Michigan's Public Safety Communications Interoperability Board

6/12/24 Meeting Minutes

MSP HQ - 1917 Room

1. **Vice Chair Brad Stoddard called the meeting to order at 2:03pm. Roll call was taken and is noted below.**

Board Member	Present, Absent or Virtual
Ms. Brianna Briggs	Present
Mr. Gary Hagler	Present
Mr. Thomas LaFave	Present
Mr. Sean McCarthy	Present
Chief Edwin Miller	Present
Mr. Matthw Sahr	Absent
Fire Marshal Kevin Sehlmeyer	Absent
Colonel Raymond Stemitz	Present
Mr. Brad Stoddard	Present
Captain Kevin Sweeney	Present
Mr. Art Thompson	Absent
Mr. Bryce Tracy	Absent
Chief Jon Unruh	Present
Chief Edward Viverette	Present

Also in Attendance:

Kate Jannereth	Jim Jarvis	Al Mellon	Rob Dale
Max Schnieder	Joni Harvey	**Virtual attendees:**	Bill Alter
Anastasia Ferguson Nelligan	Greg Janik	Pritam Iyer	Karl Arriola
Tim Lee	Josh Drazkowski	Tara McLeod	Dennis Fitzpatrick
Tim Jones	Greg Farrer	Chris Russo	Kathryn Hall

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2024 Meeting.

   A Motion was made by Chief Edward Viverette, seconded by Captain Kevin Sweeney and carried to approve the March 13ᵗʰ Meeting Minutes.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda

   a. Brad Stoddard added the presentation of a plaque honoring Mr. Jim Jarvis's retirement to the agenda.

A Motion was made by Chief Edwin Miller, seconded by Captain Kevin Sweeney and carried to approve the June 12, 2024 Meeting Agenda with the addition of the retirement presentation for Mr. Jim Jarvis.

4. **Communications and Correspondence:** None

5. **1ˢᵗ Public Comment:** None

6. **Old Business:**

   a. **FBI & MSP CJIS Requirements (LEIN Information via LMR) Discussion**

      i. Brad Stoddard reported that a future meeting will be scheduled with members from the MPSCIB, Encryption Workgroup, and MSP CJIS to work on this issue. The background on this is that CJIS data needs to be encrypted and some of their audits identified some traffic was not encrypted. Following our last board meeting, he shared that with CISA leadership, to define what encryption would be required. As of today, there is no additional information for a federal standard. We have not scheduled that joint meeting yet. There could be a financial impact for agencies around the state. All of you that have an interest, we would ask you to be members of that workgroup.

7. **New Business**

   a. Request for a new MPSCS Radio Coverage Work Group under the MPSCIB.

      i. Brad said that a new workgroup was proposed by Greg Farrer and the Fire Paging Workgroup. He and the MPSCIB Chair, Bryce Tracy, discussed the issue including that effort as part of the Fire Paging Workgroup. They recommend a name change that covered a wider path for the workgroup. Brad said that the current fire paging workgroup chairs support the renaming of the group. Brad asked if anyone wanted to discuss this. There was no discussion.

A Motion was made by Captain Kevin Sweeney, seconded by Chief Edwin Miller and carried to approve remaining the Fire Paging Workgroup to the Radio Coverage Workgroup.

8. **Federal Updates**

   a. **CISA Emergency Communications Division – Jim Jarvis, CISA**

   Jim Jarvis reported on the following information. He is working with Joni Harvey on a 911 cyber security workshop. The first day will be a demonstration on how a criminal conducts their activities and the second day will be a walkthrough for a response plan. They will develop a template for each agency.

   They want to update the MI eFOG. They want to swap out the COML but the cost doesn't align so they are keeping the state COML and not updating the eFOG until next year.

   Last week was the NCSWIC annual meeting. They reviewed how to process tech assistance requests and how CISA should receive the request from each state. We want states to identify the priority, look at your SCIP, 911 plan, and any alert warning plan and see what tech assistance can be offered.

