

Public Safety Communications Commission



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We would like to thank you for your interest in Wyoming's PSCC. We welcome any questions, comments, or suggestions you may have to this publication. You may direct them to Bob Symons at 307.777.5065 or by email at bsymon@state.wy.us

Proposed Budgets

There are two budgets that directly relate to the Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) and WyDOT/WyoLink.

The PSCC budget is within the Administration and Information (A & I) budget. The Governor has approved and sent to the Legislature the following budget for the PSCC.

The standard budget request for PSCC quarterly meetings, working group meetings and development of operating rules and regulations for the network and user training in the amount of \$5,760. The \$5,760 was changed from the A & I internal fund to a general fund request. A full time staff member to support the Commission's mission - \$116,248. The staff member will maintain a close liaison with regional, county and municipal organizations and agencies involved in WyoLink and assist the PSCC in developing annual reports, creating a statewide networking plan and coordinating user training. Travel and per diem for the PSCC and staff member - \$6,000. Coordinate the subscriber training related to WyoLink - \$13,000. These funds will be used to secure services of master trainers and cover expenses for materials and certification related to WyoLink user training. The Governor's recommendation for the PSCC for the biennium is \$141,008.

There are two requests submitted by WyDOT, one for WyoLink development and support and the other for the State Agency Law Enforcement Communications System (SALECS).

The WyDOT/WyoLink budget request was divided into three areas: System Development, System Support, and Local Agency Support.

The budget for system development includes the Motorola contract and contingency funds - \$10,628,177, a portion of the master site expansion - \$400,000, spectrum fingerprinting - \$430,314 and spectrum purchase (if needed) - \$2,500,000 for a total request of \$13,958,491.

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<http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

Views From the Vice Chairman

The Vice-Chairman of the Public Safety Communications Commission is Steve DeCecco. DeCecco is a 25-year employee of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and is currently the Regional Wildlife Supervisor in the Green River Region. He is the Game and Fish Representative on the Commission.



When asked how WyoLink would help the Game and Fish Department with its mission, DeCecco responded “We want to maintain and improve radio coverage and our ability to effectively communicate with a broader array of public safety agencies.” The Game and Fish has been the primary subscriber agency to State Agency Law Enforcement Communication System (SALECS) since its inception. SALECS has served the agency well with statewide communication for the field people as well as interaction with other agencies. The Game and Fish Department has a need for efficient communications with local, county, state and federal agencies when involved with multi-agency incidents, assisting each other and day-today coordination. “WyoLink will allow us to have simple and effective interoperable contact with the broad array of public safety agencies.” WyoLink, being a trunked radio system, will provide a better system to talk across all of Wyoming, no switching towers and the ability to talk “real-time” with personnel outside the range of a local tower.

DeCecco believes the benefits of WyoLink to the State of Wyoming and its citizen’s lies in the interoperability of the system. Public safety personnel frequently rely on each other and have an important need to be able to readily communicate to support one another and better protect Wyoming citizens. “The citizens should see a marked improvement on our ability to respond quickly and effectively to their public safety needs.”

Funding is the top priority of the PSCC. We have good support at the state and federal level and look for that to continue. According to DeCecco, another important challenge is in keeping the needs and concerns of all potential subscribing agencies in the forefront as WyoLink development expands across Wyoming. The Commission will need to maintain good communication and coordination with local agencies to achieve the goals and objective of the PSCC and WyoLink.

Since the formation of the PSCC in July 2004, DeCecco is encouraged about the progress the Commission has made in just eighteen months, the commissioners are all active on working groups and are collaborating well. “We have a great group of professionals with the WyoLink project team, support staff and numerous subject experts that are providing assistance to the PSCC.”

Upcoming Events

Calendar posted @ <http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

1/30/06 * 2/27/06 * 3/26/06 Project Team Meetings 1 pm—3 pm@
Qwest Building, Room 350

This is a monthly meeting held by the WyoLink Project Manager and Motorola. The meeting gives an overview of the progress over the past month, what is taking place in the near future, and any problems or concerns that need to be addressed with WyoLink.

3/16/06 - PSCC Meeting— Location to be Determined

This is the quarterly general business meeting of the PSCC. Each committee gives a standing report; any concerns or problems are discussed and action taken, if needed. A progress report on the WyoLink project is also presented.

Proposed Budgets (Continued)

The system support will be the start of the on-going costs to keep WyoLink functioning and includes support contract for phase 1 and the salaries and benefits for system administrators in the amount of \$753,347. The salaries and benefits are for a support manager and two network specialists.

