



Matthew H. Mead
Governor

**William
Westerfield**
Chairman

State of Wyoming

Public Safety Communications Commission

Meeting of June 21, 2012
Wyoming State Library and Video Conference
Cheyenne, WY

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

Roll Call and Members in Attendance:

Bill Westerfield — State Parks and Cultural Resources
Lauri Wempen — EMS
Lanny Applegate — Wyoming Fire Marshal
Steve DeCecco — Game and Fish
Robert Wyatt — Public at Large
Vernon Hill — Tribal
Steve Myrum — DCI
Jerry Kennedy — County Commissioner
Kim Lee — Wyoming Office of Homeland Security
Jimmy Siler — Wyoming Livestock Board
Billy Janes — Police Chief's Association
Robert Dean — Department of Health
William Walter — FBI

Members Absent:

Dave Johnson — Municipalities — Excused
Bill Morse — Wyoming Highway Patrol — Excused
Danny Glick — Sheriff's Association — Excused
Mark Harshman — Wyoming Fire Chief's Association — Excused

Others in Attendance:

Robert Symons — PSCC Administrative Support
Martin McCoy — WyoLink Support Manager
Robert Wilson — WYDOT Telecommunications – Conference Call
Carl Freeman — Fremont County Sheriff's Office
Larry Sheridan — WYDOT - Phone
David Riegert – Wireless Advanced Comm.
Zach Thorington – City of Powell - Phone
Jim Pobanz – Motorola
Stephen Strate – Bureau of Land Management
Paul Newman - Motorola
Neil Clatworthy – Motorola
Jim Archerd – Wyoming Office of Homeland Security

Nina Bookout – Network E6
Dale Stalder – Laramie Police Department
Mitchell Cushman – Laramie Police Department
Dan Wilson – BLM
Robin Etienne – Sweetwater County Combined Communications
Tom Jarvie – Green River Police Department
Burke Morin – Green River Police Department
Skip Hornecker – Fremont County Sheriff

Meeting Agenda:

Chairman Westerfield asked for any changes to the draft agenda. *Bob Wyatt made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted, it was seconded by Jerry Kennedy. Motion passed on a voice vote.*

Minutes from March 14, 2012:

Chairman Westerfield asked for discussion on the March 14, 2012 minutes. *Lanny Applegate made a motion to approve the March 14, 2012 minutes and the motion was seconded by Bob Wyatt. The motion passed on a voice vote.*

WyoLink Operations Work Group-Mark Harshman

Bob Symons provided the report for the WyoLink Operations Work Group. The work group met on June 6, 2012 and June 20, 2012. The June 6th meeting discussed the Portable Coverage Enhancement Site applications for Green River, Johnson County, Powell and Sublette County. Each of the agencies were provided an opportunity to explain their need for an enhancement site and what they have for an available location. Each of the agencies has a need for improved coverage and each of the agencies have potential site locations. The Work Group discussed the potential four sites and moved to award the one site that is available to Green River and forward that decision to the PSCC. The Work Group met on June 20th to discuss the WyoLink applications and moved to forward the four applications to the PSCC for approval.

Executive Board

The Executive Board met on March 26, 2012 with Homeland Security Director Guy Cameron to discuss the National Public Safety Broadband. The Executive Board agreed to develop a Broadband Work Group to help the State of Wyoming with the requirements of the National Public Safety Broadband Network.

Spectrum Work Group

No Report.

SALECS-Steve DeCecco

SALECS has not met. The SALECS agencies would like to recognize Dick Bolin for all of his work and assistance with the SALEC agencies. Dick Bolin is retiring from Highway Patrol Dispatch at the end of June.

Interoperability Executive Committee-Billy Janes

The Interoperability Executive Committee did not meet but will be meeting in the near future to start updating the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP).

