STATE INTEROPERABLE & EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION
VIRTUAL/IN-PERSON BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 26, 2022

CHELLIS: I'd like to welcome everyone. We'll get started.

I'm Brett Chellis, Deputy Director, Office of Interoperable

& Emergency Communications. I'll be sitting in today for

Commissioner, Jackie Bray. However, I would like to do a

couple quick things and I'll introduce our new Chair.

First of all, the fire exits are marked. The main route is
out the main entrance that you came in. Please be in the
parking lot and move past the driving lane, the fire lane,
so the apparatus and so on can access the building and then
congregate out there and make sure everybody's accounted
for.

Secondary exits are out to the back of the building to the
DOT area. Restrooms are across the hall, and please put your
phone on stun or vibrate so you do not disturb the meeting
and all devices like that.

I'd like to welcome you. And I'd like to introduce Mark
Balistreri. He's the new Director of the Office of
Interoperable and Emergency Communications and our new Chair
of the SIEC Board.

BALISTRERI: Thank you, Brett. First things first, I want
to thank everybody for serving on this Board. There's a lot
you folks do and a lot more we probably can do as a team.
But I want to thank everybody for keeping this going and
moving forward, also Brett and the DHSES OIEC staff over the
last a little over a year that Mike's been gone. So just
thank you for what you guys do.

A little bit about myself. I'm a Coast Guard veteran. I
spent 23 years in Rensselaer County. I managed their 9-1-1
Center. A firefighter for 31 years, still active. I rode
with an ambulance for 14, a commercial ambulance. I ran a
not-for-profit for 15 years on the side to get drunk drivers
off the road. And I'm on my local Town Board currently. So,

I have a diverse background in a lot of different areas. Over the last five years, I worked as a radio engineer here with the COMU program along with a lot of folks I see in this room together. We went from one COML in the state to, I think we're over 185 now credentialed across the state. So, thank you to all you folks, too, for that.

And officially, I think two or three weeks, I've been in office here and I'm still getting settled in. So, I appreciate all the support. And I think I'm going to try to get away with as much as possible that Jim allows me, but at the same token, I'm probably going to use the new guy thing for a lot of things, at least for 12 months, I think, 18 months maybe.

A couple things, a couple housekeeping just for people that aren't familiar with the procedures. Guests or persons having relevant knowledge or information may attend and speak as part of the agenda upon accepting of the meeting agenda by the Board. All other guests must be recognized by the Chair before addressing the Board or 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.

Also, our stenographer is virtual today. So, I ask that everybody please, if you do speak, state your name. Also, if you make a motion, first or second, please also state your name after that for the record so they get that proper. Other than that, we'll get right into the agenda. Kathy, can you do the roll call?

SHEA: Yes. Thank you, Director.

Board Members Present:
Mark Balistreri, Chair
Brett Chellis
David Kislowski, Designee for NYS ITS
Timothy Morris, Designee for NYSP
Jeffrey Houck (by phone)
Bob Terry, Designee for NYSDOT
Todd Murray, Designee for NYSDCJS (by phone)
Ryan Greenberg, Designee for NYSDOH
Richard Andersen
Brian LaFlure
Brendan Casey
Michael Volk
Allen Turner
Anthony Tripp
Juan Figueroa
Michael Cerretto

Board Members Absent:
Kimberly Beaty
GUESTS:
James Callahan
Jay Kopstein
Gerald Engstrom
Matthew Delaney
Chris Tuttle
Dana Smith

