

# Transcript

October 16, 2024, 3:16PM

□ **Audet, Cally** started transcription

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 0:04

OK, I see Kelly has started the recording.

Thank you, Kelly.

I think we're ready to go.

So I am calling this meeting of the public Safety Communications Task force to order.

It's 1116 on October 16th, 2024 and I'm Barb Neal. As a reminder, the meetings being recorded and that recording will be posted to the Task force web page following the meeting.

**WP** **White, Paul** 0:29

Stop.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 0:30

Let's start with our usual roll call of Task Force members. If you could verbally acknowledge your presence when I call you Nick your name.

That would be great. Jen Morrison.

OK.

Paul white.

**WP** **White, Paul** 0:44

I am here.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 0:45

Michael Wright.

**MW** **Michael Wright** 0:49

I'm here.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 0:51

K Jim Mac.

Good. And I am looking for Ron Kumitz.

I do not see him yet.

OK. And Mike Dundas is not able to join us today. So maybe Ron will pop in in a minute.

OK.

So also joining us today is Kali audit as our administrative support person and I'll share with with everyone now that Kelly has let us know that she'll need to step away from her role as the task force clerk in November so that she can focus on her real. Job as the Homeland Security program manager at the Vermont Homeland Security Unit.

So Kelly, I think we might get one more meeting out of you.

We've got one more in October.

**AC Audet, Cally** 1:43

Yeah, on the 30th.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 1:43

Before you leave us.

But I will take a moment now just to say how much we truly appreciate the commitment and dedication you've shown to the task force over this past. What year and a half almost.

Thanks for everything you've done to keep us organized and on track. And of course, we wish you all the best.

**AC Audet, Cally** 2:04

Thank you very much. I appreciate that.

**DA Dominick Arcuri** 2:06

Thank you very much, Kelly.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 2:07

Yeah, I see some applause going on.

**AC Audet, Cally** 2:08  
Thank you.

**DA Dominick Arcuri** 2:10  
Yeah.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 2:11  
And so now I'll, I'll introduce also Callie's replacement, Emily Malaney.  
Emily, I hope I'm pronouncing your name correctly.  
Emily is going to shadow Callie through this meeting today.  
Emily works at the Vermont Crime Information Center. As I understand it.  
We welcome you, Emily today.

**ME Mullaney, Emily** 2:35  
Thank you.  
Yes, you're saying my name right?

**NB Neal, Barbara** 2:37  
OK, good. Kelly mentioned that you will be shadowing her. Of course today, maybe at the next meeting as well, and that she's giving you some training and background information about the task force.  
But don't hesitate to reach out to me or Commissioner Morrison if you have any questions as you're getting up to speed, we're happy to help and thank you for offering to help us out.

**ME Mullaney, Emily** 3:00  
Thank you.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 3:02  
Wait. OK. So on with the roll call.  
We have also with us our project management partners, Rick and Dom from Telivates.  
Good morning.

**DA Dominick Arcuri** 3:14  
Morning.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 3:15  
And we have.  
From mission critical we have Phil Sisk.  
Good morning.  
And I'm not seeing Jason.

**PS Phillip Sisk** 3:24  
Good morning.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 3:27  
On the call.

**PS Phillip Sisk** 3:27  
I'm sorry Jason couldn't.  
He could not be here this morning. He had a conflict.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 3:30  
OK.  
OK.  
So it's Phil Sisk from mission critical. Good morning.  
And then it looks like we have one member of the public, perhaps.  
I'm seeing a username of ENISLED.  
Would you care to introduce yourself and any affiliation you care to share?  
If you're speaking, we're not hearing you.  
Perhaps doesn't want to introduce themselves in that as spine.  
All right, let's move on to approval of the agenda.  
The agenda was distributed to Task Force members by e-mail.  
It's also available on the web page our web page. I have one.  
Change I would like to propose that would be to to include under the regional town hall and public listening session agenda item.  
Under that agenda item, I'd like to also begin to discuss.

The subject specific workshops that are being planned for later this fall, so I'm going to lump that all under the agenda of that agenda item.

Are there any other changes that people would like to propose?

Is there a motion to approve the agenda with a change I just discussed discussed?

**JM** **James Mack** 5:03

So moved second.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 5:05

Thank you.

Thank you, Jim.

Thank you, Jen.

