

**Public Safety Radio Strategic Planning Committee/CalSIEC Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**630 Sequoia Pacific Blvd.**  
**Sacramento, CA 95811**  
**August 15, 2023**

**REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:**

California Highway Patrol – Brent Carter  
Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation – Al Castillo  
Department of Technology – Absent  
Emergency Medical Services Authority – Rich Stricklin  
Department of Finance – Stephen Benson  
Department of Fish and Wildlife – John Thompson  
Department of Forestry & Fire Protection – John Sweet  
Department of Justice – Jesus Gutierrez  
Military Department - Absent  
Department of Public Health – Alex Schubek  
Department of Parks and Recreation – Evan Walters  
Department of Transportation – Ferdinand Milanese  
Department of Water Resources – Angela Bauman  
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services - Marvin Green

**CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CalSIEC):**

Northern Planning Area - Absent  
Capital- Bay Planning Area - Absent  
Central Planning Area - Absent  
Southern Planning Area – Jeff Hebert

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Liz Stohlman  
Sophia Munoz  
Monique Shells  
Samantha Huelsenkamp

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

- The meeting was called to order at 10:00 p.m. (Quorum was not met.)

**OPENING COMMENTS**

- Cal OES Logistics Deputy Director Marvin Green provided opening comments.

**II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

- February 2023 Meeting Minutes were not approved due to quorum not being met.

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**III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Reggie Salvador, Cal OES Chief of Legislative and External Affairs, provided updates on the following bills:

- AB 44 Assembly Member Ramos - This bill would express the intent of the legislature to enact legislation that would facilitate greater self-governance in law enforcement by tribal governments and tribal police by granting more consistent authority to tribal police to enforce state laws, and by granting tribal police access to the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications system (CLETS).
- AB 296 Assembly Member Rodriguez- This bill establishes the 9-1-1 Public Education Campaign, to be administered by OES, for the purposes of educating the public about when it's appropriate to call 9-1-1 for assistance. It would include goals of the campaign, reduce the number of unnecessary calls to 9-1-1 call centers, and reduce delays in the 9-1-1 system caused by non-emergency calls. It also requires the campaign to give local public agencies the ability to tailor the message of the campaign focus on social media and be distributed to the public via local public education agency channels.
- AB 988 Assembly Member Mathis - This bill would require an entity seeking monies from the 988 State Suicide and Behavioral Health Crisis Services Fund to also include the number of individuals who use the service and identified as veterans or active military personnel in its annual expenditure reports and outcomes.
- SB 318 Ochoa Bogh - This bill would, upon appropriation, require California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to establish, develop, implement, and administer the 2-1-1 Support Services Grant Program. It would also require the CDSS to allocate 85% of funds for grants to fund core activities of 211 agencies, including: contract handling and improving the statewide ability to manage resource and user needs data to support data sharing and delivery to health systems, government agencies and other key partners, and shared capacity for analytics and systems.
- H.R. 369 – The National Institute of Science and Technologies (NIST), Wildland Fire, Communications, and Information Dissemination Act. This bill would require research on public safety communication coordination standards related to wildland firefighting and it also

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requires the public safety and communications research division of NIST to carry out research on such standards among wildland firefighters, fire management response officials and specified federal agencies responsible for coordinating and mobilizing for wildland fire and other incidents. It also requires NIST to publish recommendations for specified federal agencies to improve public safety communication coordination standards among wildland first responders and fire management officials, and NIST must advise OMB and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy concerning the agency's implementation of recommendations.

- H.R. 1353 - The Advanced Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act, which would require the FCC to facilitate the provision of emergency communication services, e.g., 9-1-1 calls and emergency alerts in underserved areas. An underserved area is one that has no commercial mobile service capability for providing emergency services because of a lack of infrastructure, destruction of infrastructure, power outage or other factors. It would also require the FCC to establish a process for companies to apply for approval to access the electromagnetic spectrum in order to provide emergency services in an unserved area.

**IV. CalSIEC UPDATE**

Southern Planning Area update:

- Jeff Hebert, San Diego County Sheriff, gave an update on the upcoming communications technician course (COMT) that SD Sheriff is hosting along with DHS on September 18th – 22nd. The class is currently full but there is a waiting list and if other individuals are interested, reach out to Jeff. The interest for the course is very high and SD Sheriff is looking at the possibility of submitting another Technical Assistance for a COMT course.

**V. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST UPDATES**

Budge Currier, Assistant Director of Public Safety Communications, provided an overview and update on the Technical Assistance (TA) program through Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA):

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- Cal OES, in coordination with CISA, provides opportunities to the State of California for several Technical Assistance programs that they provide to state and local agencies throughout California.
- The California Interoperability Field Operations Guide (FOG) is in the final editing process; the guide is available via app on Google Play and Apple Store.
- LAWSCOPE is a new initiative with the intention of creating a program that focuses on interoperability and establishes a system for efficient interagency resource coordination for mutual aid. The goal would be to standardize how Law Enforcement is going to use mutual aid moving forward.
- There is a COML course scheduled to take place in San Francisco, a COMT in San Diego and Butte County has requested technical assistance. Cal OES will distribute the updated Technical Assistance Service guidebook.

