



# West Virginia Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

<b>Date:</b> 2-9-2026	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Location:</b> 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	X	RIC 3 Chairman
Tice, Brandon		RIC 4 Chairman
Gianato, Adam	X	RIC 5 Chairman
Vititoe, Steve	X	RIC 6 Chairman
Saffel, Dave	X	WV APCO
Cadle, Pat		WV County Commission Association
Blackwood, Matt	Proxy – Jeff Perry	WV DEM Director Acting
Rumbaugh, Stephen	CC Proxy – Patrick Shea	WV Department of Transportation
White, Mikyle	Proxy – Loyd Lowry	WV E-911 Council
Willis, BJ	CC Proxy Richard Rose	WV Emergency Management Council
Ratliff, Jody		WV Health & Human Resources
Blosser, Travis		WV Municipal League
Seward, James	Proxy – Danny Kirby	WV National Guard
Abbott, Heather		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	CC Proxy Nathan Sayre	WV State Police
McConnell, Dustyn	X	WV SWIC
Bump, Paul	X	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
Randy Kinsolving	X	Guest
Mike Spangler	X	WV DNR
Greg Hendry	CC	
Adam Layne	CC	DOT
Joseph Oparka	X	Guest
DJ Miller	CC	WVSP
Dirk Burnside	X	Technical
Brooke Hess	CC	Conference
Tom Hart	CC	RIC 2



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Bob Hoge	X	Historian
David O'Brien	CC	Technical

Previous Minutes Reviewed and Approved

- **Motion:** Tony Novel
- **Second:** Danny Kirby
- **Motion:** Passed

## Technical Committee Report

### 1. Programming

#### a. Current Versioning –

- i. **Motorola APX CPS R38.00.70 2025.3 Feature Release – 01/20/2026**
  1. **FW R38.02.00 2025.3 Feature Release– 01/20/2026**
  2. **Motorola APX Next – APX NEXT 4G LTE + 5G FW R38.20.00 2025.3– 01/20/2026**
  3. **Motorola APX Next - APX NEXT 4G LTE FW R38.04.00 2025.3 – 01/20/2026**
- ii. **Motorola APX N70 – APX N70 FW R38.21.00 2025.3 Feature Release– 01/20/2026**
- iii. **Motorola APX N70 – APX N70 R37.03.00 2025.2 Feature Release – 09/12/2025**
- iv. **Motorola APX7000(AN)**
  1. **Motorola CPS 20.01.00 – Firmware 20.50.10**
- v. **Kenwood – KPG-95DGN v 8.30 (10 Series) Firmware – 4.43 (v2) 6.14 (v3)**
- vi. **Kenwood – KPG-112DN V2.33 (20 Series) Firmware 2.21**
- vii. **Kenwood – KPG-D1N 5.30 (NX-5X00 & 30 Series)–Firmware 5.31**
- viii. **Armada - 1.46.16– 12/08/2025**
- ix. **RES – BKR9000 – 5.11.10**
- x. **Tait – 3.6.1.10**
- xi. **L3Harris -**

### 2. Testing

1. **Harris –XL-95 –**
2. **Motorola Next XN – Waiting for radios from Motorola**
3. **Motorola N30**
4. **Icom – IC-F7510 – Still waiting for LLA cables to finish testing**



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3. 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.
4. Mercer County has requested moving from their existing tower to the SIRN tower on East River Mountain. Tech Adam Gianato says there is room on the tower and in the building.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Email from SWIC 01/24 – 1302 hrs. – Greg Hendry will contact AT&T and give us more information next month.
9. Pleasants County wants to co-locate on the St. Mary's SIRN tower – Marion will advise if she thinks that a structural would be necessary and we would move from there.
10. Cabell County LOC for Culloden tower – Recommend signing with the caveat that they will fix any interference.



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11. Wetzel County has received most of their RF equipment. They are requesting that the State install the equipment and fund the installation. The technicians can do the physical installation of the equipment but Motorola will have to optimize the equipment once installed.
12. There has been a request for a Harris Class in the Eastern Panhandle. We will look at calendars and see what we can come up with.
13. 4 Hour cyber course; federal fund; no charge to us; waiting on more details.

### Important Technical Information

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

### Policy and Procedures Committee Report

- Did not meet.