Thank you, Jim.

Any discussion?

All in favor of approving the changes to the agenda as discussed.

Raise your hand or indicate by saying aye.

All righty.

Thank you.

That the changed agenda then is approved.

So let's move on to approval of the Minutes.

These would be the minutes from October 2nd, 2024. The regular meeting #35.

Any changes needed to these minutes?

Is there a motion to approve those minutes?

**MW** **Michael Wright** 5:47

Move.

**JM** **James Mack** 5:48

Make a motion to.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 5:48

Sure. There you go, Jim's.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 5:50

There you go.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 5:51  
Jim's got the motion. I'll take the 2nd.

**JM James Mack** 5:51  
Second it.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 5:53  
You guys are fighting it out today, so any any discussion?

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 5:55  
Yeah.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 5:59  
OK.  
All in favor of approving the minutes from October 2nd? Raise your hand or indicate by saying aye.  
Hands are up. Excellent. So the Minutes are approved and we will move on to the regional town hall slash public listening session slash.  
Workshop planning meetings.  
I'll just give a little introductory stuff here.  
On each of those things, and then we can discuss where things stand as we go along.  
So the regional town halls, as you know, have all been completed.  
Mission critical is continuing to slice and dice the data we gathered from those town halls, along with the information, of course, that they received from the questionnaires that were sent out to dispatch centers. Also on the regional town hall follow up.  
I know that Rick and Dom have had.  
Some follow up conversations with individuals from those those meetings to better understand specific issues and or perspectives.  
Anything from anyone else to add on the regional town hall topic?  
OK.  
Then let's turn to the planning for the two community listening sessions.  
These are the sessions of course, that are intended to engage directly with the public.  
We have the two sessions scheduled actually for next week, so October 22nd, which

is Tuesday from 11:30 to 1:30 and then again on October 24th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

The announcements went out about these sessions.

Via the DPS Department of Public Safety Communications team, there were social media posts, e-mail distribution list.

We used a front porch forum distribution to hopefully engage with many, many thousands of people.

I did find that Front Porch Forum announcement in in my town's front porch forum on the October 14th issue, but I think it was going to hit at different times starting last Sunday.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 8:16

So Barb, I just want to jump in there and say that the the deal with Front Porch Forum, which was not inexpensive, I'd like to point out is that it will, it will come up in various feeds until it reaches 648,000 views that.

Basically a view for every citizen in the state.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 8:33

Ow.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 8:39

So hopefully that's effective, but I also really want to make sure that folks on this call and beyond are clear.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 8:41

That's great.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 8:46

That there is going to be a third listening session, so a couple things with the date is not nailed down, but it will be in November, probably towards the end before Thanksgiving, but.

I think it's gonna be the week of the 18th, but we don't have a date yet.

And that will be.

Advertised slightly differently, not not necessarily. With the same to the same audience, but we have added American Sign Language interpretation for the

meetings next week.

So we have interpreters lined up.

They are looking for direction from mission critical on how to access the meeting and they there was small requirements they needed to be able to be able to be pinned for the people who wanted to be able to.

Watch the interpreter.

We've also changed the landing page for the two sessions to ask if people have language access needs, and if so, to identify what language they need.

And we're going to take that information if there are folks who need accommodation.

There is a closed caption.

Ability to be translated in one of many languages on the platform.

It's not ideal.

So for that third session, we're going to invite anyone with language access needs, and we're going to be translating the announcement of the meeting and sending it to groups that we know have interest and and work with people who speak their first language is something other than English.

So that we can try to.

Engage this population, which is a vulnerable population when it comes to emergency communications, and make sure that we hear what they want.

From a future emergency communication system. So there is a lot of work behind the scenes on my team happening relative to being accessible to anyone, particularly more vulnerable Vermonters, and there will be a date and time announced for a third listening session that will have as many trans.

That we as we need and they can all be in separate breakout rooms, but participating in the meeting.

And the and the meeting content in real time.

So stay tuned for more detail on that.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 11:05

It's great. Excellent.

Paul, go ahead.

**WP** **White, Paul** 11:09

Yeah. As I mentioned to you the other day, I had not seen anything on front porch



form or anywhere. If I if I wasn't aware of the listening sessions as a member of the task force, I wouldn't be aware at all.

