

**State Interoperable &
Emergency Communication (SIEC)
Board Meeting
October 25, 2023**

Page 1 of 9

Mark Balistreri: October 25, 2023, SIEC Board, will call the meeting to order. As this meeting is being recorded, and for the benefit of those who have dialed in, when recognized by the Chair or for any motions or seconds, please start with your name prior to speaking. Please note if you are dialed in, you may not make a motion, second a motion, or vote on any motion. It is highly recommended that this meeting be an in person meeting whenever possible. 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 or participating in discussion. As this meeting again, is being recorded, and for the benefit of the transcript, please state your name before the motion and second. At this time, I'll have Heather Fura do the roll call.

Heather Fura: Okay, if I say your name please let me know you are here. Mark Balistreri.

Mark Balistreri: Here.

Heather Fura: Phil McGeough

Phillip McGeough: Here.

Heather Fura: Timothy Morris.

Timothy Morris: Here

Heather Fura: Jeff Nuding.

Jeff Nuding: Here.

Heather Fura: Stephanie Gomez. I believe she is in transit. Bob Terry.

Bob Terry: Here.

Heather Fura: Todd Murray:

Todd Murray: Here, online.

Heather Fura: Brian Greenberg.

Brian Greenberg: Here online and on my way there.

Heather Fura: Richard Anderson. Brian LaFlure.

Brian LaFlure: Brian LaFlure is here from beautiful Oriskany, New York.

Heather Fura: Kimberly Beaty. Michael Volk. Allen Turner.

Allen Turner: Here.

Heather Fura: Anthony Tripp.

Anthony Tripp: I'm on WebEx from Glen Cove, New York.

Heather Fura: Juan Figueroa.

Juan Figueroa: Here.

Heather Fura: And Michael Cerretto.

Michael Cerretto: Here.

Mark Balistreri: Okay, everyone should have received a copy of the August 2nd SIEC Board Meeting. Any questions, corrections, I'll entertain a motion to accept the minutes from the August 2nd, meeting. Motion by Sheriff Figueroa. Second Mike Cerretto. All in favor?

All: Aye.

Mark Balistreri: Opposed? Carried. Everyone should have received a copy of the draft agenda for today's SIEC Board meeting. Are there any questions or comments on that? I'll entertain a motion to accept. Motion,

Anthony Tripp: Anthony Tripp, seconded.

Mark Balistreri: Somebody in the room has to second.

Bob Terry: Second.

Mark Balistreri: All in favor?

All: Aye.

Mark Balistreri: Okay, just one point of order for the SIEC Board Membership. We continue to work on filling the vacant board seats, there will be more to come on this in the future. For committee reports, we'll start off with the 911 Advisory Committee, Chair Allen Turner.

Allen Turner: I have good news to report that the 911 Standards have been approved so that means we will be able to come back to the committee for final approval, and we should be able to vote on them for Board approval at the next meeting in January. And we will be progressing with more work with the committees once the New Year, end of this year begins, and hopefully we will be doing those quarterly in correlation to this board meeting.

Mark Balistreri: Thanks Allen. Any questions? Okay, NG911 working group, we have Paul Glasser is going to speak to this.

Paul Glasser, Jr.: Good morning, everybody. So, we did have a meeting back in July, um, the purpose of the meeting was to go over our workgroup assignments, and we did talk about a schedule last week, we spoke at the 911 Coordinator's Conference with the group about a schedule, so we're going to put it out there. You can see the meeting dates that are there. I anticipate that will be a little bit more aggressive once we get started on the project, but for now, we're going to leave that up there and meet quarterly until we get moving a little bit quicker.

Mark Balistreri: Thank you, Paul. GIS working group, we have Jason Baum who co-chairs with Steve Carr. I believe Steve is on the phone too.

Jason Baum: I'm Jason Baum. GIS working group, so we did have a meeting on ah 9/11, presented an ORG chart at the request of the working group to show the relationship of the working group to the structure of the state, for the group understanding. Paul provided an update on the NextGen plan. Toni Goyer from New York State ITS provided a report on the NENA NextGen GIS data model working group which she is involved in. Steve Carr reported that NENA is also looking at standards for other NextGen initiatives such as CAD. Jeff Norris reported that they're working on transitioning to a new MSAG vendor. Greg Anderson reviewed the HIFLD PSAP boundary data that we acquired and cleaned up the line work but we're holding on further information from the NextGen plan to further edit that data.

