# State of Wyoming

## Public Safety Communications Commission

### Meeting of
### December 7, 2016
### Wyoming Game and Fish Office
### Casper, WY

Chairman Mark Harshman called the Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Moment of silence for the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

**Roll Call and Members in Attendance**:
Mark Harshman – Fire Chiefs
Brian Eggleston – DCI
Dennis Cease — State Parks and Cultural Resources - Phone
Dwane Pacheco — Police Chief's Association - Phone
Jimmy Siler — Wyoming Livestock Board - Phone
Mike Choma — Game and Fish
Doug Frank – Municipalities
Skip Hornecker - Sheriffs
Perry Jones – Wyoming Department of Transportation - Phone
Brandon Kelley — Department of Health – Phone
Jim Frank – Office of Homeland Security - Phone
Mark Young — Wyoming Fire Marshal's Office - Phone
David Gier – EMS – Phone
Lindy Glode – Carbon County Commissioner - Phone

**Members Absent**:
William Walter — Federal - Excused
Jonathan Downing – Public at Large - Excused
Leslie Shakespeare – Tribal - Excused

**Others in Attendance**:
Robert Symons — PSCC Administrative Support
Bill Panos – WYDOT Director
Pat Lewis – WYDOT Chief Technology Officer - Phone
Nathan Smolinski – WyoLink Support Manager - Phone
Troy Babbitt – WYDOT Telecommunications Program Manager/SPOC
Dan Hawkins – DHS-OEC Region VIII Coordinator
Joe Compston – Motorola
Craig Post - ComTech
Jose Crespo – Motorola
Dave Riegert – Motorola
Carl Freeman – Fremont County Sheriff's Office
Trace Blake – ATF
Lori Jackson – Casper Public Safety Communications

Jenifer Shassetz – Sheridan Police Dept - Phone
Russell Dalgarn – Converse County EMA – Phone
Larry Sheridan – WYDOT Telecom - Phone
Troy Berg – WyoLink – Phone
Wyoming Highway Patrol Dispatch – Phone
Joey Williams – Campbell County Sheriff's Office
Dale Osbourne – Montana Highway Patrol – Phone
Robin Etienne – Sweetwater Combined Communications Center – Phone
Jim Downes – DHS-OEC – Phone
Patrick Lamb – Absolute Solutions – Phone
Liv Degerness – Absolute Solutions – Phone

Recognition of New Commissioners and WYDOT Appointments

Lindy Glode, Carbon County Commissioner is representing County Government. Pat Lewis was introduced as the WYDOT Chief Technology Officer and Troy Babbitt was introduced as the new WYDOT Telecommunications Program Manager.

**Meeting Agenda**:

Chairman Harshman asked for any changes, additions, or deletions to the draft agenda. ***Brian Eggleston made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Doug Frank and passed on a voice vote.***

**Minutes from September 14, 2016:**

Chairman Harshman asked for approval of the September 14, 2016 minutes. ***Doug Frank made a motion to approve the September 14, 2016 minutes and the motion was seconded by Skip Hornecker. The motion passed on a voice vote***.

WyoLink Operations Work Group - Brian Eggleston

The WyoLink Operations Work Group met by phone on December 6, 2016 to discuss the University of Utah Hospital AirMed Program WyoLink Application. The Work Group approved the application and forwarded to the PSCC for consideration.

Administration and Funding – Mark Harshman

The Administration and Funding Work Group did not have a formal meeting.

Spectrum Work Group – Bob Symons

The Spectrum Work Group did not meet in the past quarter

<u>Interoperability Executive Committee – Skip Hornecker</u>

The Interoperability Executive Committee did not meet the past quarter.

<u>Broadband Work Group – Troy Babbitt</u>

Troy Babbitt provided an update on the current activities of FirstNet.  FirstNet has not awarded the Request of Proposal vendor at this time. There is proposal from Department of Commerce to recover the unused State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) and then create a SLIGP 2 grant to help with the FirstNet state plans. The SLIGP 2 grant is in the planning stage and the grant guidance has not been issued.

