



State Interoperability Executive Council

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

Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2008

SIEC Members Present (13): Kristi Wilde, Chris Brown, Dave Hard, Bob Strosser, Clark Seely, Peter van den Berg, Kathy George, Russ Burger, Joe Kuran, John Minnis, Clark Seely, Paul Bell, Sean McSpaden, David Brooks, Ken Keim for Ken Murphy, and Pierre Jones for Kevin Peterman

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

Interested Parties: Rod Ashmore, Thera Bradshaw, Rob Reish, Marty McKillip, Tom Clemo, Luis Alba, Tom Miller, Kit Eldredge, Mike Dykzeul, Jon Sholes, Rob Jones, Ann Steeves, Ray Gannen, Darren Rice, Barry Nathan, John Wilson, Liz Morgan, Nancy Jesuale, and Chris Tamarin

Ms. Wilde called the meeting to order, asking for approval of the January 8, 2008 minutes.

Motion: Mr. Strosser

Second: Mr. Minnis

Discussion: None

Passed.

Chair's Report ~Kristi Wilde

Ms. Wilde welcomed new members to the Committee. Major Chris Brown replaced Major Peter Spirup for the Oregon State Police. Paul Bell will now be the representative for the Department of Forestry, replacing Clark Seely. David Brooks, City of Portland, will serve as Chair of the SIEC Technical Subcommittee following Sean McSpaden's resignation as Chair of that subcommittee. Tribal representation is a high priority for the SIEC. A potential candidate has been identified and is currently being reviewed. The SIEC hopes to make an appointment by the next SIEC meeting.

Ms. Wilde discussed the 700 MHz auction for the D-Block which had only one bidder and that bid did not meet the reserve price the FCC established for that auction. Ms. Wilde had conversations with Chief Johnson and Mr. Ball who were in contact with leaders of the auction. The leaders were not concerned at this time regarding the auction and are hopeful for a viable bid. Mr. Kuran stated that since the bid's overall pool of money is growing the auction should be ok.

Ms. Wilde stated that Chief Johnson recently had meetings with the leaders from the Labor Organizations such as Fire, Police, Sheriffs and Troopers Association regarding the OWIN

project. The purpose of the meetings was to bring everyone up to date on OWIN and to support the OWIN project if they met with any legislators during session. The Fire Association announced they would make OWIN a priority.

Ms. Wilde discussed the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant guidance that had recently been released by the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The proposals are due by March 31, 2008 by 5 p.m. to OEM. The SIEC has recommended a panel to review the grant proposals and to make recommendations to OEM. Ms. Wilde had received a telephone call regarding the State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP). The caller had found an older version on another site. Ms. Wilde requested that if you need the SCIP, the only place to find the final version in on the SIEC website. Mr. McSpaden inquired about the November version of the SCIP that was submitted to the Federal government for review, and wanted to know if any results or comments were received. Ms. Wilde expected to hear about the results in a week or two, also the Investment Justifications (IJ's) may need to be rewritten.

OWIN Director's Report ~Lindsay Ball

Mr. Ball described the current microwave infrastructure that had been funded to date is the IWN, COPS grant and the Columbia River Intertribal Fisheries Enforcement. OWIN has been working on partnerships with the seven northwest Counties which are Clatsop, Columbia, Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Yamhill, and Tillamook. Last week at a meeting, the organization of the northwest seven counties had voted to cooperate with the OWIN project. This will save the state millions of dollars in partnering. Within the last few days another meeting was also held with Clatsop and Tillamook Sheriff's offices and emergency management staff. The representatives from these counties indicated they were interested in being partners in the OWIN Project.

Sheriff Burger and consultants for the southwest seven counties met with OWIN and discussed opportunities to leverage their efforts and resources in the build-out of OWIN. The funding they received is due to Congressman Defazio's efforts to support interoperability in his district. Once the infrastructure is built, it could be used and maintained by OWIN. OWIN plans to build the infrastructure within the next year. The OWIN radio system would be constructed during the 2009-11 biennium. Using this scenario (e.g. infrastructure then radio system), OWIN would be built out over three phases throughout Oregon to meet the 2013 deadline. The cost estimate for the northwest and southwest region infrastructure came to \$76 million and was presented to the legislature at today's meeting through the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO). The legislature approved \$76M of COP bonding authority. OWIN will provide additional information to the June Emergency Board and request authority to sell the bonds and the limitation to expend these funds. In 2009, OWIN will go back to the legislature and ask for a continuation of funding for the next phase of the build out.

Sheriff Burger questioned whether the \$76 million was in excess of any partnerships. Mr. Ball confirmed that the \$76 million was in conjunction with partnerships and that this only included the infrastructure, not radios.

Mr. van den Burg inquired whether OWIN could get all the proposed money from this legislative session and put it in a reserve fund instead of waiting for subsequent sessions to request the

funds. Mr. Ball stated that the legislature will not grant the total sum of money for the project at this time to put into a reserve.