**VI. NG 9-1-1 Update**

Andrew Mattson, CA 9-1-1 Branch Assistant Chief provided the following updates:

- The branch is focusing on the statewide Tiger Team effort which is comprised of AT&T technicians, Next Gen 9-1-1 vendor technicians, and Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) personnel. It's a coordinated effort to hit our roughly 374 AT&T PSAPS over a 12-week span. It's intended to get everyone ready to "go live" with Next Gen 911 early next year.
- There are two main functions to this operation: 1) Automatic Location Identification (ALI) migration, which is location information for 9-1-1 centers; PSAPs are migrating from Legacy ALI to Next Gen ALI. 2) Operational Readiness Testing (ORT). This is to ensure that the call-handling equipment at the PSAP is ready to receive 911 calls. Cal OES has successfully tested 128 PSAPs for ORT testing, and 108 PSAPs passed. For the ALI box replacement, 177 PSAPs have been completed with a successful 157. The goal is to have all ALI migrated to Next Gen by December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. Cal OES is working on a plan to address the non-AT&T PSAPs within the November/December timeframe, with the intention of having those PSAPs "go live" starting early next year.

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**VII. CALIFORNIA RADIO INTEROPERABILITY SYSTEM (CRIS) UPDATE**

Eric Dye, Cal OES Radio Communications Branch Manager, provided updates on CRIS:

- Currently 52 sites online, total of 55 sites installed.
- Ten additional sites expected to be online by the end of the fiscal year.
- Currently working on CRIS 700/800 MHz installations in San Diego and Imperial County areas, and VHF expansion in Mono County.
- Six VHF sites installed in Mono County at the end of last year and now installing five additional sites at the county.

**VIII. CAPSNET UPDATE**

Moises Lopez, Cal OES Microwave Division Chief provided updates on CAPSNET:

- Currently, Cal OES has deployed Multi-protocol Layer Switching (MPLS) at 60% of the microwave sites across the state of California. Additional funding will be needed to complete Phase Six.
- Will complete an additional 20 sites for the rest of this remaining calendar year.
- Planning and implementing circuit cutovers to decommission analog/TDM circuits and infrastructure.

**IX. COMMITTEE MEMBER BRIEFINGS**

- **California Highway Patrol**
  - CRIS migration update: Working with PSC on this update - still in the infrastructure phase, hoping to have a pilot project in the next few months.
- **Department of Fish and Wildlife**
  - Legislation impacting public safety communications – possible LE encryption requirements.
  - CRIS Update: CDFW is moving forward with CRIS testing of 20 trunked APX radios.
  - Anticipated budget constraints – no funding source to purchase trunking features for additional APX radios.
- **Department of Transportation**
  - Objectives: Received the codeplug from PSC and began testing statewide and will provide feedback. Update radio system Core firmware and work on

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- radio coverage documentation for the state. Evaluate the use of FirstNet services.
- Upgrading satellite program, working with CDT to implement the Starlink or the LEOs satellite system into our program that will give us more bandwidth.
  - Operational need is to deploy replacement radios for Districts.
  - **Department of Finance**
    - BCP submitted by Cal OES – Next Gen 9-1-1 in Public Safety Microwave Network System buildouts. The proposal was included in the Governor's budget that was just recently released.
    - Approved, and includes \$137.6 million in 2023/24, \$132.8 million in 2024/25, and \$91.4 million ongoing after that from the State Emergency Telephone Number Account that will support the completion of the Public Safety Microwave Network buildout, as well as completion of Next Gen 9-1-1 systems. This includes ongoing maintenance support for both of those systems.
  - **Department of Parks and Recreation**
    - Submitted a BCP for converting our statewide system from analog to digital.
    - CRIS programmed on consoles; waiting for the programming of radios to deploy to our Channel Coast District and hoping to resolve radio coverage issues with our analog system by utilizing CRIS.
    - No change to allocation; operating within parameters and facing staffing issues for dispatchers.
  - **Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**
    - Al Castillo reported no updates.
  - **Emergency Medical Services Authority**
    - 2023 BCP included replacing both portable and mobile radios, approximately 300 handhelds and 50 mobiles, as well as replacing mobile fleet vehicles.
    - Developing program/project to replace handheld radio caches in six different regions to support incident strike team and other ambulances.
    - Obtain Codan Radios for 180 agencies and hospitals.
    - Testing with CRIS radio systems and did testing in San Bernardino.
  - **Department of Technology**
    - No update
  - **Department of Water Resources**
    - No update
  - **Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**
    - No update
  - **Department of Justice**

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- No update
- **California Military Department**
  - Absent
- **Department of Public Health**
  - No update

**X. FIRE SEASON PREPARATIONS**

- Cal OES sent out a memo to agencies – agency preparations to include site maintenance and generator backup maintenance to reduce the amount of resources needed during an emergency. If an agency is experiencing any communications issues such as commercial or Land Mobile Radio (LMR), reach out to [ESF2@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:ESF2@caloes.ca.gov)

**XI. FY 2023/24 PSC BILLING RATES**

- Budge Currier discussed billing rates and projections for FY 2023/24 and FY 2024/25. Rates will most likely increase.

**XII. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Bring forward February minutes to vote on them.

**XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

- Budge Currier stated the importance of making this meeting a more collaborative effort and facilitate discussions around what's needed for strategic planning to make our systems more efficient.
- John from Fish & Wildlife discussed the challenges of several agencies moving to encryption for Law Enforcement without advanced notice, and posed the question of how does each LE agency stay in contact while keeping information secure. Budge stated that until all radios are capable of encryption and shared encryption keys, this will continue to be a problem. The CRIS system is most likely to solve this issue and an idea would be to use critical connect to interface talk groups with those systems. This will be an ongoing issue/discussion.

**XIV. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 11:08