

**STATE INTEROPERABLE & EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION****BOARD MEETING MINUTES****MAY 1, 2019****DHSES - Building 7A - First Floor Training Room**

**SPRAGUE:** Good morning, everybody. I'd like to welcome you to the State Interoperable Emergency Communications Board meeting. Hopefully, you survived the rain. Some of you went through rain showers coming here and we've got quite a little bit on the agenda this morning.

One thing I would like to talk about, and it was going on at the same time we had our last meeting, I'm not really sure I brought it up, we were in transition. We now have a new Acting Commissioner. Many of you know him as General Patrick Murphy. He does not like the general anymore. He's retired, so he's been trying to steer away from that general, that general general thing, but he's Acting Commissioner right now and very active. So you're going to meet him probably all over the place. Yesterday, he was down for a tabletop exercise at Jones Beach. So he's kind of getting out there and really getting a feel for what's going on and

how the agency works out. I think we're very fortunate to have him. He has an established background with emergency management coming out of DMNA and knows the lay of the land. He's picking things up pretty quickly and able to move right along.

I heard yesterday, there's a potential -- they're looking at a June confirmation. So just in case anybody's wondering, that's kind of where that stands.

With that, we're anxious to have him; he's in New York City today so he won't be able to stop in, but I would expect him at one of our meetings here, we'll have him to visit with us for a little bit.

With that, we'll call for roll call.

**Board Members Present:**

Michael Sprague

Brett Chellis

Charles White

David Kislowski

Richard Anderson

Dominic Dagostino (by phone)

Brian LaFlure

Bob Terry

William Bleyle

Allen Turner

Anthony Tripp

A. Wesley Jones

Ryan Greenberg

Richard Tantalo (by phone)

Michael Volk

**Board Members Absent:**

Joseph Riviello

Todd Murray

James Voutour

Kimberly Beatty

**Guests:**

Matthew Delaney

Jay Kopstein

Phillip McGeough

Larissa Guedko

James Callahan

Robert Gehrler, ITS-GIS (by phone)

Chris Tuttle

Eric Abramson

Matt Campbell

David Cook

Nicole Erickson

Ryan Lamothe

Mark J. Balistreri

Kevin Hughes

Mike Davis

Jonathan G.

Ron DiBiase

Steve Grichowski

**SPRAGUE:** With that, I will call for an approval of the minutes. Did everybody receive the minutes? And if so, I'd like to entertain a motion to approve them.

**LAFLURE:** So moved.

**SPRAGUE:** Motion made by Brian. Do I have a second?

**KISLOWSKI:** Second.

**SPRAGUE:** Dave Kislowski seconds.

Okay. Any further discussion, changes?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** All those in favor?

(Affirmative responses.)

**SPRAGUE:** Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Carried. Thank you.

All right. Adoption of the agenda. You have the agenda in

front of you. Any edits or corrections? Otherwise, I'll entertain a motion to accept.

**BLEYLE:** Motion.

**SPRAGUE:** Motion made by Bill. Do I have a second?

**KISLOWSKI:** Second.

**SPRAGUE:** Thank you. Any further discussion?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** All those in favor?

(Affirmative responses.)

**SPRAGUE:** Anybody opposed?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Carried. Very good, thank you.

A couple things in general. First off, I'd ask you now to put your phones on stun. Everybody is important, that's why we're here, and we all will get calls regardless of where we are. So, if you'd put them on stun. Feel free to take a call outside the room and we'll work with that.

If there is an emergency of any sort, we're going to exit out here behind me, out through the center, and go up between the row of cars so we stay out of the approach of the arriving apparatus.

The restrooms are directly across the hall. And other than that, I think that covered most of the etiquette and safety things.

I'll just read the basic ground rules. Board members attending by video conference shall constitute presence at such meetings for all purposes, including quorum.

Participants must make notice of their location pursuant to Open Meetings Law. Guests or persons having relevant knowledge or information may attend and speak as part of the agenda upon acceptance of the meeting agenda by the Board. All other guests must be recognized by the Chair before addressing the Board and participating in discussion. If a board member is unable to attend in person or by video conference, his or her designee may attend the meeting and vote on behalf of the member unless they are an appointee not representing a state agency.

And just a reminder again for those individuals on the phone, please announce who you are before speaking.

Very good. So, moving right along, OIEC report. A couple of things. I just wanted to follow up from our last board meeting. We had talked at the last board meeting about the fact that we were compiling the annual report. It's required by April 1st. We did compile that report and file it on time. It is available online. It's also available to the Board. If you'd like a copy, let us know. We can give you one before you leave.

It's a fairly good size document, but otherwise, you can pull

it up online and read it that way and we aren't going to burn up a lot of trees. But if you'd like a copy, please let us know.

Any questions on the board report before I move on?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** I just wanted to complete that cycle so that you knew where we were with that.

The symposium, we had the 1st through the 3rd, at the Saratoga Casino Hotel. We had 151 people there; kind of like the first day and we wound up with 424. We pretty much held attendance throughout the entire three days.

We were fortunate enough to get a keynote presentation from Admiral Hewitt. He's the director for DHS CISA. He did a great job and kept everybody involved. He did an impromptu survey that he ran, got everybody involved with their cellphones and we ended up getting some information out of that. So that was pretty good.

And we also held another one of the C3 meetings with all the SWICs that we invited from the surrounding states as part of the meeting. That went really well. I'm still amazed; I never know exactly -- we have an agenda we go into, but I never know what's going to come out of those meetings, but every one of them is good. There's some really good dynamic energy and some really good stuff comes out of those

meetings.

It's always interesting to see what the big highlight of those meetings is, because you never know going in. So, a little bit more information. Essentially, we broke out the number of attendees by state, federal, county attendees and, you know, SIEC Board, so it kind of gives you an idea.

We held attendance really well. And we had, I think, really good participation across the board. You know, Chris Tuttle did a great job of getting us a federal panel and we brought in a bunch of federal people that were in the audience as well, and that worked out really well.

We did the Survey Monkey afterwards. So about typical, we got about 40 percent of the surveys back, but literally, those are the things that we found out. Everybody seems to be happy with what we're doing and seems to be looking forward to next year, from everything that I've gotten so far. So, we're going to try to keep up the good work. And the team has done a really great job. When I say that, the OIEC team, the entire group really pulls together and did a fantastic job of putting this thing on. We're moving around the state. We're going to go somewhere out west. We don't know where yet. A lot of it depends on what's available and what the pricing and stuff is.

We were pretty impressed with the deal we got with the hotel

casino, that we could even get into it, but it's state-run so that made it easier to get into. So, we'll see. Any comments or questions on the symposium?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** No? Very good. All right. I'm going to introduce this. We've been talking about doing the SCIP and we're due this year to update it. They've come out with a new process that we can do like a virtual SCIP. What I'm going to do is introduce Chris Tuttle and let him talk a little bit about the survey we're putting together. He and I have met and gone over it.

