



# WEST VIRGINIA SIRN

Volume 1, Issue 3

June 2013

## West Virginia Statewide Interoperable Radio Network (SIRN)

The WV Statewide Interoperable Radio Network (SIRN) is a collaborative effort by state, county, and municipal public safety entities to establish and maintain a statewide interoperable radio network for emergency services.

### Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)

The SIEC was created by Executive Order #2-11 issued by the Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin; Governor of the State of West Virginia on June 16, 2011. Said Executive Order shall remain in effect until such time as it is rescinded by the Governor. The SIEC shall operate in the public interest and on a not-for-profit basis. The SIEC shall be governed by applicable WV Code, WV Rules, Regulations and Orders, as well as Operational Policies and Procedures. The SIEC shall carry out its responsibilities as defined by Executive Order #2-11. The SIEC developed a revised Plan for the operation and implementation of the Statewide Interoperable Radio Network (SIRN).

### Membership

The SIEC shall have the following membership and shall consist of the following members or their designees:

Represented at the June 10, 2013, Flatwoods, WV, at MedCOMM

Present - X Absent - █

Statewide Interoperability Coordinator	X	Health and Human Resources Office of Emergency Medical Services	X	WV Homeland Security and Emergency Management	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>
WV E-911 Council	X	WV Office of Technology	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>	Association of Public Safety Communications Officials	X
WV Parkways Authority	X	WV Emergency Management Council	X	WV House of Delegates	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>
WV State Senate	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>	WV Zone 3 Switch Agency	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>	WV State Fire Marshal	X
WV Sheriff's Association	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>	WV Department of Transportation	X	WV Municipal League	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>
WV State Police	X	WV National Guard	X	Homeland Security Appointed Representative	X
WV County Commissioner	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>	WV Div of Natural Resources Police	X	Emergency Management Appointed Representative	X

### Regional Interoperability Chairmen

Represented at June 10, 2013 Present - X Absent - █

RIC 1	X	RIC 2	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>	RIC 3	<span style="background-color: red; color: black;">█</span>	RIC 4	X	RIC 5	X	RIC 6	X
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### SIRN Policy & Procedures

- SIRN Policy & Procedures committee finished the General Programming Guidelines SOP.
- Made minor modifications to the Medical Command SOP to address the usage of the MED F talkgroup and to address the Boy Scout Jamboree (BSJ).
- Updated the Statewide SOS Policy adding new PSAP monitoring stations
- A discussion on the pursuit talkgroups was held but no document development occurred during the committee meeting.

### **SIRN Technical**

- The SIRN Technical committee reported that frequency procurement is still ongoing. They are working on acquiring more LOC's for some new sites. The FBI and the SWIC will be joining together to sign the MOU to make available some frequencies that the FBI has for use. The technical committee has completed the business waiver and those frequencies have been assigned. It was reported that Greenbrier, Harts, Glenville, Five Forks (Grantsville), Spencer, Beckley and Iaegar have been brought on line.
- The technical committee is continuing its efforts of testing equipment from a variety of manufacturers for possible approval for use on the WV SIRN.
- Some issues with Kenwood radios were discussed. The issue of Kenwood's going "Out of Range" was reported that it was taking an extended period of time for that Kenwood radio to return to service, if ever. Kenwood will not have solution to this problem before the BSJ. The technical committee recommended that these radios be demoted to a TIER 5.
- The technical committee also recommended when flashing a Motorola that the latest available flash is used instead of the one that was just to fix the scan issue. The latest flash can be found on the Motorola Online Site for those who have accounts.

### **Boy Scout Jamboree**

- The Boy Scout Jamboree has requested 64 talkgroups be added to the WV SIRN to support activates in and around the Summit Betchel area.
- The small trunk trailer will be placed at Glen Jean to assist with the jamboree to make a temporary site capacity increase to 12 channels.

### **SIRN Training, Education, and Outreach**

- Region 4 RIC will have an exercise on 15 June 2013 at the Barbour County Fairground.
- Region 4 RIC also conducts a roll-call with each PSAP in their region each month.
- Al Whitaker advised there will be an active shooter event for communications training in Hurricane.
- Chuck Runyon reported that there was a test involving a Gordo-Box that was successful.

### **SIRN Planning**

- The Planning Committee reported on a new application for participation on the WV SIRN from the US Coast Guard from Pittsburgh.
- There was an update made to the Raleigh County application to add the town of Rhodell.
- The planning committee reported on several grant opportunities and how each one was progressing.

### **SIRN Conference**

- The conference committee is continuing to plan the breakout sessions for this year's conference.
- Discussed the speakers and topics for the general sessions to be held in the auditorium. Possible breakout sessions being planned are about proper usage of talkgroups and how to use the digital radio. Models for discussion seem to be surrounding the Motorola XTL & XTS family, Motorola APX 4000 & 6000, EF Johnson & Kenwood.
- The conference committee is planning on a presentation about the FEMA IPAW's program.

- The conference dates are confirmed to be October 6-8 held at the Camp Dawson facility same as last year's location.
- This year the conference registration is being made available over the Internet including payment at the time of registration.
- The conference committee will be inviting Senator Rockefeller to attend the conference due to his sponsorship of the National Public Safety Broadband Network in congress.

