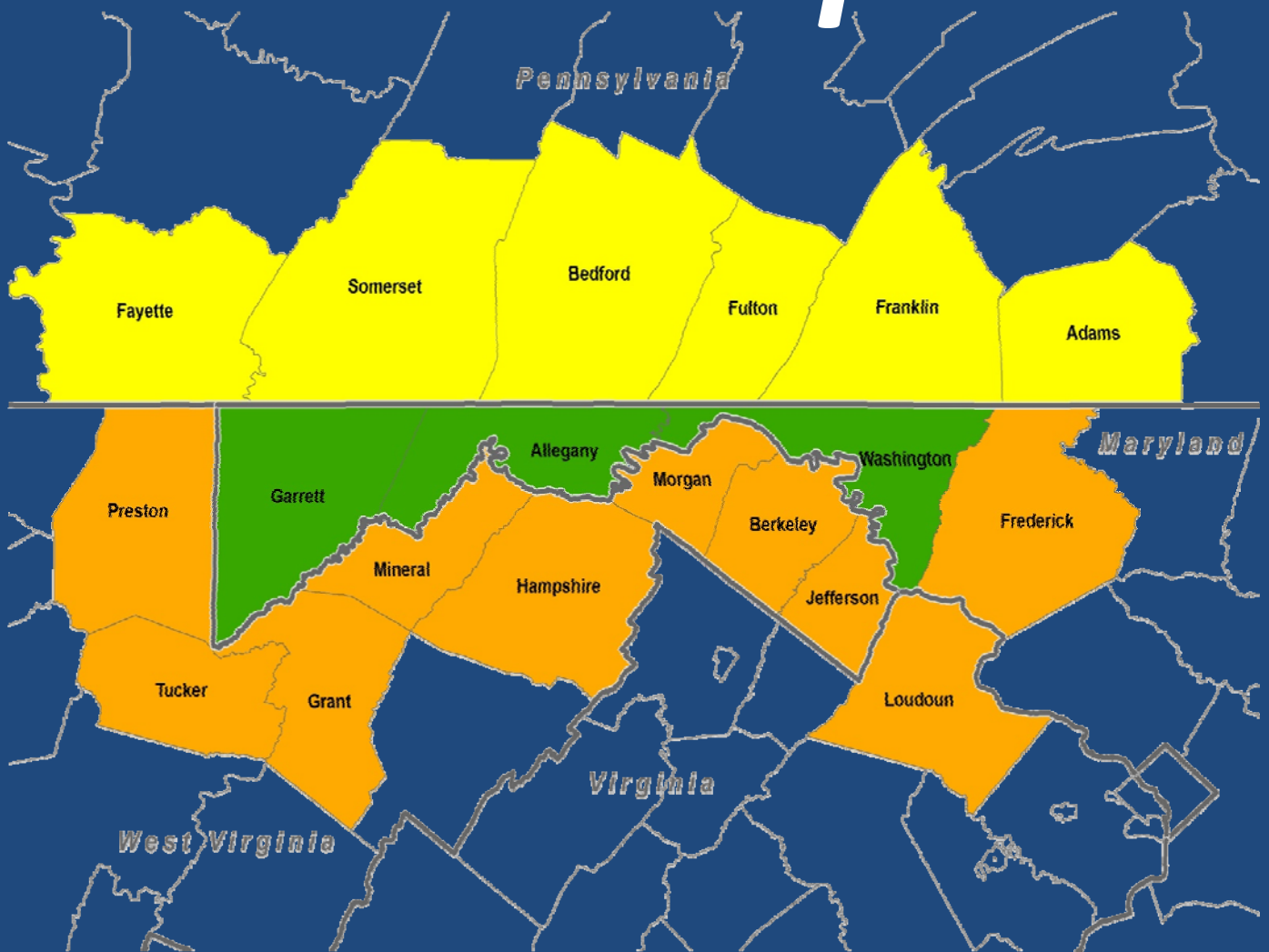


Interoperability Coordination Workshop III



Synopsis

INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATION WORKSHOP III SYNOPSIS

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Opportunities and Challenges Round Table

Washington County & PA Regional Partners (Fulton & Franklin Counties)
<u>Challenges</u>
➤ Only one patchable asset, Low Band, in Fulton County
➤ Fulton County utilizes P25 M & P's
➤ Fulton County is programmed on Franklin County's system & is only to be utilized with mutual aid in Franklin County
<u>Opportunities</u>
➤ UHF national interoperability site on Sidling Hill
➤ An AFG Grant may be obtained to purchase P25 radios, these radios would then be placed into Washington County's system
➤ Washington County could place a consollette at the Tuscarora Site

Washington County & MD/WV Regional Partners (Berkeley, Jefferson, Loudoun & Frederick Counties)
<u>Challenges</u>
➤ Jefferson County has inoperable IPICS
➤ No Inter-SubSystem Interface (ISSI) connections – utilized for system level connections
➤ Receiver and frequencies are needed - dependent upon radio/system
➤ Political issues
➤ Policies and procedures creating confusion for end-users
➤ Coordination for the collaboration of 8TAC, UTAC, VTAC and low band frequencies is needed
➤ End user knowledge of interoperability resources
➤ Lack of grant sources after FFY 2012
<u>Opportunities</u>
➤ Jefferson County has IPICS installed on their rack and is powered
➤ Berkeley County possess IPICS software, router and EM card(s)
➤ ISSI solution – this would remove latency between multiple pathways
➤ MOU's – political bridging
➤ Accurate and consistent policies and procedures could be developed
➤ Loudoun County assets could become available to neighboring jurisdictions in the future
➤ A majority of the jurisdictions are amenable to sharing system keys
➤ As state-wide 800 MHz systems is completed, interoperability will increase

