal, state and Federal entities, each of which has a critical role in the development of a strong statewide, locally driven interoperability plan that improves operability and efficiencies, and;

WHEREAS, the Governor's Office, or its designee, should act as an umbrella organization and provide management, and support for the statewide planning process, and;

WHEREAS, the Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network (OWIN) has been designated as the public safety wireless umbrella organization, and;

WHEREAS, the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) will provide leadership and direction in public safety communications and support and encourage regional and local efforts to plan, coordinate and implement interoperability solutions and continuity of emergency communications, and;

WHEREAS, local jurisdictions have an equally important role in the development of interoperability within the region, and should identify ways for current systems to become interoperable with neighboring jurisdictions, and provide significant input into the development of a statewide plan that will utilize efforts already underway, and;

WHEREAS, through interoperable communications, the day-to-day operations of fire, police and other public safety responders, through improved communication and coordination, will be coordinated in preventing crime and accidents and be better prepared for and able to respond to natural disasters and multi-jurisdictional events, fulfilling the mission of saving lives and property.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of _____ supports the efforts of the Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network and the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council to achieve interoperable communications throughout the State of Oregon.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2009.

EXHIBIT B: FCC Petition for 700MHz Public Safety Broadband Network Waiver

Chair Johnson provided background on the possibility of the SIEC seeking authorization to build a 700MHz statewide broadband data network which would be part of the national public safety broadband network currently being planned. (Power point presentation slides were included in the packet distributed to SIEC members.) Basically, the State of Oregon needs to decide if it will be one of more than a dozen local entities seeking authorization from the FCC to create its own statewide broadband data network, utilizing the dedicated 700MHz spectrum, prior to the creation of a similar nationwide network. Doing so, said Johnson, would speed the introduction of high-speed data within the OWIN coverage area, mean an enhancement of data speed and capacity, nail down access to a finite resource, bring Oregon into a national network, create opportunities for more partnerships with local agencies and governments, lead to the development of partnerships with private enterprise and create broadband opportunities for areas of Oregon unserved and underserved when it comes to broadband access.

Charles Dowd, Deputy Chair of the New York Police Department and Jim Hassett, Radio Repair Manager for the NYPD, joined the presentation via telephone. New York City is one of the jurisdictions already seeking a waiver from the FCC to build a local/regional broadband network within the 700MHz broadband spectrum licensed to the Public Safety Spectrum Trust. Deputy Chair Dowd spoke of efforts on Capitol Hill to get Congressional approval for making a section of the 700MHz spectrum available for public safety use. He emphasized that while public/private sharing of spectrum is possible, it's essential that public safety use be the priority. As to Oregon seeking a waiver similar to that sought by New York City, Dowd said it would not hurt and could only help in securing 700MHz spectrum. Hassett said having that spectrum would put public safety agencies in a position of strength when it comes to forming public/private partnerships.