While we're talking here, I just went on to Front Porch forum and searched and I did find of course you have access to your own town. Plus the surrounding town. So I did find it listed in the Berlin Front Porch Forum printed on October, printed it ran on. October 9th.

But it still has not appeared in the Berry Town form or any of the others that I have access to, so it's.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 11:43

Well, I hope we haven't gotten to 650,000.

**JM James Mack** 11:44

I hasn't landed on mine either.

**DA Dominick Arcuri** 11:48

Yeah.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 11:51

I don't know quite how how it works, how they how they divvy up where it goes out to.

I suppose that would be a question for the for the communications people, Jen, if we wanted to know that.

Jim, were you saying something?

**JM James Mack** 12:05

Yeah, I was just looking on my front porch forum and I'm not seeing anything either.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 12:12

Interesting I I did learn from Jason from mission critical this morning that we have.

I think it's about 25 people registered for the first session.

And I think it's fewer than 10 right now for the second session.

And there are some duplicates Jen noticed so.

It's hard to know where those where those are coming from, right?

How people are becoming aware of them but.

I don't know.

Do we need to do anything further as far as understanding how front porch form is working, or are we?

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 12:47

So I I did push the notice out to every single incumbent, right?

You know, right now legislature, both in the House and the Senate, and asked them to amplify this message through their channels. Many of them do.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 12:56

Mm hmm.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 13:03

E-mail group pushes with some periodicity.

I did see some reps post it as their part of their weekly update that they do on Facebook.

I mean, sorry, not Facebook.

Well, yes, I saw it on Facebook too, but to front porch forum.

So we also alerted all of the media weeklies dailies.

Print, radio and TV, so I'm not sure what else we could do to get the word out, but if folks have ideas, we we ask the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to send it to all town managers and town administrators to put into whatever communication they push.

Out. So if you guys have other ideas, happy to pursue them. But we we really tried to get the word out there.

**WP White, Paul** 13:53

Yeah, I think I mean another Ave. is through the Regional Planning Commission's, but I think they're only going to push it to the same group that the league of Cities and Towns pushed it to to the town officials.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 14:02

Yeah, and we did.

They should have gotten it through Vermont emergency management's social media

pushes and they they they have a lot of connection through those different platforms.

**WP** **White, Paul** 14:06

Right.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 14:16

OK.

All right.

Well, it sounds like it's been a thorough outreach and I'm glad that your team was able to help us with that 'cause. That's a that's a heavy lift as far as I'm concerned, so. So there is a meeting I in the works for tomorrow, I believe where Paul, Jen and I at Televate will kind of finalize the planning and mission critical.

Sorry, it will finalize the planning for these sessions.

Did receive Cali received all the responses?

About task force of it member availability to attend each of those sessions, so I will compile that and get a schedule out to everyone.

With who's going to be where or in which session?

Remember, we do need to keep the task force membership to three or less.

And so watch for that e-mail. We'll also send a link to the registration landing page, because whichever session you're, you're going to take part in, you should register for so that you get the link to the meeting on your calendar.

So I'll be putting that all together and and we'll go from there and then obviously let me know if schedule's changed.

And and we can work with that as well.

So anything else, go ahead Paul.

**WP** **White, Paul** 15:43

Yeah, maybe I'm maybe.

I probably forgot to write something down, but I don't have anything on my calendar for tomorrow and if there is something scheduled I'm not sure I can make it.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 15:50

No.

I think there was just an e-mail going back trying to back and forth, trying to schedule something.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 16:00

I think we decided on 8:00 AM.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 16:00

For 8:00.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 16:01

8:00 AM was one of the only holes that we all had at the same time tomorrow.

**WP White, Paul** 16:05

No, I might.

I might be able to do that actually, if it's that early.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 16:08

So MCP televate.

I think that's an MCP meeting.

So if they can get that meeting request out, we will.

Meeting to discuss the run of show for the listening sessions and we. And so yeah, that that is supposed to be at 8:00 tomorrow morning.

**WP White, Paul** 16:21

OK.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 16:26

So Phil, if you could have Jason or Bonnie push that meeting?

Invite out. That would be helpful.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 16:35

Excellent. OK.

Anything else from anyone on the community listening sessions?

Rick, was that your hand up or you're just moving about?

**RB Rick Burke** 16:47

Yeah. No, my bad. Sorry about that.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 16:49

OK.

