



Dave Freudenthal
Governor

State of Wyoming

Kim Lee
Chairman

Public Safety Communications Commission

~ 2009 Annual Report to the Governor of the State of Wyoming ~

Mission Statement and Statutory Responsibilities

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

Wyoming Statute 9-2-1104 states the commission shall:

- (ii) **Report in writing each year in October to the governor concerning any problems related to the installation, operation and maintenance of the system and shall make any recommendations it deems appropriate as part of the report.**

Achievements for 2008 and 2009

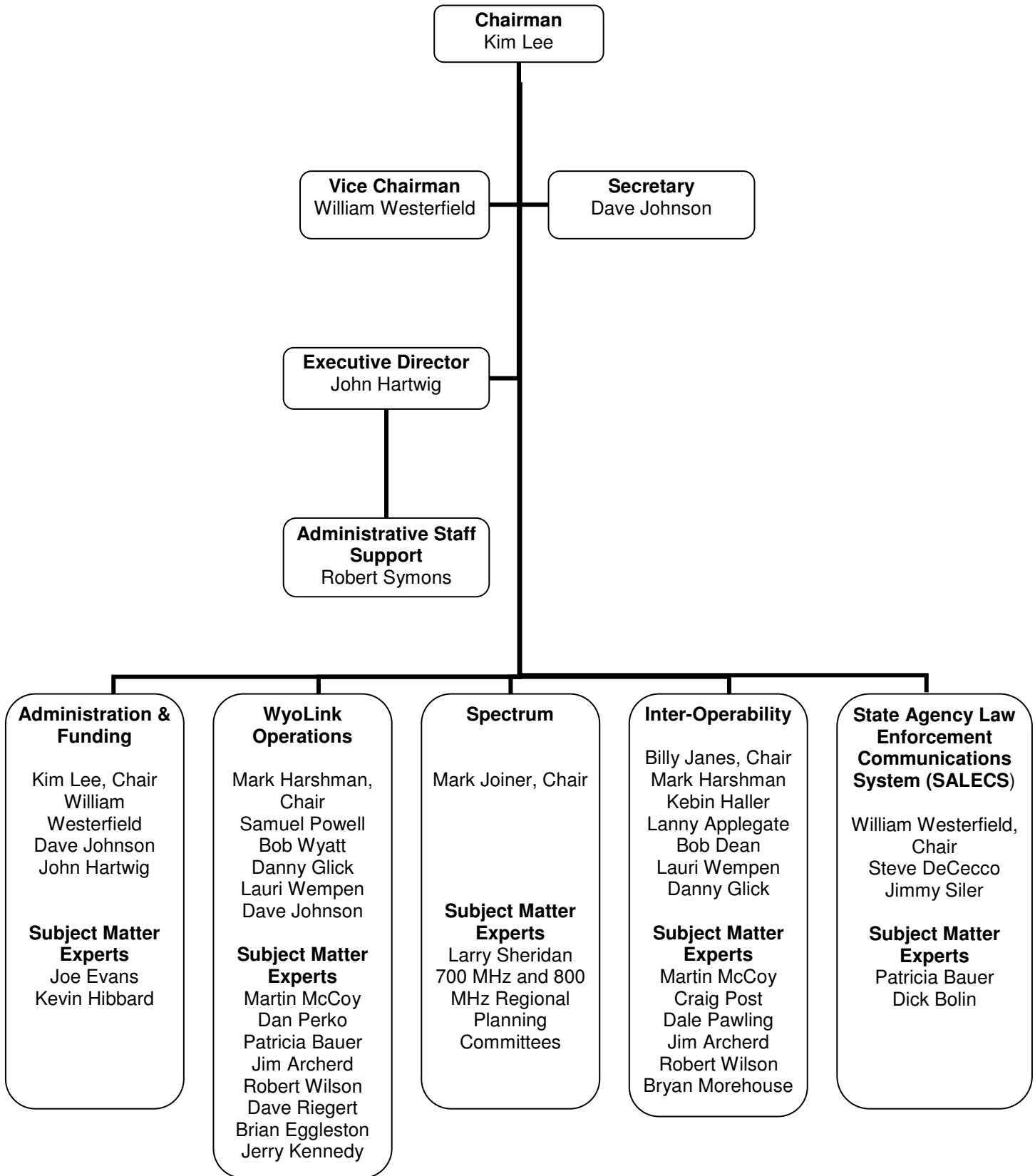
The Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) and the WyoLink program have achieved many accomplishments and goals this past year:

