

Arkansas Wireless Information Network

Report to the

Joint Interim Committee on Advanced
Communications and Information
Technology

For the period ending December 31, 2006



This report contains the following sections:

Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) Program Status – a short description of the program, a list of the projects related to the program, and achievements of the program for the month.

Three County Pilot Project Status -- additional detail on the pilot effort that will be implemented in Miller, Lonoke and Craighead counties.

Command and Control Radio Deployment Status -- additional detail on the effort to deploy AWIN compatible radios to the 1st responder leadership in each of the counties in the State of Arkansas.

800 MHz Band Reconfiguration -- The AWIN system is an 800 MHz system that will require some reconfiguration of the current frequencies. The FCC ordered the reconfiguration of the 800 MHz band to avoid potentially life-threatening problems where public safety communications equipment may be rendered inoperable.

Smart Zone Controller – This project will deploy a second Master Site that increases system call processing capabilities.

Mobile Communications Unit Acquisition – the MCUA Project is to document the requirements for the acquisition of mobile communication units that will provide the ability to deliver on-scene coverage beyond what the system offers and establish mutual aid communication resources where required.

AWIN Continuity of Operations Project (COOP) -- will ensure that a comprehensive emergency and recovery plan has been defined and thoroughly exercised for the AWIN Infrastructure.

The following project is in the initiation stage. An individual section will be added for this project in the coming months.

System Expansion – This project proposes a system expansion that will alleviate the burden currently placed on the system in the southern part of the state. Utilizing additional equipment and/or additional microwave paths to route traffic to the northeast and northwest portions of the system will remove that traffic from the southern part of the state. Beginning in January of 2007 this project will be report as part of the Smart Zone Controller project.



Arkansas Wireless Information Network

AWIN is a multi-phased approach to building the infrastructure to complete a statewide interoperable radio system across the counties command and control structure and state agencies. There are several projects that have been developed to ensure that the statewide interoperable radio system is delivered successfully. The current projects are: a pilot program involving three counties, deployment of radios across the Command and Control structure of each county, installation of a second system controller, expansion of the microwave loop and coordination of the 800 MHz reallocation effort. The upgrade of the Arkansas State Police (ASP) network and the upgrade of the radio system at the Pine Bluff Arsenal (Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Plan (CSEPP)) has completed.. The sections following this overview provide additional information on each of these projects.

Program Director:

Name: Penny Rubow

Email: penny.rubow@arkansas.gov

Updated: 01/04/07

PROJECTS

Project Name	Percentage Complete	On Schedule / No Major Issues	Schedule Slipping / Possible Issues	Behind Schedule / Major Issues
Three County Pilot	89%		X	
Command and Control	90%	X		
800 MHz Band Reconfiguration	16%	X		
Smart Zone Controller 2	45%	X		
Mobile Communications Unit Acquisition	04%	X		
AWIN COOP	50%		X	

Detailed information on each project's budget, schedule and scope may be found later in this report.

Program Funding

The funding information below reflects the funding plan and expenditures for the period of December 2003 to October 2006.

Project	Funding Amount	Actual Expenditures	Unexpended Balance	Commitments	Remaining Balance
CSEPP	\$11,015,784.50	\$10,823,501.45	\$192,283.05	\$0.00	\$192,283.05
Command & Control	\$12,979,798.80	\$9,565,377.00	\$3,414,421.80	\$3,414,421.80	\$ -
Tri-County	\$12,401,220.41	\$12,284,917.02	\$116,303.39	\$116,303.39	\$ 0.00



ASP Network Upgrade (Federal Funds)	\$8,996,179.98	\$8,996,155.35	\$24.63	\$ -	\$24.63
ASP Network Upgrade (State Funds)	\$30,501,784.65	\$ 24,224,234.56	\$6,277,550.09	\$136,830.00	\$ 6,140,720.09
	\$75,894,768.16	\$65,883,020.86	\$10,011,747.30	\$3,678,719.70	\$6,333,027.60

Comments:

Funding for 800MHz Rebanding: All expenses for this effort will be negotiated with Nextel, and paid directly by Nextel. The State should not incur any expenses for this effort.

