

Kansas SIEC
Regular Meeting
February 2, 2010

Minutes

The Kansas Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee met in regular session in the KDOT Executive Conference Room, 700 S.W. Harrison, in Topeka. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members present. Kent Koehler, Jimmy Reed, Tyler Brewer, Deb Miller, Kerry McCue, Bob McLemore, Alison Mueller, and John Eichkorn / proxy for Col. Terry Maple.

Others present. Scott Ekberg (KS-OEC), and JL Ellis (KS-OEC), Ed Geer (KDOT), Randy Moon (KHP), Scott Harrington (KHP), and Dwight Purtle (JOCO).

Call to order. The regular meeting of the Kansas SIEC was called to order by Kent Koehler, Chairperson.

Minutes. The minutes of the December 15, 2009 meeting were reviewed. With no additions or corrections, Jimmy Reed made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Deb Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

(Action #10-01)

SB48. Kent Koehler reported on Senate Bill 48 (SB48), a bill concerning the taxation of wire line and wireless telephone accounts for 911 system funding. The bill also addresses the purchase of 911 related infrastructures, including radio equipment. SB48 is scheduled for hearing on the House floor at 11:00 this date. Koehler reminded members that he has submitted testimony on behalf of the SIEC concerning the bill. Koehler indicated that the current text of the bill would allow the purchase of radio communications infrastructure using 911 tax funds, but specifically excludes the purchase of subscriber equipment (mobiles / portables). Discussion followed on the impact of this bill to public safety agencies seeking to upgrade their radio communications systems. Members indicated that representatives of their professional organizations were going to attend the 11:00 hearing. It was the consensus of the SIEC to follow the outcome of the hearing and discuss any additional SIEC actions via teleconference on Friday, February 5th at 10:00 AM.

OEC Report. Jason Moses reported on behalf of the Office of Emergency Communications. He indicated that the training initiative was moving along with a number of planned training sessions. Moses reported on the progress of the PSIC projects, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) report. Moses also informed the committee that all seven Homeland Security Regions have agreed to MOU their IECGP funds back to the state in order to convert two additional sites on the

statewide system to P-25 trunking. The sites will be located in Smith and Ford Counties. Additionally, a balance of IECGP funds combined with HSGP funds from the Northeast Region, will also convert the site in Morris County.

Awareness work. Kent Koehler followed up on prior discussions concerning awareness work. He stressed the need to share stories of cooperation, such as the IECGP projects, and to gather and disseminate success stories. Deb Miller suggested the creation of a historical paper discussing initiatives to date and to perhaps meet with legislative leadership(s) to demonstrate some of the technological advances realized through a number of communications projects. Members discussed having a legislative lunch that would include success stories and demonstrations. Discussion followed on potential funding sources for a lunch meeting. Members indicated that some of the professional organizations may be able to help fund such an initiative.

NECP goals. Jason Moses discussed goals of the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP). He indicated that goal #2 will require a great deal of data collection in order to stay compliant with the NECP. The DHS-OEC has offered to come to Kansas to discuss NECP goal #2 and has suggested a June timeframe. It was the consensus of the committee to schedule the DHS meeting in June with a specific date to be announced.

Narrowbanding. Scott Ekberg provided a presentation to the committee concerning the upcoming narrowband requirement from the FCC. By December 31, 2012 all public safety users in the VHF high-band and UHF band must reduce the bandwidth of their current radio systems by half, resulting in a migration from the traditional 25 KHz to 12.5 KHz of bandwidth. Jason Moses indicated that although the mandate has been publicized for a number of years, there has been little action in the public safety sector toward migration. He also indicated that vendors were concerned that customers would wait until the last quarter of 2012 to make the change, thus causing the vendors to not be able to keep up with demand. Moses suggested forming a Narrowbanding sub-committee, comprised of one representative from each Homeland Security Region, tasked with working with vendors and service providers in order to create a narrowbanding strategy for Kansas public safety agencies. Bob McLemore made a motion to create the narrowbanding sub-committee. Kerry McCue seconded. Motion carried unanimously. **(Action #10-02)**

Election and Appointment of Officers. Tyler Brewer made a motion to retain Kent Koehler as the SIEC Chairperson for 2010. Kerry McCue seconded. Motion carried unanimously. **(Action #10-03)** Kent Koehler appointed Kerry McCue as Vice-Chairperson.

Adjourn. With no further business before the committee, Deb Miller made a motion to adjourn. Allison Mueller seconded. Motion Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned. **(Action #10-03)**

Respectfully submitted,

Jason R. Moses
Interoperable Communications Coordinator
Kansas Adjutant General's Department
Office of Emergency Communications

APPROVED:

Kent Koehler, Chairperson