- Memorandum of Understanding for WyoLink system usage of Federal assigned frequencies with Department of Homeland Security.
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) authorized sharing 74 frequencies for WyoLink usage. WyoLink core sites have a minimum of five channels per site.
- 123 WyoLink membership applications have been approved
- 3,301 subscriber units (console positions, mobile and portable radios) programmed and operable on WyoLink
- 41 of 57 WyoLink radio sites have been activated and operational
- Construction completed on 8 sites, will be activated in 2009
- Developed portable radio coverage testing protocols and coverage assessments completed in all counties
- Portable Radio Coverage Enhancement Grant application published and distributed to the counties and dispatch centers.
- Provided communications for the NUWAIX exercise at F.E. Warren AFB and Camp Guernsey with interoperable communications between Military, FBI, Department of Energy and local resources.
- Quarterly meetings held in Cheyenne, Torrington and Riverton. One video conference meeting held in June, the PSCC will be holding two video conference meetings each year, to reduce travel costs.
- WyoLink and Interoperable Communications Training Program provided to Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy and Wyoming Fire Marshal's Office for end-user training.

Commission Members and Operating Structure

The PSCC is comprised of representatives appointed by the Governor from the following public safety agencies, professional associations, and State departments:

Representing	Name	Location
Wyoming Police Chief's Association	Billy Janes, Police Chief	Torrington
Wyoming Sheriff's Association	Danny Glick, Sheriff	Laramie County
Division of Criminal Investigation, Office of the Attorney General	Kebin Haller, Assistant Director	Cheyenne
Wyoming Game and Fish Department	Steve DeCecco, Regional Wildlife Supervisor	Green River
Wyoming Department of Transportation	Colonel Samuel Powell, Wyoming Highway Patrol	Cheyenne
Wyoming Livestock Board	Jimmy Siler, Law Enforcement Administrator	Cheyenne
Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources	William Westerfield, Field Support Manager/Chief Ranger	Cheyenne
Wyoming Fire Chief's Association	Mark Harshman, Division Chief Casper Fire Department	Casper
Wyoming State Fire Marshal	Lanny Applegate, Director	Cheyenne
Wyoming Office of Homeland Security	Kim Lee, Operations Chief	Cheyenne
The Public at Large	Robert J. Wyatt, Attorney	Sheridan
Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services Organization	Lauri Wempen, Director Fremont County Ambulance	Riverton
Municipal Government or a municipal government association	Dave Johnson, Wyoming Association of Municipalities	Cheyenne
County Government or county government association	Leland Christensen, County Commissioner	Teton County
Wyoming Department of Health	Robert Dean, Senior EMS Trainer	Cheyenne
Tribal Government or tribal government association	Vernon Hill, Wind River EMA Coordinator	Fort Washakie
Federal Government or federal government association	Mark Joiner, US Bureau of Land Management	Lander



Wyoming PSCC Organization Chart
(Effective 10/31/2009)

Activities

Ongoing projects include:

- Through the guidelines of the *WyoLink Readiness Document* assist agencies prepare for WyoLink system usage and identify the agency *Relationship Manager*
- Dispatch Center Connectivity Grants
- Portable Radio Coverage Enhancement Testing and Grants
- Public agency out-reach problem solving and County-Wide Talkgroup development
- Publication of PSCC quarterly newsletters and updating PSCC and WyoLink policies and activities on the PSCC website at <http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

Priorities for 2010

- Communication and collaboration with potential user agencies on WyoLink membership
- Implementation, review and modification of WyoLink user training
- Monitor WyoLink system construction progress and activation of radio sites
- Work with local agencies, as the core infrastructure is completed, on identifying areas of critical concern for portable radio coverage enhancements.
- Provide support to the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security in the distribution of Federal interoperability funds to local authorities toward implementation of interoperable initiatives.

Challenges

Coverage Enhancements

Elk Mountain - The PSCC, through the WyoLink Operations Work Group, and WyoLink have identified areas along Interstate 80, in the Elk Mountain area, which have radio coverage problems. This coverage problem is due to the terrain and physics involved with radio frequency transmissions. WyoLink is currently reviewing options for improving coverage within this area. As more agencies start testing coverage for potential transition to WyoLink, additional areas may be identified for coverage enhancements.

