

Commonwealth of Virginia – Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)  
March 29, 2022 (CY22 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Meeting)  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Joint Safety Operations Center  
2430 Pine Forest Drive, Colonial Heights, VA 23834 – Room 103

1. **Welcome and roll call** – Terry Hall, SIEC Chair
  - a. **Call meeting to order at 09:02 AM**
2. **Facility and safety briefing** - Dale Totten, VDOT
  - a. Welcome, safety/exit briefing, facility/housekeeping
3. **Roll call and introductions** – quorum met
4. **Introductory remarks provided**
  - a. Robert Mosier, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
  - b. Gabe Elias, VA SWIC (Statewide Interoperability Coordinator)
    - i. New faces at the table and some who aren't with us anymore
  - c. Terry Hall, SIEC Chair
    - i. Discussion of “scope creep” and future meetings/workshops to get “back to the fundamentals” and core of the SIEC
      1. Room discussion
        - a. Getting back to the basics and getting more involved
        - b. Procurement and funding
          - i. VDEM is a good resource for the stakeholders
      - ii. One day workshop discussed
        1. Mini workshops throughout the State discussed to bring in vendors and the expertise in technology
      - iii. Sam Burnette, VDH OEMS (VA Dept. of Health, Office of EMS)
        1. Creating additional communications position in OEMS
      - iv. Steve Parrott, Region 1 RPAC-I
        1. needs – technical training / networks
        2. Advocate – COMLINC, etc.
        3. Look at large scale events throughout the state
          - a. What can we do for interoperability?
      - v. Mr. Hall would like to form a subcommittee – those interested will send information to Mr. Elias and they will bring something to the next meeting
5. **Approval of Previous SIEC Minutes**
  - a. Motion: Chief Craig Branch, VACLEA (VA Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators)
  - b. Second: Brad Bradley, VDH OEP (Office of Emergency Preparedness)
  - c. Vote: unanimous
6. **SWIC Update - Gabe Elias, VA SWIC**
  - a. Reviewed current interoperability outreach provided over first year in SWIC role
    - i. Interoperable Emergency communications
    - ii. Role of the SWIC
    - iii. Interoperability of governance and coordination – many governance bodies
      1. Discussion: Mr. Hall and Tom Gagnon DHS IOD (Integrated Operations Division)

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- a. Top priorities need to come out of the SIEC
- iv. Current work occurring - Virginia Interoperability
  - 1. SCIP adopted
  - 2. Training and Exercises
    - a. ITSL, COMT, RADO, AUXC exercise
    - b. Qualification/Credentialing
  - 3. This fall: exercise with FirstNet
  - 4. AUXCOMM – elevate and integrate auxiliary communications
  - 5. LMR Guide – templates
- v. Key Assets
  - 1. STARS
  - 2. VA Communications Cache
  - 3. COMLINC 2.0
- vi. Challenge - Funding
  - 1. Mr. Hall asked where the SIEC is funded
    - a. Mr. Elias stated it is not funded, but is going to put in a budget request through VDEM
      - i. SIEC is a public body and it needs resources to function appropriately
    - b. Mr. Hall – need a mechanism to be able to reimburse (per diem, travel, lodging) members
      - i. Recommend a letter from the members to support the SIEC be funded
        - 1. By a show of hands – members support this
    - c. [unknown voice] - needs to be an overwhelming Commonwealth commitment, not just VDEM
- vii. What can you do?
  - 1. COMLINC 2.0 MOU
  - 2. “Planning P”
    - a. Advocate for communications early in the plan
- viii. Focused on
  - 1. Training
  - 2. Interoperability Continuum
    - a. Mr. Gagnon
      - i. Can be a framework for any project
      - ii. Means to accomplish that is not just what you can do but what we (DHS CISA) can do to help – bring in contractors. Great value of what CISA brings.
  - 3. Sustainable Programs