Chris.

**TUTTLE:** Thank you, Mike. Briefly, for those of you who were not at the symposium, rather than do an in-person SCIP workshop this year, which is usually a one- to two-day event where we bring people from throughout the state together, we're going to try something different this year.

The State of Oregon recently did it, and it was highly successful. We're going to do a virtual SCIP. What it does is it allows participants from throughout the state to participate in wherever they feel it is necessary.

The SCIP workshop virtually will be broken down into basically four different webinars or teleconferences. One will focus on governance, one will focus on technology, one

will focus on funding sustainability, then a final one basically to finalize and agree upon strategic goals and an implementation plan.

This is where we look at the overall goals for all three of those previous modules, a timeline and a champion for each of the goals.

Currently, the State of New York has roughly 20 to 24 goals from this 2014 SCIP plan. Obviously, they need to be updated. They need to reflect things like NG911, the new 911 board, FirstNet, and things of that nature.

To help us get a baseline from where we're going to go with this is we're going to send out an online survey to the entire state, not just the board, not just the working group members, but every stakeholder that wants to answer in the state. It takes about 15 minutes to answer. It's 30 questions.

The first four are just identifying basically what level of government you represent. You don't have to put your name or anything; it's all anonymous. Then, the next 26 questions are based on the current goals in the SCIP. Do you agree with them? Do you have any comments on it as far as the goal and how it should be changed or what it should reflect?

Then, the last few questions are, what is the current status

of your opinion of things in the state and the way it should go.

Part of the questionnaire online, it will ask if you intend to participate or have an interest in participating in any of the online workshops. So, for example, if you have an interest in attending the governance workshop online, you say yes. That way, we get a feel for where the interest level lies and where we need to focus our attention more.

The way we look at this right now is to go live with the survey at the end of this week. We want to make sure the SIEC was aware of it today and that you all had an opportunity to ask any questions of it. Mike and I reviewed all the questions last week and again yesterday, so we're good to go on the survey. It's Survey Monkey, so it's simple. It's nothing too difficult. Like I said, 15 minutes, you should be complete with it. We look to close the results or close the poll on May 24th, it's the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. Based on feedback or based on how many people have answered, we will determine if there's a need to keep it open for another week or so.

And then over the month of June, our office working with Mike's office will kind of dissect the results from the survey and that will help drive what the focus is and the points we want to make during the SCIP workshop over the

summer.

The goal is to do the virtual SCIP over the summer months. Once again, no travel is required. You can do it from your desk, from the beach, from the lake, I don't care as long as you participate, and it should be fairly painless.

The SCIP is your strategic document. This is your opportunity to help set the direction for the State of New York to engage in interoperability, not only for a year but three to five years out.

Historically, our office looks at the SCIP. They help drive what technical assistance the state gets, what other projects we can assist the state with moving forward, such as the NG911 work we've been working with the state for the last two years.

Historically, OEC, I'm sorry, ECD doesn't really have a TA that lasts more than a year. But because of the importance and the work that New York State has done on NG911 over the last two years, that's why we continue to support that work, and that's a direct result of the strategic vision that OIEC has for NG911 and the evolution of where 911 is currently in the state.

So that's kind of at a very high level. We're looking to make this an opportunity to get as much participation as possible from the stakeholders in the state, not just those

around the table but your constituents in your counties and cities and agencies as well. Does anyone have any questions regarding the process?

(No response.)

**TUTTLE:** Okay. Thank you.

**SPRAGUE:** Our main goal, as has happened in the past, whenever we've done the SCIP workshop, we brought everybody to Albany, sit down and go through like a day-long batch of meetings, kind of drag through it. Our hope is that this way, we can make it less painful. It can be done during the summertime, which is going to be hard to pull everybody together.

So if we can schedule these webinars so you don't have to spend a whole lot of time traveling back and forth, we probably will when we get to the end of this and we start to compile everything together, we'll probably have a sit-down meeting to review what we've got and make sure that there's kind of hands-on discussion and that type of thing. But that's just a wrap-up of what we've gone through and really shows you what came out of each one of those webinars. So that's the thought at this point is that we'll do it that way. It should be a lot less painful and I think we can get the same results. So that's where we are with the SCIP. Any questions on the process?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** The survey, we don't care where you fill it out, please don't send pictures, just fill it out and send it. We don't need to know if you have a beverage or whatever in front of you with little umbrellas or any of that kind of stuff.

Very good. If there's no questions, we'll move right along. Larissa.

**GUEDKO:** Good morning, everyone. Update on the SICG-Formula, PSAP Operations grant and the Targeted grant. This is the outline as of last week, end of last week, of how much spending has occurred so far, those grants that are closed and those that are still open.

The 2018 SICG-Formula spending has begun. We have some vouchers that haven't been processed, but we're starting to see the flow of vouchers coming in.

There's quite a big portion of the funding still on the 2016 SICG-Formula and also for the rounds 3 and 4 of the SICG. There is a concern that counties' projects have been delayed for one reason or another and we don't see as much spending as we were hoping.

Round 3 has been extended multiple times. We do not grant extensions for Round 3 at this point. We expect all counties to complete open project for Round 3 SICG.

This is the PSAP Operations grant and we still have two grants open, 2017 and 2018. For 2017, we are still accepting vouchers even though the grant official spending period has been closed.

And for 2018-19 PSAP Operations grant, we also begun to see some spending. There is approximately .6 million dollars in vouchers at this point.

Any questions on those?

(No response.)

**GUEDKO:** Targeted grant. As you know, there are seven counties that have received awards on their Targeted grant program. Approximately, 32 million dollars, in general, for the Phase 1 of the awards process. We don't see spending on this one just yet. The projects are very large. Each county is working on their project at this point, whether it's design or planning stages, and we're hoping to see the spending will begin somewhere in the few months. Because the projects are so large, they do require a lot of planning. For the Phase 2 awards, we are anticipating releasing additional awards in approximately two months. That depends how fast counties will develop their projects and budgets. We're a little bit dependent on counties; how fast they will work on their side. Anticipated schedule. So far, we have been holding to the

schedule. For PSAP Operations grant, the RFA will be posted shortly, most likely next week.

For the SICG Formula grants, the RFA will follow some time in June-July. And for the SICG Targeted grant, we don't have any predicted date. As I said, the project's so large, there's a lot of development and face-to-face meetings going on with counties and this is going to be on a rolling ongoing schedule.

Now, there are some changes in the upcoming PSAP Operations grant RFA, not from the formula perspective and how we calculate awards but how the submission process works. We have moved the submission process for the applications into E-Grants system. All counties are familiar; even now, they are submitting all federal grants through the E-Grants portal. We will be doing the same with the PSAP Operations grant and the SICG-Formula grant.

Targeted grant is a little bit different. At the end, the contract is going to be in the E-Grants system, but the application process is completely different from the PSAP and the SICG-Formula grant.