   He added that just this morning there was a CAD outage in Ohio. Also a 911 call system was impacted recently. All of these things show why we need cyber security. Between now and the end of August he is working with cyber security within CISA. They are able to produce that because these organizations signed up for cyber security washing. We can see what is going in and out of system and identify vulnerabilities and send that to industrial operator. We want people to sign up for cyber hygiene scanning. He will be looking to this community to sign up for these services. Lastly, it is Internet Safety Month. There are four recommended practices. Having strong passwords, keeping software up to date, recognize and report phishing and turn on MFA.

   b. **FEMA Region 5 RECCWG -Karl Arriola**

   Karl reported that they are continuously growing with new associate members. We will have our co-chair management meeting tomorrow to conduct our planning efforts for the virtual RECCWG regional plenary to occur in September. We will also hold our regional RECCWG meeting Tues 24th of this month, as CISA will be a guest speaker. We greatly appreciate the MSP SEOC for their continued efforts in participating with our FEMA National Radio Service weekly tastings with Denver MERS as MI SEOC contributed to FEMA Region 5 leading the nation since November.
   We are in the process of initial plannings with RECCs in R4, R5, R6, and R7, to hold a multi-regional plenary in May of next year to be held in Arkansas. Invitational travel will be paid for RECCWG Co-Chairs and guest speakers. The RECCWG members are continuously involved to the RNC / DNC Interagency Communications Subcommittee, both MACC upcoming TTXs in preparation for these two regional SEAR events. The RECCWG AUXCOMM subcommittee Chair, Max Schneider continues to be instrumental in our regional communications exercises and bi-weekly testings. We are in the planning stages of developing a AUXCOMM Interoperability

Exercise with the WI Childrens Hospital Network to execute a TTX in October and FE in November. Also, congratulations to Jim Jarvis on his retirement.

9. **Statewide Updates**

    a. **Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) – Brad Stoddard**

    Brad reported that he attended the NCSWIC meeting last week. The Executive Committee has been working with CISA ECD. Of impact to states, those tech assistance offerings that have not been started this fiscal year, beginning on Oct 1 there is a clean slate. We would be starting at zero. Some of the changes will be across the nation, states on annual basis will drive their top priorities. They need to develop their top two priorities and a third one just in case. What will be established is those priorities in the 911 community. So, we collect info into one aggregated list. Most of those have been leveraged as part of AUXCOMM or COMU. On the 911 side that should be from funding this year. Also looking to make these offerings more accessible, virtual, and train the trainers.

    If you have not seen the tech assistance catalog, some states have taken the offerings and tweaked them, and it worked but others didn't know that. So, they discussed a scoring system for tech offerings. We are trying to change the catalog. The process that will follow with ECD is that the state will identify priorities and leading up to an early summer meeting of SWICs, they will coordinate within their region with a particular TA. Regions will then put forth their priorities, and then the SWICs will vote on those. After that, the ECD would choose and call them national priorities.

    Other conversation with SWICs was general cybersecurity and PACE planning. We want to create cyber awareness that will help entire community in the state and our peers. We have an awareness of what is coming with AI and how they may or may not impact the space. AI will play out for us in the future.

    b. **MPSCS System/Budget/Staffing** – Anastasia Feguson-Nelligan reported on the budget. She said that for fiscal year 2025, the Governor recommended a $10 million increase. The House supported it, but the Senate didn't so it's in committee now. Regarding staff, we are successfully filling positions. Lastly, the Fiscal Year 2023 billing will go out June 2024.

        i. Brad added regarding hiring, that they had difficulty posting positions to fill. We have moved passed that and added knowledgeable people and so soon we will be right at staffing levels. We have doubled in size from beginning tower-wise. Our challenge is we have one skilled person to add consoles, there were some limitations. We are trying to address that. We just hired the new RPU-TDU Manager, Chris Russo. We're happy and excited to have Chris Russo work with us. Chris Kuhl is in a different role now. His goal is to glean information on how MPSCS is working in your community.

c. **Agency/County/Member Additions to MPSCS**

d. **Current MPSCS Snapshot Data**

Brad reviewed this data. For radios he believes we will top out at about 150,000 radios. Only 4 years ago we were at 100,000. He said thanks to the board for that support for our growth. He was in Hillsdale County recently to discuss their ballot initiative to join the MPSCS. Past board members looked at why some counties were not on and mostly it was financial constraints. Recently Senator Albert asked us how many towers would be needed for all the state to have coverage. After research we discovered a lot more were needed. The CAD consoles number is the number of agencies that use the state-supported solution in lieu of owning their own. For fire pagers, there is another 6,000 in queue. In future, we will bring in a Link Layer solution, it is part of the P25 standard. There are two parts to it, and we believe it will have a bigger impact on pagers. We are watching other states and will try to mitigate the transition.

     i. *Agencies = 2,239*
     ii. *Radios = 148,209*
     iii. *Dispatch Centers = 127*
     iv. *Dispatch Consoles = 757*
     v. *Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) consoles = 62*
     vi. *Fire Pagers = 9,486*

10. **911 in Michigan**

a. Joni Harvey reviewed her report submitted to the board ahead of time. She added the following information. She is co-chair of the governance committee for the Federal 911 Council. Currently there is nothing to test in current 911 standards, so we are working on creating something for that. We don't know who houses the program yet. Questions were due to her today. She hasn't had any replies yet. She explained the discussion about the 988 problem of following a caller's area code but it's not their current location.

