State of Wyoming

Public Safety Communications Commission

WyoLink Operations Work Group
Meeting of June 8, 2006
Cheyenne and Phone Conference

The WyoLink Operations Work Group meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Kennedy at 9:05 am on June 8, 2006.

Member present were:
>   Jerry Kennedy – Chairman – PSCC Commissioner
>   Kim Lee – PSCC Commissioner
>   Bob Wyatt – PSCC Commissioner – Phone Conference Call
>   Dan Perko – Wyoming Forestry – Wyoming APCO Chairman
>   Patti Bauer – Wyoming Highway Patrol Dispatch
>   Pat Byrne – Laramie County Combined Communications
>   Tom Mahon – WyoLink Project Manager
>   Bob Symons – PSCC Administrative Support

Guests:
>   Kent Drummond – WyoLink Technical Support
>   Larry Green – Wyoming Office of Homeland Security

The minutes from the joint WyoLink Operations Work Group and Interoperability Executive Committee for the meeting of March 10, 2006 were reviewed. Patti Bauer made a motion to approve the minutes, Pat Byrne seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

New Business:
Fleetmapping and Talkgroups
Bob Symons led a discussion on talkgroups and fleetmapping. The first document discussed was about the steps that are recommended for developing the fleetmap for agencies that will be using WyoLink. There are six steps that were identified by a Motorola power point presentation.
>   Step 1 – Identify the users of the radio system.
>   Step 2 – Organize the users into talkgroups.
>   Step 3 – Organize the talkgroups into multi-groups.
>   Step 4 – Assign the talkgroup/Multigroup parameters
>   Step 5 – Determine features
>   Step 6 – Subscriber programming requirements

The fleetmapping will be used by the WyoLink technical support when developing the talkgroups for the WyoLink system. The fleetmapping process will involve the subscriber agency, PSCC Administrative Support and WyoLink technical support. The process for developing the fleetmap would be first by the completion of the application process, then the fleetmap and talkgroup development, then the programming of the subscriber radios and the development of the talkgroups and user radio information programmed into the controller. It is

important to have a good fleetmap completed so as to minimize the number of time that the radio would have to be programmed by a technician.

Discussion on the State and County Talkgroup plan. The plan will be used as a starting point when working with subscribers on developing their talkgroup plan and identified the Multiple Agency Talkgroups (MAT) and Mutual aid channels. Discussion on the multi-groups on the Multiple Agency Talkgroups (MAT). It would be beneficial to have the MAT multi-group in all radios because the radios may not be assigned to an individual and any radio could be used by the incident commander. Also for the safety of operational personnel, the multi-group could be used to notify everyone of a safety issue.

The next document for discussion was the fleetmap spreadsheet that would be developed to help show the radio configuration for programming. The document will be used as an example and a starting point for discussions with subscribers. The standardization of the radio buttons for each agency would simplify the programming of the radios. The fleetmapping will also be used during the training of the agency users. The training of the end users will be important for relating the WyoLink operational information and the radio operational information.

WyoLink Radio Sites Adjustments
Tom Mahon led a discussion on the adjustments of the proposed 57 radio sites for the WyoLink infrastructure. Tom Mahon presented a document on his recommendations and stated that Chuck Kakalecik from WyDOT telecommunications had also provided input into the recommendations. Chuck Kakalecik is the lead microwave technician for WyDOT and has many years experience with microwave and radio communications in Wyoming and with the WyDOT systems.

1.   3-Mile Hill and Cedar Ridge – both of these sites are overshadowed by Copper Mountain or Rattlesnake Ridge. Recommendation was to delete these two sites from the WyoLink development list. The work group would like to have more propagation studies that show the coverage with each site removed individually. Tom Mahon will run the propagation studies for each site for the work groups consideration.

2.   Flat Top – Flat Top is only the list only for microwave coverage and the recommendation was to delete this site from the WyoLink development list. Dan Perko made a motion to convert Flat Top to a microwave only site, seconded by Kim Lee. Motion passed on a voice vote.

3.   Kismet Peak/Aspen Ridge – The recommendation is to shifting the radio site location from Kismet Peak to Aspen Ridge. Aspen Ridge is a present WyDOT site. Dan Perko made a motion to follow the recommendation for Kismet Peak, seconded by Pat Byrne. Motion passed on a voice vote.

4.   Latham Draw – This site is for microwave connectivity and the recommendation is to change the site to microwave only. Dan Perko made a motion to change Latham Draw to a microwave only site, seconded by Patti Bauer. Motion passes on voice vote.

5.   McCullough Peaks - This site is for microwave connectivity and the recommendation is to change the site to microwave only. Dan Perko made a motion to change Latham Draw to a microwave only site, seconded by Patti Bauer. Motion passes on voice vote.

6.   Riverton – Proposed site at the WyDOT facility in Riverton and the predicted coverage without the Riverton site indicates on-street portable radio coverage in Riverton. The recommendation is to delete the Riverton site. Dan Perko made a motion to delete the Riverton Site and evaluate the low level coverage a later date upon the completion of the other sites that provides coverage, seconded by Patti Bauer. Motion passed on a voice vote.

7.   Rendezvous/Pow Wow/Signal Mountain – Rendezvous is required for microwave connectivity. There are issues with developing Rendezvous site for WyoLink because of the site on Federal Property. Pow Wow and Signal Mountain currently have radio sites on them and are on federal property. Adding these two sites would improve coverage predictions in the areas. During the discussion on these sites, Chuck Kakalecik was contacted for further information. Dan Perko made a motion to change Rendezvous as a microwave only site and add Pow Wow and Signal Mountain sites to the WyoLink site list, seconded by Pat Byrne. Motion passed on a voice vote.

8.   Garn – This radio site is in Idaho and the Teton County representatives have suggested this site as a possible addition. This site would provide additional coverage on the west side of the Tetons and into Yellowstone National Park.. There was discussion on developing sites outside of Wyoming and there is already one site, Geneva, that is in Utah. Dan Perko made a motion to table this site and requested more information, seconded by pat Byrne. Motion passed on a voice vote.

9.   Casper Port of Entry – This site will be developed as the second zone controller and adding it as a WyoLink site would provide coverage to portions of Highway 220 that does not have good coverage from Casper Mountain. Kim Lee made a motion to add Casper Port of Entry as a WyoLink radio site, seconded by Patti Bauer. Motion passed on a voice vote.

10.   Reviewed the areas of coverage deficiency with all of the proposed sites competed. The areas include parts of Park County and Yellowstone Park, Big Horn Mountains and the southern area of the Snowy Range Mountains. These areas will be addressed in the future.

11.   Tom Mahon recommended that the Work Group release the 5-site coverage contingency funds that are budgeted and not contracted for project acceleration and other project costs. Dan made a motion not to use the funds and to keep them as contingency funds, seconded by Pat Byrne. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Kim Lee led a discussion on a grant the Governor's Office submitted to the National Governors Association for $50,000. The grant was for planning and training. The grant will require having a committee of PSCC representatives and the Governor's Office and will require the committee to travel to a couple of workshops. The cost of the travel would be borne by the grant funds.

Motion to adjourn by Pat Byrne, seconded by Patti Bauer, motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am

Submitted by
Robert Symons