Smart Zone Controller/System Expansion: The funding amounts for the Smart Zone Controller and System Expansion projects have been reported in two categories in previous reports. This is being corrected and in coming reports these two projects will be reported as separate line items.

Mobile Communications Unit Acquisition: The budget and funding for this effort will be established as requirements and resources are defined.

AWIN COOP: This is an administrative project and the cost is reported as part of the ASP Network Upgrade (State Funds) described above.

Program Update

Legislative Session. The AWIN Management team is working with the AWIN Steering Committee to draft legislation for the next session.

Statewide Purchasing Agreement. The AWIN Management team continues work on developing an agreement that could be used by local governments and state agencies to purchase radios and accessory equipment.

AWIN Management and Operations. The AWIN Management team has been co-located to provide better system monitoring and response to the users.

AWIN Status Reporting. Beginning in January this report will be reorganized to include a section on AWIN Operations. Further, reporting on the projects will be reorganized. Details of the reorganization are address in the individual reports below.



Three County Pilot

The Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) Three County Pilot Project will provide the initial efforts to bring the interoperable network to the county and city emergency responders. The scope of the project is to work with Craighead, Lonoke, and Miller counties in building a fully interoperable radio system, based on Project 25 standards, for all public safety agencies in these counties. This project will provide additional infrastructure needed at the county level, upgraded dispatch units and integration into AWIN. Each county system will be considered part of the overall AWIN system. Further, a repeatable process will be identified that can be used as other counties integrate their infrastructure into AWIN.

Project Manager:

Name: Randy Wilcox

Email: randy.wilcox@arkansas.gov

Updated: 12/28/06

SUMMARY

Area	On Schedule / No Major Issues	Schedule Slipping / Possible Issues	Behind Schedule / Major Issues	Reason for Deviation
Schedule	-	X	-	The cutover of the City of Texarkana is delayed until the middle of January due to delays caused by running new fiber to connect the tower with the City of Texarkana Dispatch Console. This was a county responsibility and not under the control of the State or the Vendor.
Budget	X	-	-	
Scope	X	-	-	

SCHEDULE

Of the identified tasks, 89% have been completed. (See comments below)

There are 0 days remaining until project completion. (Estimated)

Phase/Activity	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Status
Project Initiation and Planning	07/15/04	7/31/05	100%	Complete
• Preliminary Design	07/15/04	09/10/04	100%	Complete



Lonoke County System Design	08/28/04	6-13-05	100%	Complete
Craighead County System Design	08/28/04	7-24-05	100%	Complete
Miller County System Design	08/28/04	6-27-05	100%	Complete
Final Approval of Design	7-15-04	8-04-05	100%	Complete
Project Execution Lonoke				
• Identify Frequencies	6-27-05	11-15-05	100%	Complete
• Fleet Mapping	9-01-05	5-21-06	100%	Complete
• Civil Work / FNE Installation	3-20-06	7-31-06	100%	Complete
• Optimize System	7-28-06	7-31-06	100%	Complete
• Acceptance Test Plan	6-30-06	8-7-06	100%	Complete
• CATP Lonoke	8-4-06	9-15-06	100%	Complete
• Subscriber Program and Install	5-01-06	9-27-06	100%	Complete
• Training	8-01-06	9-07-06	100%	Complete
• Cutover	9-12-06	9-12-06	100%	Complete
• Finalize	9-27-06	9-27-06	100%	Complete
Project Execution Craighead				
• Identify Frequencies	6-27-05	11-15-05	100%	Complete
• Fleet Mapping	9-01-05	5-21-06	100%	Complete
• Civil Work / FNE Installation	3-20-06	8-22-06	100%	Complete
• Optimize System	8-23-06	8-23-06	100%	Complete
• Acceptance Test Plan	8-8-06	11-30-06	100%	Complete
• CATP Craighead	8-29-06	9-6-06	100%	Complete
• Subscriber Program and Install	8-24-06	10-4-06	100%	Complete
• Training	8-16-06	11-14-06	100%	Complete
• Cutover	10-5-06	11-30-06	100%	Complete
• Finalize	10-5-06	11-30-06	100%	Complete
Project Execution Miller				
• Identify Frequencies	6-27-05	11-15-05	100%	Complete
• Fleet Mapping	9-01-05	5-21-06	100%	Complete
• Civil Work / FNE Installation	3-20-06	12-18-06	98%	In Progress
• Optimize System	11-29-06	11-29-06	100%	Complete
• Acceptance Test Plan	11-30-06	12-11-06	95%	In Progress
• CATP Miller	11-30-06	12-13-06	100%	Complete
• Subscriber Program and Install	5-01-06	12-5-06	100%	Complete
• Training	11-10-06	12-5-06	100%	Complete
• Cutover	11-29-06	12-5-06	95%	In Progress
• Finalize	12-18-06	12-18-06		Behind