<u>Staff Reports - Bob Symons</u>

Bob Symons reported that on September 30, 2016 he was moved from the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security to Wyoming Department of Transportation. The office in on the main floor of WYDOT Headquarters.  Bob is the process of archiving the PSCC files.

Mr. Symons is working with the WyoLink Support Office to complete the PSCC Annual Report to the governor.  The PSCC is late with the report, but has been given an extension to complete the report. Mr. Symons is working on moving the WyoLink and PSCC web pages to the WYDOT web site.  The WyoLink Web pages have been moved and Mr. Symons will be getting the new links published upon the completion of the PSCC web pages.

The SAFECOM and National Council of Statewide Interoperable Coordinators (NCSWIC) met for a joint meeting the last week of October.  The SAFECOM agenda included information overload challenges in an evolving ecosystem, life cycle funding discussion, SAFECOM guidance, SAFECOM Engagement Team, and heard from the DHS Office for interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) on goals, accomplishments and plans focusing on communication projects. The joint meeting discussed the Nationwide Communications Baseline Assessment which is scheduled for 2017, update on developing a nationwide Communications Unit (COMU) Governance structure, Federal Partnership of Interoperable Communications (FPIC) discussion on encryption and standards, federal and non-federal interoperability update on use and availability of federal interoperability channels and brainstorming nationwide interoperability goals. The NCSWIC meeting held discussions on the National Governors Association Policy Academy on Enhancing Emergency Communications Interoperability, Statewide Governance and Planning Integration Project Team products and services, working session on utilizing NCSWIC promotional materials and a funding communications systems panel.

Bob Symons attended the Governor's Broadband Conference in October. Mr. Symons has also been working with Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, WYDOT and local agencies on communication planning for the August 2017 eclipse

<u>WyoLink Support Managers Report</u>

Nathan Smolinski provided an update on the WyoLink activities. For 2016, through end of November, WyoLink has logged 18.5 million calls with 7 hours busies and has created1900

codeplugs. The WyoLink user's invoices have been sent out and the agencies have been returning the point of contacts. The primary reason for the invoices is to update the WyoLink users information including the number of user equipment. The WyoLink status meeting will be on January 3$^{rd}$ and the meetings are moving to quarterly meetings. If there becomes a reason to change the meeting schedule, Nathan stated the WyoLink support Office will schedule more meetings. Interested parties may contact Nathan or Bob Symons to be added to the meeting invitation.

Nathan represents WyoLink on the WYDOT eclipse planning group and will be assisting with the communication planning for the event.

**Old Business:**

PSCC Work Groups

Bob Symons presented the PSCC Work Groups rosters, which were sent to Chairman Harshman for his approval. Mr. Symons asked about what topics or products the PSCC would like the work groups to work on this next year.

**New Business:**

WYDOT Update – Director William Panos

Director Panos spoke about the changes at WYDOT pertaining to WyoLink and PSCC. Questions about the WyoLink and PSCC changes are encouraged and staff are available to answer the questions. What are the plans for improving WyoLink? WyoLink is an outstanding system, but there is more work and modernizing which will need to be considered as the system usage matures. Director Panos divided the plan into three parts technology, financing and governance.

**Technology** – Technology is moving fast in many telecommunication disciplines. Determining what type of technology is the important, what technology is financially sound and what technology will add the most value are also important questions. The future task will be to look at effective technology for interoperability and useful for users throughout the State. WYDOT is adding and improving the technology staff and WYDOT's capacity to strengthen decision-making on technology.