BALISTRERI: The minutes were distributed from the previous meeting. I assume everybody got a chance to look at those. We'll be looking for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Do I have a motion?
MEMBER: I'll make a motion.
BALISTRERI: Second?
MORRIS: I'll second it. Tim Morris.
BALISTRERI: Seconded by Tim Morris. All in favor.
(Affirmative responses.)
BALISTRERI: Motion is carried. We want to approve the agenda for the meeting, I believe. Can I get a motion to approve the agenda?
LAFLURE: So moved.
BALISTRERI: Brian LaFlure. Second?
CASEY: Second. Brendan Casey.
BALISTRERI: Okay. All in favor?
(Affirmative responses.)
BALISTRERI: So moving on, Standing Committee reports. We'll start off with the 911 Advisory Committee. Allen.
TURNER: We continue to process or proceed with the 911 standards. I talked with Mark and Brett the last week at a conference, 911 Coordinators Conference, and again a little bit last night. We will be able to move forward with it. I think everything is pretty well set with it. I just want to get everything -- T's crossed and I's dotted, but I think we're close to having it finally ready to go for a vote.
BALISTRERI: We'll be working with Jim and Brett on those. We'll have more updates coming soon. Thank you, Allen. Brett, 911 Working Group.
CHELLIS: Okay. We continue to be in the review process of the draft documents for the NG 911. The GIS subcommittee is active and has continued to meet. I would like to ask the Chair to recognize Gerry Engstrom, our GIS subcommittee co-chair, to just give a quick update from the subcommittee. Chair.
ENGSTROM: Thank you. One major change to the GIS

subcommittee is I previously co-chaired it with Chris Rado. Chris has moved on to new responsibilities with New York City, so he has been replaced by Mr. Steve Carr. He's with the New York City Office of Innovation and Technology. He is the subject matter expert for Next Gen 911 for the City and I think he's going to be a very good addition, a solid addition, to the subcommittee.

The shared Next Gen 911 PSAP boundary editing environment is still in development. There's a little bit of a snag with the open source shared GIS database and Amazon wireless services. So Amazon and the GPO, the developers at the GIS program office, are working on a solution to that disconnect and we hope that that will happen soon.

BALISTRERI: Thanks, Gerry. Mr. Kopstein, CIWG.

KOPSTEIN: Good morning. Congratulations, Mark.

BALISTRERI: Thank you.

KOPSTEIN: First, just so the Director knows, I will be presenting down at the IEM next month on third-party dependencies. That will be down in Savannah. SAFECOM is going to be publishing a monthly newsletter as soon as it gets approved by their external affairs people. I'll keep everybody informed.

Cyber securities will be added to the PA when requests are made. Chris, are you going to speak to that or you want me to speak to it? They are improving the technical assistance and cyber has become a big thing and that's going to be part of technical assistance.

There was another discussion on user fees for 911. We discussed that in-house privately in the past and it's come up again as a concern.

There have been a number of cyber attacks on 911 systems and the like. The latest I know is out in Suffolk County. They're still in the restoration process as far as I know. They got hurt bad.

We're working on an interoperability business development document. That's going to allow members here and the like to better present the case to the politicians for funding, putting the need for interoperability and sustainability in the business case format, which some of them are more familiar with.

There are two new grant programs that I think we ought to take note of. One is going to be through Homeland Security, the cyber security grant program. Chris, are you going to speak more to that? I don't know if it's out yet or not. If it's out, I would strongly suggest we take a look at it. There's another program from Health and Human Services on Rural Health Grant program and I think that's something we should be taking a look at as well.

We're looking at the new strategic national survey. Right
now, it's in the de-confliction mode. We're trying to come
up with questions that will not create a problem. One of
the issues, one of the things we're adding to it is SOGs,
Standard Operating Guidelines, versus procedures. Within
a number of states, procedure must be adhered to strictly,
for a guideline to be some flexibility.
We're also working with FEMA on some new ICS positions.
Mark, you may be aware of it, the Information Technology
Support Specialist, it's going to be called the ITSS.
The Cyber Planner, CYBP, officially, the communications
coordinator, the com-cord (phonetic), we've used for years
but it's never been a documented position. They're looking
to rewrite both the COML and the COMT courses to bring them
up-to-date. They're looking at an additional course for
people like the people in this room to update ICS without
repetition from course to course rather than courses
continuously repeating what we learned, spending a week in
what can probably be done in four hours. They're looking
to redo that.
And finally, a new accessible library that will be easy to
log in and find documentation that we're looking for.
That's all I've got, Director, if anybody's got any
questions.
MEMBER: That library, is that in CASM or is that just a
separate library?
KOPSTEIN: It looks like it's going to be a library through
the SAFECOM website.
BALISTRERI: Thank you, Jay. All right, the COMU program.
I went through and updated these slides. I went from 24 to
about 50 so...
I downsized. I'm not going to continue to go through the
program and the process and the policy. Everybody in here
is familiar with it. I just wanted to update everybody on
the courses.
Right now, we have COMT left in November. It's a five-day
course. There are currently 16 seats. We have 17 students
that have registered, so we have one on the waiting list.
I encourage people to still register for it, because once
we vet and go through the students, sometimes we get
cancellations and we'll pull people off the waiting list.
So, if you have people that want to take it, please have them
still register.
And then we have a COMU instructor meeting exercise in
December. This year, we have quite a bit to go over,
including the schedule for next year's training as well as
a -- we're going to review the instructor process and create
an adjunct instructor program similar to what OEM does, so