Broadband Work Group – Steve Myrum

The Broadband Work Group has met a couple of times. Steve Myrum is the chairman of the work group. The work group has discussed and provided a response to the National Governors Association request for information and has started collecting data on the asset inventory which will be used by the FirstNet for the development of a National Public Safety Broadband Plan.

Staff Reports-Bob Symons

Mr. Symons reported the he has worked with the Platte County Fire talkgroup plan and their radios are now programmed onto WyoLink. Marty McCoy, Homeland Security Communications Technicians and Bob Symons worked with Kenwood to solve some radio programming problems with the Kenwood radios.

Mr. Symons and Marty McCoy are working with the Coast Guard and IRS-Criminal Investigations for sharing Federal frequencies on Pinkham and Hell Hole. Mr. Chris Lewis, DOI, is helping with this spectrum sharing request. The Department of Interior and Bob Symons reviewed the DOI MOU for Spectrum sharing and Chairman Westerfield has signed the letter acknowledging the five year review.

The National Public Safety Broadband Network and the Broadband Work Group activities are being monitored. Mr. Symons worked with Sublette County on completing a Portable Coverage Enhancement site application. Two Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Communications Technical Assistance classes have been held, Communications Unit Leader (COML) and AUXCOMM, a class for the ham radio operators. Kim Lee and Bob Symons attended the Region VIII Regional Emergency Communication Coordination Work Group (RECCWG) meeting in Billings, MT the first week of May.

Mr. Symons provided assistance to the Platte County tornado and the Guernsey Fire. Mr. Symons attended the SAFECOM-Emergency Response Council and National Council of Statewide interoperable Coordinators joint meeting June 12-14, 2012. A meeting summary will be provided later in this meeting.

Mr. Symons has held a phone conference call with the National Weather Service on adding the Rapid City, SD, Billings, MT, and Salt Lake City, UT, regional offices to WyoLink. Wyoming and Utah held a conference call to discuss and develop a plan for improved interoperability between the two states. The plan is for Utah to add a repeater in Wyoming with one of the Utah channel pairs

and let Wyoming agencies use the channel for communications with Utah. Mr. Symons is still working on completing a conference call with Nebraska to discuss interstate interoperability.

WyoLink Support Managers Report-Marty McCoy

There are now 59 WyoLink sites in operation and 55 of those had construction funded by WyoLink. Seven additional sites are under construction and completion of those sites is expected by the summer of 2012 which will bring the total count of operational sites up to 66. Preliminary design work for PowWow has begun, this site still needs to be designed, priced and put out to bid.. It is anticipated this site will not be operational before 2013 because site work continues and it needs to be put out for bid. The costs for construction of this site will be steep, in excess of five million. It is in a designated roadless area with no commercial power which presents several challenges. Proposals for alternative sites will continue to be looked at.

Work with the Forest Service continues concerning a site in Grand Teton National Park in the Togwotee Pass area. Consideration has been given to co-locating with Union Wireless at Signal Mountain.

Construction is underway on Duncan Lake and Hell Hole Ridge. Duncan Lake should be done this spring. The delay was caused by construction of the microwave reflector and weather restrictions. Hell Hole and Pinkum need federal frequencies to allow the remainder of the equipment to be ordered and put into place. Mr. Symons and Marty are working with the IRS and Coast Guard regarding this issue.

Portable coverage enhancement sites in Douglas, Gillette, Rawlins, Sheridan and Wheatland have been designed, pre-construction meetings held and in the permitting process. It is anticipated these sites will be moving forward as spring and summer continue.

There are about 80 state and federal agencies using WyoLink throughout the state. 13,600 radios have been programmed to use the system. Typically, between 2,300 and 2,700 radios per day are using WyoLink. 2080 code plugs were created this year and 850 are currently scheduled. There are on-call technicians, should anyone have problems with the system. Users are encouraged to call 777-4885 if they experience any problems. Anyone who would like to receive the WyoLink agenda and minutes should contact Mr. McCoy to be added to the distribution list. Coverage testing is being done throughout the state with an emphasis on Sublette County and Wind River Indian Reservation. WYDOT is working to provide GIS data in a usable format which will be posted on the WyoLink website upon completion.

