

Minutes
Public Safety Data Network Governance Board
December 19, 2012
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
1111 Country Club Road
Middletown, Connecticut

Committee Members

Ernest Herrick
John Elsesser
Ted Schroll
Jeff Vannais

Representing

Volunteer Fire Service
Council of Small Towns
Connecticut State Firefighters Association
E9-1-1 Commission

Others in Attendance

Reuben Bradford	Commissioner, DESPP
Raphael Barishansky	Dept. of Public Health
Bonnie Guarnieri	Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications
Jeff Otto	Quinebaug Valley Communications
Mark Raymond	Dept. of Administrative Services/BEST
Steve Spellman	Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Sean Thakkar	Criminal Justice Information Systems Governing Board
Stephen Verbil	Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications
John Vittner	Office of Personnel Management
Gerald Werner	Dept. of Administrative Services/BEST
William Youell	Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications
Jim Mindek	Connecticut Education Network

Call to Order:

Ernest Herrick called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Chairperson Comments

Ernie Herrick referenced an email that was sent out on October 24th indicating that he appointed himself as Chairman of the Committee. He stated that he was in fact advised that he would be the Chairman, which consequently made him a member of the committee. An interpretation of the legislation that was passed that gave the E9-1-1 Commission the authority to oversee the implementation of this program apparently lead people to believe that he should be the chairman.

PSDN Construction Update

Bill Youell reported that the network is on schedule as planned with an operational date of Sept 1, 2013. Equipment has been installed at 425 of 515 PSDN sites which is approximately 82%. Installation for the remaining sites will continue throughout the spring. The total project which includes the PSDN and the CEN is at 89% with 842 of the 941 installed. There are 112 sites connected with COLLECT and P25 radio applications currently up and working. 8500 miles of fiber have been completed out of a projected deployment of 8880 miles which is approximately 96%.

Application Template/Dashboard

Jim Mindek, Connecticut Education Network, presented a demonstration of the Application Template, which is located at the CEN website. This demonstration gave a step by step explanation of the Nutmeg Network Use Request Form. This form is located at: <https://web9.uits.uconn.edu/cen/request.php>, and is now a public site available to anyone. It can be accessed from anywhere including smart phones. He stated that the total process has nine steps in addition to ten sub-steps. This application is subject to change.

Jeff Vannais asked if there was going to be any information on the PSDN that should not be open to the general public. If yes, who will handle this? Bill Youell stated that it will be necessary for parts of the data to be redacted from the public. No decision has been made as to who will handle this process. Mark Raymond stated that there is a technical way to have the information collected, however, to be kept from the general public. It can be flagged as a redacted application.

Ernie Herrick stated that this is the Committee to approve or disapprove all PSDN final applications including those with police related information. Due to this fact, he questioned if the Commission members will need security clearance or special IDs.

John Elsesser stated the possibility of going to Executive Session for purposes of Homeland Security exemption. He stated that, once operational, the Commission members should have the authority to see bandwidth data.

Jeff Vannais stated that 911 should be the top priority of the assignment of data. Bill Youell verified that 911 is the top priority. Other applications may be dealt with on a first come, first served basis as one option, or the Board can establish priority.

Region 4 Beta Test Application

Jeff Otto ESF-2, R-4, presented a document reporting the status of R-4. This report has been included with the minutes.

Jeff Otto requested approval to install the remaining consoles. John Elsesser made a motion to authorize the additional connections of the R-4 Interoperable Communications Networks subject to the satisfactory completion of an MOU. Jeff Vannais seconded the motion.

Bill Youell stated the response to R-4's comments regarding the MOU should be completed within the next few weeks, and should not hold up any future installations. There was a unanimous vote in favor of.

New Applications

John Elsesser stated that the Connecticut Chiefs have a plan that is well along and are asking people to buy hardware through different grant sources. He asked if they need to file an application or is someone telling them they need to file an application? He asked if something has been approved already but not brought before the Board. Working through OPM they determine whether a switch or router is needed. They have gone out to 54 municipalities/police departments and stated you need "this or that" and John would like to know where is that in this process.

Mark Raymond reported that the use that is being described is for the CISS/CJIS application which, by definition, was one of the allowable core applications on PSDN. It had been a pre-defined application to ride on the network from the original design of the network.

John Elsesser asked if MOUs are required. Mark suggested that one should be written with regards to the utilization of the network.

Sean Thakker reported that CISS is a mandated application by legislation and was approved to use the PSDN and therefore a classified application. It was a pre-approved core application and no MOU is necessary.

Ted Schroll asked if the application is classified or if the data on it is classified? Sean responded that both were classified. He reported that the CJIS website has detailed information on this matter.

Ted Schroll asked when acceptance of new applications will begin. Bill stated that the network application for use link will be posted shortly; application acceptance should begin soon.

Mark Raymond reported that the Open Access/CEN side is much further along than the PSDN. Construction is expected to be completed much sooner than September, 2013. Phase I is already alive and active. Phase II has not been activated yet on the Public Safety side.

Discussion

There were several questions raised by the Commission members. Jeff Vannais suggested getting more information out to the public educating them about the PSDN. He suggested getting out proactive materials, perhaps creating handouts. Bill Youell concurred that there are venues for that and stated DSET was working on updating the PSDN “glossy.” He stated that the information will be made available to all stakeholders.

It was agreed by members of the Commission to continue to meet bi-monthly. It was also agreed that if necessary, meetings frequency will change to a monthly basis.

Public Comment:

Paul Farley, Willimantic Dispatch Center, suggested that the Board notify the public safety community what is available to them. There is concern about pumping video from a tower site so that they can monitor a tower site with cameras. He stated that his site is listed with the state police. He questioned the application process and what the necessary steps are to be taken. He asked why the Willimantic tower was chosen and whether they will be able to utilize the system. He also questioned how much room was going to be needed for a large box and rack space.

Bill Youell stated that every potential application was not identified in the original grant submission but the goal was to have the network reach all corners of the state and this goal has been met.

Jeff Otto stated that in the beginning when the sites were being selected there were strong suggestions that many public safety tower sites be included as terminal points for the network. There are only seven that are not associated with the state police and identified and not connected. Mark Raymond requested contact information from Paul Farley and will follow up on his questions.

Jeff Vannais motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John Elssesser. The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.