our instructors get some experience and evaluation before they're cut loose on their own.

As far as statewide, I left my glasses in the office, I think it's 183 that we're at. Yup, okay. So that's what we're at right now, 183, and I think we have two pending right now that we're working on.

Phil McGeough from our office and Julie Schwartz will be transitioning into the COMU program. So that's going to be -- we actually have a meeting on Friday, so they're going to take care of those two credentialed folks so they can go through the process of how we do it. Training, all of them are completed except for the 16 for COMT.

So, at the end of this year, we should have over a thousand or close to a thousand trainees out there that are working; some more active than others, but the program is moving forward. And again, thank you to all you folks in this room that have been part of that and helped spread the word on this program.

LMS. I did leave this slide in, because I want to encourage everyone to go back and tell everybody that they need to go into LMS and update their personal information.

With course registrations, we continue to have people that have old e-mail information in there. So when we're sending them documents that we need, it's going somewhere that they don't have anymore and we end up having to try and track down the students from the information in LMS and it's very difficult. So please encourage people to go in and update their information.

If they're not in LMS and they're going to plan on taking any courses in New York State, this is the main page and they go to the portal, they do a web form and submit it and then an account's created for them. If they already have an account, they check that first. So if they don't think they have one, still do this, and they'll collect the information and then they will end up sending them the information from the account they actually have.

Any questions?

(No affirmative response.)

BALISTRERI: All right. Matt, Public Safety.

DELANEY: Good morning, everyone. Public Safety Broadband. So an update on AT&T FirstNet. They're up to nationwide 3.7 million connections and 21,500 agencies using FirstNet. Some of those are customers who were on AT&T who moved to FirstNet. Others came from other carriers or are new connections into AT&T FirstNet. For New York, from original opt-in agreement, for 100 FirstNet sites, 89 of those 100 are on the air, nine more construction completed. That's in addition to a couple hundred of their commercial

build sites that they've also built, but these were ones specifically funded out of the federal FirstNet issued. Those nine that are construction completed, they'll probably be on the air very shortly, if they're not by the time of the slide here. Basically, that means that the site's up, everything's done. They might just be waiting for the backhaul to be turned on, they might be waiting to optimize instant network through the RF optimization. A couple things we had recently with FirstNet. U.N. General Assembly, we had DHSES supports, relocation efforts related to the U.N. General Assembly. And we had AT&T FirstNet staged with us. They actually brought into the city, they brought a full site on wheels trailer, satellite backhaul, set it up, put it all up, tower and everything, and just had the satellite turned down.

Basically, it was ready to go. If something were to have happened during the U.N. General Assembly, they could have turned it up. They also brought a CRD, which is a little Compact Rapid Deployable, mounts on a trailer hitch. It's a large box with a satellite dish on it. So, if they had to leave the area, they could take that right with them and wherever it ended up could turn it on and provide FirstNet support there as well.

Ulster County wildfire support. There was a wildfire in Ulster County about two months ago. The command post inside a metal firehouse had poor cell service. AT&T brought from New Jersey a BDA, set it up, put it on the side of the building, ran it through a window and got AT&T coverage, FirstNet coverage inside the building for the command post.

Verizon Wireless, they have 178 new sites in New York State, 127 are small cell, 30 are macro or full power sites and 23 are in-building sites. All their macro sites have battery backup and about 80 percent of them have generators. The other 20 percent, they can't put generators on due to restrictions. They might be zoning restrictions. They might be rooftop sites or something where they're not allowed to put a generator.

Any questions on Public Safety Broadband?

BALISTRERI: Jay.

KOPSTEIN: On the FirstNet sites, how many of those sites have backup generators?

