



# Governors Office of Emergency Services

Henry Renteria, Director

## *“Northern California Planning Area”*

**California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (CALSIIEC)**  
**In partnership with Public Safety Radio Strategic Planning Committee (PSRSPC)**

**Thursday, November 30, 2006**

**10:00 am - 12:00 p.m.**

*Location: 1740 Walnut Street, Red Bluff, CA*

**Conference Phone Line: (866) 742-9494 | pass code: 3127358#**

**Meeting Purpose:** 1) To develop Northern California CALIEC Planning Area charter based on region's needs, in collaboration with California's Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (CALSIIEC). 2) To begin inventory efforts on communication resources in the Northern States.

**Next Meeting Date:** Next meeting Jan 31, 2007. 10am – 12 noon in Red Bluff; 1740 Walnut Street.

**Summary of Attendance:** Full list of attendees included at back of notes. The Northern California CALSIIEC planning area consists of total of 17 counties.

### **Action Items:**

- There was not enough time for George Lowry's presentation on mutual aid channel frequencies so it was postponed until the next group meeting.
- The Charter will be revised and will take on a checklist form.
- People who volunteered to help create the checklist: George Benton, Butte County, Scott Capilla, Red Bluff Police Dept, and Dennis Garton. If anyone else would like to help them out please let Dennis know.
- Homework for participants: Do an inventory of :
  - What you've got. (For example, Portables and Car Radios)
  - Who can you talk to?
  - Who else do you need to talk to (in a big event)?
  - What you need.
- Dennis will email this list to participants.
- For the PSRSPC online survey. If anyone noticed their information was incorrect (in Holly Ziegler's handout) please go into the survey and update your information. If you have not filled out the survey please do so. Access it at [www.calsiec.org](http://www.calsiec.org)

**Handouts:** Agenda, Survey Frequency Information; Charter; Minutes from 9/29/06 meeting, List of people who have participated so far.

### **I. Welcome, Agenda Review and Greetings**

Dennis Garton, Under-sheriff, Tehama County, opened the meeting and introductions were made. This was the third meeting of the Northern California group. Paula Carr, Deputy Chief,

OES Law Enforcement Branch then did a welcome.

Next Julia Lee, facilitator from the Center for Collaborative Policy, California State University Sacramento, welcomed everyone. Julia asked for a show hands for how many were new and there were quite a few hands. Julia went through the meeting packet. She noted the list of everyone who has come to the meetings and then touched on the meeting ground rules.

Vinnie Buehler, Office of Homeland Security, went over the packet entitled “California Interoperability: Introductory Information.” Vinnie explained that in visiting the various planning areas not everyone was on the same page as far as interoperable communications and the packet was put together as an effort to put some introductory information into one place. (The packet can be accessed on the web at [www.calsiec.org](http://www.calsiec.org).)

Holly Ziegler, State OES, talked about how the statewide CALSIEC organization is responsible for creating a statewide communications interoperability plan, commonly referred to as the “SCIP.” If not done the state could lose out on Federal grant funds. California doesn’t want to create that plan in a vacuum and so they really need help from locals, the regions.

## **II. Charter Discussion**

The draft charter document included the following sections: purpose, goals, guiding principles & decision making, organization, steering committee membership, chair person responsibilities, and roles (for all members). With this draft document as the starting place Dennis Garten opened up what became a robust discussion. Highlights follow:

### *Should group exist?*

- Dennis Garten’s first point focused on the fact that there is no obligation for any locals to participate in the CALSIEC regional effort. He explained that he’d read the CFR and didn’t understand why locals would be involved in a state effort and that led to an open discussion as to whether or not the group should exist.

### *Context as to why group should exist:*

- To provide some context, a history of the SIECs (Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee) was given. All states have a SIEC, as they are FCC mandated. Each state’s SIEC has to turn in a **Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan** (SCIP) at the end of 2007. Here in California CALSIEC will be developing a consolidated SCIP, incorporating California’s traditional mutual aid channels with the new interoperability channels and addressing the changes in protocols required to adapt to today’s operational realities.
- The CALSIEC organization thought it would be helpful to divide state up into regional areas so that information could be gathered ‘from the ground up’ to build the statewide plan.
- Local input is critical!
- Technical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICPs) will be the building blocks of the SCIP. TICPs have already been created in the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) areas. UASIs got money to create these plans or TICPs.

*Frustrations of the North, generally and specifically with State OES:*

- It was explained that in the North the problem is Operability; Rural areas are very far behind.
- There's lots of confusion as to what the State wants. A suggestion was made for the state to do individual meetings with the Counties (rather than meet as a group).
- In providing context as to what it is like for many of the rural areas, it was explained that many won't bother to apply for grants because they aren't competitive (not likely to get them compared to the bigger areas). Or, another common problem is that the grant money available isn't for things that locals need. For example, someone could get a nuclear clean-up suit but the likelihood of a nuclear incident is very improbable. Further, someone would have to be trained to use the suit and space would have to be set aside to store it—taking space away from other more useful items.
- Many counties already talk to each other, but not the Feds.
- Generally, the North has felt overlooked, forgotten, and neglected for the last 30 years. There is mass mistrust of the State and the Feds.