We will be posting some training instructions on the website along with the RFA. There will be a webinar recording which will lead you and give you information on how to submit all the grant applications. It's a little different from what

you're used to on the federal grant side. So please feel free to call our Grant Unit office. The general number is posted in the RFA if you have any difficulties or any questions. Any questions for me at this point?

(No response.)

**GUEDKO:** In April, the new budget has been approved and we have 65 million for Targeted and Formula-based interoperability grants, where 20 million goes to Targeted and 45 million goes to Formula grants and 10 million appropriation for PSAP Operations grant. Any questions on the state grants?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** I'd just like to recognize Eric, Ryan and Nicole for all their help that they give us in the grants shop. They're here today.

**GUEDKO:** Thank you. It was truly wonderful to work with the Grant Unit. Because of all those changes, we have to do a lot of work behind the curtain to make sure that everything goes smoothly for Counties. So, they're the ones that will be doing all the training and presentations. And if you have any questions, they are the ones who will be answering those questions on the application submission side. So, thank you, guys. Thank you, Mike.

I wanted to touch base on the -- give you an update on the

Federal Interoperability channels. As some of you are aware, we have signed an MOU between New York State and U.S. Department of the Interior and it was already filed with the FCC and, now, we are in the process of licensing Federal Interoperability channels.

The way it works, New York State Division of Homeland Security will hold the license for Federal Interoperability channels and public safety entities, counties or state agencies, they can develop MOUs for use of those channels through our license. The license is not granted yet. We will be working with the FCC on the process of the license submission.

The one big "No"; the federal interoperability channels can be used only in the subscriber equipment, such as portables and mobiles, there are VHF and UHF channels and we are not allowed to use it anywhere on the infrastructure. So, it's only on portable and mobile basis. Any questions on that?  
(No response.)

**GUEDKO:** And that's my report.

**SPRAGUE:** Any follow-up with Larissa on any of the stuff she just presented?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** All right. Very good. Standing Committee reports. 911 Advisory Board. I'm happy to present the new

Chair, Bill Bleyle, as our new Chair for the 911 Advisory Board.

**BLEYLE:** Good morning. The 911 Advisory Committee is basically a replacement of the former Standards Committee. I know we've had a number of meetings over the years where we really haven't had any report. The Standards Committee was originally designed to take a look at the 911 standards that exist in the New York Code and Rules and Regulations and revise them. They were obsolete at the time and I can't remember how many years that goes back, but they were obsolete at the time and a lot of time and effort was spent on trying to revise them.

There was a lot of frustration on all levels. I mean, there are a number of standards in there and you have a number of different size agencies and there were some legal hurdles and can you do certain things, and it was a very, very frustrating experience. I know, because I was involved in that committee and it just seemed to be a lot of wheels spinning.

Well, we decided to revise that group with a little bit of a change. It's no longer the 911 Standards Committee but it's going to be the 911 Advisory Board. There was a decision made at the state level to broaden the mission of that committee.

The new mission will be very, very broad, to advise the State Interoperable and Emergency Communications Board on 911 issues; largely, a group made up of the 911 practitioners who will sit and advise this group on matters in regard to 911 issues and make suggestions for improvement.

The expanded scope includes a number of topics that need to be looked at, and we'll talk about that in just a second.

**SPRAGUE:** At the last meeting, you folks voted to appoint Bill Bleyle as the Chair and since then, we have been working together to come up with a list of people that would like to serve on the committee.

So formally today, I'm appointing the list that you see on the screen of those individuals and I think a lot of them are in the room. I'll just list them and put your hand up if you're here, stand up if you're here. Ron DiBiase, Chris Fish from Monroe County. I don't think Chris is here. Wes Jones. Lieutenant Tim Morris. Steve Piotrowski. Scott Roman. Steve Sharpe. And Allen Turner.

I thank you guys all for volunteering to work on this committee.

**BLEYLE:** Some of the potential topics that we will look at, and it's really an open slate. I think it's up for this group to reach out to the people that we work with and look at some of the topics. But certainly, as I mentioned earlier, we

want to get to that New York Code of Rules and Regulations, Title 21, Chapter 50, take a look at minimum standards for direct dispatch, training, staffing, equipment, facilities and security and anything else we think needs to be added to that Chapter.

Some other suggestions that have come up during board meetings, and there's been some churning of things we should look into, things like recruitment and selection. We talked at one time about potential pre-credentialing of candidates so that they can come in ready to be hired, and also retention issues.

But really, the topics are unlimited. And I think what we will do during our first meeting is sit down and certainly get to work right away on the New York Codes and Rules and Regulations but also do a little brainstorming on where we think we need to go.

The membership, we talked about members, a good cross-section of the New York geographical area and different PSAP sizes and then subcommittees as necessary. Subject matter experts as well as ad hoc members can participate. There could be potentially a number of topics. We all may not be experts in those areas.

When we set up subcommittees, we can designate and reach out to our 911 communities and see what subject matter experts

would be willing to participate and contribute their thoughts.

The first meeting, some time a little bit later in May. I mentioned to Mike the possibility of just getting together for our first meeting. It's a lot easier to do brainstorming in person than over the telephone, get to know each other and pass out some resource materials that we can use at least to begin working on that first chunk of our agenda, which will be the 911 standards.

With that, does anybody have any questions?

(No response.)

**BLEYLE:** Okay.

**SPRAGUE:** When Bill and I were talking, we'll probably host the first meeting somewhere, so make it so people can actually travel --

**BLEYLE:** Yes. I'll reach out to the group and find out what would be a convenient location for everybody and we'll go from there. Okay.

**SPRAGUE:** Very good.

**DAVIS:** I actually had a quick question, Mike. Is that okay?

**SPRAGUE:** Sure.

**DAVIS:** I'm from Ulster County. I didn't see anybody from downstate. It seems like it's all Central New York and

Western New York. Did anybody reach out to anybody down there to see if they were interested in partaking in this?

**SPRAGUE:** We did reach out to a couple people. I have not had confirmation back.

**DAVIS:** Okay.

**SPRAGUE:** But we're still open if there's somebody that wants to serve on this.

**DAVIS:** If I know anybody, I'll have them reach out. Thank you.

**BLEYLE:** Yeah, our interests, our discussions were we certainly want to have all geographic areas represented and we want to be able to have all size PSAPs. I know when we came to talking about standards, you have some, like mine, 150 PSAPs, and John Merklinger was on the committee with 200 PSAPs, and then you had some with just a handful of people. So, we want to make sure we have a good cross-representation.

**DAVIS:** Thank you.

**SPRAGUE:** Brett, you're up. Thanks, Bill.

**CHELLIS:** Good morning, everybody. I just want to start out by saying that as the state 911 coordinator, I'm very excited to see the 911 Advisory Committee reorganized and setting up the agenda that we've done and to be working with Bill. I've known Bill for a number of years working in the 911 community, especially my former past, and I really look

forward to the committee working on all things, you know, 911 so to speak.