Mr. Ball continued to state that there are opportunities to partner but that OWIN and the state must be flexible to take advantage of those opportunities. For example, Sheriff Burger and the seven southwest counties will lose \$9 million in allocated funds if they cannot use it within the next eighteen months.

Mr. McSpaden inquired about the infrastructure and whether discussions have come up regarding the needs of the OWIN program in regards to the siting authority and to place the towers and facilities in the correct place along the coast. Mr. Ball stated that a preliminary study showed we can partner on almost every existing site that was identified on the coast without having to purchase land or erect towers.

Ms. Wilde wanted to know what the cost savings would be in the northwest seven counties. Mr. Ball emphasized that it was a savings of \$42 million. The cost savings for the southwest seven counties would be different compared to the original Federal Engineering proposal. However, at this time that study had not been started therefore, a cost savings figure has not been calculated.

Sheriff Burger asked Mr. Ball how the presentation to the LFO was received, which happened earlier today. Mr. Ball stated that it was suggested that the governance model should be brought forth by the Executive Branch of the government on how OWIN should be governed. LFO suggested to the legislature that the SIEC Committee continue in its current role, add representatives as needed, and possibly have a bigger role in the governance of OWIN. The presentation to the legislators emphasized that if the OWIN project doesn't start this year, the 2013 deadline will not be met for Oregon. If the deadline is not met we risk losing federal grants and we risk losing the frequencies.

Mr. McSpaden stated that the previous approach to the project was to build the entire system and components and now it's the microwave system and other infrastructure and then in the future adding radios. This approach would need to maintain and support the legacy radio system longer which many are failing and at risk. Has an analysis been done to compare how long we can maintain and support the existing system? Mr. Ball commented that at this time there is no alternative, the determining factor is funding. He also reported that the Ways and Means meeting would meet this week and would deliberate the proposal of \$76 million.

Mr. Ball explained that the legislators appreciated hearing from the local governments and their positions with the respect to OWIN and how partnerships can be developed. This made quite an impact. He encouraged local constituents to put their pitch in for OWIN whether positive or negative to the legislators at this time.

The meetings with the AOC and LOC went very well, they were very supportive of the OWIN project and are looking forward to OWIN being developed in their area, and are also excited about the opportunity to partner.

The OWIN Workgroup meetings are underway this group is made up of staff from the four state agencies of ODOT, OSP, DOC and ODF. The workgroups are on committees such as Implementation, Design, Architecture, Service Management, External Agency, Finance and others. The workgroups will determine how OWIN would look with respect to the governance model and if the four agencies are consolidated, how all of the issues would be handled with regards to personnel. The workgroup's deadline is the end of April in order to know what OWIN would like from a consolidated point of view on behalf of the state government.

Committee Reports

Technical Committee ~ No Report

Partnership Committee ~ Sheriff Russ Burger

Sheriff Burger stated that the committee discussed the value of regional partnerships, the opportunities and the willingness to partner with OWIN and the seven northwest counties, seven southwest counties, and the Portland Metro area. The committee agreed about how important it is for the legislature to support the OWIN project. The discussion of the 555 Committee to be active in the legislative session in February continued, but they were unaware that the Ways and Means meeting would be this week. There wouldn't be enough time to have talking points available for the Ways and Means meeting. The 555 Committee is made up of five members from each of three associations, Sheriffs, Chiefs and Fire Chiefs. Their personnel are committed for the purpose of advocating for a statewide system.

Mr. Seely commented that partnerships are a key component to OWIN and regional efforts. They also need to look at the Federal government as a partner. In the southwest and eastern region the Forest Service and BLM have sites that could provide partnering opportunities for OWIN.

Strategic Planning Committee ~ No Report

Ms. Wilde commented that all committees original charter for Finance have completed their work. Therefore, Ms. Wilde believes it is advisable to place the Finance Committee in an inactive status until such time as they may be needed. A motion was put forth to the SIEC Committee.

Motion: Mr. Burger

Second: Mr. Seely

Discussion: None

Passed.

Finance Committee ~ No Report

Lincoln County Interoperability Exercise presented by Onno Husing and Anne Steves

The presentation focused on the interoperability between different public safety agencies. The Internet Protocol Interoperability and Communications System (IPICS) which distinguished the difference between Traditional and Non-Traditional Relationships, Integrated Networks Critical for Effective Operations and Emergency Management, Interoperability Continuum, Governance, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's), Technology, Training and Exercises, and Usage.

Lessons Learned from the exercise included:

- The “humanology” is as important if not more important than the technology-in the end it is all about human communications.
- The technology worked very well to provide stronger, more redundant, more route diverse, and more robust communications capacity and capability.
- Interoperability must consider both the traditional and non-traditional stakeholder if there is to be a “system.”
- Operability must come before interoperability and the CISCO IPICS system created both by connecting more than just radios.
- Location and device are no longer a hindrance to communicating with whoever you need to communicate with.
- If tactical communications exist, then IP networks can be used to connect two or more tactical networks together building a system of systems.

Open Discussion/Questions

None

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.