The local agency support request for \$21,000,000 includes a second zone controller in Casper - \$4,950,000, additional microwave redundancy - \$6,000,000, leased T-1 circuits for local dispatch center connectivity - \$3,600,000 and console upgrade assistance - \$6,450,000. The second zone controller will add reliability to the system. The microwave redundancy closes some of the microwave loops in the state microwave system and provides upgrades to the microwave system. The T-1 lines would provide connectivity to the microwave system or zone controllers and the local dispatch centers. To help the local dispatch centers with console upgrades to provide for connectivity to WyoLink, an upgrade assistance program is requested in the amount of \$150,000 per dispatch center. These funds will be distributed by a grant process and needs of each dispatch center. Some dispatch centers need a complete console equipment change and some dispatch centers will only require the equipment for connectivity and the costs could vary from \$20,000 to \$1,500,000 per dispatch center.

The SALECS budget is an internal fund budget, the users of SALECS provide the funds that are used to maintain, install and operate SALECS. The standard budget for the biennium is \$1,006,164.

PSCC Members

Chairman

Jim Narva
State Fire Marshal

Vice-Chair

Steve DeCecco
Game and Fish

Secretary

Jerry Kennedy
County Government

Bob Wyatt
Public at Large

Kebin Haller
DCI

Billy Janes
Police Chief's Association

Mark Harshman
Fire Chief's Association

Bill Westerfield
State Parks and Cultural Resources

Russ Christiansen
Emergency Medical Services

Kelly Hamilton
Livestock Board

Colonel Sam Powell
Wyoming Department of Transportation

Bob Dean
Health Department

Kim Lee
Homeland Security

Neil Kourbelas
Municipal Government

Mark Joiner
Federal Agency

Dave Mattis
Sheriff's Association

Executive Director

Earl Atwood

Staff Support

Bob Symons

Master Trainers

The first Motorola Master Trainer class has been scheduled for February, 2006. A second class will be scheduled in late 2006 or early 2007. A total of 22 trainers will be trained by Motorola on all of the features available on Motorola trunking radios, the trunking radio system and WyoLink procedures. Customizable tools kits will be included in the training that will be used to develop training materials specific to the equipment being used. As part of the training, standardized radio configurations have been developed for each radio model. Upon completion of the training, the master trainers will be able to provide train-the-trainer classes to local trainers with the training specific to the model (s) of radios used by that agency. I am working with the manufacturers of WyoLink compatible equipment to provide similar training for their products.

The WyoLink Operations Work Group has decided that there should be two Master Trainers in each regional response area – one from law enforcement and one from fire/EMS. If anyone is interested in becoming a WyoLink Master Trainer, they should contact Bob Symons at bsymon@state.wy.us or 307-777-5065.

WyoLink Status

Contractors are currently working on the upgrades to the master site at the WyDOT facility. The upgrades include a new electrical service, cooling and fire suppression system. During this work the master site equipment has been shut down and protected.

The master site and five radio sites – 85 South, Sherman Hill, Russell Hill, North Albin and Whitcomb Hill will be brought on-line starting January 30, 2006. This will complete the construction of the pilot phase. Motorola and the WyoLink project team will complete the functional acceptance test plan in February. After the acceptance test procedures are completed and signed off, the functional exercises will begin. These exercises will provide simulated incidents to test for interoperability and functionality of the system. Upon the completion of all upgrades and testing, WyoLink will be ready for subscribers.

WyoLink Compatible Equipment

An “All Agency Pricing Structure for Radio Equipment” has been established that provides competitive pricing for WyoLink subscriber radio equipment. This price agreement provides radio equipment from multiple manufacturers at prices equal to or better than what an individual agency could obtain through a separate procurement process. This agreement is available <http://wyolink.wy.gov> and click on the equipment link.

PSCC Newsletter

The goal of the PSCC Newsletter is to disseminate information to all agencies and individuals interested in the PSCC. To reduce printing and postage costs all issues will be in electronic format. If you would like to continue receiving the PSCC newsletter please visit <http://pscc.wyoming.gov> and click on E-mail/Newsletter sign up. This will be a quarterly, electronic publication distributed after every Commission meeting.

PSCC Mission:

The mission of the Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission is to develop recommendations for policy and guidelines, identify technology and standards, and coordinate intergovernmental resources to facilitate statewide interoperability with emphasis on public safety.