In 2012, through the end of May the system handled over 7,868,336 calls. Busy indications have been 0.004% of total call time system wide and reliability so far in 2012 has been 99.99%.

Mr. McCoy stated WYDOT is working on their budget and requested a special PSCC meeting in August to review the WyoLink budget. Mr. McCoy has developed a comparison of construction and maintenance cost for PowWow and potential other sites. Mr. McCoy is currently reviewing three other sites to replace PowWow which may cost less than building PowWow, if the coverage is adequate. PowWow could cost upward of \$5 million and alternative sites could be around \$1 million per site.

The Chairman called for any questions. One question pertained to the costs of building PowWow and if there is funds available to add the other sites and the answer was no, but those costs will be included in the supplemental budget. Another question was about the WyoLink upgrade and the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security and WYDOT are working with the Governor's Office to secure the funding for the upgrade. The agencies have identified funding for the upgrade and the Governor's Office is working with legislators for concurrence on the funding plan and moving forward with the upgrade as soon as possible.

Kim Lee stated he attended the Guernsey Fire after action meeting and there was some criticism of WyoLink, but the indications are there is a training issue with the local users and codeplug development issues at the local level. There must be a shared responsibility between WyoLink and Local users in making sure all concerns are responded to. Mr. McCoy requested the PSCC support in reviewing the PowWow site and alternative sites. ***Bob Wyatt made a motion to recommend WyoLink explore alternative sites to PowWow and make recommendations on which sites should or should not be built. The motion was seconded by Jerry Kennedy and passed on a voice vote.***

Lanny Applegate stated that the end of the Public Safety Interoperable Communication grant is the end of June and the Wyoming Fire Marshal's Office will no longer be providing the WyoLink Training. The training program will need to be changed to make sure the local agency radios and talkgroup plans are included in the training. Bob Symons will be working on revising the training program and developing a plan for presentation to the end users without the grant funds. Wyoming State Forestry will be including WyoLink in the future radio plans for wildland fires and the ability of the end users to find the correct channel or talkgroup will be important. Communication exercises are a good method of ensuring the users understand how to use the radios and the programming in the radios. The hospitals have been left out of the training program and need to be included in the future training.

Old Business:

PSCC Strategic Plan

Bob Symons reported on the revisions to the PSCC Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan has a date of 2012 – 2014. On page 2, Performance Measure #1 a second chart was added on the radios and consoles on WyoLink. On page 3, Performance Measure #2, the dollar amounts were removed. All of the comments provided by reviewers were added to the revised Strategic Plan. A new Performance Measure #4 was added pertaining to the National Public Safety Broadband Plan. ***Kim Lee made a motion to adopt the 2012 – 2014 PSCC Strategic Plan. The motion was seconded by Bob Wyatt and the motion passed on a voice vote.***

Portable Coverage Enhancement Site

Bob Symons presented a summary of the WyoLink Operations Work Group meeting which discussed the four applications for the one WyoLink site which has already been purchased and can be completed under the current operating version of WyoLink. The applicants are: Green River, Sublette County, Powell and Johnson County. Each of the applicants were provided an opportunity to explain their coverage needs and possible locations for the new site. All of the applications are viable and need better coverage. The WyoLink Operations Work Group voted to award the one site

to Green River, which will provide WyoLink coverage to the west side of the Green River tunnels and mobile and portable radio coverage within the Green River area including the new consolidated Sweetwater Combined Communications Center. The Green River site is being proposed on Mans Face, just south of Green River.

The commission heard from Zack Thorington, Powell, about the possibility of adding the site to McCullough Peaks, a current WYDOT Microwave only site, which could be completed in a few months. Due to the good possibility of the WyoLink upgrade moving forward, both the Green River and Powell could be built. Marty McCoy stated there are Portable Coverage Enhancement funds available at this time to complete three sites and maybe one additional site, depending upon construction costs. The Green River proposed site is currently a communications site with power.