### Training/Education/Outreach Committee Report

- Training committee is working on 3 WV AuxComm courses in the northern part of the state, Putnam County area, and possibly Boone/Lincoln/Logan area.
- CAP911 has inquired about a WV COML also.



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## Conference Committee Report – Steve Vititoe

- Committee made recommendations for menu options. RC Faulk will forward those to Camp Dawson.
- Committee decided to try September 24-28 of 2027 to get on the books for Camp Dawson.
- Steve reminded the RICs to get input from the memberships about ideas for the agenda.

## Planning Committee Report

- Nothing to report.

## New & Emerging Technologies

- DJ Sigman led a presentation about POTS replacement solution. Additional information was forward to the membership by RC Faulk.

## RIC Region 1 Report

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

- Has not met since the last SIEC meeting.
- Next meeting is planned for February 19, 2026 at Ripley VFD.

## RIC Region 2 Report

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

- Has not met since the last SIEC meeting.

## RIC Region 3 Report

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

- Has not met since the last SIEC meeting.

## RIC Region 4 Report

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

- No report received.



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## RIC Region 5 Report

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

- Minutes attached.

## RIC Region 6 Report

Cabell, Boone, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo

- Last met on January 22 at Cabell County EMS.
- Discussed the incoming weather and events of the last SIEC meeting.
- Next meeting is TBD.

## Business Conducted

- Discussed a local version of MTUG.
- Next meeting:
  - **Date:** March 9, 2026
  - **Location:** RETI

Meeting adjournment.

- **Motion:** Jim Mangus
- **Second:** Dave Saffel
- **Motion:** Passed

Jan 15, 2026

# RIC 5 MEETING

Invited [ethan.j.whisenant@wvsp.gov](mailto:ethan.j.whisenant@wvsp.gov) Pickett, Mark [Angela.Akers2@redcross.org](mailto:Angela.Akers2@redcross.org)  
[sdobson@raleighcountysheriff.com](mailto:sdobson@raleighcountysheriff.com) Brian C Bell Robert K Bowman  
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Attachments [RIC 5 MEETING](#)

## Summary

James Gianato announced the approval of several new radios by SIEC, including the Motorola N70 portable and various Harris portables and mobiles, while noting that older Motorola APX radios are nearing the end of software and firmware support. James Gianato confirmed to John Zilinski that Harris radio programming still requires the complex hardware key process and offered assistance with programming, which led to a discussion among John Zilinski and Brian C Bell about addressing programming issues, with James Gianato offering full support. James Gianato requested that counties, including a query from Robert K Bowman,

conduct an audit to clean up unused radio IDs for cyber security and system license compliance, and James Gianato also shared updates on the Siren Conference and a regional radio exercise planned by John Zilinski. SummersCoOEM (Lloyd) provided an optimistic update on the Hinton site construction, and Tim Ellison expressed satisfaction with Wyoming County's Direct Connect console transition, while John Zilinski reported delays in equipment delivery for the Beckley site's end-of-life battery replacements.

## Details

- **Approval of October Minutes** James Gianato apologized for the delay in sending the October meeting minutes, noting that they had just been sent out to the distribution list. Jason Redden moved to approve the minutes, stating that they looked accurate, and Mark Pickett seconded the motion.
- **SIEC Radio Approvals and Updates** James Gianato provided updates from the SIEC, announcing the approval of several new radios for use on the system, including the Motorola N70 portable and the Harris XL400 portable, which is the only approved fire NFPA rated radio. They also approved the Harris 185 portable and mobile, testing is in place for the 95 portable, a lower-tier dual-band radio, noting that most of these are tier one radios for the state system. James Gianato mentioned that the Motorola N30 is next for testing, likely to be a tier three radio, and that they have test radios in their possession for anyone who would like to inspect them.
- **End-of-Life Radios and Software Updates** James Gianato informed the group that older Motorola APX radios (7500s, 7000s, 4000s, 4500s, and older A version 6000s and 6500s) are approaching end-of-life for software and firmware support, with version 36 as the last supported baseline. James Gianato warned that the 6000 and possibly 6500 radios may also reach end-of-life soon, and they also announced a new Armada software, version stop 17, for those who use it.
- **Harris Radio Programming Software** John Zilinski inquired about the programming software for the newly approved Harris radios, specifically if they still require a complex keying process. James Gianato confirmed that the process is the same, utilizing the RPM2 software and requiring a hardware key that must validate through Harris and the state, and that the SIEC is moving toward mandatory hardware keys across the board for all vendors like Tate, Icon,

and Harris. James Gianato offered assistance with Harris programming, as they are cleared for all Harris programming and possess a long-term key.