Alright, OK.

Let's move on, then to talking about the the series of subject specific workshops that are going to be scheduled later this fall.

So the purpose of the workshops is really to to delve a bit deeper into specific topics that have come up as we've had all the stakeholder engagement.

I do have a list of topics that have been kicked around.

We wanna see if those topics are.

Are working for task force members and also discuss sort of the order and timing of each workshop.

So.

One of the suggestions, and I may kick this over to you Jen, because you had some good ideas around all this, but one of the suggestions that was talked about yesterday was to start with a workshop about lessons learned.

From previous regionalization attempts, hopefully to identify and avoid.

Any potential pitfalls that others have encountered, or at least know what the pitfalls we might encounter are?

So that was one idea.

There's also a question around.

When do we do these workshops so that you know what is the discussion point?

Is it going to be what mission critical has come up?

With for.

As they are bringing the the development of the potential plans together or where are we with that discussion?

So, Jen, you had some other thoughts on this?

Do you want to add something here?

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 18:35

I thought that the timing of the sessions.

Probably made sense to be thoughtful about, for instance, one of the sessions we

had discussed having those lessons learned from prior efforts to regulate, and it seems to me like that should be the first workshop we hold, right, so that we can not repeat.

The OR try to find solutions to some of the roadblocks and that's recognizing some of that information in whatever report.

Comes at the end of this process that that's included. I mean for instance, it is a very real problem to try and take multiple existing communication centres and smash the personnel together who all have different.

Labor unions or contracts, conditions of work, salary, seniority, how they bid for shifts.

The logistics of bringing personnel together in a new entity I know is a formidable 1. So I think to me it makes sense to have that type of workshop 1st and get those lessons out there so we can start either problem solving or at least recognize them in.

The report.

The order of play.

Beyond that, I didn't have a lot of input into the middle, but.

There had been a suggestion that the workshops on what you.

Users end users want for a CAD system would be the first ones out of the gate and in my mind those are the last ones out of the gate.

That is an operational level window dressing that is not foundational to creating a regional or statewide emergency communication system.

So that my my two cents is that the CAD would be at the end. The lessons learned would be at the front and then whatever other individual workshop topics this group decides is most appropriate would be.

In the middle.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 20:45

OK, great. And some of those other topics that have been brought up, so we've talked about the lesson learned topic and the CAD topic, which maybe should Jen suggestion at least would be for it to go at the end. We've talked about a telecommunicator focused or operations focused.

Workshop, you know, directed at supervisors, dispatchers, call takers.

Maybe at two different sessions for, you know, director level and.

On the front lines level, that would cover staffing, training, operational standards,

that type of thing.

So that's that whole spiel was one topic.

Telecommunicator focused coverage topics.

So coverage LMR cellular or perhaps separately?

And interoperability is another topic. Governance funding.

So let's start. Let's start here.

Does everyone agree that lessons learned would be a good first first stop?

**JM** **James Mack** 21:52

Absolutely.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 21:53

OK.

Michael, what do you think?

**MW** **Michael Wright** 22:03

Yeah, definitely. I think that's we have to start there.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 22:07

OK.

**WP** **White, Paul** 22:08

Will some will somehow have to identify those areas where it has been attempted and try to coax those folks into coming and participating with us.

But yes, for sure.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 22:20

On that front, I had Chittenden County, of course, and then the central Vermont effort.

Probably other people know of more that we could brainstorm those offline, I suppose.

On who we want to invite.

**WP** **White, Paul** 22:35

It's not just what has been tried and failed, but also what has been tried and succeeded.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 22:45  
I hadn't even thought of that.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 22:45  
Point.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 22:46  
Good point, Paul.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 22:48  
That's how negatively really approach things.  
That's not good, OK.  
Alright, OK.

**DA Dominick Arcuri** 22:53  
Yeah. Yeah, I was gonna.  
I was gonna make the same point Paul did. There have been some successes, certainly that we heard about in the town halls.  
St.  
Albans area Lamoille County.  
You know, areas in the southern part of the state as well, so.  
Yeah, I think it'd be lessons learned both on the good side and the and the bad side.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 23:21  
OK, great.

**DA Dominick Arcuri** 23:23  
And the other point I want to make is that I agree that this it makes sense certainly to be the first one because we don't really need a lot of information from the data gathering sessions to really.  
You know, get valuable input out of this.