Mark Balistreri: Thank Jason.

Steve Carr: Yeah, Mark if I could just add to that, Jason sums it up pretty well. But I'd just like to, our group welcomes the additional New York State representation recently it provides good visibility on New York State initiatives regarding NextGen and GIS in general. So, thanks for that support from the state.

Mark Balistreri: Thanks Steve. Okay, this is just a sample of the PSAP boundaries and as Jason said, there is work to do on them to clean them up. State Agency Communications Committee, Matt Delaney, you're on, correct?

Matt Delaney: Good morning, I am. So, the State Agency Communications Committee met September 20th. We had presentations given by DOT, MTA-PD, Thruway, and OMH. Every meeting we've had, we've had one of our state agencies give an update on their radio system based in an overview for other state agencies, so everyone can become familiar with what the other state agencies operate, how they work, how they function, what their dispatch centers are like, and so forth. We've set some 2024 meeting dates. These are for state agencies. These are going to be in person meetings. I won't read them off, but they're on the slide. We also had some good discussion related to some concerns that some of the agencies are experiencing. We brought those to the C3 meeting, I won't get too far ahead on that. But it went to the C3 meeting and that really well having that communication between the State Agency Communications Committee and the C3. Thank you.

Mark Balistreri: Thanks Matt. I think we're back to you again Matt, Citizen Alerting Committee.

Matt Delaney: So, Citizen Alerting Committee we held a meeting on October 12th. It's a hybrid meeting in person and virtually. We had good attendance, good discussion. We had some timely discussion. Updates were given by DHSES including State OEM, New York City Emergency Management, State Police, and New York State Broadcaster's Association. We followed up on a couple of recent events. They just had the week before the National Wireless Emergency Alert and Emergency Alert System test, so we had a great discussion with that. FEMA was on our call, FEMA did participate in the CAC and gave us some updates that was very beneficial to have them on the call. Also New York City Emergency Management gave us an update on Notify NYC which is their multifaceted alerting to get information out through social media, through subscription alerts, and they can also use wireless emergency alerts. We talked about the flooding that happened at the end of September in New York City, and the amount of alerts that they sent related to road closures and basement alerts and so forth for some of those very flooded situations. State Police gave a brief presentation on AMBER alerts as we unfortunately just had an actual AMBER alert situation shortly before the meeting at Moreau State Park, thankfully it turned out to be a recovery, but discussed the AMBER alert process and the rather strict criteria for actually issuing an AMBER alert vs. something like a missing child alert which has a different criteria and is much more

frequently issued. OEM also talked about air quality alerts. I'm sure you remember this summer with some of the air quality issues in New York State. OEM actually developed formal criteria to when we would issue a Wireless Emergency Alert for air quality. Did not have to issue one, but we are prepared if during the future, to make sure people are aware of an impending or actual air quality issue. The 2024 meeting dates are on the slide. We are going to meet at as hybrid of in person and virtually, people will be attending from out of state as well representing industry and FEMA. If anyone who's not participating in CAC on the Board that are interested, just let me know. Thank you.

Mark Balistreri: Thanks Matt.

Matt Delaney: I actually have one more slide. NY Alert, if you're not already signed up for NY-Alert, we recommend that you sign up. It's alert.ny.gov, this is the New York subscription based mass notification system. This is where you can get alerts such as those missing person alerts that don't rise to an AMBER alert, public health alerts, transportation alerts, that's tied through DOT's 511 for road closures and incident reports. Alright, that's it. Thank you.

Mark Balistreri: Alright, thanks Matt. At this time, I'll entertain a motion to accept committee reports.

Bob Terry: Motion

Allen Turner: Second.

Mark Balistreri: Second by Allen Turner, all in favor?

All: Aye.

Mark Balistreri: Program updates, we will start off with Phil McGeough on grants.

