



State Interoperability Executive Council Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2013 – 1:30pm

Department of Public Safety Standards & Training | Hall of Heroes Conference Room
4190 Aumsville Hwy SE | Salem, Oregon 97317

<http://www.oregon.gov/SIEC/> | RadioProjectInfo@odot.state.or.us

On Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 1:38 p.m. Council Chair Rock Rakosi called the State Interoperability Executive Council to order.

ATTENDEES INCLUDE (Quorum)

Rock Rakosi, Chair
Craig Durbin
Julie Pearson
Joe Kuran

Martin Plotner *for Mike Caldwell*

Bob Cozzie
Mike Duyck
Mike Harryman
Brian Henson

Tom Lauer, *non-voting member*

Paul Bell
Luci Moore
Lonny Macy
Jeff Dickerson

Steve Noel, *non-voting member*

COUNCIL MINUTES

Staff: Chief Rock Rakosi, Chair

Chair Rakosi inquired whether there were any changes to the draft minutes for the Oct. 9, and Dec. 4, 2012 meetings. Hearing none, Chair Rakosi requested a motion to approve the minutes of both meetings. Chief Mike Duyck motioned to approve minutes from the October and December meetings. Mike Harryman seconded the motion; all were in favor. The minutes will stand.

CHAIRS REPORT

Staff: Chief Rock Rakosi, Chair

Chair Rakosi began by noting he was hoping to have the council's legislative concept out and in place by this meeting; however, the legislative deadline has been extended to next week. Senator Johnson provided approval to the council to seek legislative council sponsorship. The Association of Oregon Counties has been shepherding the document through the process. The intent and spirit of the concept have not changed since the council members reviewed the document December. Once available, copies will be distributed to the council.

Chair Rakosi reminded members that the State Radio Project budget has a line item for interoperability for which the council needs to develop a recommendation and spend plan for how to expend the funds.

The FirstNet board has released its federal grant plan known as the State and Local Implementation Grant Program, SLIGP. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration, NTIA will provide 80 percent of the funds, with the state or territory to provide a cash or in-kind match for the remaining 20 percent. Oregon's allocation is \$2.2 million with a \$550,000 match, for a total of \$2.75 million. Although the system concept vague, the state needs to develop a high-level implementation plan and budget recommendation. Prior to submitting a grant application, the state must receive approval from the legislature to apply. Grant applications are due March 19, 2013.

Finally, Chair Rakosi noted members of the Executive Committee met with the State Radio Users Group in November. The SRUG is interested in representation on the council, as the SRUG serves as the governing body of the ODOT/OSP system upon conclusion of the radio project. As of this meeting, Luci Moore will also represent the SRUG.

STATE RADIO PROJECT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Staff: Tom Lauer – Major Project Branch, State Radio Project

The project continues to progress. The radio deployment for ODOT has been completed. The OSP deployment is ahead of schedule and will be nearly complete by the end of February. The project will complete the remaining installations in March.

Mountaintop repeater installations at the existing sites are complete. The radio project has identified an additional set of sites that will receive repeaters to increase coverage. Staff are working to determine the installation schedule for those additional sites.

The preliminary designs are complete. The project has been able to forecast a budget shortfall of approximately \$20 million. The system upgrade and transition to narrowband will not be affected. At risk is the addition of the trunked radio system and the microwave equipment that is slated to support the trunked radio system. The radio project developed four budget options for review by the legislature; council members in attendance received a copy of the project's budget package.

- Option 1: Full scope option
 - Delivers the project scope as detailed in the Governor's 2011-2013 budget.
 - Estimated overrun of \$20 million.
 - Includes contingency of \$5 million.
- Option 2: Reduced trunked radio system
 - Reduces the trunked radio coverage by not purchasing trunked radio equipment for the Eugene and The Dalles areas.
 - Installs and constructs the associated microwave and site improvements, allowing for future expansion of the trunked radio system in these areas.
 - Estimated overrun of \$16 million.
 - Includes contingency of \$5 million.
- Option 3: Reduced trunked radio system with additional reduction to supporting system
 - Includes the same reductions in the trunked radio coverage as Option 2.
 - Excludes the associated microwave and site improvements necessary to support trunked radio operations in Eugene and The Dalles.
 - By not planning for future expansion, the existing equipment would become obsolete and would need to be replaced if and when the trunked radio system is expanded.
 - Estimated budget overrun of \$11 million.
 - Includes contingency of \$5 million.
- Option 4: On budget option
 - Includes same reductions to trunked radio coverage as noted in Option 3, and expands the reductions to include Portland and Bend.
 - Excludes the associated microwave and site improvements needed to support trunked radio in Eugene, The Dalles, Portland and Bend.
 - Places the state's spectrum licenses in the 700 MHz range at risk in 2015 due to lack of deployment of a trunked radio system.
 - Fails to address existing radio traffic congestion and signal interference issues due to the lack of deployment of a trunked radio system.
 - Limits the state's ability to develop enhanced interoperability with other trunked radio systems under development within the state.

