



West Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 4-13-2026	Time: 1320	Location RETI
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SIEC Membership & Participation

(X – Present; Blank – Absent; X-CC – Present via Conference Call)

Mangus, Jim	CC	RIC 1 Chairman
Novel, Tony	X	RIC 2 Chairman
Jenkins, Mike	CC	RIC 3 Chairman
Tice, Brandon		RIC 4 Chairman
Gianato, Adam	X	RIC 5 Chairman
Vititoe, Steve	CC	RIC 6 Chairman
Saffel, Dave	CC	WV APCO
Cadle, Pat		WV County Commission Association
Blackwood, Matt	Proxy – Jeff Perry	WV DEM Director Acting
Rumbaugh, Stephen	CC Proxy – Pat Shea	WV Department of Transportation
White, Mikyle	Proxy – Loyd Lowry	WV E-911 Council
Willis, BJ	CC	WV Emergency Management Council
Ratliff, Jody		WV Health & Human Resources
Blosser, Travis		WV Municipal League
Seward, James		WV National Guard
Abbott, Heather	CC	WV Office of Technology
Smith, Chuck	CC Proxy – Tyrone Gore	WV Parkways Authority
Howard, Tom		WV Sheriff's Association
Tyree, Ken		WV State Fire Marshal
Mitchell, Jim		WV State Police
McConnell, Dustyn		WV SWIC
Bump, Paul		WV Zone 1 Switch Agency
Vargo, Lou		WV Zone 3 Switch Agency

Additional Participants

(X – Present; Blank – Absent; X-CC – Present via Conference Call)

RC Faulk	X	Assistant SWIC
DJ Miller	CC	WVSP
Bob Hoge	X	Historian
Steven Singer	CC	CISA
David O'Brien	CC	Technical
Greg Hendry	X	EMD
Richard Rose	X	EM Council
Patrick Coles	CC	Kanawha 911



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Previous Minutes Reviewed and Approved

- **Motion:** Tony Novel
- **Second:** Dave Saffel
- **Motion:** Passed

Technical Committee Report

- Programming
 - Current Versioning –
 - Motorola APX CPS R38.00.70 2025.3 Feature Release – 01/20/2026
 - FW R38.02.00 2025.3 Feature Release– 01/20/2026
 - Motorola APX Next – APX NEXT 4G LTE + 5G FW R38.20.00 2025.3– 01/20/2026
 - Motorola APX Next - APX NEXT 4G LTE FW R38.04.00 2025.3 – 01/20/2026
 - Motorola APX N70 – APX N70 FW R38.21.00 2025.3 Feature Release– 01/20/2026
 - Motorola APX N70 – APX N70 R37.03.00 2025.2 Feature Release – 09/12/2025
 - Motorola APX7000(AN)
 - Motorola CPS 20.01.00 – Firmware 20.50.10
 - Kenwood – KPG-95DGN v 8.30 (10 Series) Firmware – 4.43 (v2) 6.14 (v3)
 - Kenwood – KPG-112DN V2.33 (20 Series) Firmware 2.21
 - Kenwood – KPG-D1N 5.30 (NX-5X00 & 30 Series)–Firmware 5.31
 - Armada - 1.46.22 –
 - RES – BKR9000 – 5.11.10
 - Tait – 3.07.04 - 03/11/2026
 - L3Harris -
- Testing
 - Harris –XL-95 –
 - Motorola Next XN – Waiting for radios from Motorola
 - Motorola N30
 - Icom – IC-F7510 – Still waiting for LLA cables to finish testing
- Ham radio on Romney Tower – The Romney tower is owned by Hampshire County. The Romney building is owned by Hampshire County. A structural study was done under previous standards. The results stated that the tower was at 110% loading. The proper channel for the request is to Tad Malcom who has become the Emergency Management Director. The Technical Committee would not recommend any additional loading if the current loading is 110%.



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- Potomac State College and WVU Police – WVU is expanding their police coverage to Potomac State College. They are requesting another talkgroup to talk to their dispatch in Morgantown. They have a private talkgroup for use in Potomac State. They have also requested a Talkgroup for their travel path to Charleston. These requests should help them not having issues using radio control but they are on a path to try to get direct connect with their consoles.
- Boy Scout Jamboree is planning to do the same thing and connect their AVTEC consoles.
- Policy changes for Approved Equipment List. Document attached. Motion to approve Fred Kinder, Second by Jim Mangus. Passed. It will be submitted to the SIEC for consideration.
- Policy for Console Testing will be addressed later
- A discovery was in Webster County from testing the Kenwood Version 10 radios regarding roaming. The following:
Hunt Option > Slot = 99 (ensures all adjacent sites are searched)

They discovered that the 99 entry caused problems and recommend at this time to change that to 10. They have found a significant improvement in the operation of the Kenwood Model 10 Version 2 & 3 radios with this change.

