



Matthew H. Mead
Governor

State of Wyoming

William Westerfield
Chairman

Public Safety Communications Commission

Meeting of March 16, 2011
Evanston Fire Station
Evanston, WY

Chairman Bill Westerfield called the Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Roll Call and Members in Attendance:

Bill Westerfield – State Parks and Cultural Resources
Mark Joiner – Federal Agencies
Steve DeCecco – Game and Fish
Bill Morse – WYDOT
Danny Glick – Sheriff’s Association – Phone Conference
Jimmy Siler – Wyoming Livestock Board – Phone Conference
Lanny Applegate – Wyoming Fire Marshal – Phone Conference
Mark Harshman – Wyoming Fire Chief’s Association – Phone Conference
Vernon Hill – Tribal – Phone Conference
Lauri Wempen – EMS – Phone Conference
Steve Myrum – DCI – Phone Conference
Robert Wyatt - Public at Large – Phone Conference
Robert Dean – Department of Health – Phone Conference
John Hartwig – Executive Director

Members absent:

Kim Lee – Office of Homeland Security - Excused
Billy Janes – Police Chief’s Association - Excused
Dave Johnson – Municipalities - Excused

Others in attendance:

Robert Symons – PSCC Administrative Support
Robert Wilson – WYDOT Telecommunications
Phil Bond – Motorola
Wayne Peterson – Motorola
Jerry Glasscock – Sweetwater County Sheriff’s Office
Dean Barrese – WAC
Andy Bellendir – WAC
Dan Hawkins – DHS-OEC
Paul Newman – Motorola
Debbi Serke – Motorola
David King – Campbell County EMA
Stephen Smith – Sublette County Sheriff’s Office
David Bremson – Relm/Bendix King

Susan Dasher – Uinta County Public Health
Don Casper – Uinta County Communications
Kim West – Uinta County EMA
Carol Herrmann – Clark Radio Electronics

Meeting Agenda:

Chairman Bill Westerfield asked for any changes to the draft minutes. Chairman Westerfield moved the discussion on new members after the minutes. **Commissioner Bob Wyatt made a motion to approve the revised agenda, seconded by Steve DeCecco. The motion passed on a voice vote.**

Minutes from December 7, 2010

The draft minutes from December 7, 2010 were reviewed. The draft minutes were changed to include Bill Morse as attending the meeting and on Page 3 – WyoLink Support Managers Report the number of codeplugs scheduled to be completed was changed from 12300 to 1300. **Commissioner Bill Morse made a motion to approve the amended December 7, 2010 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mark Joiner. The motion passed on a voice vote.**

Approval of Membership Applications

Bob Symons led a discussion on the WyoLink Membership Applications which were reviewed by the Interoperability Executive Committee on March 14, 2011. The Interoperable Executive Committee met on March 14, 2011 to review the WyoLink Membership applications. The applications for Western Wyoming Community College and Buckskin Mine were removed from the table. Western Wyoming Community College has stated their application is for the Protective Services Department. The Campbell County Emergency Management Agency has provided a letter in support of the Buckskin Mine application for the mine ambulance. The Interoperable Executive Committee approved the amended Western Wyoming Community College and Buckskin Mine applications.

The Interoperability Executive Committee approved four new applications from Goshen County Road and Bridge, Weston County Fire Protection District, Goshen County Public Health and Laramie County Community College. The application for Laramie County Community College is for the Campus Safety and Security Department and includes a letter of support from Laramie County Sheriff Danny Glick. *The WyoLink Applications spreadsheet is attached for reference.*

Commissioner Lanny Applegate made a motion to approve the amended application for Western Wyoming Community College and the WyoLink applications for Buckskin Mine, Goshen County Road and Bridge, Weston County Fire Protection District, Goshen County Public Health and Laramie County Community College. Commissioner Bob Wyatt seconded the motion and the motion passed on a voice vote.

Standing Work Group Reports:

Administration and Funding Work Group – Bill Westerfield

The Administration and Funding Work group did not meet in the past 3 months and have no report.

WyoLink Operations Work Group – Mark Harshman

The WyoLink operations group did not meet in the past 3 months and have no report other than the Legislature Demonstration report later in this meeting.

Spectrum Work Group – Mark Joiner

Commissioner Joiner stated he has received a request from Montana for concurrence with their revised 700 MHz Regional Plan. Bob Symons polled the work group via email and no objections were noted. Commissioner Joiner will send a concurrence letter to the FCC on Montana's request. Chairman Westerfield appointed Robert Wilson to the Spectrum Work Group.

