



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Interoperability Committee Meeting

Minutes

January 12th, 2021

9:30am

Remote Conference Call

Call to Order

- The February 9th, 2021 meeting of the NERAC Interoperability Committee was called to order by Chair Chris Ryan at 9:30am. He asked for approval of the minutes from the January 12th, 2021 meeting.

MOTION put forth by J. Griffin.

- Approve the January 12th, 2021 meeting minutes.
 - Seconded by R. Patterson.

Vote taken by rollcall: C. Ryan, M. Mansfield, M. Collins, T. Dechene, M. Foster, J. Targ, D. Spinosa, J. Brickett voted in favor.

Budget Update

- All Committee members will be provided, via email, with the following budget update:

Project Name	Funding Year	Allocated Amount	Encumbered Amount	Invoiced Amount
NSR911 Center Communications Shelter Wiring	FFY2018	\$24,175.00	\$24,175.00	\$24,175.00
NSR911 Center Surge Protection	FFY2018	\$2,820.00	\$2,820.00	\$2,820.00
CMED MUX Conversion	FFY2018	\$43,870.00	\$43,870.00	\$43,870.00
CMED Console Upgrade	FFY2018	\$15,537.00	\$14,980.00	\$14,980.00
Fire District 14 Portable Radios	FFY2018	\$85,992.50	\$85,992.50	\$85,992.50
Beverly Cache Site Portable Radios	FFY2018	\$96,473.94	\$96,473.94	\$96,473.94
Fire District 5/15 Radio Upgrades	FFY2018	\$76,480.00	\$76,480.20	\$76,480.20
District 5 Microwave Tower	FFY2019	\$91,045.29	\$0.00	\$0.00
NEMLEC Portable Radios	FFY2019	\$45,000.00	\$44,330.25	\$44,330.25
Field Communications Unit Upgrades	FFY2019	\$25,000.00	\$21,123.64	\$4,500.00
COML Programming BF/OT Support	FFY2019	\$14,364.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fire District 5/15 Radio Simulcast Upgrades	FFY2019	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
COML/COMT Training	FFY2020	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Communications Unit Upgrades	FFY2020	\$14,299.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cybersecurity Initiatives	FFY2020	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fire District 5/15 Portable Radio Cache	FFY2020	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fire District 5/15 Simulcast UHF	FFY2020	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fire District 5/15 Wide Area VHF	FFY2020	\$85,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Fire District 6 Communications Upgrades	FFY2020	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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*Cache/Interop Committee Joint Project

Unallocated Amounts:

- FFY2018: \$0.00
- FFY2019: \$0.00
- FFY2020: \$0.00

Current Grant End Dates:

- FFY2018: December 31st, 2020
- FFY2019: July 31st, 2021
- FFY2020: July 31st, 2022

Project Updates/Discussion

Fire District 6 Communications Upgrades

- SIEC and EOPSS approval was received for this project last week at the SIEC meeting.
- MAPC is putting together the EHPs for this project.
- EHP approval can take anywhere from a couple of weeks to a month or more, but once EHP approval is received we will conduct the procurement. We have updated quotes for all equipment and installations, and a list of vendors.

Fire District 5 and 15 Portable Radio Cache

- This project is the purchase of 12 all band portable radios for the Essex County Fire Chiefs Association.
- This project was also approved at last weeks SIEC meeting and no EHP approval is required, so Austin has been working on putting together the procurement documents, which should be good to go this week.
- This procurement is over \$50,000 so MAPC will be conducting an invitation for bids.
- MAPC will wait until the specs are finalized to hold this IFB.

District 5 Microwave Tower

- This project was placed on hold at the January Committee meeting.
- M. Mansfield relayed that the Essex County Fire Chief's Association will be making a decision next month regarding this project. This project will remain on hold until then.

Field Communications Unit Upgrade

- The Committee decided at the January Committee meeting to allocate the remaining \$3,876.36 available in this line item to purchase a remote head unit for Field Comm 20.
- D. Spinosa is working on obtaining a quote for the unit and the procurement will take place in the coming weeks once we have the quote and specs.
- Two portables have been installed and will be programmed and deployed.