DELANEY: So, every new site they build is built with a generator unless they are legally prohibited due to a zoning restriction or something in the Building Code from putting a generator on. In sites that predate the FirstNet initiative, most of the upstate sites had generators, not all of the downstate, the New York City metro area sites had generators.

However, part of this opt-in initiative was that they were going to add 250 generators to sites and other critical switching components and some that didn't have generators, the vast majority of those in the New York City Metropolitan area. So, I don't have an exact percentage. I can get it for the next meeting. But they have generators on most upstate sites and a lot more downstate sites than they did.

KOPSTEIN: Director, may I make a comment, an engineering comment?

BALISTRERI: What did you say?

KOPSTEIN: May I make an engineering comment on cell sites and the like?

BALISTRERI: Sure, sure.

KOPSTEIN: Right now, you put up a cell site, if you have four vendors on the site, you'll have four UPSs, four generators, four fuel supplies, if they're all backed up. If you have a power outage and the generator goes down for whatever reason, you still lose that carrier. If it's FirstNet, it could be critical if you have a lot of agencies on it.

There's an easy fix that doesn't cost overall any additional money. The fixes on new tower sites, the tower erector puts in two generators, each being able to run the entire site. So, for them to have a UPS and then it hooks up -- the carrier has the UPS that hooks up to the vendor's generator. If the generator craps out, the second generator kicks in. You don't lose any carriers on the site.

Environmentally, it's more friendly with the bigger generator, the less polluting, and you have that N-plus two, you have the double redundancy. Just something to think about as we license new towers.

BALISTRERI: Thank you, Jay. Next topic, Channel Naming and Use Working Group.

DELANEY: So this is more of a question. So as a reminder, we have a number of interoperability guidelines on our website, base station configuration in interoperability channels, network IP structure, programming, portable to mobiles, encryption. But a lot of these have not been updated in a few years. It doesn't necessarily mean anything needs an update. But I'm asking sort of the community: Are there any changes needed? Is there anything in that that was out there for a while and just doesn't work out? You know, try to follow the guidelines and have a lot of problems with it or something we're not stating in there that we need to be clearer or state. And then similarly, are there any guidelines related to interoperability that we should have but don't have today on the website? You don't have to answer now, but if you

think of any, just send me a email and let me know. It's
something we're always looking at, so feedback is always
welcome.

Questions?

(No affirmative response.)

BALISTRERI: Citizens Alerting Committee.

DELANEY: So recent FCC actions. The FCC has released a
report and order that incorporates some changes in EAS. In
summary, the changes require broadcasters, cable companies
and the like to check for a CAP, compliant message, and use
that message instead of the relayed audio. So, the way EAS
works is that, typically, broadcasters in a chain will
receive the audio from another authority or another alerting
station and they'll repeat that. And over time, it tends
to get -- you get noise built into that and sometimes there's
problems where the messages get cut off, a lot of technical
problems. Plus, there's a limit to how long the message can
be.

By checking for CAP, which is essentially an IP stream of
all the messages that are sent to EAS, it requires Internet
access at the location, the control corner, the transmitter
for the broadcaster, many of them have it today anyway, and
use that message instead. That way, the audio can be much
clearer, because it's basically like an MP3 file. With the
audio not relayed, it can be longer.

In the future, it can allow certain other things, like other
languages, to be relayed as well. But there's a timeframe,
I think it's nine seconds, if the CAP message is not detected
or available within that, the broadcaster just has to default
to using the relayed one.

So, if your network access is down, it's not that the message
doesn't get relayed, you just go back to sort of the old
method, which is to relay what you received over the air from
somebody before you in the chain.

They've also changed some wording to make national tests
easier for the public to understand. Instead of using sort
of technical kind of government language, they made it very
clear. This is like the federal government testing the
emergency alert system to ensure that we can reach you in
an emergency. It's just sort of that kind of clearer
language.

Another thing that's not on this slide because it just
happened the other day is we received the latest IPAWS
quarterly status report. That's the quarter for July,
August and September for every agency that has the IPAWS
integrated public alert warning system alerting authority
in New York State is required to test their proficiency in
it in a demo environment monthly.