As the director said in the beginning of the year, this is the year of 911, we set the mission of our office and we have a large plate of items we need to work on. And it's exciting to have a working committee that's going to address some of these issues of 911 across the state.

Just for clarification, the Next Generation 911 Working Group does report to the 911 Advisory Committee and then the Advisory Committee will report to the Board as a whole. So that's the structure. You already got one subcommittee in a way called the Working Group.

So my report for the Working Group is the Strategic Planning Workshop, which we held number one on February 20 and 21, we got this idea to bring the Working Group together along with all the board members were invited and some other SMEs really to take a deep dive into the draft 911 plan for the state, where we wanted to go with it, how we wanted to frame it and, again, like Bill suggested with his committee, get everybody in the room face to face and work on this.

We set up a two-day workshop and the Working Group was facilitated by Joel and Nancy. Thanks again to Chris for the support from the federal government and his office, the new name Emergency Communication Division, and they

basically facilitated the whole workshop over two days. They brought in a lot of experience that they've had working with other states, working through this process and development of a plan and they were very, very helpful through that whole process.

The topics that we covered were the status nationwide of NG 911 as a whole. There was an overview to get everybody in the workshop up to the level of knowledge in terms of exactly what NG 911 means, what it is, and where it's going nationwide, and what the other states are doing and where there are states that have ESInets live and working. There are states that are not even starting to write a plan yet. So, there's across the gamut nationwide, but there's many states that we have lessons learned that we can learn from moving forward that have worked down the road with us for a number of years.

The next segment was what is the vision for New York in the program? How do we want to see NG 911 come to be in New York and what are our goals and objectives for doing so? And what is the status right now, snapshot statewide, what is our status today? What should the role of the state's 911 program be and especially in terms of the state in terms of ESInet, core services? How should that be rolled out in the state, so on and so forth.

What is the transition process? How is this going in other states and how does this work generally and how do you plan for the transition?

As most of you know one of the big challenges in NG 911 implementation is you have to have two systems going at once for a while. You've got to bring the whole new system up and running and test it and test it and test it again, and then you start cutting off some of the legacy equipment as you're ready and connections and so on and so forth and bring them over to the IP side.

I can think of one state, Iowa, that they're live with an ESInet and core services but just for their wireless and IP traffic. They still have all of their landline on the legacy selected router system. Now, they're planning -- well, they've run and worked with that for a good year and now they're starting to do the implementation of cutting over to the am-i-trunk (phonetic) and changing over to IP and moving off of the routers trunk by trunk, PSAP by PSAP across the state. That's one way of doing it and that's working for them. Those are the type of examples that were brought to the group.

NG brings up new opportunities, I should say, and also challenges in terms of backing up each other, PSAPs and so on, and how you plan for that.

What is the role of GIS? Very, very big and important, and I've spoken to that in the past. We're going to have a report in a few minutes from the GIS subcommittee. But the role of GIS is so critical in NG 911, especially as you move down the road and take advantage of accurate call routing and the dispatch and operations side of NG.

The pros and cons of different types of designs in your state and, again, other state models, whether you do a system of systems type approach with regional ESInets and cores and then connect them together or whether you do a statewide system. What are the pros and cons and benefits and so on. A state like New York with a very large city, how does that play into the picture? Joel was able to bring his experience in California to the table and into the room, you know, and other cities, Los Angeles, a very large city, and then a large state outside with very, very tiny PSAPs, like Bill described, all the way up to very large metropolitan areas. How are they building it and why?

What are the costs and what are the factors in terms of funding and the costs for supporting NG 911? And how is that different than the legacy or how would that affect New York? Governance. How do states generally go about the governance of a statewide system? And when you have especially home rule states where counties and cities manage the PSAPs, how

does that all work? What are models and what seems to be working?

Plan development, refinement and maintenance. The plan is a dynamic plan. It's like the SCIP. It's going to be updated and reviewed annually at least and continue to mold the needs of the 911 community. So how are we going to go about doing that, who's responsible for it and so on?

What is the procurement process? It can be long and complicated. Ask Ron in the back of the room with the New York City process. It's a big deal; the actual RFIs, RFPs, purchasing, reviews, making sure you're getting the right vendors to do the job right for the people in the state. And of course, the transition and deployment. Very, very productive two days. And the concepts that came out of it were the group supported the concept of the statewide system where the state supports the ESInet and core services statewide, possibly with some regional, if there's a reason to do so, for the benefits of redundancy or backup if that is, you know, cost-effective and adds to redundancy and can take a look at it. But a statewide system, at least over the top, and also take and consider -- well, we're going to consider regional ESInet core services, New York City covering the five counties of New York City and how will that connect and work with the statewide system? That seemed to

be the concepts.

Erie County brought some great examples. I look to Kevin here with Erie County. They have a unique setup in New York with 18 PSAPs with their own county network that connects them all with one connection to the selected routers out of their primary PSAP in Buffalo. So how will that type of system work in NG almost as a regional system? Very, very productive and a lot of good experience and knowledge.

We continue to work on the plan from that workshop capturing all those ideas into the plan and trying to work this plan forward and draft it. We've had great help from our contractor, NYSTEC. Matt Campbell's in the room; I don't see anyone else. But the team from NYSTEC has been very helpful in giving us project management and keeping track of the ideas and working with the working group and capturing them and putting them into the model plan. We've met nearly weekly.

We are in the process or we have been working on transitioning the original draft we started a year or two ago. That was based on an older model that was out there in the state on what a model state 911 plan should be.

Just last year, midyear, the National 911 Program Office released a new template for a state 911 plan. When we reviewed that, we were very excited about it. That was

created with the input from many states that have very good plans and, you know, 911 administrators from a number of states working with the feds to come up with a new template. And it's a great tool and we decided to transition the older draft into this thing. It took a lot of reconfiguring and moving things and cutting and pasting and discussion. So, the working group has been working on that and it's been a good process, good discussion.

Joel has been helpful on this, identifying what are the priorities? What do you have to worry about first compared to what you have to worry about a year or two down the road? You have got to get ESInet and core services figured out before you worry about a lot of dispatch type stuff, the folks receiving the call. What are the priorities? What do we need to do first? What do we need to parking lot and visit down the road or chew on later on so to speak?

The possibility of more subcommittees may be broken out as we address those issues down the road, like CAD-to-CAD interoperability is one big topic with NG, those type of things; parking lot them for now, but we may end up needing a subcommittee to work on that issue as we move forward. So currently, I'll just quickly go through this, the status of the plan today, the executive summary, we're kind of holding off. We have an early draft of that, but we want

to wait until the rest of the plan is developed, then do an executive summary to accurately do it.

