



# Michigan's Public Safety Communications Interoperability Board

## Minutes

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM  
 MSP HQ  
 1917 Room

|  | <b>Notes:</b>   |
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| I. Call to Order & Welcome                 | <b>Chair Bryce Tracy called the meeting to order at 2:01pm</b>  |
| II. Board Member Roll Call                 | <p><b>The follow Board members were present:</b><br/>           Mr. Jerry Ellsworth, Mr. Gary Hagler, Mr. Sean McCarthy, Chief Edwin Miller, Brigadier General Larry Schloegl, Mr. Brad Stoddard, Mr. Bryce Tracy, and Chief Jon Unruh</p> <p><b>Board members virtual:</b> Mr. Art Thompson</p> <p><b>Board members absent:</b><br/>           Ms. Eileen Phifer, Mr. Matthew Sahr, Fire Marshal Kevin Sehlmeier, Chief Edward Viverette.</p> <p><b>Also in attendance:</b> Kate Jannereth, Tim Lee, Randy Williams, Chris Kuhl, Jerry Dubzak, Greg Farrer, Kathryn Hall, Joni Harvey, Cindy Homant, Lt. Orville Theaker (on behalf of Captain Sweeney) Tim Jones, Max Schneider, Matt Groesser, Skylar Bates, Thomas Proffitt, Chief Greg Janik, Jacklyn Barcroft and Col. Raymond Stemitz.</p> <p><b>Also in attendance virtually:</b><br/>           Ray Hasil, Jim Jarvis, Daryl Dunham, and Korey Rowe.</p> |
| III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes  | <b>Motion was made by Mr. Brad Stoddard, seconded by Mr. Sean McCarthy, and Carried to approve the June 14, 2023, meeting minutes.</b>  |
| IV. Additions & Approval of Meeting Agenda | <b>Motion was made by Chief Edwin Miller, seconded by Chief Jon Unruh, and Carried to approve the September 2023 agenda.</b>  |

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|   | <b>No additions or discussion.</b>   |
| <p>V. Communications</p> <p>A. End of Life Support for Legacy Radios</p> <p>B. New Approved Radios, Pager, and Consoles</p> | <p>A. Chris Kuhl reported that a notice went out to the general list serve and radio management, that MPSCS will stop supporting legacy radios, as per attached notice that went to the Board ahead of time. He added the following information. We are one of only a few statewide systems, that have not banished these off their system. People are buying radios off of eBay and it becomes a compromised radio. The threat is minimal but it's important to move forward.</p> <p>Chris wanted to clarify that as of January 1, 2024, the MPSCS will not allow any <u>new</u> radios of this type. But if legacy radios are in service and have a valid ID, you can still use them. We are giving them to 2026 to maintain their legacy device.</p> <p>Bryce Tracy asked if there were any questions. Jerry Ellsworth asked, if we have hundreds of these 5000 radios. Do we have to buy a 6000 model, and will the old radio be dropped from the system? Chris replied that you can continue to use them, and you can even add talkgroups. We just don't want any new ones added to the system. Many of these legacy devices could live on in non-public safety service like a forestry worker, for example.</p> <p>B. Chris added that there is a revamped approved radio list on the MPSCS website. It's a large document with lot of information and resources.</p> <p>Bryce said he appreciated the efficiency of the communication and that we need to promote it down to the lower level that we are evolving the system. He appreciates the foresight of MPSCS in this matter.</p> <p>Brigadier General Larry Schloegl asked if we have received any feedback from the field? Chris replied he has had many phone calls about this. He was mostly asked if they have to get legacy radios off the system. He made sure they understood that they can keep current legacy radios on the system, but they can't add any new radios of that type.</p> |