Normally, if you don't test for three months in a row, your ability to send those messages is suspended. Because of the pandemic, they have suspended the suspension; this is FEMA. However, they're still tracking those who are not alerting. We brought this up a few months ago. We have seen improvement. We know a number of counties have re-upped their certificates, their memorandums of agreement with the federal government. We have seen improvement. We've seen a couple counties slide the wrong way into not testing over the last couple months. Some are one or two months behind and we're going to follow up with those counties.

FEMA did have a problem over the summer with their certificate issuing for their demo environment. So, the caveat and sort of report with we're not sure that this truly is showing that people are not testing. We received a couple reports last night that some counties that they thought had tested show up as not tested. So, we can't say for certain that these counties that still show as not tested not truly aren't. But the reminder is the same regardless. You're an IPAWS alerting authority. You need to test every month. That's to stay compliant. At some point, FEMA will start suspending again. If you haven't tested in three months, you'll get suspended. And if you're not testing, you may not realize that. And then you go in an actual emergency to send an alert and you can't, because you're suspended. And just testing every month is good for proficiency.

Because when something's happening, you have to jump in and send an alert, you don't want to be thinking, geez, I haven't done this in a year. How do I do this again? So, the monthly test is there for a very important reason. Any questions?

(No affirmative response.)

BALISTRERI: Thank you. Brett.

CHELLIS: I have nothing new to report for the State Agency Communications Working Group.

BALISTRERI: All right, Matt, back to you.

DELANEY: So, I'm covering the grant report today. Phil is in a grant conference in Lake George for the division. So, this is formula grant status. So, we have our program names by year, we have appropriation year, the appropriation amount, that's the original amount of the grant, and then how much has been vouchered to date.

You can see that going back further in time, you know, amounts vouchered, but there are still some open ones. If you are a county that's under an older grant, if you have an extension, you need to spend that, you need to close that out.

If there's a problem, a reason why it's not being spent, I assume you should probably talk to your grant

representative, contract representative, about that. But that's important to spend that out and look at future grants. So, as we come near in time, you know, you can see that some vouchers, this is the grant from the 2020 formula grant, 45 million, vouchered 9.3 million. This is the 2021 SICG grant is the one that was two years appropriation. It was announced on August 3rd. No one has really vouchered anything on that yet, but that's a double appropriation also, it's two appropriation years.

PSAP Operations grant, these tend to spend quicker because of the kinds of funding that they are. The smaller projects were used for staffing and so forth.

So those have been closed out.

And then down here, we've got just the open ones right now. Even the 2020-21, 9 million, it's almost 90 percent vouchered. And this is again the one that was just announced on August 3rd and, already, some of the vouchering has begun on that.

Now, the Targeted grant, so the original Targeted grant from 2018 was broken into two phases, phase one and phase two. Those are underway. As you can see, we've got vouchering going on that. This is the current Targeted grant. This was the RFA that was from the Spring; clarification questions over the summer. 62 million dollar Targeted grant, max 6 million award per county. In budget development, we reached out to the top scoring counties and begun budget development and not awards yet. We don't know exactly how many counties will be awarded, when that award will occur. That will, of course, lead to a project period PPD, because we don't know when that award will happen.

So overall, I mentioned the 2022 PSAP Operations and the combined '21-'22 Formula grant, awards were announced on 8/3. 2022 Targeted grant, budget development is in process. So, the total to date is about 729 million dollars in grants since inception. Of course, please submit your vouchers for reimbursement so we can close out the open grants.

Any questions?

(No affirmative response.)

DELANEY: Okay, thank you.

BALISTRERI: Okay. We had a consortium chair meeting last night, it was pretty good, it was like two and a half hours. And the consortium, we talked about a lot of different topics, but we feel that that committee is very important and a lot of it is linked to a lot of what we all do and even the grant funding and the projects done by these consortiums. So, I asked a representative from the consortium to speak on behalf of the chairs from last night. So, Dana Smith from Dutchess County, he is the Chair of the Hudson Valley

