



NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Interoperability Committee Meeting

Minutes

September 9, 2025

9:30 am

Virtual via Zoom - [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 889 4980 8859

Passcode: 274130

▪ **Call to Order**

- Chair C. Ryan called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM

▪ **Approval of Minutes**

- June 2025 Meeting Minutes

MOTION put forth by J. Griffin

- Approve the June 2025 Meeting Minutes.
- Seconded by D. Frizzell
 - In favor: A. Chadis, D. Frizzell, J. Griffin, S. Morrison, R. Patterson, G. Rowe, D. Spinosa, M. Svatek
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.

▪ **Budget Updates**

- FFY21 – CLOSED June 30th, 2025, fully spent down.
- FFY22 – CLOSED August 31st, 2025, fully spent down.
 - Several Interop equipment purchases that were supposed to arrive in time had last-minute delivery delays that pushed them into August.
 - EOPSS granted extension from July 31st, 2025 to August 31st to accommodate those.
- FFY23 – Grant End Date: was July 31st, 2025, extended to July 31st, 2026
- FFY24 – Grant End Date: June 30th, 2026
- FFY25 – Awaiting feedback/guidance from FEMA/EOPSS.
 - Due to the short timeline EOPSS had to submit to FEMA, MAPC has a short timeline to submit to EOPSS as well and did not have time for individual committee reviews.
 - The Full Council reviewed NERAC's expected FFY25 allocation, spend requirements, national priority areas, state priorities, and NERAC eligibility requirements.
 - The Council reviewed the project requests submitted by stakeholders and evaluated based on requirements and priorities, and decided on A-List and B-List funding for the FFY25 Plan.
 - Interop A-List: FD-14 Communications Vehicle - \$251,953.19
 - NERAC approved partial funding at ~\$250k and requested remaining ~\$100k from CHRSAAC.
 - Interop B-List: Mobile Broadband Kits - \$30,000.00

▪ **Project Updates**

- Motorola Projects prioritized for closeout:
Equipment has been delivered, finalizing payment.
 - ECFCA Baldpate UHF Receiver - \$15,625.20
 - ECFCA Pow Wow VHF Receiver - \$15,625.20
 - EMS Repeater and Multi-Discipline Co-Location - \$41,253.30
 - FD-5/15 Wide Area VHF - \$84,880.20
- Potential Closeout Projects that did not move forward yet:
These projects were options for expediting or partially procuring items that would be quick/easy, but ultimately determined wouldn't support closeout, and did not move forward yet (ex: additional approvals or specification details needed, procurement hurdles, delivery ETAs, etc.) These have allocated funding and can be pursued now.
 - ECFCA GPS Clocks
 - ECFCA miniCRD
 - ECFCA Mobile Broadband Kit
 - ECFCA Pow Wow Hill Fiber Connection
 - FD-5/15 Simulcast UHF
- ECFCA UHF Wide Area Network Upgrades
 - Equipment from TXRX was delivered.
 - Payment is being processed for grant closeout.
- ECFCA VHF Wide Area Network Upgrades
 - This project would not help with closeout so was on hold, but is a priority project and top of list to be resumed now.
 - Funding was moved to FFY23 to allow for more time.
 - May need additional SIEC review since some changes were made.
- FD-5/15 Mobile Gateway Radios and Recorders
 - NERAC portion is complete.
 - Keeping on agenda to monitor installation progress (not funded)
 - The Committee discussed potentially setting a date after which to consider funding installation.
- FD-6 MW Groton to Westford
 - The defective item delivered has been resolved.
 - All equipment has been delivered and this project is closed.
- Field Comm Units Portable Radio Caches
 - At the last meeting we discussed questions on requirements for software licenses and key loaders that came up during procurement because Northeast Two Way's original quote did not meet specs.
 - We were able to get a revised quote and issued PO.
 - Equipment was delivered and project is closed.
- Field Comm Units Upgrades
 - Lowell and Lawrence vehicle installations were done and project is complete.
- GBPC Microwave Routers and Switches
 - Since the last meeting, Phase 2 equipment was delivered, and Phase 3 equipment was procured and delivered.
 - This project is now complete.
- Metrofire North District Radio Common Platform
 - The majority of the equipment was delivered.
 - ETA for remaining 6 Nokia SAR routers is still December, per Motorola.

- NEMLEC IMT Command Vehicle
 - The vehicle and radios have been procured and delivered in time for closeout.
 - Next step is upfitting the vehicle.
 - 3 laptops for the vehicle were approved by the Council as a potential backup project to support closeout, but we ultimately did not move forward due to timing issues with procurement – funding can be reconsidered when closed out budgets are finalized.
- Topsfield Radio Feasibility Study
 - Questions arose and finalizing the scope of work for procurement was taking longer than feasible for closeout.
 - Funding was moved to FFY23 to allow for more time.
- **State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) Updates**
 - D. Spinosa reported:
 - The BAPERNSW Expansion project was approved.
 - Discussions on encryption continued.
 - C. Ryan reported:
 - The revised Mass Tactical Channel Plan was sent out.
 - An email was sent out titled “Reminder Of The Obligations Of Non-Licensees That Operate Part 90 Private Land Mobile Radio Signal Boosters”
 - A. Rock reported:
 - There will be a COMT training in November
 - FirstNet is holding a coverage meeting on September 12th in Franklin with MEMA, which will be an open meeting to discuss issues with coverage.
- **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**
 - R. Patterson will be able to remain on the Committee as Vice Chair. Region 3 EMS is now defunct and has no contracts with DPH or staff, but Lawrence General assumed operation with funding from the hospitals.
 - The Committee reviewed the ICS-205 form for the upcoming Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District Exercise.

MOTION put forth by R. Patterson.

- Adjourn the meeting.
- Seconded by J. Griffin
 - In favor: A. Chadis, D. Frizzell, J. Griffin, S. Morrison, R. Patterson, G. Rowe, D. Spinosa, M. Svatek
 - Opposed: None
 - Abstain: None
- The motion passed.

*** Next Meeting: October 14, 2025 ***

The October meeting will be Virtual.

ATTENDEES - COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alex Chadis: Newton Fire Department

Dave Frizzell: Metrofire

Joe Griffin: Greater Boston Police Council

Scott Morrison: Tri-Town School Union*

Rich Patterson: Region 3 EMS
Graham Rowe: North Andover Fire Department
Chris Ryan: North Shore Regional 911 Center*
Dave Spinosa: Essex County Sheriff's Department*
Matt Svatek: Fire District 6

ATTENDEES - OTHER

Sarah Malloy: EOPSS / OGR
Lauren Sacks: MAPC
Alex Rock: Assistant SWIC

ABSENT – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mike Collins: Beverly Public Services & Engineering*
Ryan Higgins: Fire District 15
Stephanie Brown: Beverly Public Safety Dispatch
Tyler Dechene: Middleton Fire Department
Michael Mansfield: Essex County Fire Chiefs Association

The following documents were used/referenced during the meeting:

- September 2025 Meeting Agenda
- June 2025 Meeting Minutes
- FFY21, FFY22, FFY23, and FFY24 Interoperability Committee Budgets
- FFY25 Preliminary Budget