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| <p>V. 1<sup>st</sup> Public Comment (limited to 3 Minutes)</p>   | <p>NONE</p>  |
| <p>VI. Old Business</p> <p><b>A.</b> Communications Ecosystem</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MPSCS Radio Coverage</li> <li>2. MPSCS Future Infrastructure Needs</li> <li>3. Use of LTE and LTE PPT vs Radio (LMR)</li> <li>4. Funding/Grants</li> </ol> | <p>A.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bryce said at his previous meeting that day [the SNC] they talked about strategic things from the emergency management field and the 911 field. From radio coverage and infrastructure upgrades to use of LTE and LMR.</li> <li>2. He wanted to remind the board how important the SAFECOMM National Survey is. He said its open until September 29 and if you haven't done so already to please complete it. This is a way we can get grants to update the system. We haven't had a grant program since the 2007-2008 year and here we are in 2023. He asked the board if anyone had engaged with their partners at the regional and local level. Sean McCarthy replied that in Macomb County they had to get this information out to them and so they created their own user group. They review what is coming and where they are going. This group helps their people to understand what to do when buying new radios. He said its important information to have and said thank you to Bryce and the Board.</li> <li>3. No discussion on this topic.</li> </ol> <p>Brad Stoddard added that MPSCS has been getting in front of users and looking forward. In the past 18 months we have worked internally on the system, and we are having conversations with vendors about what the system will look like in the future. The P25 working group also discusses future challenges, for example the Link Layer Encryption. There are some additional meetings where they are continuing to look at that technology and how to secure it to the next level. From discussion to plan, we will bring information to the board. In the past some new technology has caught some people off guard. We will probably see that again, so we ask how do we address that. Though that is still a few years out, one limitation will be the radios in field won't be able to handle the new technology.</p> |

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|  | <p>4. Brad wanted to clarify funding and grants. He and the MPSCS get calls about past State grants for towers and agency needs. There hasn't been a grant, it was appropriations that came in. The way that it was written it identified particular counties. There were four counties that received some funding and that ran through our office. Although the term used was "grant" the funds came from LEO (Labor and Economic Opportunity) as funding for counties who met a particular threshold.</p>   |
| <p>VII. New Business<br/> A. Encryption Workgroup Action Item</p>  | <p>A. Chris Kuhl reported this was a request that went out in early summer to the MPSCIB and workgroup members, asking for an end of DES. It is not a federally recognized algorithm. As of this date, with the Board's approval, we would stop creating any new DES CKR assignments. This does not mean that agencies cannot use DES encryption or cannot use their existing keys. Simply means, RPU will not continue to create brand new CKR assignments for that algorithm other than those that need to be deconflicted.</p> <p>This was part of our standards in the SCIP Plan, it was one of the mile markers and we are moving towards that goal.</p> <p><b>Motion was made by Mr. Sean McCarthy, seconded by Chief Edwin Miller and Carried to approve MPSCS RPU to stop issuing any New/Unique DES CKR assignments other than those required to address existing CKR key conflicts.</b></p> <p>Bryce asked if there was any further discussion? Sean McCarthy said that this was an excellent move.</p> |
| <p>VIII. Federal Updates –<br/> A. CISA Emergency Communications Division<br/> B. FEMA Region 5 RECCWG</p> | <p>A. Jim Jarvis reported on CISA updates virtually. He said that CISA updates people with InterOp markers and there are roughly 12 states that are not providing updates. CISA uses this information to report to Congress so it's important. The markers are changing and there</p>   |

