

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)
October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)
110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

1. Roll Call / Introductions
 - a. Terry Hall, Chair
 - i. Meeting to order at 10:03AM
2. Introductory Remarks
 - a. Terry Hall, Chair
 - b. Gabe Elias, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, (SWIC)
3. Approval of Previous SIEC Minutes
 - a. Terry Hall, Chair
Amend (NENA in yellow)
Approved as amended to insert NENA representative
Motion to approve William Martin, second by Rodney Thompson
Approved 13 / Abstained 1 / Nay 0
4. SCIP Update and Adoption
Review of draft updates to 2023 SCIP – Terry Hall, Michelle Gowdy, SWIC
Michele Gowdy Review of the subcommittee
Questions / Discussion - Broadband on pg. 11
Recommendation to change to below:
A cautious but intentional approach to broadband is required, given its fast-paced development and sometimes unclear risks. The deployment of proprietary technologies in broadband risks creating new silos. Breaking the bounds of LMR coverage opens doors for interoperable connections across systems and distance but introduces risk and reliance on commercial infrastructure. Where standards are unavailable, Virginia should push industry to develop them.
Approved as amended with the above change to Broadband on page 11
Motion to approve the SCIP by Pete Kirby, second Steve Willoughby
Approved 17 / Nay 0
 - a. Discussion of 2024 update cycle – direction / information only
 - i. Gabe – be prepared for another update cycle next year. Question to the group on doing a workshop? Discussion followed -
 1. CISA (Tom Gagnon) webinars
 - a. Surveys – capture predominate interest and desires
 - b. Group discussed workshops – in person and virtual – around the state, including outside expertise
 - b. Additional Comments
 - i. At this time, State Coordinator of Emergency Management Shawn Talmadge arrived and provided additional welcoming remarks to close out this portion of the agenda.

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)
October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)
110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

5. VDEM 9-1-1 Geospatial Services Bureau Update
 - a. Dorothy Spears-Dean, VDEM Deputy State Coordinator for 9-1-1 and Geospatial Services
 - i. Discussion on NG9-1-1
 1. More than halfway through statewide deployment - 53% with 63 PSAPs
 2. 54% of all 9-1-1 calls are being geospatially routed
 3. Discussion of end of timeline – December 2024
 - a. Re-planning 2024 timelines – completing the deployments by the end of October 2024
 - b. KPMG (3rd party) is engaged
 - c. Discussion of events at the conference

Questions – Terry Hall

Funding: future opportunities to fund cyber?

Dorothy - How do we support 24 separate contracts currently; is there efficiency and cost to do it statewide (work needs to be done first); 911 strategic plan to figure out that the needs of the community; collect the information of the needs and requirements.

Shawn Talmadge – Cybersecurity

Proactive / work together

Cyber vulnerabilities report

Level cyber exercises occurring (will be going around the state)

Catastrophic planning event 3 million grant from FEMA

State and local cybersecurity grant program has been approved

6. Carrier Updates
 - a. FirstNet Built with AT&T (Pete Hatcher) and First Responder Network Authority (Lori Stone)
7. Working Lunch – Training Discussion
 - a. Calendar year 2023 interoperability training reviewed – Gabe Elias
 - b. Discussion of what training opportunities for 2024
 - i. Self-sustained training
 - ii. Functional Exercising
 - iii. Incorporating communications into current exercises that occur
 - iv. Think about cyber solutions while doing this training
 - v. include more AUXCOMM (Auxiliary Communications)
 - vi. include the dispatchers in these training events/exercises
 - vii. basic radio training for field personnel and dispatchers
 - viii. webinars on encryption
8. COMLINC 2.0 Project and Future Status
 - a. Rich Schoonover (VSP Communications Division)

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)
October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)
110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

- i. 145 sites complete
- ii. Began in November 2020 and completed 9/30/2023
- iii. Technicians will visit each site twice per year
- b. Discussion on what 3.0 would look like
 - i. Continue to enhance working relationships between local and state
 - ii. Increased redundancy
- c. Volunteers – Rodney, Bradley, Mike K., Terry, Gabe, Bill D.