We can.

We can pretty much do this anytime.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 23:46

OK.

I'm just making a note here schedule for anytime.

And then so then the other topics though we we do think it might be dependent on that data gathering and that inventory list, right?

I mean that would provide a a foundation for the conversation to everybody would have a common understanding of where we are now because we would have that data.

So that would put the timing of these other things out further and I don't have it right in my mind right now when that would be, but.

Dom, do you know offhand when we might?

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 24:27

Well, the the initial contract says that.

The inventory report should be done by October 25th. I I believe that we have heard that there may be a request for an extension, but I have not received a request for an extension on that.

Let's just say it's the it's two weeks later than that and it's no, whatever.

That would be November 6th, 7th, something like that.

So that means that any subsequent workshops other than the one we just talked about on lessons learned would logically happen after the date.

Because I agree with you, Barb, that until we can look at the landscape as it exists today and understand all of the, the, the picture that MCP has been pulling together, it's gonna be difficult to have.

Fact based conversations about the current status.

Of LMR coverage, cell coverage and other things.

The the only other topics like workshop topics that I suspect could happen before we see the data are if we were going to do one specific to brainstorming governance models.

Or one specific to brainstorming funding models, so those.

Two topics I'm not sure we need to be dependent on seeing the inventory and the you know the the.

The data collection.

But the other ones strike me as we do need to see that before we get too deep into them.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 26:12

Would we need the the information from the questionnaires and the input from the town halls to support the OR not to support, but to lay that foundation again for the governance?

I mean, we'll learn about the various forms of governance out there.

**JM** **James Mack** 26:27

Thank you.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 26:28

From that and and about the various funding mechanisms.

But you're not seeing that it would necessarily be worth waiting for that. Is that what I'm hearing?

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 26:42

I think that the the information about governance and funding are not going to come from the town halls because I don't think we dove deep enough into how each of the existing entities bill or.

Maybe that information is coming from the surveys.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 26:56

Right.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 26:58

Maybe that's coming from the on site visits. I'm not sure so.

I guess what when I think about the funding mechanism, I don't necessarily think about how any one agency is doing it.

I think about how this as a state not not just a state entity, but across the entire state.

How should we be doing it in an equitable and sustainable manner?

So I guess I was thinking bigger than the current landscape.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 27:29

Well, and it wouldn't. Yeah, exactly.

It wouldn't limit our discussion to the current landscape. There may be other.

Other ways to to do that?

So I I don't.

I guess I could.

I could see those happening before as well.

Before the data is is altogether.

So so I made that note governance and funding after lessons learned.

As two separate workshops.

Is that the intent or do we want those together?

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 28:10

I think this the people that you pull in for subject matter expertise are gonna be very different for funding.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 28:15

OK.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 28:15

We're gonna have to have.

Some some people who really know about taxing fees.

I just don't see them being exactly the same groups, but I might be wrong.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 28:27

OK.

**WP** **White, Paul** 28:28

And I think either one could be a lengthy discussion and would go overtime.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 28:35

OK.

Fair enough. All right.

So that leaves the Telecommunicator focused discussion, which may include CAD,

the coverage discussion till after the inventory work is done. So that would put those sessions the week of November 18th, which we're already going to have the third community less listening session that week we think.

Or the first week of December.

What I've got written down.

That all makes sense.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 29:15

It does, and I think this is all, you know, very drafty.

This is a draft plan, right?

**WP** **White, Paul** 29:20

OK.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 29:22

In thinking about the fact that there's going to be multiple workshops.

I wonder what this other task force members think about.

A task force member being affiliated with at least one workshop so that Barb and I aren't trying to corral all seven or eight or nine of the workshops that each task force member is responsible for being the primary task force liaison for one of the topics.

And that is the go to person for televate and MCP to interface with around that.

That's an idea of, like, adopt A session, adopt A workshop.

What do you think about that team?

**WP** **White, Paul** 30:14

A game.

I guess, I guess we'd, I'd like us to agree on, you know, what's the what's the role of the task force member versus what's the role of MCP versus you know what you know what's expected.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 30:28

If they go like the regional town halls and what I anticipate will happen in the Community listening session, we're more.

I mean, it's led by those were led by mission critical.

They have a really good.

