



“Central Valley Planning Area”
California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (CALSIEC)
In partnership with Public Safety Radio Strategic Planning Committee (PSRSPC)

November 2, 2006 Meeting Notes

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

City of Clovis Fire Department - EOC Room, 1233 5th Street, Clovis, CA 93612

Meeting Purpose: To solidify the formation of the Central CALSIEC Planning Area, to work to enhance regional interoperability and to work in collaboration with the statewide CALSIEC (<http://www.calsiec.org/>) and the Public Safety Radio Strategic Planning Committee (PSRSPC) (<http://psrspc.ca.gov/>). CALSIEC Central Valley Planning Area consists of OES Region 5 (counties of: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare).

Next Meeting Date: December 12, 2006, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Summary of Attendance: Representatives from 6 counties attended. Full list of attendees included at back of notes. 15 returning participants and 13 new participants.

Action Items:

- Revise charter and get back out to group (Julia Lee from Center for Collaborative Policy, CCP). All to review and comment.
- Preston Fouts volunteered to work on compiling a regional contact list. Sarah Rubin to get him list compiled so far.
- Critical to have CHP participating. Get CHP for next time.
- Seek representatives from Mariposa & Merced.

Key Themes:

- Barrier at State level with frequencies
- Terminology/Nomenclature
- 4 Planning Areas v 6 MARs?
- Review Mutual Aid agreements in place (need common Dbase for MOUs)

I. Welcome and Greetings

Bill Pennington, State OES, welcomed participants. Bill explained that the OES telecom staff will now be the primary points of contact for the CALSIEC regional groups. Bill thanked everyone for coming and said that he knew he'd learn from everyone during the day.

Steve Henry, Battalion Chief, Clovis Fire and local host gave everyone a warm welcome and noted a few housekeeping issues.

Ken Alvis, Communications Manager, Kern County and Statewide CALSIEC member welcomed the group and thanked those who had returned (for the group's second meeting). He explained that he was looking forward to progressing.

John Downing, Telecom Engineer, County of Fresno, also gave a quick welcome and said he was looking forward to having a productive meeting.

Julia Lee and Sarah Rubin, facilitators, CSU Sacramento, Center for Collaborative Policy, asked for returning participants to raise their hands and then started off a round of introductions.

Julia then asked each participant to share his/her expectations for the day.

Expectations:

- About getting people together.
- To have an understanding of the true direction (of the regional group)
- Question to people who run the system: If a given question is asked will you answer it?
- Want to know what is expected of me.
- Want to know the State's plan as far as funding.
- Want to know the role of Region 5.
- Want to know about plans and training for equipment.
- Need operational plan of interoperability.
- Don't forget the data side of things. Voice is a piece.
- Need more frequencies; need tactical channels. Need to find out how many and what band. This needs to fit into all plans.
- Certs training.
- Training/Exercise is key.

Before diving into the rest of the meeting Julia noted the timeline that covered a large portion of the wall that folks had filled in before the meeting started. The idea behind this exercise was to collectively get a sense of where the Central Valley 'has been' as far as operability and how far the community has come. All participants had been encouraged to add to the timeline prior to the meeting and all were welcomed to add to it throughout the day. To view the timeline see attachment 1.

II. How the Central Valley Fits into Calsiec & PSRSPC & Activities Around California

Bill DeCamp led the discussion and had a number of handouts. To access these handouts visit the calsiec.org website, click on meetings and scroll to the 11/2/06 Central Valley meeting.

First Bill went over a table entitled "A brief history of the PSRSPC." Bill also went over new California codes and noted how it is now code that CALSIEC needs to meet together with the PSRSPC at least once a year. He also noted that two new agencies were added to the PSRSPC membership for 2007, the Department of Finance and Military Department.

Then Bill talked about equipment purchase issues and expectations. Purchases need to go along with the Safecom standards and local first response agencies using state funds shall ensure that the equipment complies with P25 standards.

Bill explained that the PSRSPC has been interviewing other locales, like New York for the Annual Report due to the legislature at the end of the year. He talked about New York as a comparison was moving along at the same pace as California. New York is putting in a two billion dollar system over twenty years. They don't have the same challenges that California does.

Bill explained that today after re-thinking the project and looking at all state agencies, the goal for California is to patch systems together. It is almost seamless the only down side is that it takes up a lot of spectrum. But this will be better than where we are – it will be a step forward.