The introduction, the maintenance section, the roadmap and program and operations segments are all in draft and in play. Technical assistance is drafted. Yesterday, we did a lot of review of that on the call, a lot of good comments and ideas, and we have the GIS subcommittee active in writing a couple sections that are in the model plan, one on the mapping, CAD and so on. And the other is GIS and how it works with the core services to do accurate routing of calls to the right PSAP and response area and all those type of things. The analysis and planning section is to be started.

Our timeline, as it sits today, again, this is fluid and as we move through this process, it will probably be amended a few times. It's important we do it right, not necessarily fast.

Our biggest goal is to get it accurate, so we're not constantly editing it down the road. Next week, we plan on presenting a lot of the concepts of the plan to the New York State 911 Coordinators at their spring conference up in Alexandria Bay and Joel will be present, representatives from NYSTEC, Mike and I will present, and we're also going to have Ron from New York City to present an update on New York City's project.

We're going to present concepts of the plan, get input from a larger audience of PSAP managers from all across the state. These are our primary stakeholders. It's important to get their input on how we're doing and ideas of, perhaps, the Working Group, even though we're represented by a number of counties and state agencies, get some ideas that people in the room have that we haven't talked about.

We want to collect as much input as possible, so this is a plan, as we said many times, not written from the top down but written from the bottom up.

Data collection is very important in this process. We really need to understand how 911 works in New York today. In every county, it's a little bit different. In every PSAP, it's a little bit different. So how exactly is the workflow working today and how do we want to see it move forward? So, data collection is important. We'll go over that and, again, have an update for New York. Then, that period, the rest of May, we want to compile the information and update the draft accordingly.

Moving into June, we want to do data input. As Larissa mentioned, the RFA will be going out shortly for the PSAP grant. We have a lot of data collection that we built into that working with Larissa, thank you, to get that input into the RFA and collect information for the Working Group.

So, we want to take that data as we get it back, hopefully early June, we'll be crunching that data and get it right into the plan. August-September, we're hoping the plan will be ready for executive review. It will be taken to the executive level at this agency and then as they deem appropriate, it may be taken downtown. It'll go through a legal review, it'll go through an executive review, it'll go through possibly a Chamber review, whatever they feel is necessary. That's the plan.

From September to December, we'll take the input we receive from the executive and legal level and then revise the plan accordingly and do whatever we need to make it the official state 911 plan.

Then, we're going to have a process of taking that out and roll it out again to the stakeholders, you know, whether it be webinars or town hall meetings, whatever. Working with NYSTEC, we're going to develop a communication plan to roll that out across the state so everybody understands what the plan is moving forward for NG911.

Next, I'd like to ask the Chair to recognize Bob Gehrler who I believe is on the phone from the ITS GIS program office to give an update on the subcommittee.

**SPRAGUE:** Any questions on your report before we move to Bob?

**CHELLIS:** Sure. Good point. Any questions?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Any questions?

**CHELLIS:** Comments?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Very good. Now, we can move on to Bob.

**CHELLIS:** Bob, are you with us?

(No response.)

**CHELLIS:** Okay. I just got an e-mail from him today. He wanted to be on the call. We will move on with that and I'll check my e-mail. Maybe he had trouble dialing in or something.

**SPRAGUE:** Okay. We'll do last call for Bob Gehrler.

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** All right. Moving right along. CIWG.

**KOPSTEIN:** All right. Good morning. Last week, the Director and I were down in Pittsburgh for SAFECOM. We will discuss that first. And then earlier in the month, I was in Washington, or in Alexandria, for the NECP 2019 version. So, starting with the SAFECOM meeting, a question was asked privately of FirstNet and AT&T regarding the texting outages that occurred in March, the big one on Verizon and the smaller one Verizon/AT&T. The question was: Did they affect FirstNet's side of the house? FirstNet didn't know and AT&T declined to answer.

Pennsylvania has got a new VHF system and they are going to link it to FirstNet. It's going to be a Cloud-based link, I do believe.

These comments are related to California. They're in the process of issuing an RFP for Cloud-based CAD interoperability. California issues state contracts for all CADs and is putting CAD interoperability into their state contracts.

All NG 911 centers in California will have alerts for morning notification access and they're renaming them as ECCs, Emergency Communication Centers. Apparently, that's the new term of art.

The individual PSAPs within the state will all be connected to one another by a microwave link. They're starting small and by the end of the year, all 384 will be connected.

Similarly, they're using RapidSOS, or rapid deployment for mobile devices. It now exists in four of their PSAPs, 10 by June and all 384 by October.

They're looking to use Intertalk to link LMR to LTE.

Interestingly, they've gotten permission from the FCC to use 911 surcharges for cellular notification processes. So that may be another way of using that money if it becomes available.

We had a presentation on small UASs, and I know that's

something dear to your heart, Director. And anything less than 55 pounds including payload is called a small device, a small UAS. And the NFPA 2400 standard is apparently out on drone use. I haven't seen it, but they want me to buy it, so I'll wait for you to buy it.

**SPRAGUE:** They say it's ready, but I haven't seen it.

**KOPSTEIN:** So that will be coming down. SAFECOM voted to assume responsibility from S&T for the P25 CAP program as well as the P25 user working group.

DHS S&T spoke to us about UAS operations. They didn't speak about what they know as a classified basis. We'll leave that up for DHSES to talk to them directly. They are also developing counter UAS technologies.

Chris didn't mention this but, apparently, according to the admiral, ECD is now going to have three sectors, each supervising regional coordinators within the sector.

I think we owe Chris Tuttle a pat on the back, because not only is he covering us, he's covering part of Region 1. Is that correct, Chris?

**TUTTLE:** Connecticut and Rhode Island.

**KOPSTEIN:** Regions 1 and 3 apparently have no coordinators. Wireless Emergency Alerts, also called Public Safety Alerts, will this month go from 90 to 360 characters. Also, this month, they will be doing it in Spanish as well. They're

working on putting those alerts that appear on the mobile devices available for 24 hours so that they just don't appear and disappear, but you'll be able to review them back to 24 hours.

By the end of June, agencies that have IPAWS access will also be able to do 360-character messages. IPAWS will begin monthly tests in October and they hope to be totally Cloud-based by the end of October 2020. Interestingly, IPAWS does not currently audit agency messages. I guess that came up because of what happened --

**SPRAGUE:** They never have.

**KOPSTEIN:** But they may look at it now because of Hawaii.

**SPRAGUE:** And there is no stop button.

**KOPSTEIN:** The NWEM is coming back for non-weather emergency messages. And the fall SAFECOM NCSWIC meeting will be the week of November 4th in Atlanta. On the NECP, there were two issues that I brought up specifically. One involved what they mean by secure. Because depending upon where you're sitting, secure means something different. Does it mean not hackable? Does it mean reliable and resilient; or does it mean the ability to pass through secure messages, classified messages? That requires definition if that was put out.

The other thing is, and it has to do with a drill that Mark

ran for us down in -- or up in Oriskany. We all have continuity of operations plans for our agencies. I hope we do anyway. But has anybody ever looked at the continuity of operations plan for a vendor that we use to do interconnection?