Facilitation team, I think as far as drawing information out of people and keeping the conversation going.

So I kind of felt like I was in listening mode. You know, the entire time that I was at those regional town halls.

**WP** **White, Paul** 30:52

Right.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 30:58

It was logistical work on the front end, the the time, the date, the see now for workshops, we have to curate a group of subject matter experts, right?

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 31:01

I see.

Yeah, OK. Yeah.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 31:11

This is not a cast. Your net widely publicly and see who shows up.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 31:12

Mm hmm.

**WP** **White, Paul** 31:14

Right.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 31:16

This is getting the right right people around the table to help inform.

Our our SMEs of the art of the possible and.

Concerns and stuff like that.

So I do think there's a little more.

Front end work for these rather than just making sure we get a public announcement out there.

**WP** **White, Paul** 31:42

And we haven't come to an A conclusion on whether they're going to be virtual or in person.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 31:48

Have not come to a conclusion on that.

**WP White, Paul** 31:50

Yeah. OK.

I think some of them it will be, you know, like talking about the very first one. It would be difficult to maybe not difficult, but it it won't be necessarily easy to get everybody together in person if we're talking about lessons learned in Chittenden County, lessons learned in.

Washington County lessons learned in Lamoille somebody's going to have to travel and will add to the difficulty in in coaxing people to come.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 32:20

Yeah, I think there's a a valid discussion to be had about whether in person makes sense given that we're trying to pull people from all corners of the state.

So totally open that to that discussion.

**WP White, Paul** 32:33

I mean, don't get me wrong, I very much prefer an inerson meeting.

I think they're a lot more roductive, but when we're begging for people to come participate in our discussions, we may have to make it easier for them to get there.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 32:49

I agree with that.

I would. My preference would be virtual. For that reason, I think it encourages participation.

Really, I would suggest that for all of them, I think.

Ask for members. Agree or.

**MW Michael Wright** 33:15

I don't have a choice now. I think everybody's in that mode of trying to.

Everyone is doing so many meetings now that you know it's impossible to get to

everything in person.

So you I think you have to have a blend of in person and virtual.

I think we're in the world now that you know, we just were forced to, even though I agree too in person, is a preferred option.

But I think we're beyond that and especially as a statewide, having a statewide meetings, I think it would be impossible to think.

Gonna get anybody there to to the in person ones.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 33:50

Mm hmm.

So frankly, that serves.

That saves a lot of logistics in the sense of booking rooms and all of that too. So you know you have a meeting and it's it's virtual and that's that.

Are we ready to make a decision about who's adopting which topic, or do we want to think about that and revisit next meeting?

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 34:23

I will volunteer to adopt the first one. The lessons learned and I think as long as we as soon as we start getting a timeline built which will require consulting with Jason and Bonnie who are not here and Rick and Don as soon as we start putting a.

Timeline together. I think that's going to drive which of our task force members can even commit to that.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 34:44

Yeah. Yeah, good point.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 34:46

So let's leave it as an item to come back to and possibly resolved before our next regular meeting.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 34:55

That sounds good.

OK.

All right then.

Anything else that we wanna be talking about? About the workshops today?

Sounds good.

We will move on then to public comment. Is there anyone on the line who would like to offer public comments today?

Hearing nothing, we will move on to project updates Dom. I'll hand it over to you.

**DA** **Dominick Arcuri** 35:34

Thank you, Barb, and good morning. Task Force members and everyone.

As, as we've heard today so far, the a lot of the ongoing work for the project is focusing on the Community listening sessions which are coming up as part mentioned to next week. And also I'm planning for the workshops we also have of course in the background been.

Doing a lot of analysis of the data.

That was collected through the town halls through the data questionnaires and all the on site dispatch center visits.

We are looking for some initial data on that in terms of how that is going to be put together and what the inventory and assessment report will look like. I know that analysis is ongoing.

Jason did send me some.

A little bit of data yesterday in terms of a beginning outline on the dispatch information, which essentially shows the.

Addressing each of the different dispatch centers throughout the state, identifying. The organization.

The funding sources, public safety, the technology systems.

And the communications networks.

That we do anticipate getting further information on the outline and that information towards the end of this week and we'll certainly pass that on.

When? When? That's when that's received.

In terms of the.

Taking a quick look at the overall schedule.