SALECS – Steve DeCecco

The Administration and Funding Work group did not have any formal meetings in the past 3 months. Commissioner DeCecco stated the SALECS users have met informally to discuss the transition to WyoLink and there are very few problems noted with WyoLink and the agencies are satisfied with WyoLink operations.

Interoperability Executive Committee – Bob Symons

Bob Symons stated the Interoperability Executive Committee heard an update on the Link Wyoming Broadband mobile data survey, which will be discussed later in this meeting.

Bob Symons discussed the FCC application from Sublette County for using the national interoperable channels. Sublette County is licensing the National Interoperable Channels for simplex mode and using the VTAC 36 in a repeated mode. Mr. Symons has spoken with the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) about the FCC application and Sublette County's application is valid and within the scope of the rules on the National Interoperable Channels. NPSTC recommended Wyoming license the National Interoperable Channels on a statewide basis, which will allow all public safety agencies to operate on the channels and be able to provide guidance on the channels usage. The Interoperability Executive Committee will be reviewing the NPSTC recommendation.

Staff Reports – Bob Symons

Bob Symons stated that in the past three months he was involved in the development and completion of the successful WyoLink Legislature demonstration. Marty McCoy, Motorola and Mr. Symons traveled to Converse, Campbell, Crook Weston, Sheridan and Johnson counties for preliminary review of potential portable coverage enhancement sites and to meet with the local agencies on WyoLink. While in Crook County, a portable radio coverage test was performed with very good results. Crook County and Sheriff Steve Stahla will be reviewing the results of the portable radio coverage testing. A WyoLink informational meeting was held in Newcastle with the Weston County public safety agencies in attendance. Mr. Symons has also been working with the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security on the National Emergency Communication Plan (NECP), Goal 2 exercises. Mr. Symons will present more information on the NECP later in this meeting.

WyoLink Support Managers Report – Robert Wilson

Robert Wilson provided the WyoLink Support Manager's report for Marty McCoy. WyoLink is still negotiating with the Bridger-Teton National Forest on the location for the northern Teton County site. Pinkham Mountain in Colorado only needs the FCC licenses to allow the combining equipment to be ordered and this site is scheduled for completion early summer 2011. Wyoming is working with the Federal agencies on a spectrum sharing for Pinkham Mountain and other sites. The Halleck Ridge site in the Elk Mountain area is in process with the BLM and is on track for construction to begin this spring.

WyoLink Support Office and WYDOT are discussing with Motorola Lifecycle Management issues including the upgrades to the WyoLink system to keep the system current, able to be supported and plan for possible expansions.

Mr. Wilson stated the backlog of codeplug development has been reduced from 1300 pending codeplugs in December 2010 to a current 470 codeplugs currently on the schedule. WyoLink has installed Genesis GenWatch 3 monitoring tool which allows WyoLink to easily monitor several key operational parameters including system usage, number of radios on the system, track busies, airtime per hour and user, and talkgroup usage. Mr. Wilson offered to the Commission an invite to visit the WyoLink Support Office and view the GenWatch monitoring. Busies remain at an insignificant 0.06%. *Marty McCoy's WyoLink Support Managers report is attached to the minutes for reference.*

Old Business

WyoLink Demonstration to the Legislature

Commissioner Harshman provided a summary of the January demonstration of WyoLink to the Wyoming Legislature. The demonstration was well attended by the legislature and was started with introductions, then a video presentation was provided on the WyoLink background and then a demonstration of WyoLink usage was performed with agencies throughout Wyoming.

The demonstration started with the National Weather Service notifying WYDOT Transportation Management Center (TMC) of a winter weather warning. From the TMC the notifications went to the northwest part of the state to WYDOT and public safety agencies. The agencies then warned their neighbors, moving the notifications across the state. During the exercise a simulated organ transfer was communicated from the Wyoming Highway Patrol, to State Parks to Goshen County for delivery in Nebraska. The demonstration ended in the Capitol with FBI communicating from Lander to Denver in an encrypted mode.

Link Wyoming Mobile Broadband Survey

Commissioners Bill Morse presented some preliminary results from the Link Wyoming public safety mobile broadband survey. The survey indicates the desire for public safety to use mobile broadband and possibly WyoLink for some mobile data usage. Agencies may not understand the data capabilities of WyoLink. Most public safety agencies are using air cards for current mobile data usage. The Link Wyoming study has limited public safety involvement and most of the study pertains to anchor institutions having broadband capabilities.

Discussion on the National Broadband initiative currently being discussed in Washington, DC by the President and Congress. President Obama has issued a statement on a national broadband plan. Commissioners Dave Johnson and Bill Morse are representing the PSCC on the Link Wyoming study. The PSCC will continue to monitor the broadband initiative at the national and federal levels.