Another suggestion would be to try the following:

Acceptable RSSI Level = -108 (default)

Suggest changing this level to -120

Important Technical Information

Channel ID Plan	3 FDMA No longer in use	4 FDMA	5 FDMA	6 TDMA	7 TDMA	8 TDMA
Bandwidth	12.5 kHz	12.5 kHz	12.5 kHz	12.5 kHz	12.5 kHz	12.5kHz
Transmit Offset Sign	+	+	+	+	+	+
Transmit Offset MHz	5 MHz	5 MHz	9 MHz	5 MHz	5 MHz	9 MHz
Channel Spacing	12.5 kHz	6.25 kHz	6.25 kHz	6.25 kHz	6.25 kHz	6.25 kHz
Base Frequency	453.025 MHz	450MHz	400 MHz	450MHz	460MHz	400MHz

Cyber Security Sub-Committee Report

- Danny Kirby suggested members consider a COOP plan for themselves and agency.



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Policy and Procedures Committee Report

- Combined with the Technical meeting this month.

Training/Education/Outreach Committee Report

- The Training committee just finished a WV Specific AUXCOMM Class in Putnam County WV with 20 Students participating.
- Of the 20 students that registered, 6 had their complete prerequisites, 4 others were missing some (various) with 1 other had all FEMA prerequisites, but didn't have an amateur radio license (member of WV EMD).
- There has been a request for dates for a WV AUXCOMM Class in the Wood County area.
- No update re: The inquiry for a WV AUXCOMM Class in the Randolph County area.
- No update re: The inquiry for a WV AUXCOMM Class in the Boone County area.
- There has been a request to allow GMRS FCC Licensed operators / family members (covered under the licensure) to attend / be certified as WV AUXCOMM's in lieu of an amateur radio operators license. There would be no change in the ICS prerequisite requirements of 100,200,700,800.
- Jim Mangus would like to get members of the training committee present to weigh in on their thoughts before any presentment requesting a change of the SIEC policy.
- Loudon County has 5 seats open for an upcoming COMT class April 27.
- APX Class and a Harris class are being set up in Jefferson County EOC on the 14th and 15th of May.

Conference Committee Report – Steve Vititoe

- RC Faulk reviewed menu choices and break configuration for the upcoming Conference.
- Steve Vititoe and Brooke Hess discussed panel discussions as a possible inclusion for this year's Conference.



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Planning Committee Report

- City of Paintsville, KY sent an application for participation for 1 EMA mobile and 4 ambulance mobiles for mutual aid and I/O with WV. It was recommended that they coordinate joining under the Mingo County application. RC Faulk will assist them in getting in contact with Mingo's POC. Motion to apply under Mingo by Tony Novel, 2nd by Adam Gianato; passed.

New & Emerging Technologies

- DJ Sigmon provided the group information on Cradlepoint opportunities.
- A discussion was held about EAS integration with SiriusXM.

RIC Region 1 Report

Kanawha, Clay, Putnam, Jackson, Roane, Calhoun, Ritchie, Wirt, Wood, and Pleasant

- Has not met since March 9th, 2026.
- Next meeting is April 16, 2026 and the previous minutes are attached.

RIC Region 2 Report

Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Taylor

- Minutes attached.

RIC Region 3 Report

Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, Berkeley, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan

- Nothing provided.

RIC Region 4 Report

Pocahontas, Pendleton, Webster, Randolph, Tucker, Barbour, Upshur, Braxton, Gilmer, Lewis

- Nothing provided.

RIC Region 5 Report

Mercer, McDowell, Wyoming, Raleigh, Summers, Monroe, Greenbrier, Nicholas, and Fayette

- Minutes attached.



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RIC Region 6 Report

Cabell, Boone, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo

- Have not met but plan to meet virtually on April 23, 2026.

Business Conducted

- Technical committee recommends approving the change to the equipment list; 2nd by Tony Novel, motion passed.
- Planning committee recommends City of Paintsville, KY join under Mingo County; 2nd by Tony Novel; motion passed.
- Training Committee requests that the Director send a Thank You letter to Mikyle White at Putnam County for the recent AUXCOMM course for his support of that class.
- Next meeting:
 - **Date: May 11, 2026**
 - **Location: RETI**

Meeting adjournment.

- **Motion: Tony Novel**
- **Second: Jim Mangus**
- **Motion: Passed**



West Virginia
**Statewide Interoperable Network
Region-1 Interoperability Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: February 19th, 2025

Location and Time: Ripley Volunteer Fire Department, Ripley, WV, 10:00am-12:00p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Mangus.