**Financial** – The financial conversation about WyoLink has three parts. Capitalization costs, modernization cost and operation/maintenance costs The "tower to vehicle" investment has been strong and there is current funding to complete capitalization of the "tower to vehicle" technology. The capitalization of the technology for "vehicle to user" capability is more difficult but WYDOT is identifying capital funding for that portion as well. The modernization of the WyoLink system is a future discussion. We are currently deploying an approach for funding operations and maintenance cost with our local partners

WYDOT has sent out the first "Do Not Pay" (audit) bill based upon the number of units and amount of usage. The invoices do not include other costs for modernization or capitalization co. WYDOT assumes the inventory listed in the individual invoices are not correct and the user agencies are being asked to correct the information. A second audit bill will be sent with the user agency corrections

later in 2017 to verify the information.  The first maintenance and operation invoice to be paid will be in 2018.  Director Panos asked users to focus on the value of the interoperable communications when considering the future cost of system operation /maintenance.

**Governance –** Governance improvements are focused on increasing accountability and oversight of WyoLink. The state has started to combine the system elements into one place. WYDOT has the responsibility and capability to increase the functionality of WyoLink and PSCC.  The state legislature has proposed a bill to change the governance structure of the PSCC to make it the third commission overseeing WYDOT. The proposed bill will streamline the number of members from 17 to 11 members and focus the membership on local governments and public safety disciplines. The goal is to help raise the stature and functionality of the PSCC.

Overall, the WyoLink system needs to be value added, resilient and financially sustainable. This includes appropriate cost-sharing between partner agencies and the state.  The system needs to be cost-effective from several points of view. The approach of focusing on better technology, financial integrity and governance will provide a stronger and more capable system, today and into the future.

2016 Annual Report to the Governor

Bob Symons presented the draft Annual Report to the Governor. The Governor's Office has allowed the PSCC to be late on the report, but requests the report as soon as possible.  The annual report reviews the achievements for 2016, commission members and operating structure, activities, and priorities for 2017. The challenges presented include WyoLink funding, WyoLink coverage and FirstNet – National Public Safety Broadband Network.  Bob Symons and Nathan Smolinski are working on the WyoLink usage reports and upon completing the usage reports, they will be incorporated into the annual report.  Upon the completion of the annual report, copies will be sent to the PSCC before submittal to Governor's office

Federal Interoperability MOU

Bob Symons presented the MOU from the Department of Interior (DOI) that will allow the state, local, tribal and territorial public safety agencies to use federal law enforcement and incident response (LE & IR) channels to improve interoperability with federal agencies. The MOU was a joint effort between the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Interior, Department of Homeland Security – Office of Emergency Communications (DHS-OEC) and the National Council of Statewide Interoperable Coordinators (NCSWIC).  The NTIA made some modifications to their rules to allow the Statewide Interoperable Coordinator (SWIC) to be the state coordinator for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to grant authority to program and use the Federal Interoperability Channels for interoperable communications. The draft MOU was reviewed by the Wyoming Attorney General's Office and their recommendations have been included in the final MOU.  Once the final MOU is presented to Wyoming, Bob Symons will have the MOU reviewed by the Attorney General's Office and then sign and return the MOU to the Department of Interior for their signature.

WyoLink Membership Application

Brian Eggleston presented the WyoLink Membership Application from the University of Utah AirMed Program.  The contract vendor for the University of Utah hospital was a member of WyoLink and that vendor has been changed.  The University of Utah felt it would be better for them to hold the WyoLink membership and not have to change the membership for any future air medical service which has a contract with the university. **Mike Choma made a motion to approve the WyoLink Membership for the University of Utah Air Med Program, seconded by Jimmy Siler. The motion passed on a voice vote.**

*General Discussion*

Public Comments

Russel Dalgarn asked about the status of console to console talkgroups. The console to console talkgroup has been created and it is statewide.  Nathan Smolinski and Bob Symons will work with the dispatch centers to provide information about the console to console talkgroups and possible additional console talkgroups.

Next Meeting

The next PSCC meeting will be March 2017.  Bob Symons will work with the PSCC Commissioners on scheduling the March 2017 meeting.

Being no further business before the commission, Chairman Harshman adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.


Respectfully submitted,


Robert Symons
PSCC Administrative Support