Comments:

Lonoke County and Craighead County

Both counties are completely cutover and operating on a day to day basis using the AWIN system.

Miller County

The county users are cutover and operating on a full-time basis using the AWIN system. The City of Texarkana which operates separately from Miller County is not yet complete. The cutover has been delayed due to installation of new fiber that provides connectivity between the New Boston Road tower and the dispatch console at the City of Texarkana Dispatch facility. The City of Texarkana is providing this connectivity. It is important to note that the city has beneficial use of the system using the towers online in the county. The City of Texarkana dispatch operations is expected to be fully cutover to their operation on the AWIN system by the middle of January 2007. This will conclude the AWIN Tri-County Project.

Regulatory application process: The site approval process for National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) is complete. (Closed)

BUDGET

Total Available Funds	Expenditures to Date	% of Budget Expended	Status
\$12,401,220.23	\$12,284,917.02	99%	On Track

Comments: The above budget numbers are based on invoices processed as of October 30, 2006.

SCOPE

Change Request	Schedule Impact	Budget Impact	Status

Comments: No Change Orders for this reporting period.



Command and Control Radio Deployment

The AWIN Command and Control Project is to deploy Project 25 wireless radios to the 1st responder leadership for each county in the State of Arkansas. Further, this project will ensure that voice testing occurs in each county and that training is provided to each user.

Project Manager:

Name: Penny Rubow

Email: penny.rubow@arkansas.gov

Updated: 01/08/07

SUMMARY

Area	On Schedule / No Major Issues	Schedule Slipping / Possible Issues	Behind Schedule / Major Issues	Reason for Deviation
Schedule	X			
Budget	X	-	-	-
Scope	X	-	-	-

SCHEDULE

Of the identified tasks, 90% have been completed. (See comments below)

There are 31 days remaining until project completion.

Phase/Activity	Start Date	Completion	Revised Completion	% Complete	Status
Initiation and Planning	2/3/05	6/10/05	02/16/06	100%	Complete
Radio Programming	06/02/05	10/13/05	06/06/06	100%	Complete
Training	07/01/05	10/15/05	09/01/06	100%	Complete
Radio Distribution	06/15/05	10/30/05	11/30/06	100%	Complete
Testing	06/08/05	10/30/05	11/30/06	100%	Complete
Project Close-Out	11/1/05	11/3/05	01/31/07	0%	

Comments:

Installations. Installation and distribution of the radios is complete. (Closed)

Coverage Testing. A final report on the testing has been developed, however, it is to be noted that very few counties were able to participate. Additional testing will be moved to the AWIN open issues



list. The Department of Information Systems will identify a method to perform the tests and track the results. (Closed)

Emergency Exercises. The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management has incorporated an interoperable communications component into their testing and exercise requirements. (Closed)

BUDGET

Total Available Funds	Expenditures to Date	% of Funds Expended	Status
\$12,979,798.80	\$9,565,377.00	74%	On-Track

Comments:

SCOPE

Change Request	Schedule Impact	Budget Impact	Status

Comments: No Change Orders for this reporting period.



