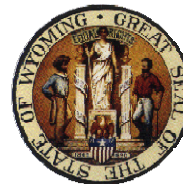


Public Safety Communications Commission



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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

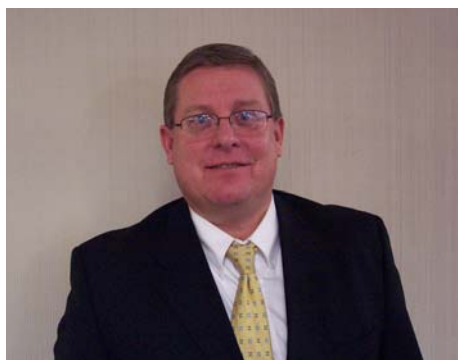
Kim Lee

Kim Lee represents the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security on the commission. He is the Unit Chief with the office and have been employed by the state of Wyoming for 2 ½ years. Kim has over 30 years of experience in public safety working in fire service, law enforcement and emergency medical services. He was the Emergency Management Coordinator for Fremont County for 18 years.

A modern communications system is vital to the performance of all agencies when responding and recovering from acts of terrorism and other natural and man-made disasters. Interoperability must be built in across all public safety networks for the purpose of coordination during large scale incidents.

The WyoLink benefits include achieving inter-operability across all agency networks will provide a direct benefit to the public in terms of streamlining coordination for life safety missions during times of major incidents impacting a community. A state-side system will provide for streamlined operation and cost factors shared by all jurisdictions. A VHF digital trunked radio system will enhance first responder safety by harnessing automatic vehicle location capability, transmission of digital data in the form of pictures and diagrams and other modern technologies not presently in use.

Some of the challenges facing WyoLink are acquisition of additional frequencies to meet the needs of the network. Outreach to all levels of municipal, county, tribal and state government agencies, boards and commissions and others to present the facts and identify challenges as we move forward with this project. Additional funding sources to maintain the system for years to come.



Kim Lee



Bob Dean

<http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

Bob Dean

Bob Dean has served 39 years in public safety. He has worked variously in Emergency Medical Services, Fire Services, County and Federal Law Enforcement, and Public Safety Communications. His beginnings were with ambulance services, moving into the federal Civil Defense Disaster Planning, Operations, and Communications programs. He then expanded into firefighting and fire-rescue.

The Department of Health has within its structure many disciplines including but not limited to, Emergency Medical Services, Public Health Nursing, and the Public Health Terrorism Preparedness Program. Beginning in the late 90's the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) initiated a review the existing state of radios and communications in the statewide Wyoming EMS system. In 2003, the Office of Emergency Medical Services through the HRSA Bio Terrorism and Hospital Preparedness grant purchased new P-25 WyoLink compatible radios for each licensed ambulance and each hospital in Wyoming. Additionally the OEMS is able to provide communications to the statewide medical clinics that receive patients in their respective communities.

Among the challenges facing WyoLink project, is to build a system that addresses the needs of the local EMS, Fire, and Law Enforcement community as they look today. Then being able to "readily" expand and modify the system to facilitate the changing technologies of the near future in a cost effective manner. Another challenge is to provide *better than existing* services to statewide EMS, Fire, and Law Enforcement without taking away something that works today. An existing challenge today is to provide "real time" communications for ambulances traversing the state with patients from hospital to hospital and not limit their operational knowledge in times of weather or emergent travel. There is at any time a decided lack of Public Safety providers on duty or available in most counties of Wyoming to assist one another. The capability of being able to listen to multiple agencies wherein one may assist on a day to day basis improves the Public Safety providers safety and coverage. The inclusion of the WyoLink system should be to better facilitate statewide communications in day to day localized operations as well as a disaster setting.

Over all, the WyoLink project has accomplished much since the inception of the project several years ago. In the future there is still much to be done. By its very nature the WyoLink project is dynamic in its development. The challenge for WyoLink is to make the technology work for Wyoming, not make Wyoming work for the technology.

Lanny Applegate

Lanny Applegate works for the State of Wyoming as Fire Marshal. He was offered the position by Governor Freudenthal in June of this year and started on August 1st. Lanny is married to Delene and have two children. Jill who lives in Lander and works for Fremont County S. O. (Jill also provided him with 2 grand children Jack & Ashli) and Josh who lives in Denver. He started with the Fire Service October 1975 and worked his way up from fireman to Chief. In 1989, Lanny was hired full time by the City of Lander as the Fire Administrator. He was also an EMT from 1975-1987 in Lander.

Part of the responsibilities of this office is being involved with different committees. He was appointed to the PSCC and SERC Committees by the Governor. Lanny sees the PSCC/WyoLink program as the opportunity to provide better interoperability for those departments that choose to use it. It is not the "cure all" for all our radio needs and concerns, but is a step in the right direction.

Communications with other agencies (local, State, Federal) has always demanded a better arrangement to talk with each other. WyoLink has given us the tools to do this. The issues that will continue to face us will be 800 MHz –vs- VHF and how to best have them interface with other departments. What is the best approach to this and what can we do to interface all facets of radio communications to help us make our 1st responders safer?

Some of the challenges that we will have to work with involving mobile and portable radios are that they have two very different capabilities in their reliability and ranges. Repeater sites will be ongoing if emergency services want more and better coverages for our portable radios. With this comes the challenge of funding, how much and where do we get it.