Those in attendance: Jim Mangus, Jordan Stewart, Larry Cook, Tyler Arnold, Andrew Rouse, Ben Hersman

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes from October 23, 2025 meeting. Chairman Mangus called for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Larry Cook made a motion to approve the minutes, Andrew Rouse seconded the motion. Motion adopted.

RIC 1 Reminder: Chairman Mangus reminded the group to notify him or Jeremy Jones to request permission for usage of the Regional Talk group(s) for any reason. The Chairman also asked that the group help locate individuals to fill open positions on RIC (Law, Fire, EMS)

WVDHSEM Update: We have a new Cabinet Security, Lonnie Bryson is now the Threat Prep Officer, Kyle Pajarito is the new Training Officer.

SIRN:

i) CriticalConnect will be restructured. The current implementation is set up as an external connection through ISSI. The new implementation will be brought into the system and no longer be connected through ISSI. This will fix our current group-regrouping (Super Group) issue we have been experiencing. This will make services connected through CriticalConnect more reliable and allow SIRN more control over the administration of the service.

ii) The Technical Committee is submitting a request to modify the Radio Equipment Requirements & Approved Equipment List and add Over the Air Rekeying and Over the Air Reprogramming.

iii) The Kenwood/EFJohnson ISSI testing site will be on the air by the end of the month. Testing will be for 60 days and results will be sent back to the SIEC. This test was initiated to keep interoperability with Frederick County, Virginia with their migration to an EFJ system.

Serving Calhoun, Clay, Jackson, Kanawha, Pleasants, Putnam, Richie, Roane, Wirt, & Wood Counties, along with State and Federal Partners

iv) Kenwood/EF Johnson has made progress on their LTE PTT solution using ESChat implementation. Once the CriticalConnect work is completed, the SWIC will reach out to Kenwood/EF Johnson to initiate a test platform for this service.

SIEC:

2026 SORN Conference: Let your vendors know the SIEC would like their participation and is offering “Early Bird” registration discounts (check SORN web site for more info). Be sure to check the SORN web site for proposed individual(s) “early bird” discounts.

i) SIEC is adding days (Thursday & Friday) to the conference for programming classes.

ii) There wasn't an update regarding having mid-year programming classes, . (There is a request for a Harris class)

Agency Reports:

1. **Jackson County** – None

Jackson County Amateur Radio – None

Forestry: Working on programming new SORN Radios

02-28-2026 Amateur Radio Cram Course in Charleston

03-07-2036 Charleston Hamfest

04-11th & 12th WV AUXCOMM Class at Putnam County 911 Center

General Info (Amateur Radio) A new digital mode FT-2 has been introduced

Adjournment: Motion by Andrew Roush, seconded by Larry Cook

RIC 2 Minutes

Regional Meeting

3/31/26 – MECCA Morgantown, WV 26501

- Meeting called order at 10:00 am by T Novel
- Minutes from the previous meeting, unanimously approved by a motion, Tom Hart motioned, Harold Springer seconded the motion. No corrections.
- Training
 - Harris Class will be organized for Eastern Panhandle
 - Jim Mangus is setting up COM L and Aux Com classes.
 - Danny Kirby is setting up cyber security class to be held after SIEC meeting.

- Old Business
 - Wileyville -Premier's electrical contractor to finish electrical work Thursday or Friday.
 - Cadel-Going through a FAA study due to the tower being more than 200 ft and the second reason is that the tower will be so close to the airfield at Camp Dawson, trying to obtain a letter from Camp Dawson saying that it will not affect the airfield operation. Tower 180' to 240' AGL.
 - Band Plan 8 added to accommodate TDMA on NTIA channels. Brooke County is a priority.
 - WVSIRN Conference September 27-29, 2026, extended for classroom sessions September 30 – October 2.
 - Registration link, [2026 SIRN Conference Registration: SIRN](#)
 - No further info on midyear radio programming classes.
 - N70 approved
 - Harris XL 185M & 185P approved.
 - Critical Connect will be restructured. The current implementation is set up as an external connection through ISSI. The new implementation will be brought into system and no longer be connected through ISSI. This will make services connected through Critical Connect more reliable and allow SIRN more control over the administration of the services.
 - Kenwood/EF Johnson has made progress on their LTE PTT solution using ESCHAT implementation. Once the Critical Connect work is completed, the SWIC will reach out to Kenwood/EFJohnson to initiate a test platform for this service.

- New Business
 - The software and firmware updates were given.
 - Kenwood bought ESCHAT to try to bring Kenwood Viking Radio platform to equal Motorola's Smart Connect.
 - Motorola N30 being tested.
 - Motorola Next XN-waiting on radios from Motorola.