Phillip McGeough: Everyone is excited to know that grants are out now, so our 23 PSAP Formula and SICG Formula grant are out. The 23 Targeted is still in process, so that should be coming soon. As many of you are aware, we are doing an overview of our grants which is much needed. So, the 24 PSAP Operations Grant and 24 Formula Grant we're hoping to have out soon but they are being worked on. As you can see on the slide there, we are going over Permissible and Non-Permissible costs. We listened to you at the meetings that we had the C3 meetings and other venues in which we interacted with you. We were hearing some of the suggestions and concerns and we're trying to work those into the grants. We are going to be looking for some more verification. With that being said, the award amounts going forward may change. There is really no set answer on how they will change, but because we're going to be requesting the validation of the information you are providing us. We suspect there will be some variances in the award amount. In addition to that, for all of the grants going forward, we will have a technical guide to say this is exactly what we're putting in this box to avoid any confusion. There was another concern that has come up in the past is that answers we received from 5 or 6 different people, had 5 or 6 different answers because of interpretation. So, this technical guide will hopefully clear up any confusion. As I said, scorings may be changed a little bit, and a warning on the award amount may be different.

Mark Balistreri: And when Phil is talking about the award amounts, he is talking about the individual amounts, not the total amount.

Phillip McGeough: The 24 Targeted Grant also being reviewed and overhauled. As I just said with everything the PSAP Formula and SICG Formula, the same thing will apply to the Targeted Grant. We will have a technical guide for this as well. So, hopefully that will clear up any confusion in the back and forth that we have had in the past with request for further information. Additional funding for Next Generation 911 \$20,000,000. This came out this past year and we hope that will be going forward in years to come. So, this will assist with moving NG down the road.

COMU program. So, currently right now at the SPTC we have a COMT class going on out there. Chris Carney, Brian LaFlure is on the phone, and Mike Carl are all out there putting on a COMT course for us. That's a technical course teaching more of the inner workings of communication technicians and we have a bunch of INTD's coming up over the next couple of months as you can see on the screen here. We have one next week out in Buffalo. We'll have another COMT up in Washington County. AUXCOMM at the SPTC. Another Regional INTD Course down in Suffolk, followed up in December with a planning meeting for next years' TA and course schedule for the COMU program. If anyone is interested and has ideas for that, please reach out to myself, Julie or our OIEC.training@dhses.ny.gov mailbox.

To help promote this, we are sharing our scheduled planned events with as many people as we can. As I said previously, if you guys have suggestions, concerns, any requests for courses, please let us know. We have started to go to a more regional approach. We realized that with scheduling conflicts, location of people that would like to attend that their schedules just don't afford them the opportunity to come out and use the SPTC. So, we're trying to approach a regional aspect of the COMU program to help give a little bit more availability to those people down on the Island, out in Buffalo, and in Northern New York. Again, there is the training contact information.

This is our overview of numbers. These change from year to year due to retirements, people needing positions, people that are no longer interested. Currently, we are at 193. To date we've trained 715 people, those blue numbers there are tentative as they're still ongoing courses being offered, so those will change. We actually for that Erie Count INTD that is coming up next week, we've filled two classes of 20, so we'll have about 39 to 40 people there because there are still a few people trying to sign up.

Michael Cerretto: Can you go back to the other slide? How many people do we have in the state?

Phillip McGeough: 193 that are credential across 7 different areas. Well, as far as those credentialed people, if you're looking to know where they're located, the CASM accounts that you all should be utilizing as part of your county grant requirements, the information of these people as credentialed are in there as well as some of the trainees that are working on task books, meaning that they're pretty much almost right there to be credentialed. A lot of this information we try to keep it as up to date as we can, so the CASM would be a great tool to utilize to search and see in your area and the different categories who is credentialed or not.

Michael Cerretto: Who's eligible for this training?

Phillip McGeough: Anyone that fits the prerequisites to each course can attend the training. It is geared towards telecommuters and radio engineers...

Michael Cerretto: Do they have to work at the center?

Phillip McGeough: Not Necessarily.

Mark Balistreri: No, but you have to have a background in some type of radio.

Michael Cerretto: Cause I'm just looking at trained 715 people, yet we only have 178, we never had any more than 198.

Phillip McGeough: That's a total across the board for all the years combined.

Michael Cerretto: I'm just saying, we trained all these people, where are they?

Mark Balistreri: They're out completing task books. So, the process, I came from this so I can give you a little description. So, the process is you have to meet the prerequisites which is mostly NIMS courses. You have to, of course, take the course. Once you complete the course, you're given what's called a task book, a position task book. And it's basically a practical application. You have to go out to planned and unplanned events, and complete tasks for that task book to show you can demonstrate that you can do those functions. That takes a little bit of time.

Michael Cerretto: I have a couple of people in the program.