Fire District 5/15 Radio Simulcast Upgrades

- The RFQ for this equipment was due on February 1st.
- MAPC received one quote from Motorola for \$11,883.16.
- Each Committee Member received a copy via email of the quote in the meeting packet- Motorola sent it over as two separate quotes.

- The quote is \$1,883.16 over what was allocated for this project.

MOTION put forth by D. Spinosa.

Allocate up to \$2,000.00 for this project from the Field Communications Unit Upgrades Line Item, pending D. Spinosa's review of the Motorola quote.

- Seconded by R. Patterson.
- Vote taken by rollcall: C. Ryan, M. Mansfield, M. Collins, T. Dechene, M. Foster, J. Targ, D. Spinosa, J. Brickett voted in favor.

NERAC Region COML/COMT Roster

- MAPC is working with Dave Spinosa to finalize an agenda for the kick-off meeting with the COML/COMTs.
- The meeting will be scheduled for February 22nd or 23rd.
- M. Nazarro updated the Committee that the Massachusetts Tactical Channel Plan update is still underway, 800 side is done, and UHF is not.
- MAPC will ensure M. Nazarro is invited to the kick-off meeting.

SIEC Report Out

- D. Spinosa provided a summary on the most recent SIEC meeting.
- All NERAC projects that were received were approved at the meeting.
- To have statewide uniformity, helicopters will be required to use National TACS. Guidance will be sent out by the SWIC.

New/Old Business

FY2021 Projects

- The NERAC Full Council will be putting together the FY2021 Plan over February and March.
- MAPC will be emailing the NERAC project request form out to the region this month to solicit project ideas from the region.
- Each Committee member has been provided via email with a copy of the only Interop project in the "B" list of the FY20 Plan, the Metro Fire North District Communications Upgrades. The Committee can move this project to the A list for the FY2021 Plan or keep it on the FY2020 "B List" if funds become available.
- If the Committee has any project ideas for the FY21 plan they will be presented to the Full Council probably in March. MAPC will bring any Interop related projects received from the region to the Committee for review.

Zion Hill Generator

- This project was originally allocated \$40,000.00 in the FY2019 budget and is the purchase of 1 200 – 500 KW generator for the Zion Hill tower site in Woburn, MA, which is a critical simulcast site for the BAPER and Metro Fire.
- Each Committee member was provided via email with a copy of the project description from the FY19 plan.
- In March, the NERAC Full Council voted to re-allocate the funding for several projects, including this one, into funding a purchase of a cache of portable ventilators for regional hospitals.
- Chief Rufo in Woburn is eager to get this project back up and running.

- The Committee decided to put it as a priority in the FY2021 Plan.
- MAPC will ask for details regarding cost sharing with Metro Fire and BAPER.N.

Next Meeting

- The next regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 9th at 9:30am.
- All NERAC meetings will be held virtually until further notice.

ATTENDEES-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chris Ryan: Deputy Director, North Shore Regional 911 Center*

Dave Spinosa: Communications Director, Essex County Sheriff's Department*

Chief Michael Mansfield: Andover Fire Rescue

Mike Collins: City of Beverly, Commissioner of Public Services and Engineering

Tyler Dechene: Middleton Fire Department

Jon Brickett: Executive Director, Northeast EMS Inc. *

Joe Griffin: Greater Boston Police Council

Chief Joe Targ: Westford Fire Department

Mark Foster: Beverly Emergency Management*

Rich Patterson: Preparedness Coordinator, Northeast EMS, Inc.

ATTENDEES-OTHER

Caroline Graham: MAPC

Vicky Mboka-Boyer: EOPSS

Melissa Nezarro: EOPSS

Dave Frizzel: MetroFire

ABSENT

Chuck Jessico: Andover Public Safety

Mike Kass: Armstrong Ambulance Service

Michael Torosian: Ashland Fire Department

Brian Roberts: Fire District 14 Communications