Marty McCoy stated additional radio frequency equipment could be purchased at this time, the proposed upgrade timeframe and the construction timeframe for Green River could allow for both projects to move forward. The proposed upgrade project schedule would upgrade from Version 7.2 to Version 7.7 by the end September 2012, which would allow for the additional resources being added to WyoLink. The existing equipment could be installed at McCulloch Peaks and additional equipment could be ordered for Green River. ***Billy Janes made a motion to proceed with the upgrade of McCullough Peaks with WyoLink equipment and build a new PCE site in Green River. The motion was seconded by Lanny Applegate, the motion passed on a voice vote.***

Chairman Westerfield stated that today was a great day and giant leap forward for WyoLink and the PCE applicants. Chairman Westerfield thanked the Governor's office, Wyoming Office of Homeland Security and WYDOT for helping with the WyoLink upgrade.

New Business

Approval of Membership Applications

Mr. Symons stated there are four applicants for WyoLink membership – Crook County Emergency Management, Crook County Road and Bridge, Weston County and Crook County Fire Warden. The WyoLink Operations Work Group reviewed the applications and moved to recommend approval by the PSCC. ***Bob Wyatt moved the Committee accept the recommendation to approve the WyoLink applications. Steve Myrum seconded the motion. The motion was passed on a voice vote.***

Coverage Testing Plan

Chairman Westerfield led a discussion on the current coverage testing plan for WyoLink. Marty McCoy stated the WyoLink Support Office is using coverage testing equipment which tests both the signal strength and the bit error rate. WYDOT is using special contract employees to provide coverage testing on major roads, secondary roads and county roads. WYDOT is adding the test data to a GIS mapping program to develop a visual map of the coverage testing results. Coverage testing of the major roads is at approximately 90- 95% complete and the secondary and county roads at 20% complete, statewide. How will this coverage testing data be used to develop plans for improving the coverage? Upon the completion of the coverage testing, the data will be used to prioritize areas for improved coverage and budget development. The coverage testing equipment can be used to also

test for in-building coverage. It is not feasible to have the test equipment installed in other State vehicles due to the number of times the test must be repeated in the area.

Chairman Westerfield and Lanny Applegate attended the County Commissioners Association meeting and the County Commissioners are concerned about user fees and the possibility of those fees becoming county budget items.

National Public Safety Broadband Network - NPSBN

Bob Symons presented an overview of the Broadband discussion during the SAFECOM-ERC and National Council of Statewide Interoperable Coordinators (NCSWIC) joint meeting. The presenters included Chris Essid (Director DHS-OEC), Dereck Orr (Public Safety Communication Research Program), Marilyn Ward (National Public Safety Telecommunications Council – NPSTC), Laura Pettus (NTIA) and Steve Proctor (FCC Interoperability Board). NPSBN is very complex and the Opt-In/Opt-Out is not the guiding principle. Broadband is a long term project and will not replace land mobile radio mission critical communications.

The FCC Interoperability Board has completed the Technical Interoperability Report and waiting upon the FCC for comments. The NPSBN will be using the Long Term Evolution (LTE) – Version 9 as the operating system. The report included shall and should recommendations. Upon the report being reviewed by the FCC and any possible changes by the Interoperability Board, the Board will be dissolved. The Board will be public safety driven not vendor driven.

NTIA stated there is currently a critical lack of education on the NPSBN and is in the beginning steps in a 1000 mile journey. The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) will be developing the business from the ground up, this is a new corporation which the directors will be appointed in August 2012.

The National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) currently has \$100 million for research and will be developing an operable LTE system using the 10 MHz by 10MHz in Boulder, CO. The spectrum auction must take place before \$5 billion is released for construction, this could be in 2017. NIST is currently working on the standards, requirements and testing for the LTE network.