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|  | <p>is a pilot project later this month and Indiana is participating.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. There is a cross border exercise going on in Wisconsin and Illinois for support of RNC and DNC events. Secret Service has started their planning committee. He said Michigan will be asked to support those.</li><li>2. He said that, as Bryce mentioned, the SAFECOMM Survey is open until September 29, 2023. He encourages people to respond if they haven't already.</li><li>3. For Link Layer they are developing a TIA standard and there is an ongoing workgroup and some from FPIC are participating.</li><li>4. State and local cyber grant program is closing on Oct 6. The focus this year is understanding cybersecurity postures and personnel appropriately trained.</li></ol> <p>B. Jacklyn Barcroft spoke on behalf of Dr. Karl Arriola.</p> <p>She reported that they had the Summer Plenary Meeting in DuPage County, Illinois. There was somewhat light attendance, but the meeting was good with several excellent presentations.</p> <p>Bryce said that Randy Williams was a presenter there and he did a great job. He added that they had an interesting presentation on space weather. He also said the tour of a PSAP, which is the second largest one in Illinois, was impressive.</p> <p>Brad added Region 5 has grown with representatives from each state. He applauds the efforts of our region. The last three exercises that occurred were widely participated in. Even the first one was really well attended even though it was via Teams during Covid. He added that in a Congressional report from FEMA, Region 5 had mention of their success.</p> |
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| <p>IX. Statewide Updates -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)</b></li> <li>B. <b>MPSCS System</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Critical Connect Project</li> <li>2. County Additions</li> <li>3. MPSCS System Snapshot (Data in Notes)</li> <li>4. FY 23 budget</li> <li>5. MPSCS staffing</li> <li>6. CISA Meetings</li> </ul> </li> <li>C. <b>911 in Michigan</b></li> </ul> | <p>A. Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)</p> <p>Brad Stoddard said Michigan is one of the States that had not completed our markers yet. He had a meeting with Jim Jarvis but they had a schedule conflict. It will be rescheduled soon. There are other SWIC activities coming up, including at the end of October the TR8 Meetings around standards. In parallel, they are trying to develop a webinar with the manufactures and the P25 committee.</p> <p>He added that before P25, manufactures had their own process and it didn't work. This standard was developed around 2008-2010. Back in 2002 we had only 11,000 radios and now we have 144,540. There is a really significant increase in many of the metrics. We are leading in the number of PSAPs and their consoles connected to the system. There we 180 towers at the beginning but with the recent addition of Oakland County, there will be 343 towers.</p> <p>The vision of our predecessors was great but even they didn't imagine it would be as large as it is, except maybe his predecessor. After we were underway, 43 other states followed our lead. All this was done with input from Board members, workgroups, and peers. Their support really provides guidance that we need to succeed.</p> <p>B. MPSCS System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Randy Williams reported that they worked through all the technical issues and started in on onboarding discussions with MSI and Verizon. They are making progress.</li> <li>2. There are no county additions at this time</li> <li>3. Agencies = 2,222<br/>Radios = 144,540<br/>Dispatch Centers = 108<br/>Dispatch Consoles = 681<br/>Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) consoles = 62<br/>Fire Pagers = 9,486</li> <li>4. Kate Jannereth reported in Fiscal Year 2023 we spent down our work projects by \$10M and the ARRR (Astro Resiliency, Redundancy, Reliability) will be 90% done in Fiscal Year 2024.</li> </ul> |
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|  | <p>We will enhance security at our sites in 2024 and we have a company to plumb and tension our guy wires at the sites.</p> <p>5. Kate said that they are working on updating a job description for the NCC to help recruiting for that position.</p> <p>6. Brad said that they are coordinating with TR8 Standard meetings. The next meeting is in December. Regarding SWIC education efforts, they are partnering with CISA and creating an informational one-pager for new Governors or Homeland Security advisors. Some states have staffing and budget problems so this can help. Some legislatures and policy people may benefit from this too.</p> <p>Encryption has been another topic of discussion. Deployable repeaters are creating some havoc especially in urban areas. NCSWIC have had some discussions but it's with the FCC right now.</p> <p>April will be here soon and CISA has designated April as <a href="#">Emergency Communications Month</a>. There may be some opportunities for the board during that time.</p> <p>C. Briefing –State 911 Office<br/> Joni Harvey reviewed her report which was included in the materials sent to the Board ahead of time. She and added the following comments.</p> <p>Regarding MISNAP, they started collected that data a couple years ago and are working with the Department of Treasury.</p> <p>For budget reasons, they are doing it one at a time.</p> <p>During the SNC Meeting earlier today, they discussed the appeal from Ontonagon and Gogebic Counties. The committee voted and the appeals were denied. The decision that it was a disallowable expense was upheld.</p> |
| <p>X. Workgroup Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Communications Unit</b> Workgroup<br/>Co-chairs: Ray Hasil &amp; Nick Carpenter</li> <li>B. <b>AUXCOMM</b> Workgroup<br/>Co-chairs: Jaclyn Barcroft and Max Schneider</li> <li>C. <b>Public Alerting</b> Workgroup<br/>Co-chairs: Jaclyn Barcroft and Rob Dale</li> </ul> | <p>A. Ray Hasil added the following to his report submitted to the Board ahead of the meeting. They conducted a COMMEM at the Electric Forest Festival. The exercise was designed to allow people to complete their Position Task Books. It was stressful at times, but they had 33 task books completed. We are looking at Spring of 2024 to have a whole new round of courses.</p>  |