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7. [interop@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:interop@vdem.virginia.gov) email address – created for sustainability over time, staffing changes
8. **BREAK**
9. **Departing Remarks, Secretary Robert Mosier**
10. **COMLINC update provided** – Richard Schoonover, VSP Communications Division
  - a. COMLINC status/project report
    - i. RIOS / RIOS LiTE
    - ii. Estimated to be complete in 2023
    - iii. Upgrades
      1. 150 fixed sites to be upgrade
      2. 10 mobile command vehicles
      3. 10 tactical kits
    - iv. 15 new sites with fixed installs
    - v. Discussion on funding
      1. Bill DeCoste, VSP Communications Division - Funding for COMLINC is approved for the next 2 years and already talking about COMLINC 3.0 and funding
    - vi. Acceptance Test Plan (ATP) – 3 signatures needed
    - vii. 58 sites have been upgraded
    - viii. 24 sites have signed MOA's with work not yet scheduled
      1. Note: 70+ MOAs currently executed
    - ix. 10 sites awaiting site surveys
    - x. 10 sites awaiting install
    - xi. Training
      1. 2 online trainings already available; in-person also available
      2. Roll calls
      3. Tabletop Exercises
    - xii. Fully staffed (4 employees)
11. **Cyber Update** – Chris Cruz, Cyber Security Program Manager
  - a. Actively following Ukraine / Russia conflict
  - b. Working on pilot project with National Guard – looking for ECCs/PSAPs to pilot
  - c. Cyber response plan for the state – working on finishing the document and then break it down in sectors (looking at Comms as Sector 2)
  - d. Cyber incident reporting - 2 mandates
    - i. New legislation – all public bodies cyber incidents reported to Fusion Center within 24 hours in affect 7/1/2023
      1. Working group from state and local government created to help define cyber incidents
    - ii. Federal legislation
      1. Critical infrastructure – local government is considered
        - a. Mandate is at least 1 year away

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- e. Michelle Gowdy, VML (Virginia Municipal League) – report all threats/incidents, don't wait on definition from committee

**12. Regional Updates - RPAC-I Chairs**

- a. Region 1 – Steve Parrot (Central VA Healthcare Coalition)
  - i. Even numbered months meeting – trying to rebuild leadership structure
- b. Region 2
  - i. Not present
- c. Region 3 – Jamie Shumaker (Buckingham County)
  - i. New acting chair taking over
  - ii. Haven't met in months, trying to have meetings more regularly
- d. Region 4 – Curtis Crawford (Smyth County)
  - i. Studies out for radio systems, landscape is changing and hopefully for the best for /
- e. Region 5 – Terry Hall (York County)
  - i. ORION meeting coming up with the presentation of an overlay system for the Hampton Roads Region
- f. Region 6
  - i. Not present
- g. Region 7 – Charlie Locke (Fairfax County)
  - i. Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month
  - ii. Discussed Region 7 ISSI (P25 Inter-subsystem interface) project in region

**13. Carrier Update** – Lori Stone, First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

- a. Looking at developing mobile apps
- b. Joe Shahoud - FirstNet, Built With AT&T
  - i. Band 14 / 5G / 5GE
  - ii. 5G NR (new radio)
  - iii. 1Q FY23 – 5G in Hampton Roads
  - iv. Richmond / Charlottesville 2024
  - v. Cell booster pro (new) available in April in retail stores
- c. Bill Tegethoff - FirstNet, Built With AT&T
  - i. First Net PTT iPhone client – getting ready to launch

**14. Association Updates**

- a. **VACP** – Dana Schrad
  - i. In June 2023, small agency symposium in Southwest VA, let Ms. Schrad know if there is anything that needs to be brought in about interoperability
- b. **VACLEA** – Chief Craig Branch
  - i. Educating campus colleagues and trying to get them actively involved in the RPAC's
- c. **VAGEMSA**

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- d. **VA NENA**
- e. **VA APCO** – Jeff Flournoy
  - i. APCO NENA Conference in May 2022 – Virginia Beach
- f. **VML** – Michelle Gowdy
  - i. Nothing significant to report
- g. **VALGITE**
- h. **VSA**
  - i. **Interesting bills this year,**
- i. **VSFFA**
- j. **ARRL** – Jack Smith, ARRL VA Section Manager
  - i. EMCOM Wiki publicly available - regions, states, localities
  - ii. Working on AUXCOMM / amateur radio resource typing
  - iii. Working with SWIC on updating MOUs, etc.
- k. **VAFC** – Chief John Prillaman
  - i. Nothing significant to report
  - ii. Acknowledged continuing contributions of Chief Emeritus Charles Werner (VAFC Alternate for SIEC) to interoperability
- l. **VFFF**
- m. **VSPA**
- n. **Tribal**
- o. **SCHE**
- p. **VMAC**