*Response by the State:*

- The 2007 Statewide Plan will look at the challenges faced in the North state. There is hope that this big plan will bear some weight and that will result in more resources (money) coming to the North.
- OES is trying to get a contractor who will go to everyone and help you draft a TICP.
- State OES does want to hear about these issues would like to hear about it. And wants to note best practices.

*Possible 'common ground' -- reasons that the group could be beneficially to local participants:*

- Having people from the various counties know which frequencies/channels others are using (not everyone knows everyone else's now).
  - Things people want to know/should know:
    - Can you talk to fire or DWR?
  - Important to practice
  - Most are interoperable. Question is: how to put it in place.
- There was a conversation about frequencies and mutual aid channels and how new channels will be coming on.
  - It was explained that DGS can equip boxes with everyone's frequencies but it would be illegal.
    - But all gateways can be programmed with mutual aid channels.
  - With the pool of 700 MHz channels coming will people will need to know how to manage them.
- It was noted that this effort is an opportunity to leverage the needs of the North and therefore hopefully help organizations/jurisdictions get where they want to go.
  - Money is needed. Millions of dollars are needed.

*Result: The Group Should Continue*

- The discussion resulted in participants agreeing that it was worthwhile for the group to meet but the charter needed to be reworked.
- Membership: People will come if they can. Want resource people to come.

- Charter: There was agreement that the draft was too long and should be simplified.
  - The structure of the charter should be like a checklist.
  - Dennis Garten volunteered to be Chair of the group.
  - The group will meet more or less regularly.
  - One focus of the charter should be spectrum.
  - It was also agreed that goals needed to be fleshed out, including end products.
  - One end product: Inventory. Itemize what is needed, what people have, what's available.

### III. Regional Frequency Information from the PSRSPC's Online Survey

Holly talked about the frequency handout. People can put more information into the survey by going to [www.calsiec.org](http://www.calsiec.org). Participants noted that they saw many errors in the data on the form. Holly asked that people please go into the survey and update your information if it is wrong.

### IV. Next Steps

- There was not enough time for George Lowry's presentation on mutual aid channel frequencies so it was postponed until the next group meeting.
- The Charter will be revised and will take on a checklist form as detailed in the section above.
- People who volunteered to help create the checklist: George Benton, Butte County, Scott Capilla, Red Bluff Police Dept, and Dennis Garten. If anyone else would like to help them out please let Dennis know.
- Homework for participants: Do an inventory of :
  - What you've got. (For example, Portables and Car Radios)
  - Who can you talk to?
  - Who else do you need to talk to (in a big event)?
  - What you need.
- Dennis will email this list to participants.
- From here the group will be able to talk about the form (geographically and substantively) of a possible TICP(s) for the area.
- Next meeting Jan 31, 2007. 10am – 12 noon in Red Bluff; 1740 Walnut Street.

### Attendance:

Bade	Kimberly		Information Processing	by
Brown	Joel	Telecomm Tech	Systems	phone
Brunet	Mark	Lieutenant	Butte County	
Buzzard	Chris	Lieutenant	CHP/Cottonwood	
Cardenos	Tony	Chief	Paradise PD	
Capilla	Scott	Lieutenant	Corning PD	
Carr	Paula	Deputy Chief	Red Bluff Police Department	
Cooley	Dennis	Lieutenant	OES	
Corey	Bill	Deputy Sheriff	Butte County SO	
Crete	Terri	Telecomm Analyst	Sutter County Sheriff's Office	
DeCamp	Bill	DGS Telecommunications	DGS-TD	
Fitzpatrick	John	CDF		by phone

Goodwin	Bill	Chief Admin	Tehama County
Grant	Mike	Deputy Sheriff	Plumas County Sheriff's Office
Lee	Julia	Facilitator	Center for Collaborative Policy
Linschoten	Harry	Lieutenant	CHP Red Bluff
Long	Alan	Captain	Yuba County Sheriff's Office
Lowry	George		CA OES
Luginbuhl	Kate	Director of Operations	Mt. Shasta Fire Protection District
Lutts	Brad	Chief	CDF/ Lassen
MacDougall	George	CHPERS Team	CHP Telecom
McHatton	Jake	Comm. Officer	CDF Telecom
Nessier	Rabecca	Emergency Services Coordinator	Yurok Tribe
Owen	Dennis	Operations Manager	Tehama County Public Works
Pasero	Bob	Chief of Police	Orland PD
Peach	Steve	Gen Mgr	SHASCOM 911
Ratner	Stu	Chief	City of Susanville
Rubin	Sarah	Facilitator	CSUS
Rucker	John	Captain	Chico Police
Shamblin	Al	Chief	Red Bluff PD
Stanbery	Mary		
Tappe	Beth	Manager	Glenn Sheriff Dept.
Tarbell	Tom	Lieutenant	Yuba City PD
Thompson	Gail	Planner: Grants	Yurok Tribe
Wenz	Chris	Battalion Chief	CDF
Ziegler	Donna	RN	TCHSA-PHD
	Holly	OES Coordinator	OES

by  
phone