Bill suggested that that people go to the psrspc.ca.gov web page and take a look at the draft report to get a better sense of what is being talked about. Further, on November 21, a Beta Test/ Validation meeting is being held to get input from Calsiec participants all around the state to get feedback and suggestions on what is in the report before it is finalized at the end of the year. The meeting will be held from 1:30 to 4:30 and the call in number is: (866) 742-9494 | pass code: 3127358.

Next Bill talked about the need to create a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP). The state is obliged to put that plan together. The idea is to take Tactical Interoperability Communication Plans (TICPs) from everyone up and down the state and “roll them up” into a statewide SCIP plan. Homeland Security grant money is tied to these which is another strong incentive.

Bill also talked about narrow banding issues and how everyone has to be narrow banded by 2013.

David Golden, Military Department introduced himself and gave a PowerPoint presentation. He noted that from he's participating from a technology perspective. To view his presentation go to calsiec.org

Next Mike Dottai from the City of Fresno talked about Urban Area Strategic Initiative (UASI) grant that had been received. ‘What is the urban area?’ was the first question. He showed the cities and the county within the boarder. Participants had a great deal of discussion, asking themselves, ‘What is interoperability? What do we do to achieve it?’ He then explained that they explored various methods for approaching interoperability.

- Method one. Agreements with allied agencies to share frequencies for interop purposes. This includes city/county radio channels; A cache of portable radios available to allied agencies; A regional plan including protocols for use of allied agencies channels.
- Method two. A command channel available to all agencies
- Method three. Countywide UHF channel available for Fresno and Clovis city police units.
- Method four. Ability to patch channels together.

The first thing they did was come up with a plan that didn't rely on telephone company circuits. Mike showed a detailed diagram of the county portion of the network.

Next he showed a diagram of the UASI radio console network. That network is partially installed. The main switches are networked together so they can work together. There can be access to any of the channels. Channels can also be patched together.

Then Mike showed the Fresno PD screen. He said that a universal Interoperability screen still needs to be created. They want a stripped down version so it is easier to patch and you can see what you have. He showed lists of the basic radio frequencies for public safety radio in Fresno.

Question: Did their list of frequencies list exist before?

Response: Yes, it has existed since '95 but it has been expanded.

III. Charter Nuts & Bolts – Part I

Sarah introduced the draft Charter document, briefly going over the main sections: Purpose, Goals, Guiding Principles and Decision Making, member Roles and Responsibilities, Membership, Steering Committee, Work Groups, and Meetings & Communications. She asked participants to skim the document to get a general understanding of what it contains. She then explained that later in the meeting everyone would break into small groups to discuss the document and provide feedback. But first, Julia and Sarah wanted to take the group through a priority setting exercise.

IV. Moving Ahead Together: Operationalizing Interoperability into a Plan

Julia and Sarah had all participants shift to one side of the room where half the wall was covered with butcher paper. They explained how the 'mind map' exercise would work. Everyone was asked to contribute ideas around what priority areas the Central Valley Calsiec group should work on.

After participants had contributed ideas each person was given 7 dot stickers. Each person was asked to 'vote' with their dots for the issues/areas they thought were of highest priority.

The areas of most interest (from highest to lowest dots) were:

1. Operational Plan- 25
2. Training-20
3. Local Governance-16
4. Funding-16
5. Political Buyin-12

See the attached mind map diagram to get a stronger sense of what themes emerged during the exercise.

Next the group broke into small groups . After a discussion period the group's reported out the following:

Local Governance Group:

1. Mike Dottai, Com Mge, City of Fresno
 2. Preston Fouts. CDF Mariposa, Madera, Merced
 3. Bob Secovitch- Tulare County Communications
 4. Paul Marquez- TCFD/CDF, Visalia
 5. Ted Mendoza- Tulare County FD
 6. Dan Gudgel- NSW San Joaquin Valley (Hanford)
- Develop regional contact list. Include County OES and Regional folks
 - Review Mutual Aid Agreements in Place
 - Need two work groups: a) focus on Technical Issues, b) Operational MOUs.

Training Group:

1. Bill Pennington, CA OES
 2. Carrie English, CHP
 3. Mark Johnson, CDF
 4. Cedric Reese, CERT Fresno
- No Monday, no staff, no curriculum.
 - There are two areas of focus: a) Field, b) Dispatch
 - Release time is an issue.
 - Training for trainers – volunteers [don't remember what this one meant]
 - Consider requiring software come with equipment (that is purchased).