So, if we have a third-party vendor that we contract with, do we know what their continuity of operations plan is? Are they willing to share it with us? Have we looked at it? I know of one situation where they didn't have one and it created an issue with an agency. That's something that I ask you put into the NECP, because we're dependent upon them, we're dependent upon interconnection. What about these vendors? What's in our contract with them? That is my report. Questions?

(No response.)

**KOPSTEIN:** Thank you.

**SPRAGUE:** Since you brought it up, we are looking at taking delivery, hopefully, the week after next of our tether drone. OIEC is getting a tether drone with the ability to stay in the air for, you know, days. We'll take it down about every 12 hours just to check it out, put it back up. But it will be capable of either VHF, UHF or 7, 800 repeater and a cradle point at the same time so we can bring a signal to the ground at the same time we're using it as a repeater.

We also have another package that we can put an independent handheld zoom camera on that can be run by the command post so they can look at whatever they want to look at and we can just worry about flying the drone.

Those are the three main capacities that will be on it for now. Then, there's a few other things we want to tinker with, but we want to get it here first. It's capable of lifting 24 pounds, so it'll go up to that light weight of 55 pounds. It does have batteries on board so it can fly if, for some reason, it's disconnected and it has a ballistic parachute, so if everything quits and it comes down, we can save it from being too much of a missile.

So anyway, just as long as you brought it up, I thought I'd throw it out there. One other thing, Mark, do you want to add anything on the COMU program?

**BALISTRERI:** Our COMU program continues to move forward. We're working on a two-year plan to get all the ICS positions trained. Where we can, we're going to do a train the trainer so we can, in turn, train our own rather than having to rely on the TA process.

And the COMU program is growing. It's starting to explode out there, which is good. We have a lot of people that are interested that are supporting of the program. We have 42 COMLs now statewide, 12 COML instructors. And as of today,

we have our first COMT, state recognized person out there. We're working on the COMT side of it right now. We also are working on, if you look at the current communications organizational chart out there, we're going to start working on the INTD side, the RADO, the AUXCOMM, and the INCM. There is an ITS course down in Bayside, New York in June. We're going to start working on that side of it, and we'll be looking at that as well. Unless anybody has any questions, we have a COMU group e-mail that we've been using and, now, we're starting to include the 911 coordinators for some of the stuff we're putting out there for notifications. And communications seem to do pretty good, good feedback from everybody as well.

**KOPSTEIN:** The COMU task force has a draft for its COMU position task book that we're looking at. I can make it available to you.

**BALISTRERI:** Please. Unless anybody has questions, that's where we are right now.

**SPRAGUE:** Very good. That program continues to expand. We had kind of a breakthrough. SPTC has decided to adopt our program. They're going to be hosting a lot of stuff. That doesn't mean we won't be moving it around the state, but it just means we have a home and a place where people, including state people, can come and take communications training. I

see that building as well.

And part of the symposium in bringing in the SWICs that border our state, is that gives them the opportunity to be part of our training, so we're looking forward to that. Any other questions for that?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** All right. I'm going to back up. I understand that Bob Gehrler is out there and available to do the GIS report.

**GEHRER:** That's correct, Mike.

**SPRAGUE:** Very good, sir. You have the floor.

**GEHRER:** Okay, thank you. So, on the 17th of April, the GIS subcommittee had their first meeting this year and the two tasks that we're working on currently are to redistribute the GIS data for NG911 readiness report that we compiled last year. We got information on that survey from one of the two counties that didn't participate in advance of the Next Gen -- or the 911 Coordinators' conference next week, we're going to reissue that report with the additional county information in it. It's been updated and should be going out of the 911 office very soon.

And we are also going to provide subject matter expertise support to the state plan for Next Gen 911. And during our meeting last week, Brett Chellis joined us and Matt Campbell

and Pete Zwagerman from NYSTEC also joined us and filled the subcommittee members in on the plan, what its purpose is and where our GIS expertise could help provide some language. We are tasked with providing language in the mapping and geospatial routing piece, which is in the technical systems solutions section. And also, there's a GIS item within the data development maintenance and support section. We'll be working to put text together for that in the very near future. The group will be meeting again next week. That's what I've got for today. Any questions?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Very good. Any questions for Bob?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** All right. Thanks, Bob. I would like to just back up here for a second, we kind of went out of that piece a little, to be held for a second. You know, the NG911 Working Group and the GIS subcommittee are putting in a lot of time and a lot of effort and I want to recognize the work that these guys are doing. You know, this has not been an easy lift for some of this stuff and we've been kind of going at it since, well, right before that February meeting, it's been pretty much consistent right straight through. I really want to thank those folks for all the work they're doing and recognize that they're really the group that's

pushing this forward. We may be trying to orchestrate it, but they're actually doing the bulk of the legwork. So, I appreciate that and our team 911 that we kind of put together this year.

Anything for Public Safety Broadband?

**DELANEY:** I just have two little pieces of information. AT&T has just released their latest subscriber account for FirstNet, 7,000 agencies and 570,000 lines. Many of those are AT&T customers that they converted to FirstNet lines, FirstNet accounts. Some of the actual percentage is new versus existing AT&T, but that's how many are currently subscribing to FirstNet.

The other thing is we've made requests to FirstNet for a couple of our events this summer for deployable assets. We found out that some of them had already planned on sending deployables anyway as part of their normal network integration. Others we made special requests for it. So hopefully, by our next meeting in the fall, I'll have a report on all of our various summer events and how the networks fared under heavy loading conditions.

**SPRAGUE:** Any questions for Matt?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Very good. Thank you. State Agency Working Group. Unfortunately, even though we have kind of a high

priority project on our plate, I have not held a meeting. We just ran out of time. As soon as we hit April, there just hasn't been time to even try to schedule something in there and I'm kind of thinking, wow, it's already May 1st. We'll have a meeting in May for sure. I'll get something scheduled on the calendar very shortly. Channel Naming and Working Group.

**DELANEY:** I don't have any slides. I just remind everybody, as I remind everybody at every meeting, if you have your IO channel repeaters, they should be off when they're not in use. We still find a number of them throughout the state that are turned on. In fact Rockland County just recently turned up a simplex set of calling channels and as soon as they keyed up their new network, they found somebody within their RF footprint had the VCALL, UCALL and 7CALL patched together, so they were hearing themselves. In terms of UCALL, they were hearing themselves back on VCALL and, even worse, 7CALL, for which the 700 MHz interoperability channels are always supposed to be P25. Whoever had the cache was transmitting analog.

So, it's very important, please, you should never be patched on the calling channels and interoperability repeaters should be off when they're not in active use.