I'll I'll share that. As I mentioned, well, of course we have completed the the workshops and the site visits we are currently in the analysis phase where we're analyzing and accumulating all that data.

I know the data from the data questionnaires, the 32. I believe that we received.

Were has been all consolidated and that is being analyzed.

And the primary item on the schedule is the delivery of the system inventory and



assessment report. As Jen mentioned earlier, the requirement for that via the contract is 25th of this month.

Starting to feel a little bit of pressure on that on that date given we don't have a draft at this point, but we are hopeful that that will be.

Along quickly, we have identified the Community listening sessions on here and then. A tentative schedule for the workshops.

That'll probably be pushed out as we mentioned into the November time frame. So I'll look to update that over the next couple of weeks.

That is where we currently stand. And as I mentioned, ongoing efforts, you know, over the next couple of weeks prior to the next meeting, we'll we will hold the Community listening sessions and have an outline, hopefully a draft of the inventory and assessment report and continue that \*\*\*\*.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 39:28

OK.

Great. Thanks Tom.

Phil, we usually get a mission critical update here are you?

Have things to share.

**PS** **Phillip Sisk** 39:41

My horizon mute.

I think Dom did a good job of hitting the highlights.

I know he had a conversation with Jason.

Yesterday as well, I think you know I can.

You know, I know from talking to Jason, the main focus is as we as you mentioned is finishing up the analysis and the data collection report and also the development of the wireless guys mapping out the propagation assessments.

Those are the.

Two add ups that they're focusing on for the next couple of weeks.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 40:16

OK, great.

Any questions for televana?

Mission critical.

OK.

Alright then.

Thank you.

All new business.

Does anyone have new business for today?

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 40:33

I wanted to just drop into this group the IT was pointed out to us.

I.

I don't even remember who did at this point now, but there was a article in Digger about a piece of legislation from last session that convened a group of legislators, Senator Hardy and I believe, Representative McCarthy from House and Senate Gov OPS were part of it, plus I.

Believe appropriations folks.

Is that what you recall from reading it?

Are convening in the off season.

Talk about.

Counting the issue of lack of county governance and government at the county level and how that has left many communities, say, for example, in the wake of a disaster trying to interface with a federal entity like FEMA, how it has potentially left some communities at a disadvantage.

It seems like this group, including MCP and TELIVATE should be aware that that's ongoing work.

And at some point, I gotta believe that intersects with the funding and governance piece of this project. If they come up with any paths forward.

So I just wanted to mention that.

Do you remember what the act number was?

Was it 129 Barber Paul?

**NB Neal, Barbara** 41:52

I think it was.

It was S 159, but I I think it was act 181.

That's pretty much a guess.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 42:01

K.

It's probably in this dumpster fire of an inbox somewhere, but there there is an article in Vt Digger that speaks about it and and has some information.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 42:06  
Yes.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 42:14  
So I think that's something for the group to be aware of.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 42:17  
Yeah, and 181 is completely wrong.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 42:18  
The other.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 42:19  
So sorry, I'm not sure.

**WP** **White, Paul** 42:22  
It's act 118.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 42:22  
Whatever.  
Now you had the numbers right?

**WP** **White, Paul** 42:25  
Act 1/18, right?

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 42:26  
I did.  
I mean, really does the order matter?

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 42:27  
Way to go.  
No details.

**WP** **White, Paul** 42:29

No, no, it's the bill.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 42:30

Come on, you know 191911.

**WP** **White, Paul** 42:31

The bill is S1 S 159, but yeah, yeah.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 42:35

Does he order the numbers matter.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 42:36

Right, right.

Close enough.

Alright, well good.

I do think it's important that everyone be aware of the of that work that's going on and yes, so thanks for mentioning that.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 42:51

Yes. And then the other thing I wanted to mention is that.

Ron and I both being Islanders intended to meet last night with the fire chiefs and the sheriff. Last night it turned out being 3 fire, three of the five fire chiefs in the sheriff, one of the fire chiefs that came to the meeting also provides the radio support.

And communication support for the two EMS providers up in the island, so they felt that that was covered the the EMS chiefs were invited as well.

It was a bit of a foray into what I called in my mind, a micro town hall where it was very specifically the emergency service providers in a rural county that may or may not have been able to come to a larger town hall may or may not.

Have wanted to talk in front of elected officials and others.