Mark Balistreri: And once they complete their task book, then they complete summary forms or summary sheets of paper that accompanies the whole packet to us, and then we go through and make that they met all the requirements, and then we sign off, then they become credentialed. So, the process generally from when you take the course until you complete, could take anywhere, I think you have up to 3 years to complete it.

Phillip McGeough: And that's another reason why we're trying to offer these regional offerings of exercises and trainings to give people the opportunity to afford people the opportunity to get their task books completed. That's not a requirement that is necessarily up to us, it's also we have to follow, as Mark said, the NIMS standard and CISA ECD standards.

Michael Cerretto: Do they have to sign a requirement that they're going to assist us with, if you train them whenever we need them?

Mark Balistreri: Strictly on a voluntary basis right now. It's up to their agency. Their agency has to sign off and approve.

Michael Cerretto: Okay, thank you.

Juan Figueroa: Is there any incentives given to them so they complete the trainings besides certification?

Phillip McGeough: Not necessarily, because it was a voluntary thing. We have utilized them quite a bit, pretty much, I think everyone of our planned events that we support here with DHSES, we've utilized the COMU personnel whether as a credentialed person or someone that's looking to complete their task book. During COVID, a lot of the relationships that we built through the COMU program was definitely utilized, and Mark leveraged a lot of the resources down on the Island to help fill portable needs with portable radios. So, it has proven that we definitely utilize people that have gone through the program. It is a difficult lift to get everybody the time to get their task books completed, and that's why we're trying to go towards that more regional approach to help afford people more opportunity to complete those task books in a timely manner.

Mark Balistreri: And the benefits are to the counties and the state, it's a partnership so that we work together with our equipment. So, if you ever do have that unplanned event, a lot of folks that are already credentialed or who are in training know how to set up that appointment. It's part of the training process.

Mark Balistreri: Any other questions? Okay, we'll move onto the 911 Program, Mr. Glasser.

Paul Glasser: So, again, here is our mission for the 911 Program. As you know, we've had this up here before. There are certain components we are working on for the 911 basically and the plan you heard Jason talk about it. We have three plans that we're working on; we have our State Plan, NG Roadmap and NG Implementation Plan, we have been working with our consultant to go through this. We're fairly far in the process. Now it's me rereading things and just going over and making corrections. Updated 911 Standards, Allen already talked about that. One of the other things we're looking into and we're trying to get some information on is the Central Resource for PSAPs across the State. Often, we ask, several people in this office ask for things as we go through the year and be able to have a certain place where they can just put this information in without us constantly sending out surveys, might be beneficial to the PSAPs. We know they're busy, and we know they've got a lot going on. So, this may be a place to just drop that information, so we have it at our needs. And then we're working on some other future enhancements as we go through to the help the PSAPs.

So, the NextGen 911 Project, certainly the topic of the day. DHSES is currently working on the RFI, it will be released in the near future. Again, once that information is received, it's a normal procurement policy, we are going go through and review. We will work with our stakeholder communities to include our PSAPs, our C3 folks, also our consultants. We'll go through this pretty in detail, and then we'll go through the next step. Following this review, we'll continue the process towards a solution. I've said this a couple of times, I've talked at least twice now to the group, it's been 6 months since I've been here almost to the day, and we're moving forward at a pretty good pace. So, I certainly appreciate everybody's cooperation and input. And we're definitely going to make this thing move as we get going. That's it.

Mark Balistreri: Excellent. Alright, other updates.

Michael Cerretto: So, are we looking at what we're going to do with these apps and is the State going to come out with some standards?

Paul Glasser: I don't believe we're going to come out with any standards any time soon. I attended a presentation yesterday at APCO, these over the top apps, I'm assuming that's what you're talking about?

Michael Cerretto: Yeah, the schools are already using them for...

Paul Glasser: Yeah, and until we you know I mean I'm not the subject matter top of the world expert on NextGen, but until we come up with a fully developed Next Generation 911 system these over the top apps are going to continue. I just don't see how we cannot have them. So, they are going to continue for a while.

Mark Balistreri: I'd say it's something we are going to have to look at and the process.

Michael Cerretto: They all feed them that they connect to the centers, but they don't and its going to be impossible, the way they want us to monitor them in the centers, its impossible. So, we need to come

up with a standard that they can feed, they can all say, “Hey you’ve gotta meet this standard, the State will feed it to the centers then” like we do to PSAPs. Just wanted to throw that out. It’s becoming a problem for us in Monroe County and I’m sure it’s got to be becoming a problem all over.