**15. State Updates**

- a. **VSP** – Bill DeCoste, VSP Communications Division
  - i. STARS Phase 5
    - 1. Awarded to Motorola – APX 8500 mobiles – APX NeXT portables
    - 2. Working on fleet mapping
      - a. Reaching out to large regions for integration
    - 3. Infrastructure is done
    - 4. Salem and Richmond DSR is live
- b. **VDEM** – Mike Keefe, Chief of Comms and UAS, VDEM
  - i. Brief update on pilot project with VA FIX (flight information exchange) and public safety CAD (computer aided dispatch) data
- c. **VDH OEP** – Brad Bradley, VDH OEP
  - i. In the process of upgrading / integrating
- d. **VDOT** – Earl Sharp, VDOT
  - i. Actively working COMLINC upgrades and installation with the VSP COMLINC team for the Traffic Operation Centers (TOC)

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- ii. Actively working with the STARS team on addressing infrastructure, equipment, and system changes associated with the STARS Phase 5 upgrade
  - e. **DMA** – Michael Pittman, DMA
    - i. Asked for funding this year
    - ii. CISA.gov – SHARES group
  - f. **OEMS** – Sam Burnette, VDH OEMS
    - i. Has equipment to go into areas and check cell phone / radio coverage – come in unbiased and write a report
16. **Old Business**
- a. None
17. **New Business**
- a. Mr. Hall would like to put on the agenda for next time – VSP to provide a demo and update on the new STARS radios
18. **Items From the Public**
- a. None
19. **Adjourn (motion)**
- a. Adjourned by Chair Hall at 12:xx PM

Membership and attendance follows - **Membership; Appointment (BOLD – PRESENT)**

- **Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, or his or her designee**
  - Robert Mosier
- **Superintendent, Virginia State Police, or his or her designee**
  - Bill DeCoste
- **Director, Virginia Department of Fire Programs or his or her designee**
  - Garret Dyer
- **State Coordinator, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, or his or her designee**
  - Mike Keefe
- **Director, Virginia Department of Health - Office of EMS, or his or her designee**
  - Sam Burnette
- **Director, Virginia Department of Health - Office of Emergency Preparedness, or his or her designee**
  - Brad Bradley
- **Adjutant General of the Department of Military Affairs, or his or her designee**
  - Michael Pittman
- Chief Information Officer, Virginia Information Technology Agency, or his or her designee
- **Commissioner, Virginia Department of Transportation, or his or her designee**
  - Earl Sharp
- State Forester, Department of Forestry, or his or her designee;
- **SWIC (ex officio) – Gabe Elias**

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- **a representative of Region 1 Regional Preparedness Advisory Committee – Interoperability (RPAC-I), appointed by Region 1 RPAC-I**
  - **Steve Parrott**
- a representative of Region 2 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 2 RPAC-I
  - William Martin
- **a representative of Region 3 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 3 RPAC-I**
  - **Jamie Shumaker**
- **a representative of Region 4 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 4 RPAC-I**
  - **Curtis Crawford**
- **a representative of Region 5 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 5 RPAC-I**
  - **Terry Hall**
- a representative of Region 6 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 6 RPAC-I
  - Rodney Thompson
- **a representative of Region 7 RPAC-I, appointed by Region 7 RPAC-I;**
  - **Charlie Locke**
- a representative of Virginia Association of Counties
- **a representative of Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police**
  - **Dana Schrad**
- **a representative of Virginia Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators**
  - **Chief Craig Branch**
- **a representative of Virginia Fire Chiefs Association**
  - **John Prillaman**
- a representative of Virginia Association of Government EMS Administrators
- a representative of Virginia NENA
- **a representative of Virginia APCO**
  - **Jeff Flournoy**
- **a representative of Virginia Municipal League**
  - **Michelle Gowdy**
- a representative of Virginia Local Government IT Executives
- **a representative of Virginia Sheriffs Association**
  - **Terry Hall**
- a representative of Virginia State Firefighters Association
- **a representative of Virginia Amateur Radio Emergency Services/RACES**
  - **Jack Smith**
- a representative of Virginia Professional Firefighters
- a representative of the Virginia State Police Association
- a representative of Tribal governing councils, or his or her designee
- a representative of the State Council of Higher Education

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- a representative of the Virginia Military Advisory Council.