Motion made to create a COMLINC 3 Work Group

Bill made the motion and Rodney made the second

12 approved / 0 Nay

**** Contingent on virtual meeting discussion to be had with the Gabe and the Office of the Attorney General (OAG)**

9. Break

10. Regional Project – Bill DeCoste (VSP Communications Division)

- a. Williamsburg VSP tower site
 - i. Talking with partner in the Williamsburg area
 - 1. No cost to locality, affordable way to co-locate
 - 2. Reduce the cost of interoperability
 - 3. Goal to interconnect the regional radio system with STARS
 - a. It being a STARS asset, 22 other agencies come along with it

11. Carrier Updates

- a. Verizon Update: Kenny Ray, Elizabeth Harrison,

12. Virtual meeting discussion

- a. Gabe to get with OAG office ref approving virtual meetings for work groups

13. Interoperability Summit Update

- a. Terry Hall, Chair
 - i. Dana Schrad
 - 1. Logistics
 - 2. Need a planning committee for this Summit
 - ii. Ideas: Cybersecurity, LMR, Convergence, Success stories, Cyber track for the IT track, Emergency Management for PSAP Track
 - iii. Volunteers: Michele, Dana, Terry (Chair), Fire Chiefs, RPAC - 4

Motion made to create Summit work group

Terry made the motion and Michelle second

12 approved / Nay 0

**** Contingent on virtual meeting discussion to be had with the Gabe and the OAG**

14. Tom Gagnon – CISA update

15. Break – (Intended visit to class did not occur)

16. State Updates

- a. VDEM

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)

October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)

110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

- i. Mike Keefe
 1. Approved to have the concept of COMLINC and STARS to Fire OP
 2. December – Cybersecurity program manager to start
- b. VDH
 - i. \$4.5M grant (upgrade 250 sites statewide) 2/3 finished
 1. QSYS
 - ii. New RIOS gateway at alternate site in Hanover
 - iii. Wise County area health district
 1. No internet coverage (vans) uses Starlink now and works out well
 - iv. Medical Reserve Corps
 1. Large portion are HAM radio operators
 - a. They have volunteered to staff communications sites if needed
- c. VDOT – Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
 - i. A report was emailed from VDOT – presented below:
 - VDOT is working to finish any remaining changeover of STARS mobile and portable equipment associated with STARS Phase 5 project. We will be substantially complete by the end of October.
 - In conjunction with the STARS Phase 5 project, we are re-orienting field users to STARS shared interoperability talkgroups usage to ensure ongoing interoperability among STARS partner users (i.e. VSP and other STARS users).
 - We further anticipate discussions, drills, and other actions with STARS partners to ensure effective use in the shared interoperability talkgroup areas. We look forward to these as well as locality participation in a coordinated fashion.
 - Our COMLINC stations at the Transportation Operation Centers (TOCs) have been updated. Some programming work with the associated radios remains with the COMLINC install team. We look forward to potential interaction from localities on leveraging the COMLINC platform to our TOC locations as well.
 - We support the update of the SCIP as well as ongoing stakeholder engagement and planning for future interoperability platforms. With regard to future planning, we encourage this in order to address budgetary needs as well as technology evolution.
- d. DMA – Virginia Department of Military Affairs – Mike Pittman
 - i. Cyber assessment teams
 - ii. New communications trailer currently housed in Richmond
 - iii. 9 transportable kits in bags to protect from electromagnetic pulse (EMP)
- e. VITA – Virginia Information Technologies Agency - nothing significant to report (NSTR)

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)

October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)

110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

- f. VDOF
 - g. VSP – Virginia State Police
 - i. Captain Bradshaw
 - 1. \$132M radio project with the VSP and 22 state agencies
 - ii. Bill DeCoste
 - 1. Improve coverage for STARS in the Commonwealth
 - 2. P25 Phase 2 by this time next year
 - 3. In conversation with localities for co-locations
 - 4. Subscribers: 4200 mobiles, 1500 portables (on the Verizon network), 5000 asset total in the field
 - 5. SIRS coming out of vehicles in January; working on project to replace some functionality
17. Regional Updates
- a. RPAC-I Chairs
 - i. Region 5 – Terry Hall
 - 1. Working on ORION – upgrade was approved by localities CAOs
 - 2. Formed another subcommittee
 - ii. Region 4 – Curtis Crawford
 - 1. RFP – new LMR systems
 - 2. NG911 cutovers occurring
 - iii. Region 6 – Rodney Thompson
 - 1. Botetourt awarded RFP
 - 2. NG911 cutovers occurring
 - b. VA Communications Cache
 - i. training initiatives; new members in place in management and technicians
18. Virginia Fire Chiefs Association – John Prillaman
- a. Suggestion to add COMU training to upcoming Fire & Rescue Conferences (February, Virginia Beach) – CY24 is filled but out-years potential.
19. Association Updates
- a. VACP – Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police - no update
 - b. VA APCO
 - c. VSFA – Virginia State Firefighters Association
 - i. First meeting
 - d. Tribal
 - e. VACALEA
 - f. VML – Virginia Municipal League – Michelle Gowdy
 - i. Cybersecurity is a legislative priority
 - g. ARRL
 - h. SCHE
 - i. VAGEMSA – Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators – NSTR
 - j. VALGITE – Virginia Association of Local Government IT Executives