Operational Plan Group:

1. Clay Smith, Bat Chief, Kings Co Fire
 2. Jim Kilner, Fire Chief, Kings Co Fire
 3. Joe Albitre, CHP Bakersfield Comm
 4. Myron Dyck, Selma PD
 5. David G Jones, EMS
 6. Jim Munro, Clovis PD
 7. Sam Lafferty, DGS Telecom
 8. Ken Alvis, Kern County
 9. David Nelson, Kern County
 10. John Downing, Fresno County
 11. Mark Rau, Clovis PD
- Operational Plan – Could region 5 be broken down? No, keep it together.
 - Use – some systems are in disuse.

V. Charter Nuts & Bolts – Part II

Everyone was asked to stay in their small groupings and to discuss the draft charter. After discussion the following was reported out:

- There will be cross information on what's happening in the regions.
- Barrier is at the State level with frequencies. Problem is with the process, not the people. Structure is needed!
- How do we "sell" to higher ups?
 - Make it hard for the legislature to say no (by being unified w a strong plan).
- Need common dbase for MOUs and TICPs.
- Common Channels/ when to talk with each other.
- ~ will this mess up what's working with fire?
- Very tough to get CHP to the table. It is critical they are at the table because they have resources.

- Terminology- nomenclature.

Membership Comments of Group:

- Use Fire as a model. It is working well.
- Need clarity: is it the 4 planning areas or the 6 MARs
- Need definition of interoperability spelled out.
 - Bill DeCamp will send around an example.
- Lots of questions to be answered.
- Membership: who should come? For example a local CHP person or a division CHP person.
- Need to add people from the Utilities (PG&E and Edison); Rail Roads, Media

Overall, participants were comfortable adopting the charter. It is a working document that will be refined.

VI. Next Steps

- Preston Fouts volunteered to work on the group's membership/ mailing list.
- Facilitators to email the draft charter to the group and request comment back.
- Group wanted to meeting monthly and set a dates for next four months:: 12/7 [Later changed to 12/12], 1//11, 2/8, and 3/8

Attendees:

Albitre	Joe	CHP Bakersfield
Barken	Jerry	CHP
Buehler	Vinnie	CA Office of Homeland Security
Caporale	Phil	Fresno County Sheriff
Dottai	Mike	Fresno City
Downing	John	County of Fresno
Dyck	Myron	Selma P.D.
English	Carrie	CHP Madera
Fouts	Preston	Mariposa-Merced
Gaad	Allen	CSUF P.D.
Golden	David	Military Department
Gudgel	Daniel	Natl Weather Svc
Henry	Steve	Clovis Fire
Johnson	Mark	CDF Fresno
Jones	David	County of Fresno
Kilner	Jim	Kings County Fire
Lafferty	Sam	DGS Telecom
LaRose	Bob	Raytheon
Lee	Julia	CSUS-CCP
Marchini	Derek	Cook's Comm Corp
Marquez	Paul	CDF/ICFD Visalia
Mendoza	Ted	Tulare Co. Fire
Munro	Jim	Clovis PD
Nelson	David	Kern Co. Sheriff
Pennington	Bill	State OES
Rau	Mark	Clovis PD
Reese	Cedric	Cert Fresno
Rubin	Sarah	CSUS-CCP
Secovitch	Robert	Tulare County
Smith	Clay	Kings County Fire

Attachments:

1. Timeline
2. Priorities Mindmap

Attachment 1: *INTEROP & OP TIMELINE by Meeting Participants 11-2-06 -- CALSIEC Central Valley Planning Area*

<u>1950's</u>	<u>1960's</u>	<u>1970's</u>	<u>1980's</u>	<u>1990's</u>
Mutual Aid	ICS		Emergency 9-1-1 in Fresno County('82) 13 Separate PSAP's 1987- Fresno Sheriff RMS Multi-Agency SEMS	Operation Goldstar "Patch" on Line *Fresno City PD *Clovis City PD *Fresno Sheriff *Cal Highway Patrol Sheriff CAD (1992) 13 agencies 95 New EMS Bldg Constructed (Fresno County)
<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Kern County replaced CAD System (+/-)		First Cert-Fresno Class- No Communications Plan Beyond Local EMS Radios	UASI Grant Voice & Data Interoperability Kings Co EMS Dispatched at Fresno EMS	Upgraded radio system online Kern Co, Dec '05
<u>2006</u>			<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Tulare Co S.O. purchases mobile command bus/comm suite Madera Co EMS @ Fresno EMS Fresno City (Feb '06) Fire @ EMS 2/1/2006- ICTAP Field Exercise (over 200 participants)			2-1-07 Tulare Co Fire/CDF Transition Fresno Sheriff CAD Multi-Agency CCCHAP & CDF interop zetrans	Fresno Sheriff RMS Multi-Agency