11. **Workgroup Reports**

a. ***Communications Unit Workgroup*** - Co-chairs Ray Hasil and Nick Carpenter. Ray Hasil reviewed his report as submitted to the board ahead of time. Brad added they met at the recent Homeland Security Conference for a productive meeting.

b. ***AUXCOMM Workgroup*** - Co-chairs Max Schneider and Jaclyn Barcroft. Max Schneider reviewed his report as submitted to the board ahead of time.

c. ***Public Alerting Workgroup*** - Co-chairs Jaclyn Barcroft and Rob Dale. Rob Dale reviewed their report submitted ahead of time to the board.

d. ***Fire Paging Workgroup*** - Co-chairs: Al Mellon & Greg Janik – Al Mellon reviewed the report submitted to the board ahead of time. Greg Janik added his thanks for merging the Fire Paging Workgroup to Radio Coverage Workgroup. He said Albion tested their schools but 40 of them didn't pass. Three schools applied for a grant. They worked with Greg Farrer on creation of ideas on an education piece and they spoke at the MI Fire Conference on October 1. We are very passionate about this, and happy Greg will be there. Greg Farrer also shared with him a document from South Carolina. Janik read some of the document. He wonders if maybe we can use some of it. He thanked the board for their time today.

e. ***Encryption Workgroup*** - Co-chairs: Tim Jones & Matt Groesser – Tim Jones reviewed the report submitted to the board ahead of time. He added that he had more questions after last board meeting but since then the workgroup has met. After that meeting it was nice that Jim Jarvis met with them. At the last meeting on June 4, Jim offered to have Mr. Downs from CISA come and speak. He helped explained the issue. CISA is working with the SWICs to move efforts for migration, he provided a great deal of insight of ideas and efforts happening behind the scenes. So that helped with his understanding. Happy that this is being looked at on the national level.

Jim added that Mr. Downs said they are working thru a survey to develop a baseline. It's about how much money it would be to move forward, can our radios do it, and how much to upgrade. Then they can go to Congress with that information. The Federal Partnership of Interoperable Communications, have a workgroup and have been discussing this for years. It's not just a state and local problem it's a federal problem and they were mandated to do this in 2008. Tim added that they had further discussions about it on Friday, so maybe different counties are looking to move forward with encryption and are now nervous about it. Several members at MCDA meeting asked what they will do. They think the best practice will still stand but cautiously, before you spend a lot of money. Jim added there was a session on this at the NCSWIC meeting. Their consensus is, don't work in a vacuum. Brad added they are proposing the SWICs would be responsible to provided encryption keys across their state. There will be more to come.

f. ***Security Workgroup*** - Co-chairs: Capt. Kevin Sweeney & Brad Stoddard - Kevin Sweeney reviewed their report submitted to the board ahead of time. He added that they continue to promote the message that PSAPs are promoting with cybersecurity and encourage entities to have a plan. When Ascension Hospital was hit, they had to scramble to recover. They had to have additional staff to work the doors. They didn't have a backup plan. Jim added that the FCC has a report in order that is a 3-year pilot program for K-12 schools and libraries and can receive up to $200M grant for this. They can do firewalls and other services.

g. ***UASI Workgroup*** - Co-chairs: Craig Swenson & Sean McCarthy. Craig Swenson said there was no report today.

12. **2nd Public Comment:** Tim Jones said Harriet Brown from MCDA asked him to sit on a National Transportation panel about swatting. It was a diverse panel with 800 plus attendees. In addition, he just had a meeting with their county clerk, and he said they were really worried about swatting and having poll stations disrupted during elections. They have put special addresses in CAD to be flagged. Just to share with you this has legs to it and there is a lot of concern out there. Brad asked that he explained what swatting was in case some didn't know. Tim gave a brief definition. Brad added that they had a presentation at NCSWIC about this. It was a different perspective on swatting. There are many variations in this, seeing and hearing differences on this opens your eyes.

    a. Jim Jarvis was presented with a plaque recognizing his services to this Board. Brad read the letter of recognition and thanked him. Brad said if anyone needs coordination with CISA, they might be stretched thin a little bit, but Jim has laid a good foundation for us.

13. **Good of the Order** – Brianna Briggs reported that Jerry Ellsworth retired on May 17 from MDHHS. She said if this group needs anything from MDHSS, she will be the point of contact now. Brad said they enjoyed having Jerry Ellsworth on the MPSCIB Board and wish him success in his retirement.

Adjournment: Captain Kevin Sweeney made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Chief Edwin Miller and carried to adjourn at 3:25pm.