Consortium. Turn it over to you, Dana.
SMITH: Thank you. Good morning, Mark. Good morning, everyone. On behalf of the nine consortiums in New York State, we'd like to congratulate and welcome Mark to his new role. Been a partner for many years, like everyone else in the office is. That's one of the things we really want to stress.
I don't have a detailed specific report of what the consortiums are working on. I don't want to bore you with that today. In the future, we're going to have basically a one sheet going forward, we agreed to last night, for this group and also for the C3 meeting from all the different counties up through the consortiums. But we want to talk about the opportunity to partner and cooperate and be more involved and be true partners in this.
As Brett mentioned, and everybody did last night, I think everyone in this room will agree interoperability is more than land mobile radio. With technology advancements today, the demands of our first responders for technology, the advancements in technology, the ecosystem of the interoperability changes daily. And the requests for not only first responders but other government entities, the public and the advancement in technology, we need to be prepared for that and think more than just land mobile radio.
I know many of us in this room and many agencies are making investments in that and, together, between the consortium chairs and all the counties they represent, the office and this Board, we truly want to be a partner with you in that moving forward.
Once again, congratulations, Mark, and condolences at the same time.
BALISTRERI: Thanks, Dana, I appreciate it. At this time, I'll entertain a motion to accept all the committee reports. Can I have a motion?
TURNER: Motion.
BALISTRERI: Motion by Allen Turner.
CERRETTO: Cerretto. Second.
BALISTRERI: Mike Cerretto, second. All in favor?
(Affirmative responses.)
BALISTRERI: Do we have any old business? Anybody?
(No affirmative response.)
BALISTRERI: Okay, I'll entertain a motion to accept old business. So I'll move right along, right?
CHELLIS: Yeah.
BALISTRERI: Motion by Brett. Seconded by?
TRIPP: Anthony Tripp.
BALISTRERI: Anthony Tripp. All in favor?
(Affirmative responses.)

BALISTRERI: All right. New business. One of the things we want to do is -- and I'm doing this quickly, because I don't want to miss this slide. I was warned by Joann if I miss this slide, no soup for me. February 1st of 2023, May 17th, '23, August 2nd, October 25th. This is all on the presentation that was sent to you guys with the invite. So, if you don't get them here, just go back and grab that slideshow and that last slide there is that. Anybody else have any new business?

TURNER: I'd like to...

BALISTRERI: Allen.

TURNER: It occurred to me last night after -- towards the end of the C3 meeting that we talk a lot about the continuing development of interoperability between the consortium groups, but one thing we really haven't touched on, and without counting county by county, I would say probably more than 40 counties in the state either border on another state or border on Canada.

And I would like to encourage this Board and the C3 group to start investigating how we can work with our neighbors in the other states and in Ontario and Quebec.

Obviously, that's a big situation to delve into both internationally and with other state governments. But I think we're moving along well within our state and that's the next, I think, appropriate point where we should look at. I urge others to speak up with what you think. For those of you that border other states, how are you doing things and is it working for you?

MEMBER: I border two states, Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York. We'll meet at Port Jervis and they have a good working relationship out there. We have towers in Pennsylvania and equipment on towers there. So, I get a report from my 911 guy on how it works out there. But Port Jervis and Matamoras and Sussex, they work together every day. So, there is radio interoperability out there. I'll find out.

I know all my fire guys have triple band radios, because they deal with Ulster and Sullivan and that's not on our new system. So, we're sort of that dividing line between that new 7-800 trunk system and some of the more rural counties that don't have it yet. So, we have the Hudson River, Delaware, we border a lot of different things down there in Orange.

So, I'll find out exactly what Greg does down there, but we don't seem to have any problems. We deal with the Jersey troopers, the Pennsylvania troopers, Matamoras PD, and Port Jervis. Everybody communicates well and there's really good coverage out there with our new towers that we put up. So, I'll get a report on that for next time.

ALLEN: I spoke with Tina Goodwin from Steuben County last week at the 911 conference and she said that her county and the neighboring counties in Pennsylvania that they border, dispatch-to-dispatch, they still have to do everything by phone. The field units have interoperability amongst themselves, but there's not a dedicated state-to-state radio setup. I'd like us to move forward on that, if we can. Obviously, it's not going to happen overnight.

CHELLIS: Allen, I can say on a high level -- I agree with you individual counties with their neighbors in other states and Canada, it's very, very important. I know the relationships, there was a committee -- actually, I don't know if you want to call it a committee but a group that formed between Orange and New Jersey and it was like a tri-state --

MEMBER: Quad state.

