



State Interoperability Executive Committee Minutes

June 18, 2020

1:30 – 3:30 pm

Virtual Only via WebEx

1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees:

Robert Connal (Chair/WaTech)	Comm. Bobby Jackson (WSAC)	Angela Knight (OCIO)
Spencer Bahner (City of Seattle)	Rich Leon for Johnson (WDFW)	CeCe Zenker (OCIO)
Chief John Batiste (WSP)	Scott Loerts (LNI)	
Sheriff Blakeslee (WASPC)	Jim Sharp (WSFC)	
Keith Flewelling (APCO-NENA)	Chuck Turley (DNR)	
Mayor Jennifer Gregerson	Adam Wasserman for Ezelle (MIL)	
Crystal Hottowe (ATNI)	Jose Zuniga (DOC)	

Review of December 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Approve December 19, 2019, meeting minutes with no corrections. This motion was moved, seconded and carried. Effective date June 18, 2020.

2. NEWS AND INFORMATION ROUNDTABLE

Connal (WaTech) – Robert would like to do a review of the bylaws sometime in the future. They have not been updates since 2012. Also, Jose Zuniga will be leaving soon, so he will be looking for a replacement for a lead on the SIEC Work (SAW) Group which functions as the state Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC).

Wasserman (MIL) – The emergency operations center is still activated for the COVID-19 response and for any pending civil issues.

Leon (WDFW) – Interested in hearing about any communications issues among agencies working together to respond to the civil unrest.

Bahner (Seattle) – Would like to share some lessons learned at a future meeting about experiences related to the civil unrest.

Loertz (L&I) – Scott reported on a recent call that OSHA/DOSH hosted that was related to options available for radio/dispatch offices to keep staff safe if wearing masks would impede their jobs, and still comply with the Governor’s directive. Options include plastic Plexiglas walls between two people to create a barrier. More information and updates upcoming.

Turley (DNR) – In order to deal with the communications issues with wearing masks, DNR has made some changes in their standard operations in fire dispatch centers and in their airplanes to make sure that appropriate social distancing occurs.

3. **DOC RELOCATION OF WIRELESS ASSETS** – Jose Zuniga, Dept. of Corrections

In late 2018, SIEC approved DOC to purchase installation and licensing of a radio system at the Maple Lane School, as the department intended to open that school as a small, minimum custody campus. Since then, they started remodeling. However, due to COVID-19 and number of the other permitting issues, they suspended operations on that facility indefinitely.

Instead of the equipment just sitting in a warehouse, DOC would like to deploy the system at the Olympic Corrections Center near Forks, WA. Currently, there are four channels on Mt. Olympus. The plan is to split them, two at the corrections center and two remain on the mountain top.

Jose clarified this is a P25 digital system, however it will operate in the analog mode for a period of time.

MOTION: Approve DOC request to license frequencies at the Olympic Corrections Center. This motion was moved, seconded and carried. Effective date June 28, 2020.

4. **SCIP OBJECTIVES** – Jose Zuniga, Dept. of Corrections

Jose provided updates on the following:

- **SCIP Objective 4.1** – the field operations guide should contain an amendment detailing interoperability with adjacent entities such as Oregon, Idaho and British Columbia. A team is working with CRESA 911 on collecting the information on the interoperable agreements along the border.
- **SCIP Objective 4.2** – work has been ongoing to create a map of sites where state agencies are co-located. This map will be included in the field operations guide. There is also another dataset mapping project through State GIS Coordinator, Joanne Markert, along with NoaNet, OSPI and other entities to collate pre-existing data to identify unserved/underserved areas for broadband. Suggest Joanne for a demo at a future meeting.
- **SCIP Objective 4.3** – Jose is a CASM representative. He would like to see clear definition of the information provided in the system and decide how to maintain it. It should be limited to interoperable equipment and resources.
- **SCIP Objective 5.1** – Similar to CASM. It's important to collect and report on what equipment is available in an emergency incident.

5. **DRIVE-IN WIFI BROADBAND PROJECT** – Russ Elliott, Dept. of Commerce

Russ Elliott joined us to present details of the project to expand WiFi to underserved areas in the state, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. An immediate need for publicly accessible WiFi hotspots arose for citizens for telehealth, remote learning, telework, unemployment filing, and census participation.

Washington State University already had the idea for about 40 drive-in WiFi locations at their extension campuses. They agreed to let Commerce join in. Funding was hard to find. Several entities finally did contribute money such as Microsoft, ITDRC, Avista and the Governor's office. Once the WSU sites were up, they began setting up at libraries across the state and some schools, mainly schools in lower income areas. The collaboration continued with public utility districts, ports and community and technical colleges. Around 567 sites were up and running to date. NoaNet provided project management at no cost and deployed three teams across the state. There is also an online location finder at www.driveinwifi.wa.gov.

State agencies wishing to find out more about extending their WiFi can reach out to Russ's office.

The infrastructure installed at each location will stay at each of those locations in the event it's needed in the future. Russ is happy to come back to this committee for further discussion on this topic.

Chair Connal encouraged agencies to consider extending WiFi at their locations.

6. GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC COMMENTS

- No further comments or public comments.
- Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Next SIEC Meeting:
August 20, 2020
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Virtual only via WebEx