- Reduces site improvements by \$5 million to compensate for a reduction in a contract incentive that gives the state a 20 percent discount from Harris Corp. on purchases totaling \$50 million or more. The reduction of the incentive from 20 percent to 10 percent costs the project \$5 million. Deferred improvements would likely need to be programmed into the capital portion of the maintenance and operations budget in the next two biennia.
- Delivers the project on budget as detailed in the Governor's 2011-2013 budget.
- Includes contingency of \$5 million.

Council members followed Lauer's overview of the budget options with questions.

Director Bob Cozzie asked why the project just now realized a shortfall as significant as \$20 million. Lauer responded that the initial budget was developed in 2011. The budget identified to meet the remaining OWIN obligations were not well forecasted. Budgets remained preliminary; as designs were further developed during summer 2012, it was noted that components needed to make the microwave and trunked radio systems were not included in the preliminary budget.

Joe Kuran asked why the line item of project management remains the same across all budget options. Lauer responded that although some project components are reduced in the various options, the project does not decrease in size by much. Narrowband implementation has been stretched over a longer period of time. In addition, other costs have been realized, including the need for reporting and quality assurance, beyond what was initially budgeted.

Brian Henson noted that when looking at the respective cuts for the microwave and trunked radio system, it seems as though the project is losing more microwave than trunked radio. Lauer responded that with a reduction in the trunked system, the microwave needed to support the TRS is reduced as well. Further, with a decrease in microwave equipment, so is the need for site improvements. For example, a site may require a new tower or tower expansion to support the large microwave dishes needed for the TRS. Without TRS at a given site, the existing tower now supports the equipment needed to maintain the conventional system and no longer requires additional site expansion.

Mike Harryman requested an additional discussion of the Harris Corp. discount loss and contingency requirement. With regard to the Harris discount, contractually the project receives a 20 percent discount on sales above \$50 million. For sales less than \$50 million, the discount decreases to 10 percent. If the legislature selects options one through three, this will not be a factor; this only applies to Option 4 that would maintain the existing project budget. As for the contingency recommendation, Lauer explained that this allows for leeway for price adjustments that may arise as the project is extended into the next biennium. The project's Legislative Working Group expressed concern about the contingency amount and was encouraged to increase it from \$5 million to \$10 million. Nationally, some projects carry a contingency reserve of up to 20 percent while others abstain from having a reserve at all. The reserve will provide an additional level of comfort for the project address unexpected expenses that may arise.

Council members continued the conversation by discussing whether it is appropriate for the SIEC to take a position of the radio project's budget.

Major Craig Durbin expressed concern that were the council to submit a recommendation on this issue, it creates an expectation to do so in the future.

Chief Duyck noted that it seems like the council should provide input; further noting that he is uncomfortable with abstaining completely from the discussion even though the council does not have authority over the project budget.

Director Paul Bell expressed concern about how and by what means the council would provide input to the legislature.

Chair Rakosi noted the scope of work and intent of the project is in alignment with the goals of the council.

Major Durbin recommended the council continue to cast its vision for [interoperability] within the state. The SIEC seeks to achieve state interoperability within all systems, [beyond the ODOT/OSP system]. If expressing an endorsement for one budget option over another supports this effort, [and better positions the council to achieve its vision], then it may be acceptable for the council to take a position on the matter.

Chief Duyck motioned to endorse the approval of the radio project budget option 1, which would maintain the full project scope as detailed in the Governor's 2011-2013 budget, so that it is in keeping with the overall desire to cause interoperability around the state. Sheriff Jeff Dickerson seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Lauer added the project will do whatever is needed to bring the project in on budget, should no additional funding be approved by the legislature.

Lauer continued with his report; as noted by Chair Rakosi in his opening statement, the FirstNet board has released its grant program to support the implementation of a national network. Lauer needs a recommendation from the council as to whether it will support seeking of the grant, as Lauer is to appear before legislature next Monday, Feb. 18. Two action items include whether it is appropriate for the SIEC to endorse Lauer in his efforts to seek the grant and to determine the source of the match requirement associated with the grant.

