



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Interoperability Committee Meeting

Minutes

April 8, 2025

9:30 am

*North Shore Regional 911 Center
18 Manning Avenue, Middleton, MA 01949*

- **Call to Order**

- Chair C. Ryan called the meeting to order at 9:36am.

- **Approval of Minutes**

- March 2025 Meeting Minutes

MOTION put forth by R. Patterson

- Approve the March 2025 Meeting Minutes.
- Seconded by S. Morrison
 - In favor: All
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.

- **Budget Updates**

- Grant End Dates:
 - FFY21 – June 30th, 2025 (cannot be extended)
 - FFY22 – July 31st, 2025 (cannot be extended)
 - FFY23 – July 31st, 2025 (MAPC will be requesting extension to 2026)
 - FFY24 – June 30th, 2026

- **Project Updates**

- *BAPERN Simulcast Upgrade*
 - FFY23 C.05 \$100,000 allocated.
 - Total cost is expected to be up to \$2-million, with NERAC contributing \$100,000.
 - Work has already begun, but approvals will be needed for the portion that NERAC funding will support.
 - L. Sacks will connect with J. Griffin on next steps.
 - *ECFCA UHF Wide Area Network Upgrades*
 - *FFY21 B.02 \$48,618.34 | FFY22 B.09 \$4,654,74 | FFY23 C.08 \$3,700.00*
 - MAPC is conducting procurement under PSE01.
 - Tessco is requiring MAPC/NERAC to make an account which includes T&Cs that cannot be agreed to under the grant.
 - For previous purchases, MAPC/NERAC used Middleton Fire Department's account number to issue the PO, and this option is being explored again.
 - *ECFCA VHF Wide Area Network Upgrades*

- FFY22 H.07 \$70,000 allocated.
- Specifications for procurement are being drafted based on feedback from T. Dechene and C. Ryan.
- C. Ryan is waiting on additional information from Rockport.
- MAPC will include Chief Collins-Brown on project correspondence.
- *Field Comm Units 20 & 60 Upgrades*
 - FFY22 B.07 is fully encumbered.
 - PO for installation was issued to Northeast Two Way Radio on 3/20/25.
 - The vendor has not yet reached out to schedule work, so MAPC will follow up.
- *FD-5/15 Mobile Gateway Radios and Recorders*
 - NERAC portion is complete (*was FFY22 H.06*)
 - Keeping on agenda to monitor installation.
- *FD-6 MW Groton to Westford*
 - Project is fully encumbered, with balance FFY22 H.02 \$2,609.50.
 - Install was held up waiting on cabinet delivery, which has now arrived.
 - Cyber Comm said timeline for installation will be a couple of weeks.
- *Field Comm Portable Radio Cache*
 - FFY23 C.04 \$67,714.61 allocated.
 - PJ/ICIP were submitted for the April SIEC meeting, which was cancelled.
 - The Committee confirmed the plan to:
 - Procure 2x equipment for both Field Comms 20 and 60.
 - Kenwood, not Motorola.
 - Procure 1 harness per radio as well.
 - All-Comm quote for ICIP was \$74,872.12 = \$7,157.51 over budget.
 - The Committee determined the best method is to request 3 quotes under PSE01.

MOTION put forth by J. Griffin

- Reallocate \$2,609.50 from FFY22 H.02 FD-6 MW Groton to Westford, \$2,060.26 from Metrofire Radio Common Platform, and additional funds from the Radio Programming Initiative not to exceed a total of \$80,000 towards the Field Comm Portable Radio Cache.
- Seconded by A. Chadis.
 - In favor: All
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.
- *GBPC Microwave Routers and Switches*
 - FFY21 B.09 \$10,530 + FFY22 H.03 \$46,000 = \$56,530 allocated.
 - Procurement is being drafted/reviewed by MAPC team.
- *Metrofire North District Radio Common Platform*
 - FFY21 B.14 \$2,598.58 | FFY22 H.08 \$22,801.42 | FFY23 C.07 \$50,000.00 = \$75,400 total
 - Conducted procurement through Motorola PSE01.
 - POs being signed by MAPC for \$73,339.74 = \$2,060.26 under budget.
- *NEMLEC IMT Command Vehicle*
 - FFY24 B.01 \$200,000
 - Will be purchasing in 3 stages:
 - Chassis Purchase

- Technology Purchases
 - Vehicle Outfitting and Tech Integration
- MAPC has submitted the PJ to request approval for chassis/non-comms equipment first.
- NERAC Radio Programming Initiative
 - FFY21 B.06 \$15,000 + FFY22 H.01 \$15,000 = \$30,000 allocated.
 - Feedback survey results:
 - Average scores for overall experience, training content, instructor presentation for both Motorola and Kenwood were all over 4.5/5.
 - Happy with time allotted for Kenwood, consensus that Motorola needed more time.
 - 4 sessions with 50 participants, only received 4 BF/OT requests for total of \$1,610 so far. Unlikely to receive many more.
 - In order to focus on close out, the Committee agreed that this FFY21/22 funding can be considered for swaps with other projects that will support spend down, and the next series of classes can be considered in the Fall.
- **NERAC Radio Communications Checklist Review**
 - *RTF Training (Weston, Wayland, Lincoln)*
 - Project Background:
 - FFY23 E.02 \$42,280
 - BF/OT for 2 full days of Rescue Task Force training for the entire Lincoln, Wayland and Weston Fire and Police departments.
 - Received EOPSS/FEMA approvals, training planned for May 14-15th.
 - Radio Comms Checklist and ICS-205 on last 2 pages of meeting packet.
- **State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) Updates**
 - There was no April SIEC meeting.
- **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**
 - Ryan Higgins is interested in officially joining the Interop Committee as a voting member. This will be presented to the NERAC Full Council at their next meeting.
 - Mike Kass has accepted a position with a medical transport system that only provides limited overlap with the NERAC region, and therefore has resigned from the Committee.
 - The Committee will meet in person in May, and virtually in June.

MOTION put forth by J. Griffin

- Adjourn the meeting.
- Seconded by A. Chadis.
 - In favor: All
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.

*** Next Meeting: May 13, 2025 ***