With all this said, I believe that with the Commission that is in place and communicating with our users, we will have a better communications system in the near future for all.

Upcoming Events

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

1/15/07 * 2/26/07 * 3/26/07 Project Team Meetings 10 am—12 pm

@ WyDOT Planning Building, 2nd Floor Training Room

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.

12/12/06 - PSCC Meeting— Casper College—Strausner Student Center—
Room 217—10:00 am

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.

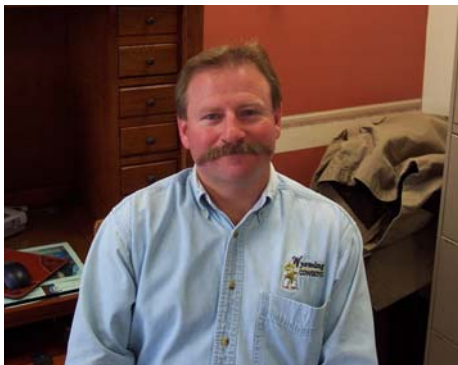
Jimmy Siler

Jimmy Dean Siler is the Law Enforcement Administrator for the Wyoming Livestock Board and represents the Board on the PSCC. As Law Enforcement Administrator he oversees all the investigations and enforcement issues for the Livestock Industry within the State of Wyoming. The investigations and enforcement consist of livestock theft, animal health/welfare, brand violation and homeland security. He was previously employed as a Criminal Investigator with the Air Force of Special Investigations until his retirement in November 1998. In December 1998 he began employment as Special Agent with Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation South East Enforcement Team until my retirement in December 2005.

Jimmy envisions WyoLink helping the Livestock Board a couple of ways; First, giving Livestock Investigators and Brand Inspectors greater coverage in the areas they serve. Our mission takes us into areas far more remote than some; Second, the capability to communicate with other agencies provides a much needed interoperability.

When asked about the benefits of WyoLink, Jimmy responded, "Better coverage and a team concept of shared communicating groups."

The challenges facing WyoLink includes providing a system that can meet the needs of the using agencies. One that is cost effective, easily shared and provides capabilities in the future.



Jimmy Siler



Lanny Applegate

PSCC Members

Chairman

Steve DeCecco
Game and Fish

Vice-Chairman

Bill Westerfield
State Parks and Cultural Resources

Secretary

Jerry Kennedy
County Government

Lanny Applegate
State Fire Marshal

Russ Christiansen
Emergency Medical Services

Bob Dean
Dept. of Health

Kebin Haller
DCI

Mark Harshman
Fire Chief's

Billy Janes
Police Chief's

Mark Joiner
Federal

Neil Kourbelas
Municipalities

Kim Lee
Homeland Security

Dave Mattis
Sheriff's

Doug Noseep
Tribal

Col. Sam Powell
Wyoming Department of Transportation

Jimmy Siler
Livestock

Bob Wyatt
Public at Large

Executive Director

Earl Atwood

Staff Support

Bob Symons

Portable Radio Coverage on WyoLink

The PSCC has received many comments on portable radio coverage with WyoLink. The commission understands the high importance of portable radio coverage for many local public safety agencies across Wyoming. It has been recognized from the beginning that as the project progresses through the planned phases, specific portable radio coverage in each community would be evaluated and the WyoLink project team would work with local entities in each community to identify the best options for addressing their needs.

For this reason, the PSCC has never viewed WyoLink as a "mobile only" solution. It is true that the funding provided by the State to build out the infrastructure for WyoLink was predicated on first meeting the state goal of 95% mobile radio coverage statewide. This is the basic promise taken to the Governor and the Legislature coming out of the Public Safety Mobile Communications plan. We believe this course should not be modified without proper review by the Governor and the Legislature, otherwise the credibility of the project and the PSCC might be called into question by those who have given their valuable support to this endeavor.

It has also been well understood that collaboration on engineering and funding between the WyoLink project and local public safety entities would be needed to properly evaluate and solve the needs for portable, in-building coverage in municipal areas. The PSCC continues to operate on the belief that this can be done effectively in each community, assuming that local entities are willing to direct their resources in concert with WyoLink to meet specific local requirements.

It is important to keep in mind that the WyoLink project plan was created to establish a statewide framework for future interoperability of all public safety radio systems. As long as we have cooperative, open communication between stakeholders and a recognition that the entire network will take time to develop, we do not believe it is in the best interest of the State of Wyoming to significantly alter the plan.

U.S. Department of Interior MOU

The Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission and the United States Department of Interior will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the December 12, 2006 PSCC meeting in Casper.

This MOU is the result of a federal agency summit held in April between the PSCC, WyoLink and federal agencies that have offices or provide services in Wyoming. The federal agencies have a need for radio communications in Wyoming and it is not feasible for them to construct their own radio systems. WyoLink has the capabilities to provide a radio communications system that will meet the needs of the federal agencies. Using one system will also provide interoperable communications between local, state and federal agencies.

WyoLink has faced challenges with acquiring radio spectrum within the VHF band. Having this signed MOU will allow WyoLink to implement NTIA frequencies within the frequency engineering plan.

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://psc.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.