800 MHz Band Reconfiguration

The AWIN system is an 800 MHz system that will require some reconfiguration of the current frequencies.

The FCC ordered the reconfiguration of the 800 MHz band to avoid potentially life-threatening problems where public safety communications equipment may be rendered inoperable or interference may be disruptive to their communications.

Project Manager:

Name: David Baker

Email: david.baker@arkansas.gov

Updated: 01/04/07

SUMMARY

Area	On Schedule / No Major Issues	Schedule Slipping / Possible Issues	Behind Schedule / Major Issues	Reason for Deviation
Schedule	X	-	-	-
Budget	X	-	-	-
Scope	X	-	-	-

SCHEDULE

Of the identified tasks, 16% have been completed. (See comments below)

Phase/Activity	Start Date	End Date	Revised Complete	% Complete	Status
Complete Point-of-Contact Form	08/01/2005	08/03/2005		100%	Complete
Submit Request for Planning Funding	05/14/06	08/01/06		100%	Complete
Document Infrastructure Facilities Inventory	TBD				
Evaluate Proposed New Frequencies	TBD				
Prepare Cost Estimate	TBD				



Negotiate Contract with Nextel	TBD				
FCC Applications Filed and Granted for New Frequencies	TBD				
Nextel Clears Frequencies	TBD				
Acceptance Testing	TBD				
File Channel Surrender Applications with FCC	TBD				
Certify Completion with Nextel	TBD				
Complete Any Additional FCC Filings	TBD				

Comments:

Schedule: Sprint Nextel has sent a proposed Planning Funding Agreement, it is being reviewed by the AWIN Rebanding Legal Team.. The agreement should be signed by 01/31/2007.

January/February Outlook:

Sign the Planning Funding Agreement

BUDGET

Total Funded	Expenditures to Date	% of Funding Expended	Status
TBD			

Comments: All expenditures for this project should be funded by Nextel

SCOPE

Change Request	Schedule Impact	Budget Impact	Status

Comments: No Change Orders for this reporting period.



Smart Zone Controller 2

The scope of the Smart Zone Controller 2 (SZC2) Project is to install a second system controller on the existing AWIN system. This effort will include the engineering and design for adding the additional Master Site, including a Smart Zone Controller, preparing the site for housing the equipment, the implementation and optimization of any new hardware and software, the integration of any new hardware and software with the existing system, and testing of the system after the integration is complete.

Project Manager:

Name: Penny Rubow

Email: penny.rubow@arkansas.gov

Updated: 01/08/07

SUMMARY

Area	On Schedule / No Major Issues	Schedule Slipping / Possible Issues	Behind Schedule / Major Issues	Reason for Deviation
Schedule	X			
Budget	X			
Scope	X			

SCHEDULE

Of the identified tasks, 45% have been completed. (See comments below)

There are approximately 151 days remaining until project completion.

Phase/Activity	Start Date	End Date	Revised End Date	% Complete	Status
Initiation/Planning	10/15/05	12/31/05		100%	Completed
Execution					
Building Prep	11/15/05	02/28/06	08/31/06	100%	Completed
Equipment Manufacture & Installation Phase One	12/15/05	06/15/06	11/30/06	100%	Completed
Equipment Manufacture & Installation Phase Two	01/15/07	01/26/07			Not Started
Software Upgrade/Optimization of the System	01/29/07	02/28/07			Not Started
Project Close Out	04/20/07	05/31/07			Not Started

Comments:



Project Reorganization. This project is tightly integrated with the System Expansion project. The System Expansion project is expected to kick-off in January. These two projects will be reported together.

BUDGET

Total Available Funds	Expenditures to Date	% of Funds Expended	Status

Comments: The funding amounts for the Smart Zone Controller have been reported as part of the ASP Upgrade costs in previous reports.

SCOPE

Change Request	Schedule Impact	Budget Impact	Status

Comments: No Change Orders for this reporting period.