Local Agencies - The local jurisdictions in Wyoming have identified a need for improved portable radio coverage in cities and towns. The PSCC issued the following policy statement on June 22, 2007 to address this need: *“There is no local responder link in “WyoLink” until the goal of mobile and portable radio communications interoperability is achieved. Therefore, the goal of WyoLink coverage enhancement is to achieve interoperable public safety communications comparable with existing portable radio coverage and in areas of critical concern, identified through testing and cooperative efforts with local public safety providers, determined after statewide deployment in an area. There is an expectation of local participation within the jurisdictional area of influence.”*

Legislative Support - The Wyoming Legislature has provided \$8,030,000 to fund expansion of the core WyoLink system for local responder portable coverage. These funds are for the radio frequency and communications portion of developing up to 22 areas of concern. The Governor and Legislature recognized the need for local participation in the development of the expansion sites and provided

another \$4,000,000 in grant funds. The PSCC has developed and distributed a grant package to assist the local areas with financial assistance to the localities for the development of radio sites.

Portable radio coverage predictions have been completed in all counties. During this assessment, the local jurisdictions were asked to provide assistance identifying areas of local concern and potential portable radio coverage enhancement site locations. The coverage predictions and local participation will be used for the determination of the grants.

Radio Site Acquisitions

Federal - The largest landowner in Wyoming is the Federal Government, approximately 47% of the State. The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and National Park Service (NPS) and the Department of Agriculture, United States Forest Service (USFS) lands are the primary Federal land agencies.

Permitting - Building a statewide trunked radio system in Wyoming requires the leasing of federal lands for radio sites. Many challenges and requirements exist when leasing Federal lands. WyoLink is currently working with the Bridger/Teton National Forest on four radio site leases and the Big Horn National Forest on one radio site lease. These radio sites are part of the core 57 radio-site plan for WyoLink. Three additional sites in the leasing process are microwave only sites which provide the backbone connectivity to the radio sites. The WyoLink Project Team is working with the State of Idaho on a site sharing agreement for a radio site in Idaho. The leasing process is moving forward on all of the lease applications. The WyoLink Project Team has been addressing all concerns as they have been brought forth by the Federal Agencies. Upon the receipt of the signed leases, construction can begin in 2010.

End User Training

All users of the WyoLink system must be trained in basic radio operations and interoperable communications. There could be approximately 8000 users of WyoLink including, emergency medical services, fire, law enforcement, state agencies, public works, school districts, tribal and federal agencies.

The Public Safety Communications Commission, in conjunction with the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, Wyoming Fire Marshal's Office and the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy developed a state-wide training program, which will provide basic level courses, train-the trainer sessions for program continuance and advanced level courses. Providing the training at the local level with contract instructors has started and meeting the agency time frames could become a challenge.

The State of Wyoming, through the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, has received two grants which will provide the funding for the end user training. The Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant (PSIC) will provide \$329,472 and the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Communications Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant program (IECGP) will provide \$226,379 for a total of \$555,851 for training. This funding requires no matching funds.