- VPM's on the MCC7500's will be replaced with the CC HUB during our next scheduled radio upgrades that should happen in or around September 2027 making you consoles MCC 7500E's at that time, should be no extra cost due to current SUA's.
- Harrison County is currently testing AXS consoles from Motorola and MECCA has signed a contract to purchase their own AXS consoles.
- Fire Academy requested statewide talk group and received approval.
- Technical committee is considering changing the radio levels due to increased features that is offered on a lot of the radios.
- Can't buy new KVL's at the current time. When the 7000 comes out the base price is \$10,000 and \$13,000 for bells and whistles.
- Justin Wolfe, Preston County had a concern about his radio going out of service during travels toward Morgantown before being affiliated with the next tower, which should be accomplished with the adjacent sites list.
- WVU Police is requesting a dispatching talk group for Potomac State College. He is going to complete a request letter and it will be presented at next SIEC meeting date.
- Stressing that if you have TDMA in your radio as a feature you will have to have all the band plans entered into your radio or you will definitely experience some problems, if you haven't already!

- Good of the order

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Transmit Offset MHz	5 MHz	5 MHz	9 MHz	5 MHz	5 MHz	9 MHz
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Any topics requested for SIRN Conference???

- Next Meetings-May 21, 2026 @ MECCA 911 Responder Drive, Morgantown WV 26501 10am start
- Meeting adjournment-Tom Hart motion, Tim Curry seconded and motion passed.

RIC 5 Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 12, 2026 – 10:00 hours
McDowell County 911 with Virtual Option

Attendance

In-Person: Tim Ellison, Bobby Bowman, Adam Gianato, Jimmy Gianato, Cody Fortner, Josh McKinney

Virtual: Dustyn McConnell, Mike Segars, Loyd Lowry, Julie Lockhart, Jason Redden, Richard Filipek, Jeff Smith, Mark Pickett.

Minutes

- The RIC Meeting was called to order by Chair, Adam Gianato at 10:03 hours.
- A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February meeting by Tim Ellison, and was seconded by Bobby Bowman. All were in favor – motioned carried.

- **SWIC – Dustyn McConnell**

Had nothing to report, but Tim Ellison inquired on when Dustyn would be able to have the meeting at Wyoming County. Several dates were exchanged before the two parties. A mutually agreed upon date was determined. Monday 3/23.

- **SIEC Update**

The SIEC is continuing to test the N30, ICOM, and Harris 95. There are still several technical issues that are being worked out.

There was some discussion about the cyber grants and the possibility of doing some battery plant upgrades but, this is currently on hold due to FEMA shutdown.

There were also discussions regarding the Axis Consoles for the PSAPs that are looking at potential console upgrades. There was a separate meeting scheduled among the SIEC to discuss policies. There are still some concerns about the Axis platform, but the SIEC is working with Motorola to get those worked out. The SIEC is in the process of developing policy and procedures for testing consoles. There is only 1 PSAP in the RIC that is not direct connect, that is Monroe County, pending the completion and go-live of Summers County.

ISSI Kenwood Test (inter-system roaming) is functional but is being tested. This allows other systems to roam and work on other systems. There are still some

issues but they are being looked further into. There was a general discussion about the correct programming of how user radios would be programmed.

- **Communications Exercise**

Adam Gianato and Cody Fortner gave a brief update on the Communications Exercise that is currently being planned by Co-Chair, John Zilinski from Raleigh County 911. John and Melissa Zilinski held a radio training at Beckley-Raleigh County Health Department and there is another session scheduled for the next RIC meeting in Monroe County in April. If there are health departments that require updated programming, they are urged to bring their units with them.

- **County / Agency Reports**

Beckley Fire – Mike Segars: there was a general discussion about the N70s and how they are being deployed and are functioning for BFD. There have been some issues with the wireless mic that has the camera built into it, that has a 3-second PTT delay before the radio will actually key. There was additional discussion on some possible solutions.

McDowell County – Bobby Bowman: Discussed equipment replacement costs for radios that are no longer being supported by Motorola.

Wyoming County – Tim Ellison: Nothing to report.

Mercer County – Julie Lockhart: Nothing to report.

Hospital Coalition – Mark Pickett: Some issues have been reported about the ER mobile at PCH, which is a EF Johnson unit. There have been digital sounds heard on the radio, but it isn't heard from others in the field. Adam discussed possible issues with the radio. Similar situation was being experienced by Welch Community and they had to purchase new radios.

Summers County – Loyd Lowry: The Hinton site is currently standing at 190'. It should be complete by the end of the week with power being hooked up this coming Tuesday. SORN is making provisional plans to move equipment to the site once Loyd gives the approval.

No other agencies or counties were present or wanted to provide an update.

- **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on April 16, 2026 at 10:00 hours at the Monroe County Health Department.

- **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Tim Ellison, seconded by Bobby Bowman, all was in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 10:39 hours.

Meeting transcribed by Cody Fortner, RIC Secretary