The other thing is naming. We had a crew out doing some

pre-testing for events recently and they heard some chatter on VTAC 12 - users who were legitimate public safety users. They were doing their own testing. Their radios were programmed to call it VTAC 2, not VTAC 12. So, they look and they go, "I don't have a VTAC 12 in my radio." Well, they do. They just have the wrong channel name.

Make sure not just your own agencies, but make sure radio shops who do programming know. If you let individual departments, fire departments or EMS departments, do their own radio programming or have their own radio shop, make sure word gets out to them as well. Maybe smaller shops may not know some of the details about programming interoperability channels. Actually, we started to work on adopting certain guidelines. We do have on our website information on channel programming. Maybe even a simple flyer, like a one-page type flyer, may be helpful to have out on programming. That's all I have.

**SPRAGUE:** Any questions for Matt?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Okay, very good. Citizen Alerting Committee.

So even though a lot of this was kind of pirated by the CIWG, I'm going to go through some of this anyway.

We had a Citizen Alerting Committee and part of the Citizen Alerting Committee, we have just formed within DHSES what

we're calling the PI&W, Public Information and Warning, Internal Working Group.

So, it's all agencies, all groups within DHSES getting together and actually talking about how this works, how we're going to make it work and what's the process of getting this more organized.

I think I showed you at one of the last meetings a listing of all the COGs we have out there. We're going through that to try to make sure they're up-to-date and then looking at does everybody understand what that means, how to actually access New York Alert, that sort of thing.

So, there was a presentation recently to Region 2 on the tech basics of New York Alert by Jason Willet. Jason actually went into the details of the technical side of how counties access New York Alert; what's that whole process?

That has nothing to do with operations of New York Alert and/or EAS. It's just how does it physically connect and make that happen? Some of that is really important and there has been kind of -- he is like the only person that really seems to have that. One of the things that the working group is looking at is: How can we fix that?

One of the things we're looking at is actually developing a three-part webinar. One would be the tech basics. That's the piece that Jason Willet and the technical piece of how

to make it. When somebody asks an emergency management question, he is not emergency management. He's a technical guy and he just goes, "I don't know."

That's where the operational side of EAS comes in. How does operationally this work through the dispatch centers and through whatever alerting piece you have? Because you can use New York Alert. Some other places use Code Red or some other third-party software to access it as well. But what is it and is everybody in the operational piece of it aware of how to get to it and how to make it function?

The third part of that really comes back to public warning system standard operating guide. And this is really the mechanics of doing an alert. You know, what's the key components for a message? You know, we talked a little bit about the number of characters you can have and what goes into it, but you have to have the key components.

You put all the message in there and then you forget the name, the actual jurisdiction and it goes out through somebody's old cable box and gets truncated. Then, nobody knows where it came from. They have no idea if it applies to them or doesn't apply to them. What's the time frame?

There's a regular checklist that our planning department is putting together for this. There's a lot of information on how to do basic notification and warning through the rep

program. But if you're not a rep county, you don't have access to that stuff.

We're looking at trying to make that into a best practices guide. How do you do this? What's the checklist you can use to put it together? We're trying to wrap our arms around it, because just because you have a COG doesn't mean, one, you have access to New York Alert; two, that you know how to run it and, three, that you know what the message has got to be and that you can exercise it. That's the whole kind of crux of this. If you can answer all those questions, then I sleep better at night. If you can't answer those questions, then that's something we need to fix and that's kind of what we're talking about.

At the last meeting, we had the IPAWS chief, Mark Lucero, there who provided an update on the IPAWS program. This is interesting and Jay mentioned a couple of these pieces and some other pieces.

Mark came and gave us this basic piece, which is basically the rollout of WEA 2.0. It's going to be out June of 2019; up to 360 characters, 90 required in English. The Spanish language capability is up to you. It has the ability but it doesn't necessarily translate properly. You have to make sure that you're making sure that the message you're putting out is a really good message.

They are now doing public safety messages and there is going to be a WEA test mode. Now, the key to this is it's going to roll out in 2019. It doesn't mean it's actually going to be in effect in 2019. It's going to be in effect when any of the carriers decide to put it into their carrier system and into their phone. If the phones are not up to speed yet for that many characters, you're not going to get the full 360. If the carrier, Verizon, AT&T, you know, whatever it is, hasn't adopted it yet, you're not going to get the full 360. You're only going to get what it can.

You also won't necessarily get the Spanish language capability unless they put it in the phone. So, it's what he calls a soft rollout. It will be available at that point, but who's going to get it and what the time frame is, is still up in the air.

He also talked about WEA 3.0, which is going to be out November 2019, which is going to do what a lot of people have been waiting for for a long time and it's going to improve the geo targeting so you can get it down to a specific area and not have these crazy alerts that sometimes stream for a lot further than you expect it. Again, carrier and phone capable.

There's a lot of provisions that go along with this thing. And that was kind of the gist of the message. A lot of this

is new. We hadn't heard this up until just recently. And then this gets to the piece that we were talking about even further, you know, two or three weeks later, I go to a meeting at NCSWIC and SAFECOM and the Director stands up there and he talks about additional stuff that we didn't know is coming. So, what is it?

Well, FEMA is going to start requiring monthly testing for each COG. That's a big deal. And they're going to enforce that. Phase 1, they're going to go through with select originators and they're going to test it out from July 1st to the 31st. Apparently, they're going to take a month to kind of figure it out, see what happens. But their target right now is that October 1st, every COG will do mandatory testing monthly. So that is kind of a big deal.

Right now, we're in the process of going through and updating the MOA for DHSES. You guys will have a MOA for State Police. They're all going to have to be rewritten because they're going to put this caveat into those MOAs. The MOAs are going to have to be rewritten. We are in the process of trying to update ours currently and nobody mentioned anything about this.

We can still move forward doing that, but we need to make sure that we're updating the MOA so it includes this, otherwise, we're going to do it all over again in two or three

months, which to me is a big deal. It's hard enough to get one MOA done without having to do it over and over again. Also, signal to every county out there that has a MOA or has a MOA and a COG. You're going to go through this and you're going to be required to do a monthly test. I don't disagree with FEMA for doing it, because they're finding that when people do send test messages or they actually send the messages, they're going out wrong. And why? Because nobody's ever done a test message.

So, doing it on a monthly basis is a good idea, but I think that they're going to have a real interesting time because that's a lot of COGs that are going to be doing monthly testing.

I will say you put up a map of the country and I'm very pleased to say that New York is in really good shape as far as COGs go for the county. There are some that don't have it and you saw the spreadsheet I brought, I think, the last meeting, but for the most part, we're well represented. There are chunks of the entire country that have nothing. I was a little surprised at that.

From the middle part of the country down towards Tornado Alley, I would have expected everybody to have one and there was none. It's kind of interesting.

So unfortunately, we're getting this information in dribs

and drabs. It comes out if you happen to make the meeting, then you know about it. If you didn't make the meeting, we wouldn't have any idea this was going on until we were already into a process.