- **Radio Programming Assistance and Exercise Planning** John Zilinski and Brian C Bell discussed the need to address programming issues for health department radios, such as those in Monroe County, which arose during a past exercise. James Gianato offered their services to help program any vendor's radios, as they are checked off on every radio programming type in the state except Tate. The group agreed to possibly dedicate time during the March meeting for radio programming. Additionally, John Zilinski is planning to kick off a regional radio exercise again this summer, likely around the end of June.
- **Cyber Security and Radio ID Cleanup** James Gianato noted that the SIEC discussed continued enhancements for cyber security, including adopting a new policy and conducting a threat assessment through CISA, which will affect 911 centers and direct connect locations. With the system currently having around 57,000 subscriber units, James Gianato requested that counties perform an audit to clean up unused radio IDs and update aliases, as unused IDs pose a security risk if the radios are lost or stolen and are still capable of being used on the system. Robert K Bowman inquired about the cleanup, and James Gianato clarified that only radios confirmed lost, stolen, or taken out of service should be removed, and that the state will not turn off any radio without the department's request.
- **System License Compliance and Alias Management** James Gianato reiterated the importance of updating radio aliases for dispatchers and field units to quickly identify the speaker, noting that the system is currently thousands of subscriber units over its license allowed limit with Motorola. James Gianato stated that to keep the system compliant, a nominal subscriber license fee is being added to the cost of all newly purchased radios, but existing radios are exempt from this new fee. John Zilinski added that issues arise when agencies trade radios without updating the ID status or aliases, causing confusion.
- **Hinton Site and Wyoming County Direct Connect Updates** SummersCoOEM (Lloyd) provided an update on the Hinton site construction, reporting that contractors are on site finishing grounding, the tower steel is staged, and MP power is anticipated within two weeks to establish the power connection. SummersCoOEM is optimistic that the tower erection could begin within a month if the weather permits, and they estimate the site will be on the air by September. Tim Ellison expressed satisfaction with Wyoming County's transition to the Direct

Connect console, which has been operational for about a month, allowing communication with neighboring counties without using the phone.

- **Raleigh County Site and Battery Updates** John Zilinski reported that they are still waiting for Versitech to deliver equipment for the Beckley site to replace end-of-life batteries, noting that a delay is due to waiting for one 100-amp breaker since October. James Gianato added that the state is actively trying to secure funding to upgrade DC power plants across the state due to the aging infrastructure and battery systems, which have been identified as one of the system's weakest points.
- **Training and Exercise Discussions** John Zilinski discussed planned radio exercises for the region around the end of June, involving health departments, hospitals, and 911 centers. John Zilinski also proposed a training session on the use of UK-call UTAC channels and their corresponding portable repeater, especially their utility as a communications backup during disaster situations. Brian C Bell shared contact information for David Cone of New River Transit, who had expressed interest in participating in emergency planning and exercises. Mark Pickett committed to trying to get better hospital involvement in the spring radio drill.
- **Siren Conference and Next Meeting Details** James Gianato announced that registration is open for the Siren Conference, scheduled for September 27th through the 29th, and that the committee is working to expand attendance to include dispatchers and field units. The next meeting was scheduled for February 12th at 10:00 a.m. at the Wyoming County 911 Center.

## Suggested next steps

Brian C Bell will reach out to all health departments in the region over the next couple of weeks to determine which radios and counties need programming assistance.

James Gianato will schedule a time to meet up with anyone who would like to look at, touch, or use the new test radios that are in his possession.

John Zilinski will start planning the radio exercise for the region, looking to do it around the end of June, and keep the same format of bringing in health departments, hospitals, and 911 centers.

Brian C Bell will email David Cone's contact information to John Zilinski.

Mark Pickett will try to get better hospital involvement in the radio drill this spring.

Tim Ellison will notify the group when they can have the next meeting at the Wyoming County center.

The POCs and the group will go through the radio IDs, update the lists, and remove IDs that are not in use.

John Zilinski and James Gianato will meet to plan out training for the rest of the year, including a potential half-hour sit-down to discuss the UCALL/UTAC channels and their uses, and to address the NGA 911 stuff.

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