

## **State of Wyoming**

Steve DeCecco Chairman

## **Public Safety Communications Commission**

## **Executive Committee Meeting January 17, 2007**

Chairman Steve DeCecco called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Attendees: Steve DeCecco and Jerry Kennedy on phone conference; Bill Westerfield, Earl Atwood and Bob Symons met in Earl Atwood's office.

## Portable Radios and Comments to Governor

Tim Hibbard had called Steve DeCecco about the concerns that the Governor has passed onto WyDOT – Director John Cox has received about portable radio coverage. The Governor has spoken to John Cox and requested WyDOT develop a proposal for portable radio coverage, with several options and include budget figures. There was a concern expressed that there may be doubts about the roles and responsibilities between the PSCC and WyDOT pertaining to WyoLink in the Governor's Office.

Earl Atwood has received two calls. Tim Hibbard had asked Earl to meet with Tim Hibbard and Rob Wilson on January 18<sup>th</sup> to outline and clarify the roles and responsibilities of WyDOT and the PSCC and develop an MOU defining the roles. Earl felt that WyDOT and the PSCC know the roles and responsibilities and maybe a information campaign would be better suited. John Renneisen Attorney General's Office would be contacted about any MOU. Earl also spoke to Chris Boswell, Governor's Office, and asked Chris directly about the drivers to the response from the Governor. Chris told Earl that the governor's Office does have an understanding about the roles and responsibilities between WyDOT and the PSCC. Chris also spoke about the entities that have voiced concerns include the Cheyenne PD, Gillette and Casper PD. Chris felt that developing facts and information that could be presented to next years legislature was in order.

Bill Westerfield felt that with the system not completely built yet that it is premature to state that the system is not operating as designed and expected. The responses that have been received may indicate that the system will work but not to the expectations that the individual agencies want and that is not good enough.

Bob Symons spoke about his attendance at the Wyoming Association of Sheriff's and Chief of Police (WASCOP) and reiterated the current construction schedule and that the PSCC is committed to testing coverages upon the completion of the backbone.

Earl stated that Chris Boswell does not expect any responses for this current legislative session. There is time to develop more facts around enhancing WyoLink for portable radio coverage including the sharing of costs between WyoLink and the end users. It may be best to let WyDOT and the WyoLink project manager develop some strategies and budgets for enhancing WyoLink and then the PSCC can review those for adding their comments. Are the agencies that are speaking with the

governor's Office doing what we asked them to do by stating that if they have concerns about what is being provided by WyoLink that they should address their concerns to their legislative representatives. There may be some concerns on the information that is being spread and may not include all of the facts and the PSCC should make sure that the facts are presented. One of the proposals that has been spoken about is adding one radio site in each county seat to relieve some of the concerns.

The next PSCC meeting in Gillette will include an informational meeting the day before the meeting. This may be a good way to help provide the true picture of the WyoLink project including the facts. The WyoLink Operations Work Group will be meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> to review the two solutions provided by Motorola, including cost estimates for the portable radio coverage that Cheyenne/Laramie County stated. One other proposal will be the addition of the one radio site at the north water tower in Cheyenne.

Steve DeCecco was going to talk to Chris Boswell and see if the Governor's Office needs any more information from the PSCC. If Steve feels that more information is needed, he will ask for another meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss content.

Bill Westerfield felt that any MOU between the PSCC and WyDOT should be reviewed and discussed with the Attorney General's Office. There may not be a need for a formal MOU and after Earl meets with Tim Hibbard and Robert Wilson there should be a clearer idea of what they expect from the PSCC. Earl may propose to Tim and Robert to submit proposals on what WyDOT would like for policies between the PSCC and WyDOT as the operator of the system.

Bob Symons stated that the grant agreement has been submitted to the Attorney General's Office for approval. The Attorney General has asked for the names of the people who will be signing the agreement for the PSCC and WyDOT. Earl Atwood as the Executive Director will sign for the PSCC and Bob will ask Kevin Hibbard, WyDOT, who he wants to be the signatory for them.

As of this date, Bob has received grant applications from all of the dispatch centers except for Pine Bluffs and Fort Washakie. Bob is expecting grants from those two agencies. When would the Administration and Funding group like to get together to review the grant applications? Earl and Bob will draft a response to the Governor's Office about the current status of the dispatch center grants and submit it to the executive committee for approval. Bob will talk with the Administration and Funding Work Group to set up a date for reviewing the dispatch center grants.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Symons Administrative Support