

Interoperable Communications Committee

July 21, 2011

9:00 a.m.

RIEMA Headquarters

Cranston, RI

Attendees:

Chief J. David Smith, RIEMA

Gina Caruolo, Department of Corrections

Frank Floor, Department of Environmental Management

Lieutenant T. Cullinan, East Providence Fire Department

Major Joe Raulinaitis, FDA, HHS

Dawn Lewis, HARI

Ron Provost, Motorola

John Vernancio, New England Ambulance

Ralph Nahagian, North Providence Communications

Joe McGarry, Providence Communications

Paul Budzenski, RIEMA

Mike Walsh, RIEMA

Paul Laflamme, RIPTA

Karen Pinch, RI State Police

Brian Swann, Motorola

Brian Glancy, RIEMA Appointee

Andrew Zarlenski, New England Ambulance

Ivan Pogacik, RIPTA

Chief Smith opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m., reiterating that he was leaving RIEMA, and that once he departs, he hopes the committee members will continue the good work of the commission, including exploring every possible avenue for future funding. Rhode Island's ICC is respected nationally and it is important to sustain its mission.

Grants: take advantage of grant opportunities in different environments. If grant applications need coordination through communications platforms, through high performance data, through new computer technology software programs, fiber optics, etc., think of those as a possible tool.

Region 19

A large number of frequencies are not being used anymore. There was a promise to the FCC that if they were no longer used, they would be returned to the FCC for reassignment to other agencies. Mr. McGarry been inundated with letters asking for these no-longer used frequencies. One such request was from the Attleboro Police. The concern is that if Providence gives a frequency to Attleboro, it could possibly interfere with Boston's frequencies and create a major problem. The process for turning the

frequencies over to the FCC was explained thusly: Mr. McGarry writes a letter to APCO releasing the frequencies; this keeps Providence in compliance with their agreement with the FCC, and APCO reassigns the frequency.

Before the licenses expire, a letter should be sent to Mr. Aucoin explaining that there is no intent to renew the license and that it was one of the Region 19 give-backs.

Norm Boucher has done a comprehensive frequency audit. ICC should check with him to see where that stands. Each of us, when we submitted our grant applications, understood that there would be some give-backs. The give-backs involve on Providence, North Providence and Narragansett. None of the other communities were involved in the give-backs.

Chief Smith suggested that Norm Boucher be asked to the next meeting of the Committee to answer any questions the committee members have concerning frequencies.

Chief Smith also would like to invite Jarred Devine, the new FEMA Emergency Communications Coordinator, to the next meeting and that he be added to the email distribution list as well.

Next Region 19 meeting: September 13 in Framingham, Massachusetts.

Project Updates:

North Kingstown: More work next week. National Grid is doing their part. Generator is working. No timeline on the work order. (Unintelligible) North Kingstown is replacing two antennas.

Middletown: tower is delivered; Motorola is meeting internally to discuss how to proceed. Replacing air conditioners at Chopmist in two weeks.

East Providence: Should have the quote on Thursday or Friday. According to Mr. Provost, the quote will be ready on Friday. Most likely projected date that East Providence will go online is October or November, depending on how fast the equipment comes in.

RIPTA is ready to sign contract. Working with third party to get equipment, and everything is on schedule.

Mr. Nahagian has been working with Johnston Fire to get their console up online. It will be online in the next couple of months, which will give them two control stations and have 800 frequency capabilities.

Old Business:

RINET is combining with OSHEAN and will become a commercial venture.

Stu Freyman and RI Economic Development Corporation have a Rhode Island Broadband Committee. Director Smith suggested that, as they meet, that the ICC send a representative to be part of those discussions. Law requires that development of systems or projects in Rhode Island have to come through the ICC, at least for situational awareness. ICC should reach out to George Loftus and bring him back into the ICC.

**On Next Month's Agenda: Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)
Peter Fucci, Safer Institute to be invited**

Craig Wilson and one of his assistants from Washington are meeting informally in Newport tonight, and tomorrow morning at RIEMA. He is the national credentialing person. We purchased our credentialing software from them. **A report on this will be ready for the next meeting.**

Training:

Finishing up the XDL-1500

Train the Trainer course to be held second week of September (7th, 8th or 9th).

Make sure right people are assigned as trainers for this course

Probably held at the Radisson (Michelle SanSouci will advertise)

Performance and Accountability:

Final draft was reviewed yesterday and the Adjutant General and Deputy and should be able to have something in print within the next week or so.

New Business:

Chief Smith is interested in remaining a member of ICC, with the approval of the ICC membership. Each member will be receiving an updated list of appointments by law (21 seats). At the next meeting perhaps there can be a discussion and vote on how Chief Smith could be allowed to serve on the ICC, perhaps as an At-Large member, or perhaps as the Adjutant General's designee, or to fill any other vacancy on the ICC. **Hopefully at the next meeting a motion and vote can be taken on this issue.**

RISCON:

A general discussion ensued about the misinformation online concerning RISCON and how or if that information should be corrected and by whom.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Caruolo

Seconded: Mr. McGarry

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.