And I thought the information that we discussed was not earth shattering or particularly new.

But I do have some information that I'll pass along to televideen MCP.

About what we talked about.

In terms of their top priorities for a future system, the ground we covered included.

What do they like about the current arrangement?

What do they not like and why?

Information on known dead zones for cellular and radio.

Informations about how they currently collaborate with other agencies and.

When you think about a future public safety communications plan, what are your top priorities?

So you know it with nothing.

Earth shattering but just an opportunity to be with our local colleagues up there and

I I want to wait to talk to Ron after after we sift through the information that there's one other chief that wasn't able to come that I would just want him to weigh in.

On the the notes I took, but maybe it's an idea in other counties because it seemed to be much more of a fireside chat. The sheriff brought pizza.

It was less than an hour and a half and everyone.

Spoke candidly because it was just a cadre of first responder types.

And there might be value in doing some micro town halls.

Maybe that's what the workshops are, but those are more topically based as opposed to regionally based.

So throwing it out is food for thought.

I was thinking particularly like in Addison County or even some more rural counties up in the Northeast Kingdom where folks will really get an opportunity to know that they spoke.

To task force and they had voice.

**NB**

**Neal, Barbara** 45:39

Yes, I see nods.

I see.

Nods from Task Force members. So sounds like.

A good idea?

I think the tricky part, well, at least for me, maybe it's just 'cause I'm not.

As familiar with each and every on the ground response agency right would be identifying who were who were talking to.

But I would think Task force membership could.

Identify those folks.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 46:08

And I'm suggesting we have to do it in every county, but I think we're going to. I think my deputy Commissioner and I would like to.

Have have this type of conversation up in the Northeast Kingdom with a couple different counties.

We're doing some other public safety work up in, say, the St. Johnsbury area.

And it jives nicely with being accessible to folks up there, so.

More to come from my side, but I'm just planting the seed with you. If you have the desire to do that in your county, it obviously does not and should not involve a quorum of the task force members.

It it should be you.

One task, maybe 2 Task Force members and the first respond leadership of first responder agencies and go from there but happy to talk offline if anyone else that thinks that's something they might want to lean into let me know.

And I'll tell you, tell you how Ron and I envisioned it.

And you can do your own thing, but I think that the more ways we can receive information from the people who are actually impacted by these decisions, the better.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 47:23

Points.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 47:26

Oh geez, I was supposed to be on the presser 4 minutes ago.

**NB Neal, Barbara** 47:27

Comments any?

Yep, you're late.

**MJ Morrison, Jennifer** 47:30

Nice job, Jen. Winning.

I got to go.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 47:33

All right, John. Thank you very much. Bye.

**MJ** **Morrison, Jennifer** 47:35

Bye.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 47:39

OK.

So all right.

Anything else for new business?

You can kick that idea around for a while. And as Jen said, reach out to her for ideas on how to put things into motion.

If if you find that a value so.

OK. Confirming the next meeting, we are on the books for October 30th.

Of course we have the Community listening sessions up for next week.

Please watch for that scheduling e-mail for those sessions and let me know if any changes need to be made.

And remember to register for the event that you're going to attend.

I think if there is nothing else we can take a motion to adjourn.

**MW** **Michael Wright** 48:30

Mobile.

**WP** **White, Paul** 48:31

Say I'll make a motion to adjourn, but I just wanna let you know I I will not be here on the 30th, just FYI.

**JM** **James Mack** 48:32

2nd.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 48:35

OK, OK.

Thanks Paul.

So we're, we've got a motion from Paul, a second from Jim and all in favor of adjourning raise your hand or indicate by saying aye.

**RK** **Ron Kumetz** 48:49  
I.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 48:49  
All righty.  
Excellent. We are adjourned.  
I will talk to everybody. Well along the way.  
I'll be in touch between now and and the end of the week with the schedule and so forth.  
So thanks for your time everybody.  
Have a good rest of the day.

**MW** **Michael Wright** 49:04  
Dave.

**RB** **Rick Burke** 49:04  
Thank you everyone. Goodbye.

**DA** **Dominick Arcuri** 49:05  
Thank you all, bye.

**NB** **Neal, Barbara** 49:06  
Bye bye.

**JM** **James Mack** 49:06  
Thanks mate.

□ **Audet, Cally** stopped transcription