

Kansas SIEC
Regular Meeting
August 5, 2009

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 10:11 a.m.

Members present. Kent Koehler, Jimmy Reed, Deb Miller, Col. Terry Maple, Bob McLemore, Kerry McCue, and Richard Old.

Others present. Lt. Scott Harrington (KHP), Mr. Ed Geer (KDOT).

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

Minutes. The minutes of the February 12, 2009 meeting were reviewed. With no additions or corrections, Deb Miller made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Terry Maple seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

(Action #09-06)

Coordinators report. Jason Moses presented a report on activities of the Kansas Office of Emergency Communications. He discussed outreach to several counties, which included assistance to Anderson County during their PSAP move. Moses reported that the office was assisting on 27 grant projects, which did not include the new round of FY 2009 grants. Some of the FY 2006 and FY 2007 projects are beginning close out.

Kent Koehler and Jason Moses traveled to San Diego for the National Governor's Association (NGA) communications conference in June. Both reported making several good contacts and learning a great deal of information. During the conference, Moses was asked to be on a National Narrowbanding Committee.

Moses gave an update on the PSIC projects. He indicated that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) has released additional requirements for the PSIC Grant, 16 months after the beginning of the program. Jason along with Ed Geer from KDOT will be compiling the additional information required for NEPA. Moses also discussed a balance in the Strategic Technology Reserve funds and suggested using the balance for training radios and equipment tracking technologies for the deployable communications resources.

SIEC Membership. Kent Koehler discussed SIEC membership. Kent has visited with a number of SIGB members at the San Diego conference who indicated that they include representatives from county and city leadership organizations. Koehler suggested that we

consider the same and recommended soliciting membership from the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) and the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC). Jason Moses also suggested that we consider a member from the Kansas City UASI. Discussion followed. Members felt that all of the public safety disciplines are represented on the committee, but are not necessarily representing specific geographic areas. Committee members agreed that a UASI representative should be invited to attend the meetings, but should hold a non-voting seat. Deb Miller made a motion to add membership to the SIEC from the LKM and KAC. Kerry McCue seconded. Kent Koehler discussed the charter rules on membership and asked if the two seats would be voting or non-voting. Upon research it was determined that they would be voting members. Members discussed the LKM and KAC appointments and agreed that the appointments should be filled with leadership representatives, such as a council person or county commissioner, and not with organization staff or public safety personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

(Action #09-07)

Legislative updates. Kent Koehler discussed the need to keep legislators informed of SIEC activities and needs. Koehler suggested that the committee work on determining a method by which legislative officials would receive information from the SIEC. Much discussion followed. Terry Maple said that Sen. Emler and Rep. Tafanelli have been strong advocates for public-safety in the legislature and suggested that they may be our best avenue. Deb Miller and Terry Maple indicated that they spend a great deal of time working with legislative members and would work together to make arrangements. Maple also indicated that he would also visit with General Bunting and include him in the process.

Agenda item tabled. Due to time constraints, the Sub-Committee agenda item was tabled for a future meeting.

FEMA RECCWG. Jason Moses discussed the FEMA Region VII Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECCWG). The RECCWG is a multi-state coordination group that includes Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas. Moses, who chairs the group, indicated that several of the representatives on the RECCWG were concerned as to the membership and purpose. Current membership includes up to 50 persons that may, or may not, be part of the existing communications governance bodies within each state. Region VII membership has suggested that the existing governance bodies be used as membership for the RECCWG and that the coordinators from each state would act as liaisons. The liaisons would meet as necessary and relay information between the states. Moses said that there was an upcoming RECCWG meeting in Kansas City and would like to address the issue there. Moses asked the SIEC membership for support of this governance model. It was the consensus of the committee to support the recommendation.

Programming and System Keys. Kent Koehler requested information concerning the programming of P-25 subscriber units on the statewide system and the sharing of the system key with vendors and other radio shops. Ed Geer indicated that there is an issue with the programming software and the use of the advanced system key. Geer indicated

that the issue has been forwarded to Motorola for resolution. Until the issue is resolved, KDOT is reluctant to share the key for several reasons. Geer said that advanced system keys, with restrictions, have been given to vendors as a short-term resolution. Koehler indicated that he had been approached by Tait, who indicates that they have equipment capable of operating on the statewide system. Koehler asked Ed Geer if he was aware of the Tait equipment. Geer said that he has visited with representatives from Tait, and has asked for equipment that can be tested on the system. Tait has not produced the equipment. Geer indicated that he can not say if the equipment will work until they have the opportunity to test. Geer discussed several vendors that claim to have compliant equipment and said that he would be glad to test the equipment if provided by the company.

Adjourn. With no further business before the committee, Terry Maple made a motion to adjourn. Jimmy Reed seconded. Motion Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned. **(Action #09-08)**

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED:

Kent Koehler, Chairperson