Some other things that are going on. The IPAWS lab is moving to the Cloud. I don't know if that's good or bad. I guess I reserve judgment. What I did pick up on is the date is September 2020 unless the server hosting farm that they're in kicks them out early. It sounds like it's shutting down cost-wise or otherwise and, you know, we went through this at one point a while back where all of a sudden, servers shut down and they had to scramble to do it. So that's a little bit of a concern from my perspective.

And non-weather emergency alerting, NWEM, message is coming back. That will be able to be sent out through the weather service, because Hazcollect is going to be interfacing finally with IPAWS. This is something we've been waiting for forever with an upgrade called CAP 1.2 of Hazcollect and the IPAWS system, approximately 18 months from now.

In my mind, that's a really good thing, because we've always had this kind of disconnect where there was no connection between the weather service and IPAWS. The weather service, through NOAA, has a really good system of getting the message out without using the Internet. IPAWS is really

Internet-based, but it also can connect to the weather service and come out through NOAA on the radio and that gives the redundancy that I think we desperately want to make sure we keep.

This was two meetings that were eye opening of what's coming down the road to the IPAWS program, and we're going to keep on top of this. It really points out the need for to us do that training program, because as we talk about it, you go back and look at the number of people even in DHSES that are out for any length of time that know about the EAS system and a lot of them are just hearsay, there's not a lot of depth there.

I think Bill Peat and I are the ones that have been around probably the longest, and then everybody else had questions about how even the system worked. Then, you get into counties and the turnover that goes along with the counties and then you start making changes to the IPAWS system. How do we get this message out to everybody to make sure everybody's aware of it?

We've got to kind of get our arms around this. I think we're making a really good stab at it. We've been making about every two weeks with this committee and just kind of getting our arms around it.

The Broadcaster Association is still in the process of

updating their plan. You made reference to the state plan. This would be the state plan. The state plan is actually done by the broadcasters. We have, as you saw, I think, at the last meeting, we brought a copy of what our operations plan is for the state that dovetails into this and, that way, they can rewrite that.

Our next meeting for the committee is May 14th. That's kind of where we are with the Citizen Alerting Committee. Any questions?

**KOPSTEIN:** Two issues. One, I'm not sure if it was an update, but my iPhone 6, which is now old, has the ability to get those alerts. There was a check-off box, you could accept it or not. So that's in there now. And the quicker rollout you mentioned that's coming down, one of the states out west was significantly criticized for not warning people to get out. And the comment was some of the people that should have done it didn't do it because they didn't know about it or how to do it. So that's kind of pushing this rollout a little bit faster.

**SPRAGUE:** And that's exactly why, internally, we're sitting down and we're trying to analyze this. That spreadsheet that I brought up, I put four columns in there. And if I could go down those four columns and say yes, yes, yes, yes, then I would sleep better at night. If I can't, then I want

to make sure we get it to the point where we say yes.

We really need to control it, but from the state level, we need to know that County X can actually issue an emergency alert and they've done it, practiced it and know how to frame it so it comes out right and we don't have to do a retraction.

**TURNER:** Is there going to be a summary of some sort either distributed by your office or FEMA of how this testing will be done, when it will be done, that type of thing? Do you know yet?

**SPRAGUE:** As soon as we have an idea, we'll try to send something out or we'll incorporate it into our training sessions. I honestly don't think they know yet how this whole process is working. I don't know. I can't answer that other than we're getting these updates kind of at a shotgun blast with no real meat underneath them. I don't know.

My guess is that that July 1st through the 31st, they're going to be figuring it out and then probably the guidance will come out of that when they find out what works or what doesn't work. That's a guess.

**TUTTLE:** It's obvious based on what Mike kind of said and it's reflected as well and they admitted it as such, the IPAWS office out of FEMA headquarters is woefully understaffed. I think that's kind of some of these challenges of getting

information out and doing good coordination.

The byproduct of that is they've identified each FEMA region now has to have an IPAWS point of contact or a local manager. They're not going to manage the program. They'll be the touch point for the states and the territories.

Brian Crane is the FEMA regional emergency communications coordinator out of FEMA Region 2. He's been designated as such, but they're still waiting to understand what it means for the FEMA region, what's expected of them, what information is to be shared with them. There's a transition period going on.

Hopefully, there will be more of a regional point of contact for Mike and his office to work with going forward. As of right now, it's basically getting a shotgun blast out of the IPAWS program office out of D.C.

**SPRAGUE:** Yeah, it's a struggle to find anybody. Any other questions?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** Okay. New business. FDS filing. Jim, if you'd like to touch a little bit based on that for us, if you would.

**CALLAHAN:** Sure. So, everyone, about two weeks ago, you should have received an e-mail from the Joint Committee on Public Ethics, JCOPE, reminding you that it's now time to submit a Financial Disclosure Statement, the FDS. Those are

due by May 15th. You can submit those online at my.ny.gov, or you can do a paper filing if you want. You can find the paper form on the JCOPE website. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me or Joann. We can help you through the process. After May 15th, they can start to add penalties. It's all part of New York State's process of trying to ensure that financial conflicts of interest aren't affecting policymaking. So, please help us get that done in time. Thank you.

**SPRAGUE:** One caveat, because I think I saw Dave looking at me kind of funny. It doesn't necessarily apply to you as state personnel. We have our own JCOPE requirements we have to meet. So, if you're within certain financial requirements, you have to. It would basically apply to the volunteers who so graciously decided to be part of our program. We thank you very much.

**GREENBERG:** If you've never done it before, it's much easier on the second year. The first year, it's a little bit of a pain in the butt.

**SPRAGUE:** Any questions for the good of the order?

(No response.)

**SPRAGUE:** The next meeting is August 7th.

Just summary and closing remarks. I appreciate everybody's efforts. We've got a lot of things going, you know, from

the SCIP that we're going to be going through over the summer months. The grants are still rolling along. And our standing committees now have got a lot of things going on. I really appreciate everybody's efforts. And you know, it's nice to see the progress from a board level compared with where we were a couple years ago.

I think we've got a lot of projects in the hopper here. Nothing's done and probably never will be, but you know, we're moving stuff along. I really appreciate everybody's efforts.

And with that, unless anybody's got anything else, I'm going to move for adjournment.

**MEMBER:** Motion.

**SPRAGUE:** There's a motion for adjournment. Do I have a second?

**MEMBER:** Second.

**SPRAGUE:** Down by the end. Thank you.

All those in favor?

(Affirmative responses.)

**SPRAGUE:** Anybody else is welcome to stay. Actually, the CIWG meeting follows after lunch. Thanks, everybody.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Concluded at 11:30 a.m.)

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## C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, **THERESA L. ARDIA**, Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of New York, do hereby CERTIFY that the foregoing record taken by me at the time and place noted in the heading hereof is a true and accurate transcript of same, to the best of my ability and belief.

**Theresa L. Ardia**

Theresa L. Ardia, CSR, RPR, RMR

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