Allegany County & PA Regional Partner (Bedford County)
<u>Challenges</u>
➤ Lack of interoperability options with Pennsylvania
➤ Lack of mutually shareable tower sites and no microwave or fiber connection opportunities
➤ Lack of daily interaction with Pennsylvania
➤ Understanding of each jurisdictions' communications capabilities and structure (re-channel availability)

Allegany County & PA Regional Partner (Bedford County)**Opportunities**

- Collaboration of counties across state lines could aid in the ability to obtain grant funds for regional-multistate project(s)
- Bedford County programming National Interoperability Channels into their radios could provide interoperability between Allegany and Bedford County

Allegany County & WV Regional Partners (Mineral, Hampshire & Morgan Counties)**Challenges**

- West Virginia transiting from VHF to P25
- Lack of PSAP to PSAP communication between states
- All counties in different stages of transition
- Links along the borders are missing, UTAC would be utilized however Allegany County radios are not repeated

Opportunities

- Mineral County could place equipment on Allegany County Westernport tower site –Repeated UTAC channel could be established there
- Mineral, Hampshire and Morgan counties possess IPICS software, router and EM card(s)
- Repeated UTAC channel may be added to the Capon Tower site
- West Virginia radio could be added to Allegany PSAP - intercom between counties could be created

Garrett County & PA Regional Partner (Fayette County)**Challenges**

- 800 MHz utilized in Fayette County
- VHF utilized in Garrett County

Opportunities

- 800 MHz TAC channels available in Garrett County –patching with Fayette County is possible
- Fayette County's base station contains VTAC channel

Garrett County & WV Regional Partners (Preston, Tucker & Grant Counties)**Challenges**

- Funding issues
- Political issues
- Connectivity issues

Opportunities

- Garrett could install equipment on Greigs Knob and Cadell Towers to expand the coverage area in western Garrett County
- Garrett could utilize Bruceton Mills tower site for coverage in the northern portion of the county
- Preston, Grant & Mineral Counties may be able utilize WAGIN thru Garrett County by utilizing the fiber link connecting the Thayerville Tower Site to the West Virginia towers located in close proximity
- Grant funding for ready-made projects should be leveraged between the counties, across state lines

Overall Comments:

- West Virginia counties currently possess IPICS systems; however lack the technical assistance for installation.
- End-User training is Pennsylvania's largest challenge.
- Utilize resources each county already contains.
- Coordination between jurisdictions is key for interoperability solutions.

Next Steps:

- Coordination and organization of future meetings. Establish who is to be included in future meetings.
- Organize a workshop to develop interoperability policies and governance for interstate communication.
- Each County should continue reaching out to neighboring jurisdictions to ensure interoperability is achieved.
- Ensure FCC frequency licenses are completed as needed.
- Schedule to attend neighboring interoperability workgroup meetings, i.e. RIC Region III and WAGIN meetings.
- Establish and coordinate tri-state training, i.e. COML training.

Attendee Listing	
Loudoun County, Virginia	Scott Edmonds
Frederick County, Maryland	Chip Jewell
Preston County, West Virginia	Duane Hamilton
	Justin Wolfe
Morgan County, West Virginia	David Michael
	Greg Gano
Tucker County, West Virginia	Darla Stemple
	Patrick Gray
	Cindy Murphy
Hampshire County, West Virginia	Michael Crouse
	Jerry Loudin
Grant County, West Virginia	Peggy Alt
	Vanessa Strawderman
Jefferson County, West Virginia	Barbara J. Miller
	Jeffrey Polczynski
Mineral County, West Virginia	Bill Hentosh
Berkeley County, West Virginia	Chris Fincham
	Steve Canby
	Stephen Allen
Fayette County, Pennsylvania	Roy A. Shipley
	Tony Alviar
Bedford County, Pennsylvania	Dave Cubbison
	Pam Corley
Fulton County, Pennsylvania	Sid McConahy
	Ruth Strait
Allegheny County, Maryland	Dick Devore
	Roger Bennett
	Susan Lee
	John Herath
	Jeremy Jack
	Mike Powell
Washington County, Maryland	Phillip Via
	Kevin Lewis
	Charlie Summers
	Sam Anderson
	Pete Loewenheim
Garrett County, Maryland	Bardona Woods
	Alan Crawford
	Steve Smith
	Brad Frantz
	Nathaniel Watkins
State Highway Administration	Virginia Smith
	Justin Orendorf
	Darien Manley
	Terry Cain
	Eric Minnick

Attendee Listing	
Maryland Emergency Management Agency	Gary Zamerski
	Erica Carlson
U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications	Robert Pedersen
	Nancy Dzoba
Pennsylvania Office of Public Safety Administration	Frank Moore
West Virginia Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management	Sanford Green
West Virginia DHHR State Trauma & EMS	Brian Myers
South Central Task Force	Steve Shaver
ARINC	Dave Chapman
Maryland Statewide Interoperability Program Management Office	Ray Lehr
	Lori Stone
S&S Planning and Design	Michele King