Commissioner Glick spoke on the discussions at the Western Sheriff's Association meetings and the National Sheriff's Association. The National Sheriff's Association is fully in support of the 10 MHz of the 700 MHz D block being awarded to the Public Safety Spectrum Trust for public safety use. The commission discussed how the PSCC and Wyoming could provide direction to the Wyoming delegation pertaining to the 10 MHz of broadband spectrum. How does the PSCC indicate the support of the public safety to the Governor's office? A united front from Wyoming and the Wyoming public safety agencies would be beneficial to helping Wyoming with broadband through guidance from the Governor's office. There is a priority to keep the mobile broadband in the fore front of monitoring what is going on and how to involve the Governor's Office. Chairman Westerfield directed John Hartwig to initiate discussions and coordination between Dave Johnson, Mark Joiner, Robert Wilson, Wyoming Business Council and Governor's Office pertaining to mobile broadband and possible direction to the Wyoming congressional delegation for the National Broadband Plan. Chairman Westerfield asked Bill Morse and Dave Johnson will continue working with the Link Wyoming effort.

New Business

Narrowbanding

Bob Symons, as the Statewide Interoperable Coordinator, is a member of the National Council of Statewide Interoperable Coordinators (NCSWIC) and a member of the SAFECOM Emergency Response Council. The combined groups have created a work group on Narrowbanding for disseminating information to public safety agencies, schools, elected officials and private FCC licensees on the FCC regulation that all FCC licensees operating in the frequencies between 150 MHz and 550 MHz shall be operating on narrowband emissions by January 1, 2013. Mr. Symons presented the Narrowbanding 101

document the work group has finalized and issued for dissemination. *The Narrowbanding 101 document is attached to the minutes for reference.*

National Emergency Communications Plan – Goal 2

Bob Symons presented information on the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) Goal 2, which states: “By 2011, 75 percent of non-UASI jurisdictions are able to demonstrate *response-level emergency communications* within one hour for routine events involving *multiple jurisdictions and agencies*.” Two types of data will be collected; Capabilities – which is the preparations jurisdictions’ take to prepare for an event and the performance data – which is the demonstration of ‘response level communications’.

Wyoming has asked for and has been approved to provide the data collections at the county level and use the regional approach for the exercises. Bob Symons is currently working with the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security (WOHS) on the development of the functional exercises. The exercises will be held within the Regional Emergency Response Teams (RERT) and will involve the county agencies represented within each region. The RERT’s will be receiving some new Strategic Technology Reserves for interoperable communications from WOHS and the exercises will be developed around the training on the new equipment.

The current plan is to discuss Goal 2 with points-of-contact in each county and RERT during March and April. During April and May the counties will be asked to complete the Capabilities reports and the design of the exercises will be completed by WOHS and Bob Symons. The exercises will be completed during June, July, August, and September. The Evaluation Reports will be completed in September and October with the SCIP Implementation Report will be completed in November. The exercises will involve all levels of government from the local level to Federal level including Tribal.

General Discussion

Dan Hawkins, Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Communications (DHS-OEC), informed the PSCC of the roles Bob Symons has been providing pertaining to the national level emergency communications and thanked Mr. Symons for all of his efforts.

Dave King, Campbell County Emergency Management, stated their appreciation to WyoLink and the PSCC for the assistance they have received on working toward WyoLink migration.

Bob Symons, thanked Kim West, Uinta County EMA and Evanston Fire Department for the use of the Evanston Fire Station for the WyoLink informational meeting held on Tuesday March 15th and for the PSCC meeting.

Bob Symons is working with DHS-OEC on providing a Narrowbanding Seminar in April through the Wyoming Video Network. More information will be provided upon the completion of the planning.

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Next Meeting

Chairman Westerfield asked Mr. Symons about the next scheduled meeting of the PSCC which will be in June and will be a video conference meeting. Mr. Symons will work the Video Conferencing System to finalize the meeting details and send the meeting information to the PSCC and public. Chairman Westerfield asked the commission to starting thinking about the location for the September 2011 meeting.

Chairman Westerfield asked if there was any other business to come before the PSCC, being none, Chairman Westerfield adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Symons
Administrative Support

Action Items

1. Portable Radio Enhancement Project Applications
2. WyoLink Membership Process Tracking
3. WyoLink Lifecycle Planning
4. Narrowbanding information dissemination
5. NECP Goal 2
6. NPSTC Interoperable Channels
7. Commissioner Appointments

Attachments

1. WyoLink Membership List
2. WyoLink Support Managers Report to the PSCC
3. Narrowbanding 101