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| <p>D. <b>Fire Paging</b> Workgroup<br/>Co-chairs: Al Mellon and Greg Janik</p> <p>E. <b>Encryption</b> Workgroup<br/>Co-chairs: Tim Jones and Matt Groesser</p> <p>F. <b>Security</b> Workgroup<br/>Co-chairs: Capt. Kevin Sweeney and Brad Stoddard</p> <p>G. <b>UASI</b> Workgroup<br/>Co-chairs: Craig Swenson and Sean McCarthy</p> | <p>B. Jacklyn Barcroft submitted her report to the Board ahead of the meeting and added the following. Operation Swift Response went well. They are in final planning for the Fall statewide exercise on October 14. There were 6 AUXC participants for the Bridge Walk on Labor Day.</p> <p>C. Jacklyn Barcroft submitted her report to the Board ahead of the meeting and added the following. They are getting the word out that there will be WEA Message Development training at the MEMA Conference on October 9-11.</p> <p>D. Chief Greg Janik reviewed his report which was sent to the Board ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>E. Tim Jones submitted his report to the Board ahead of the meeting and added the following. He thanked Chis Kuhl and Jerry Dubzak for the report in the packet. There is a safety issue still present. A hodge podge of different algorithms and some are compliant, and some are not. That is the daunting challenge that we have, to close gaps. We hope the Board is weighing the safety gaps and they will close those as soon as we can. We are in a good spot with cooperation of MPSCS employees, different groups, and the user committee. Happy to report that we have the cooperation we need to get to finish line. But we're doing more work to get there.</p> <p>1. Question from the public: Do we have to update radios if they are CKRs?<br/>Matt Groesser replied: Those in service can exist, but they are not creating any new. There may be a new CKR for those in deconfliction category. There are a number of CKRs, if they want to use statewide, they can do that. There are not going to be restrictions, if we can drive people to those statewide keys, that is great. If they have a special ops team that is a unique outfit in the organization and wants CKR that's a reason, but most can use the statewide key. We don't want to have hundreds of CKRs for no reason.</p> <p>2. Question from the public: Are we going to have to change if the standards get updated?<br/>Matt replied we are looking at future strategies if the standards changes. But AES is federally</p> |
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|  | <p>recognized and encourages people to use that. Law enforcement encryption demand has increased dramatically. We are looking at future strategies, so we don't have a problem. Tim Jones added that we have come a long way since 2019 and communicated those headaches to our state partners so we don't go down that road again.</p> <p>Sean McCarthy asked if manufacturers have communicated that to their sales teams? Chris Kuhl replied that we have trying to get that information to everyone. Sean replied that we made sure our sales reps know this and we make sure our users come to us too.</p> <p>Bryce added it's important for both users and providers to be aware.</p> <p>F. Brad Stoddard reviewed the report that was sent to the Board ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>G. Sean McCarthy said they didn't have a meeting so there is no report for the Board today.</p> |
| <p>XI. 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Comment</p> | <p>NONE</p>   |
| <p>XII. Good of the Order</p>            | <p>Bryce announced that Brig General Schloegl said he is retiring at end of month. Colonel Raymond Stemitz will be his replacement. Bryce said on behalf of the communications community in Michigan, thank you for your dedication and your devil's advocate approach. We really respect your stature and knowledge. You didn't come in looking at only what was important for the military but what was good for all of Michigan. We appreciate you and congratulations on your retirement!</p> <p>Brad said you had a strong voice from that first time at the beginning of your board service until the end and we appreciate the time and dedication.</p> <p>Brad reported that the 2024 Statewide Interoperability Communications Conference is February 27 to 29. If there are any board members that have ideas of sessions or ideas</p>  |

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|                         | for speakers, we have some breakout sessions we would like to fill. We welcome you to participate. We will be back in Muskegon again.  |
| XIII. Adjournment       | Bryce thanked the Board for attending.<br><br><b>The meeting was adjourned at 3:21pm.</b>  |
| XIV. 2023 Meeting Dates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March 15<sup>th</sup> – MSP Headquarters</li> <li>• June 14<sup>th</sup> – MSP Headquarters</li> <li>• September 13<sup>th</sup> – MSP Headquarters</li> <li>• December 13<sup>th</sup> - MSP Headquarters</li> </ul> |