Mobile Communication Unit Acquisition

The Mobile Communication Unit Acquisition (MCUA) Project is to acquire mobile communication units that will supplement the Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) through the addition of deployable radio sites. These sites will provide the ability to deliver on-scene coverage beyond what the system offers and establish mutual aid communication resources where required. Further, these units will provide communications capabilities to emergency and support workers in a disaster recovery operation.

Project Manager:

Name: David Baker

Email: david.baker@arkansas.gov

Updated: 12/29/06

SUMMARY

Area	On Schedule / No Major Issues	Schedule Slipping / Possible Issues	Behind Schedule / Major Issues	Reason for Deviation
Schedule	X			
Budget	X			
Scope	X			

SCHEDULE

Of the identified tasks, 04% have been completed.

Phase/Activity	Start Date	Completion	% Complete	Status
Initiation/Planning	11/04/05	12/01/2006	30%	Behind
Develop Requirements	10/03/2006	12/31/2006		Behind
Develop procurement documents	TBD			
Develop usage policies	TBD	TBD		
Execute procurement	TBD			
Receive equipment	TBD			
Training	TBD			
Project Closeout	TBD			

Comments: This project continues to focus on getting the requirements for a Site on Wheels type unit that would provide the most benefit for the AWIN system. Project documentation will be adjusted to reflect the direction change and to incorporate updated start and completion dates for the project activities.



Project Reporting. Because this project is integral to AWIN Continuity of Operations reporting for this project will be combined with that effort.

BUDGET

Total Available Funds	Expenditures to Date	% of Funds Expended	Status

Comments: Funding for the purchase of this equipment has not been determined.

SCOPE

Change Request	Schedule Impact	Budget Impact	Status

Comments: No Change Orders for this reporting period.



AWIN Continuity of Operations

The AWIN COOP Project will ensure that a comprehensive emergency and recovery plan has been defined and thoroughly exercised for the AWIN Infrastructure. This effort will encompass planning for emergency communications and the recovery and restoration of the AWIN System. A Continuity of Operations Plan is critical for systems such as AWIN due to the reliance on the system by first responders throughout the state.

Project Manager:

Name: Penny Rubow

Email: penny.rubow@arkansas.gov

Updated: 01/08/07

SUMMARY

Of the identified tasks, 50% have been completed. (See comments below)

There are 61 days remaining until project completion. (Estimated)

Area	On Schedule / No Major Issues	Schedule Slipping / Possible Issues	Behind Schedule / Major Issues	Reason for Deviation
Schedule		X		System Documentation has not been delivered.
Budget	X			
Scope	X			

SCHEDULE

Activity	Start Date	Finish Completion	Revised Completion	Percentage Complete	Status
Initiating the COOP Project	10/6/05	10/31/05		100%	Complete
Project Organization	10/6/05	4/21/06	10/31/06	85%	Behind
Assessing Business Risk and Impact of Potential Emergencies	3/10/06	5/23/06		100%	Complete
Preparing for a Possible Emergency	3/20/06	5/24/06	11/30/06	15%	In Progress
Disaster Recovery Phase	3/21/06	5/26/06	11/30/06	30%	In Progress



Business Recovery Phase (Recover/Restore)	5/25/06	6/7/06	11/30/06	30%	In Progress
COOP Approved	10/31/06	6/7/06	12/31/06	0%	In Progress
Testing the Business Recovery Process	6/7/06	6/16/06	12/31/06	30%	In Progress
Training Staff in the Business Recovery Process	6/16/06	6/22/06	12/31/06	10%	In Progress
Project Close Out	6/8/06	6/13/06	01/31/07	0%	

Project Organization. The State has received the system documentation and will be reviewing it during the month of January..

BUDGET

Total Available Funds	Expenditures to Date	% of Funds Expended	Status

Comments: This is an administrative project and the cost is reported as part of the ASP Network Upgrade (State Funds) described in the Program Overview.

SCOPE

Change Request	Schedule Impact	Budget Impact	Status

Comments: No Change Orders for this reporting period.