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council – NPSTC has developed a Public Safety Broadband Directory website at <http://www.npstc.org/broadbandDirectory2.jsp> NPSTC work group activities in a local control document, priority, Quality of Service – QoS requirements, Statement of Requirements – SoR and security and voice documents which will be presented to FirstNet. Robert Wilson (WYDOT) assisted with the Statement of Requirements and this document should be completed in July 2012. NPSTC is currently developing three briefing documents, one each for elected and policy officials, technical personnel and users.

The Middle Class Tax Relief and job Creation Act of 2012 provides the federal legislation for the development of the NPSBN and FirstNet. The Act reallocates the 700 MHz D block spectrum to First Net. The network must be deficit neutral which means the spectrum auctions through FY2022 and user fees will build and operate the network. There will be a \$130 million nationwide grant which NTIA is developing for the States to use for planning. The NPSBN will not have proprietary standards, open standards which will be public safety driven not vendor driven. The State and local

grant will be funded 80% with Federal funds and 20% state funds. NTIA will complete the grant guidance in August 2012 but FirstNet will review before publication. The application time will be extended and the planning results are to provide resources to help FirstNet requirements and consultations. NTIA wants to make sure the development of FirstNet and the NPSBN is done right from the beginning. South Dakota and Bob Symons concurred the grant guidance needs to look past population based funding to include land masses in the funding model for the grant.

The Department of Homeland Security – Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) is revising the Statewide Communication Interoperable Plan (SCIP) implementation report templates. The revised template and guidance will become available in August 2012 and due to OEC by October 31, 2012. OEC is developing a new emergency communications strategic planning tool for the inclusion of broadband and the template and guidance will be completed this fall with a due date of December 2013. The strategic plan will help with the update of the National Emergency Communication Plan, FirstNet's plan and the NTIA state and local planning grant.

The PSCC Broadband Work Group is starting to review the state, local and private partner's inventory of potential sites which may be used with the NPSBN. The inventory assets will be important in the design of the network in Wyoming.

Election of Officers

Lanny Applegate made a motion to elect Mark Harshman Chairman of the PSCC, the motion was seconded by Jimmy Siler and the motion passed on a voice vote.

Lanny Applegate made a motion to elect Dave Johnson Vice Chairman of the PSCC, the motion was seconded by Steve Myrum and the motion passed on a voice vote.

Kim Lee made a motion to elect Jerry Kennedy Secretary of the PSCC, the motion was seconded by Bob Dean and the motion passed on a voice vote.

General Discussion

Robert Wilson stated the PSCC does not have a chairman for the Spectrum Work Group and the FCC has a request for comments on the 4.9 GHz spectrum. This spectrum is used by WYDOT and local agencies for backhaul for remote devices. Robert Wilson requested a chairman be appointed and the Spectrum Work Group develop comments to the FCC.

LinkWyoming is developing a framework document on Broadband in Wyoming which will be discussed with the Broadband Work Group. Link Wyoming has started some discussions on the Next Generation 911 (NG911) and Robert Wilson has had some discussions with Wyoming APCO on this subject.

Sheriff Hornecker thanked WyoLink and the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security for helping resolve the problems with the Kenwood radios.

Kim Lee thanked Chairman Westerfield for his leadership to the PSCC during his term as Chairman. The PSCC and guests concurred with Mr. Lee.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be in September 2012. Mr. Symons and Chairman Harshman will work to plan the September meeting in Lander. There will be a phone conference call meeting in August to review and provide comments to WYDOT on the WyoLink budget.

Being no further business, Chairman Westerfield adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Symons
Statewide Interoperable Coordinator
PSCC Administrative Support

Action Items

1. Broadband Work Group
2. PSCC Commissioner Appointments
3. Work Group Assignments
4. Portable Coverage Enhancement Sites
5. Coverage Testing
6. Nebraska – Wyoming Interoperability Plan