State of Wyoming

Public Safety Communications Commission

Interoperability Executive Committee
Minutes for March 8, 2012
Phone Conference Call

Members on Conference Call: Chairman Billy Janes, Bob Dean, Steve Myrum, Lauri Wempen, Robert Wilson, Jim Frank, Bryan Morehouse, Marty McCoy and Bob Symons

Chairman Janes called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

December 9, 2011 Minutes

The minutes for the December 9, 2011 meeting were reviewed by the committee. **Lauri Wempen made a motion to approve the December 9, 2011 minutes. Bryan Morehouse seconded the motion and the motion passed on a voice vote.**

Interoperability in Wyoming

The committee was sent some draft documents on Interoperability in Wyoming which were reviewed and discussed by the committee.

The first document reviewed was the General Interoperability information. This document starts with an introduction on the need and desire for radio interoperability. This subsection was revised to add the document is a guideline for communication interoperability.

A new section IV – Dispatch Centers was added on page 2 to identify the importance of the dispatch centers in developing interoperability. On Page 3 – Section V – Radio Efficiency and Section VI – Communications Order Model there is a conflict between replying to a call with a repeat of what was said and an affirmative, which shortens the call time. The communications order model provides a means for making sure both communicators understand the message.

The comments received on this program draft have been positive with most people feel the program is needed and will help with radio interoperability. It was recommended to revise the attachments to clarify their intent. The ICS 217A is used by communication unit leaders for the development of an ICS 205 – Incident Communication plan. The names of the documents listed as references need to be the same as the attachment names. The reference documents need to be simple and understandable for end users.

This program will need to have a training program developed for the end users. Bob Symons will be working with the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy to develop a training program. The Wyoming Office of Homeland Security has received the FCC license for the VCALL10 and VTAC 11-38 channels. The end users need more information on the use of the CAT and MAT talkgroups.

The work group recommended removing the listing of the crosswalk in Section XI and reference the attached Interoperability Matrix. On the Matrix, the state agencies will be identified as non-SALEC agencies. In Section X – Radio Communications Interoperability, the work group recommended moving the WyoLink talkgroups to the sub-section A and renumber sub-sections as necessary.

Discussion on a continuity plan for dispatch centers when WyoLink experiences a system failure and is operating in site trunking. Conventional channels are the lowest common denominator for communications. When WyoLink is in site trunking, the conventional channels may need to be used for communications. The local dispatch centers will need to develop their own continuity plans for communications when WyoLink or conventional channels are not available due to system failures. Region VIII FEMA is working with Wyoming on developing a 2012 Emergency Communications Plan.

It was recommended by the work group to add "routinely" to Section V – Radio Efficiency to the bullet point pertaining to reading back what was said. And add "If necessary" to the fourth bullet point in Section VI – Communications Order Model.

Robert Wilson made a motion to recommend to the PSCC the adoption of the Wyoming Public Safety Communications Interoperability Plan as amended. The motion was seconded by Bryan Morehouse and passed on a voice vote.

Marty McCoy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bryan Morehouse and passed on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Symons
PSCC Administrative Support