Paul Glasser: And I do believe there are standards that they have to meet in order to connect to our system. So, we’re obviously going to hold them to that.

Mark Balistreri: Any other questions? Okay, other reports, Communications Consortium Chair report, Mr. Smith.

Dana Smith: Good morning, everyone. We held our meeting last night here, everybody supplied their regional reports, and that’s working a little smoother. Last night there were 3 very good conversations; one based on a presentation done last week at the 911 Coordinator Association on mental health and wellness for public safety dispatchers. Something that obviously, everyone in emergency service needs to address. And there was a great presentation that was provided, and very good conversation about items that different regions have success with. So, hopefully we continue moving forward with that and keep our staff where we need them to be. As Phil mentioned earlier, there was good feedback in conversation last night regarding grants in the future and allowable expenses and things like that. As I mentioned before in previous meetings, it’s great to have that communication between the Consortium Chairs and the office. That continues. And then Marc and I had the pleasure last month to go to the Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agencies Cyber Resilience 911 Symposium. It was the first one they held down in Washington, D.C. Chris Tuttle was involved in our meeting last night from CISA, and we had a very good conversation about the future with that. 911 centers in a lot of places across the county aren’t responsible for cyber but they will be held accountable for it, you know, if something goes wrong. And you know, there’s some nefarious actors throughout the world that are putting every aspect of our society in jeopardy, especially 911. Great examples of that just like on the technical assistance side with radio CISA has a lot of resources available for 911, there is conversations about bringing them in next year, I think through the office and the C3, we will get more opportunities for technical assistance and support, most importantly education for our centers as it relates to cybersecurity. That’s all if have.

Mark Balistreri: Thanks Dana. Jay Kopstein, are you on the phone?

Jay Kopstein: I am sir. Good morning. Okay, I’m going to start with looking at the comet in 2024 for planning purposes to give AUXCOMM a chance to shine. One of the issues, a big concern is AI, we’re looking at that. The Communications Taskforce are continuing to meet. We have a meeting in November. We are meeting with EMI on updating task books and the like. Cyber and 911 was just mentioned, I’m not going to mention it again. ARRL is now active with SAFECOM on the communications section taskforce. EMI is going along with CISA-ECD in redeveloping the task book to positions, etc. both for COML, ITSL, etc. For those who need them I have NIFOGS available. Please let somebody on the staff know and I will get them out. One of the big pushback issues across the country on Train-the-Trainers is the requirement for being totally updated on the ICS courses, and that’s being looked at again. The only other thing I would bring up, I’m not going to bring up the individual products, you can go onto the [CISA.gov/safecom](https://www.cisa.gov/safecom) website to look at the printed products that have come out, and for those who need it, there can be some guidance. New York is very, very lucky in that we have the major cities, and the state can provide the same guidance without having to go national for guidance. That’s what I’ve got. I’d be more than happy to answer questions, thank you.

Mark Balistreri: Any questions for Jay? Okay, we'll move onto old business. Do we have any old business? Alright, I'll entertain a motion to accept old business.

Lt. Morris: Lt. Morris.

Bob Terry: Second.

Mark Balistreri: All in favor?

All: Aye.

Mark Balistreri: Opposed? Carried. Any new business? Seeing none, a motion to accept new business.

Sheriff Figueroa: Motion.

Mark Balistreri: Second?

Allen Turner: Second.

Mark Balistreri: All in favor?

All: Aye.

Mark Balistreri: Opposed? Carried. On your agenda are the meeting dates for next year so you can pencil them on your calendars. We have January 17th, May 15th, August 14th, October 16th all at 10:00. I again encourage everybody to do in person. It's much better and obviously after the meeting there is a lot of networking that goes on, so it's good that everybody's here. We do need to have a quorum, so we need people in person for the quorum. And so, please if you can.

Male: What's the minimum number for quorum?

Mark Balistreri: We have to have 9 and we currently have 10. That's how close it is. So, we need to make sure that we, for those on the line, and we know things come up where people have to, you know you're sick or you can't travel, so we do offer the WebEx, but again, we just prefer in person. Anything for the good of the order?

Ryan Greenberg: May 15th may not be a conflict but is that the police memorial that day?

Timothy Morris: off the top of my head, I don't know.

Mark Balistreri: I'll check into it. Alright, anything else for the good of the order? Okay, thank you everybody for taking your time to come here and do this. All have a safe and happy holiday.