Major Durbin inquired where the funds needed for the match would come from. Lauer responded there is the potential to use some of the \$2.3 million slated for interoperability. The Partnerships and Technical committees are working to develop a plan for how best to expend those funds. If endorsed, Lauer would need to seek approval from the legislature to use those funds for the grant.

Major Durbin continued, if endorsed, what would be the expectation for future expenditures. Lauer responded that he cannot fully answer that question. Steve Noel noted the grant is a two part, three-year grant. The first phase focuses on planning and user education; the second on business planning. Major Durbin expressed concern about obligating the legislature at this time noting there is not enough detail available to make an educated decision.

Luci Moore questioned if a dual purpose could be gained from the match money. Chief Duyck asked whether the state could submit an application and withdraw, should the state identify a better option. Lauer responded that it is unclear whether an application can be withdrawn after submission. At this point, all that is known is that the first phase of the grant is for planning and does not tie to infrastructure or other development activities.

During the meeting, the group paused this discussion in lieu of finishing the remainder of the agenda and came back to the topic of the grant match at the end of the meeting. The following includes those items points discussed at that time.

From the information provided, it seems that the state has the option to claim a hardship, pending legislative approval and may be able to request a reduced match requirement. Another option available is the reallocation of funds; however, this option is less desirable as it can cause political friction where it is not needed.

Lauer reiterated that he must commit to the legislature Monday Feb 18, that match funds are available. It was also noted that Oregon already has some basic elements established, such as the SIEC, which will likely allow the state to make more efficient use of the grant funds. All agreed that it would be most beneficial to be proactive early on, increasing the likelihood of increased influence.

Prior to voting on a motion to endorse Lauer's commitment to the legislature that grant funds are available for use, the council quorum was lost. The council did not issue an opinion on the matter.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Staff: Bob Cozzie, Committee Chair

Director Cozzie noted that he had no update to provide as the committee did not meet since the last council meeting in December.

PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Staff: Kathy George, Committee Chair

As Commissioner Kathy George was not in attendance, no report was given.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Staff: June Carlson for Rick Iverson, Committee Chair

June Carlson reported there is an ongoing effort to pull together a membership list. The first meeting of the committee under the direction of Rick Iverson will be prior to the next council meeting in May.

STATE RADIO USERS GROUP REPORT

Staff: Luci Moore, Committee Representative

Moore reported a cost model has been established. SRUG members anticipate additional information about expenditures will be developed in the coming months. Also service level agreement between ODOT and OSP has been executed.

700 MHz REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Staff: Joe Kuran, Committee Representative

At the December meeting, the planning committee added its fifth 700 MHz allowance to the Rouge Valley Transportation District. The RVTD work will include two Motorola P25 700 MHz sites and will cover the Medford area. Other systems already in operation include:

- Frontier
 - 700 MHz Motorola, trunked system
 - For use by Sherman and Gilliam Count Sheriff's Offices
- Linn-Benton
 - Three site, seven channel P25 700 MHz simulcast
 - Four site, eight channel P25 700 MHz simulcast
 - Currently utilized by the City of Albany Police Department
 - Three site, four channel P25 non-simulcast

- Two site, MCC console system
 - Connectivity to a master switch
- Tri-Met
 - Four site, 700 MHz Tait system

Also at the December meeting, the group held a discussion about communications with neighboring agencies. Specifically, how does one know when transitions have been made? The group felt a common protocol should be developed for discussion between the groups.

OREGON PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND NETWORK PRESENTATION

Staff: Mike Boyden and Rick Williams

As part of the broadband effort, there was a need to develop planning documentation, including a business plan. Mike Boyden and Rick Williams of SAIC, Inc. provided an overview of the OPSBN plan. A copy of the presentation has been posted to the [SWIC page of the SIEC website](#) for review.

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Staff: Steve Noel

The technical assistance offerings for 2013 have been delivered. The scheduling of three events is already in the works.

- Annual State Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Update | April 2 and 3, 2013
- Communication Unit Leader (COML) Training | May 7 through 9, 2013
- Communication Unit Leader Exercise (COMLEX) Event | Early June

OPEN DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

Lauer noted there are surplus radios available for purchase through [DAS Surplus Property Section](#) in sets of six.

Kristi Wilde noted there is an ongoing connection between the SIEC and the Broadband Advisory Council. Chris Tamarin has begun attending the partnerships Committee and Steve Noel attends the Broadband Council on behalf of the SIEC to ensure both parties ensure communications.

ADJOURN

Chair Rakosi adjourned the December session of the SIEC at 4:14 pm.