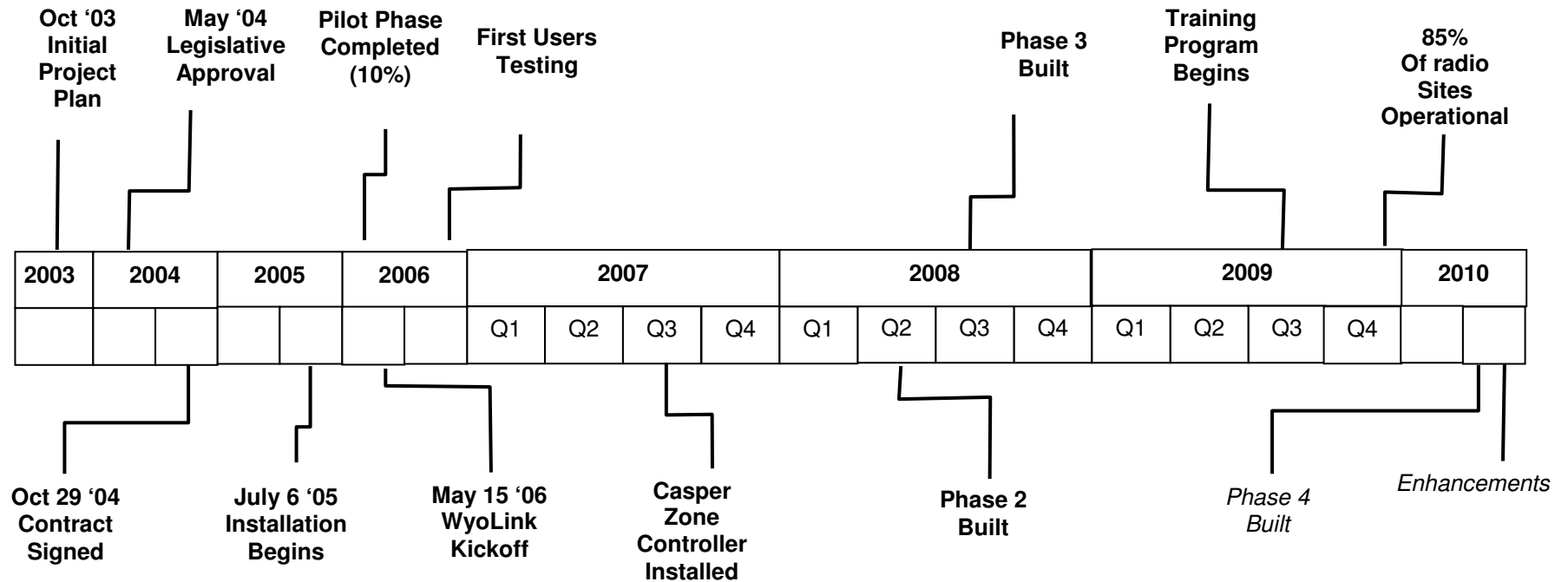
WyoLink Usage

Month/Year	Calls	Duration hours:minutes:seconds	Busy Calls	Duration hours:minutes:seconds	Average Voice Call Duration
Oct - 2008	45,735	104:45:16	8	0:00:27	0:00:09
Nov - 2008	124,401	366:04:55	16	0:00:16	0:00:10
Dec - 2008	166,705	454:14:26	31	0:05:15	0:00:11
Jan - 2009	149,126	431:22:55	38	0:04:18	0:00:11
Feb - 2009	139,350	435:31:18	32	0:01:07	0:00:11
Mar - 2009	182,882	551:40:31	84	0:03:43	0:00:10
Apr - 2009	186,422	565:46:41	32	0:00:50	0:00:10
May - 2009	150,193	418:52:53	9	0:00:18	0:00:10
June - 2009	135,617	400:07:13	21	0:00:29	0:00:10
July - 2009	138,927	378:25:36	2	0:00:21	0:00:10
Aug - 2009	133,822	377:55:13	11	0:00:20	0:00:10
Sept - 2009	136,452	426:01:44	5	0:00:06	0:00:11
Summary	1,689,632	4,910:48:41	289	0:17:30	0:00:10

WyoLink Users

FBI	Wyoming Department of Agriculture	Albany County – Testing
ATF	DEA	Carbon County - Testing
Laramie County EMA	US Marshals Service	Rawlins Police Dept – Testing
Cheyenne Fire	USAF – FE Warren AFB	Sheridan County – Testing
WY Dept of Corrections	Wyoming Military Department	Sheridan Police Dept – Testing
Wyoming State Engineer	Sheridan County School Dist #3	Campbell County Fire - Testing
Wyoming Fire Marshal	Johnson County School Dist	Goshen County - Testing
State Forestry	Campbell County School Dist	Sweetwater County - Testing
BLM Casper Dispatch	Laramie County School Dist #1	Fremont County - Testing
Wyoming Office of Homeland Security	National Weather Service – Cheyenne & Riverton	
Wyoming Highway Patrol – I-80 Corridor - Divisions AXO & JPH	Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy - Training	
WYDOT – District 1		

Revised Estimated WyoLink Timeline



WyoLink Phases

- Pilot Phase – Master Controller, Laramie County, Platte County, Goshen County and Albany County – 5 Radio Sites
- *Phase 2 – Platte County, Goshen County, Niobrara County, Converse County, Natrona County, Albany County, Carbon County, Sweetwater County, Uinta County and Casper Zone Controller – 18 Radio Sites
- *Phase 3 – Weston County, Crook County, Campbell County, Johnson County, Sheridan County – 10 Radio Sites
- *Phase 4 – Fremont County, Washakie County, Hot Springs County, Big Horn County, Park County, Sublette County, Lincoln County, Teton County – 18 Radio Sites
- *Enhancements – Additional sites for coverage improvements – 5 Radio Sites

* This timeline reflects an accelerated schedule and provides an estimated timeline for completion. The PSMC Plan estimated a completion by 2010. The PSCC and WyoLink are committed to complete the build-out within the current budget, adjusting the timeline as needed.