### **SIRN Broadband**

- The broadband committee reported that they attended a meeting in Arlington, Virginia that was designed to engage the stake holders in FirstNet. There was an overview informational presentation given about the design and build out of FirstNet. The intent is for "data first" and not replace the LMR. It was also reported that it was to be non mission critical at first then eventually become mission critical. 4G LTE would be nationwide, but locally managed with user provisioning.
- FirstNet is looking for feedback from users. They plan on providing a service more enhanced and greater value than a public service provider. The Quiet Zone in WV is unique challenge to FirstNet as well as the unique terrain with the WV mountains.

### **SIRN Regional Interoperability Committees (RICs)**

#### **RIC 1 (Roy McCallister)**

This region includes: Kanawha, Clay, Putnam, Jackson, Roane, Calhoun, Ritchie, Wirt, Wood, Pleasant

- Meetings held third Thursdays of each month at the Ripley Vol. Fire Department
- Next meeting Thursday, RIC 1 June 13 at 10am

#### **RIC 2 (Tom Hart)**

This region includes: Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Taylor

- Next meeting June 11 -13 at Emergency Management Meeting conference

#### **RIC 3 (Jeff Polczynski)**

This region includes: Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, Berkeley, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan

#### **RIC 4 (Dirk Burnside)**

This region includes: Pocahontas, Pendleton, Webster, Randolph, Tucker, Barbour, Upshur, Braxton, Gilmer, Lewis

- Third Wednesday of each month
- Report from Regional liaison
- Disaster Summit held at Wesleyan College
- Discussed need of frequencies
- Rick Gillespie presented Flash up-grade in Pendleton Co
- Monthly SIRN radio checks – will continue to be conducted
- Training and Exercise weekend on June 15. Will be conducted by Dirk Burnside regarding SIRN
- Next meeting – June 17 Location TBA

### **RIC 5 (Al Whitaker)**

This region includes: Mercer, McDowell, Wyoming, Raleigh, Summers, Monroe, Greenbrier, Nicholas, Fayette

- Boy Scout Jamboree will cover 9 counties. Overview communications with buses (Days of Service)
- Greenbrier Classic – communication plan distributed
- Talk around channel – Region Dispatch
- End of July – Road Rally Race northern part of Greenbrier
- No meeting scheduled in July or August due to PGA, Boy Scouts and State Fair
- June 19 Raleigh Co 911 - 10am

### **RIC 6 (Allen Holder)**

This region includes Cabell, Boone, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Wayne

- Discussion regarding:
  - Bordering States RC Faulk talked to Ohio about some coordination efforts. Allen Holder talked to Marvin Penix regarding coordinating with the state police
  - Towers
    - The Kenna tower has helped Mason coverage. The Harts tower was put on line, but there hasn't been much increase in coverage. Hope to have Mingo and Porters online by the end of June, end of July at the latest. Frequencies will be moved from Rotary to Porters and other frequencies will be added to Rotary.
  - CSX
    - Wayne and Lincoln gave CSX permission to access their talkgroups. Mason has agreed that CSX could use the Mason 911 talkgroup.
  - Narrowbanding
    - Wayne had some issues with Kenova and a repeater. The older equipment does not seem to work well on narrowband.
    - New software updates limit a radio to narrowband. A key from Motorola to allow a radio to be narrow and wide
  - Weather
    - National Weather Service has received their talkgroups and believes it will work well.
  - Law Enforcement The state has created four pursuit channels, two for the northern part of the state and two for the southern part of the state. These channels can be used when a pursuit goes across county lines. Suggestions to make a button to go to the pursuit channel. Cabell County's new Sheriff's Department cars could possibly use a steering wheel button for a pursuit channel.
  - Issues
    - Huntington Police had a site-trunking issue. Have not heard any new information on the issue.
    - Cabell has issues with coverage in Culloden; issue was fixed by allowing Cabell channels to be valid on Coal Mountain.

- West Hamlin Fire's Board of Directors has lost faith that Porters is going to go online. They have talked about selling their radios.
- Huntington Med Com is not using their talkgroups. Most calls to them are via cell phone.
- Elections
  - Elections held – current offices retained.
- SWIC - G.E. McCabe
  - Division of Corrections is coming on board, and they have discussed having an Escape channel.
  - Encountered an issue with Kenwood radios. If you go to a talkgroup that you do not have access to, if you try to go back to a valid talkgroup, it does not allow you. The issue could be a problem with the Boy Scout Jamboree, so they talked about making the talkgroups accessible on all of the towers in the area.
  - Mason County also had an issue with stationary Kenwood radios not staying associated with a tower. It was suggested locking the radio on the tower.
- New Business
  - FBI has been sending out letters asking for permission to access

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**THE HOMELAND SECURITY EMERGENCY MANAGERS CONFERENCE IS JUNE 11-13.**

### **2013 WV SIRN CONFERENCE**

- The 2013 WV SIRN Conference is set for October 6-8, 2013 at Camp Dawson.
- October 9, 2013 Broadband Planning and Radio Programming Training.
- This year registration and payment will be electronic using the website.
  - Use the following link:

[HTTP://WWW.SIRN.WV.GOV/EVENTS/PAGES/EVENT.ASPX?EVENTID=3](http://www.sirn.wv.gov/events/pages/event.aspx?eventid=3)