CHELLIS: -- interoperable communications group that met regularly. That's been going on. High level, the SWICs, the State Wireless Interoperability Coordinators, they meet regularly. So Mark as a new SWIC for New York will be meeting regularly with the SWICs from the neighboring states. On the 911 front, as a state 911 coordinator, I meet regularly through NASNA, which is the National Association of State 911 Coordinators, we meet twice a year formally and monthly informally virtually. So I have an ongoing relationship with the 911 coordinator at State of Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Jersey has a fairly new one.

So those communications go on. But I agree with you that, you know, when you're talking technical, you talk actual county to county and so on, that there's probably areas where improvements can be made. We all know about the challenges of LMR with the Canadian ANA (phonetic), and that's more of a federal thing. I don't know if the Chair can recognize Chris.

BALISTRERI: Recognize Chris Tuttle.

TUTTLE: Thank you, sir. So what I recommend is the consortiums talk to their counties that have those borders, either state or international, bring back to the consortiums any issues that they see to Mark and Brett. And then New Jersey just has a new SWIC in the last two months, Connecticut within the last year, Massachusetts within the last two years. So all the bordering SWICs are fairly new as well. So I know Mark and New Jersey SWIC has already been talking and introducing one another. So it's a good opportunity to utilize the cross-border communication as leverage for SWIC for conversation. Ironically, last Wednesday, CISA started up discussions to get on the northern border working group with Canada. That has been dormant for roughly four to five years due to politics. I'll leave it at that.

But Canada has a willingness to start to engage again at the federal level regarding international border communications conversations and issues. We will not discuss line A any time in the first few meetings, I promise you that. But the FCC has been a partner. They continue to do what we can and we made it very clear on the call last week that any engagement in the states at the northern border, especially the northeast, that in-street (phonetic) Canada has to be part of the conversation to start to look at legacy licenses that are not being utilized anymore and that are dormant and give public safety priority over those licenses.
So we continue to advocate on the United States side. It's just getting it heard and actionable on the Canadian side. But you know, to Allen's point, their international piece is starting back up as well. So it's kind of a very timely topic to bring up.
BALISTRERI: Anybody else?
(No affirmative response.)

BALISTRERI: Just to add on to what Allen said, it fits in perfect with kind of what I was going to say to close with today. A lot of our committees, I think we need to take a look at the committees. Some of them haven't met. I think we ought to really take a look and see if some of them are even necessary. There's nothing preventing us from having people give reports in different areas. They don't have to have a committee to give a report.

I also think we ought to start looking at the committees and actually using the committees and start some projects with these committees.

Some of the things we talked about today at other meetings, we have committees for that but we really haven't had meetings. We haven't brought these up and we haven't started trying to work forward with things. I know one of the ones -- and that's why Brett said he had no report, because I told him I was going to touch on it -- is the State Agency Working Group. We need to be more active.

There's a lot of stuff going on and I think our State Agency Working Group is a perfect venue to accomplish a lot.

And with the partnerships that Dana talked about and Matt talked about building on the Citizen Alerting Committee and things like that and also the Channel Naming Working Group, I mean, these are already committees we already have. So from now until February -- obviously don't want to do it today. But from now til February, just give some thought, send some ideas to us, please, on what we'd like to see, any suggestions on how we can get those committees more active and how we can increase that partnership that we already have existing, I think, is going to go a long way to what we all do. We're all partners in the same industry no matter whether we're state, county or local. We're all partners in the same things. We all face the same problems and have for years. So I think we just start tackling these problems, again, move forward.

Does anybody have anything else for the SIEC Board today?

(No affirmative response.)

BALISTRERI: Okay. I guess I will entertain a motion to adjourn, and I'll adjourn with the hope and I really do appreciate all the support and I'm looking forward to working with you all. Do I have a motion?

LAFLURE: So moved.

BALISTRERI: So moved, Brian LaFlure. Seconded?

CASEY: Brendan Casey.

BALISTRERI: All in favor?

(Affirmative responses.)

                    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.

<u>Theresa L. Ardia</u>
Theresa L. Ardia, CSR, CRR, RPR, RMR

Dated: November 2, 2022.