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)
October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)
110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

- i. Newly on this committee; new president (Tim Wyatt), top priority is cybersecurity
 - k. VPPF
 - l. VMAC
 - m. VA NENA – VA Chapter of National Emergency Number Association – NSTR
 - n. VSA – Virginia Sheriff’s Association – Terry Hall - NSTR
 - o. VSPA
 - p. VFCA
 - q. VACO
20. Statewide radio study: Based on request from Delegate Kilgore to State Coordinator Talmadge
- a. Purpose to provide data points and analytics reflecting funding challenges localities are facing related to land mobile radio systems
 - b. 110 responses from the survey sent out to localities
21. Old Business - None
22. New Business
- a. Virtual meeting policy – SIEC Chair
 - b. Scheduling CY 2024 – meetings
23. Items from Public
- a. None
24. Adjourn (motion)

Action Items:

- Communicate with the localities who have not installed COMLINC - - Terry Hall and Gabe Elias (Rich to email the localities)
- Gabe to get with OAG reference to work groups meeting virtually

Meeting Adjourned at 2:49PM

Next Meeting: TBD

Membership; Appointment (BOLD = PRESENT)

- 1. Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, or his or her designee
- 2. **Superintendent, Virginia State Police, or his or her designee**
 - a. **Captain Thomas Bradshaw**
- 3. Director, Virginia Department of Fire Programs or his or her designee;
- 4. **State Coordinator, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, or his or her designee**
 - a. **Mike Keefe – Replaced by Shawn Talmadge upon arrival**
- 5. **Director, Virginia Department of Health - Office of EMS, or his or her designee**
 - a. **Sam Burnette**

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)
October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)
110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

6. **Director, Virginia Department of Health - Office of Emergency Preparedness, or his or her designee**
 - a. **Brad Bradley**
7. **Adjutant General of the Department of Military Affairs, or his or her designee**
 - a. **Mike Pittman**
8. **Chief Information Officer, Virginia Information Technology Agency, or his or her designee;**
 - a. **Todd Kissam**
9. **Commissioner, Virginia Department of Transportation, or his or her designee**
10. **State Forester, Department of Forestry, or his or her designee;**
11. **SWIC (ex officio)**
 - a. **Gabe Elias**
12. **a representative of Region 1 Regional Preparedness Advisory Committee – Interoperability (RPAC-I), appointed by Region 1 RPAC-I**
13. **a representative of Region 2 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 2 RPAC-I**
 - a. **William Martin**
14. **a representative of Region 3 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 3 RPAC-I**
 - a. **Jamie Shumaker**
15. **a representative of Region 4 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 4 RPAC-I**
 - a. **Curtis Crawford**
16. **a representative of Region 5 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 5 RPAC-I**
 - a. **Terry Hall**
17. **a representative of Region 6 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 6 RPAC-I**
 - a. **Rodney Thompson**
18. **a representative of Region 7 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 7 RPAC-I;**
 - a. **Jeffrey Holmes**
19. **a representative of Virginia Association of Counties**
20. **a representative of Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police**
 - a. **Dana Schrad**
21. **a representative of Virginia Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators**
 - a. **Dana Schrad as Proxy/Representative for Chief Craig Branch by prior arrangement**
22. **a representative of Virginia Fire Chiefs Association**
 - a. **John Prillaman**
23. **a representative of Virginia Association of Government EMS Administrators;**
 - a. **Dan Norville**
24. **a representative of Virginia NENA**
 - a. **Stephen Willoughby**
25. **a representative of Virginia APCO**
26. **a representative of Virginia Municipal League**
 - a. **Michelle Gowdy**
27. **a representative of Virginia Local Government IT Executives;**

Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)

October 24, 2023 (CY23 4th Quarter)

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
(At the Virginia Fall APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference)
110 Shenandoah Ave NE, Roanoke, VA 24016 – Pocahontas Room

a. Vanessa Bohr

28. a representative of Virginia Sheriff's Association

a. Terry Hall

29. a representative of Virginia State Firefighters Association;

a. Pete Kirby

30. a representative of Virginia Amateur Radio Emergency Services/RACES

31. a representative of Virginia Professional Firefighters;

32. a representative of the Virginia State Police Association;

33. a representative of Tribal governing councils, or his or her designee;

34. a representative of the State Council of Higher Education;

35. a representative of the Virginia Military Advisory Council.