



Dave Freudenthal
Governor

Steve DeCecco
Chairman

State of Wyoming

Public Safety Communications Commission

WyoLink Operations Work Group June 6, 2007 Meeting

Chairman Jerry Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:00 am at the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security Operations Center, Cheyenne, WY.

Members present: Jerry Kennedy – Chairman, Kim Lee – PSCC Commissioner, , Tom Mahon – WyoLink Project Manager, Marty McCoy – WyoLink Support Manager, Danny Glick – PSCC Commissioner, Dan Perko – APCO, Bob Symons – PSCC Administrative Support, Bob Wyatt – PSCC Commissioner – Phone Conference.

Others in attendance: Tim Hibbard – WYDOT, Rob Wilson – WYDOT Telecom, Jack Knutson – Laramie County Commissioner, Rob Cleveland – Laramie County EMA, Jim Frank – Homeland Security, Tim Rumph – Cheyenne PD,. Dale Pawling – Cheyenne Fire and Rescue, Dave Thompson – Laramie County Fire Warden, Phil Bond – Motorola, Wayne Peterson – Motorola, and Margaret Spearman

Minutes of the January 26, 2007 meeting were reviewed. **Marty McCoy made a motion to approve the January 26, 2007 minutes. The motion was seconded by Kim Lee and the motion passed on a voice vote.**

The agenda was changed to switch the WyoLink Coverage Enhancements before the WYDOT Budget Proposal.

WyoLink Coverage Enhancements

Tom Mahon started a discussion on developing a clear level of expectations for the development of coverage enhancements for the WyoLink project as it moves forward from the core project. Any decisions on coverage enhancements will need to be developed after the core WyoLink project is completed. After the core project is completed a gap analysis would be completed through testing to determine the areas that may need to have improved portable radio coverage.

Trying to determine the ultimate goal needs to be defined and the goal needs to be measurable so WyoLink and the PSCC will be able to determine when the project has met the goal. A coverage analysis completed upon the completion of WyoLink in any local area comparing the present legacy system coverage to WyoLink coverage would determine any gaps in coverage. The time line for providing a gap analysis may not be feasible for providing the information needed for the development of a budget for the next Legislative Budget Session.

The discussion revolved around the coverage expected by the local public safety users, how to develop a timeline for meeting those expectations, the development of a policy statement

for the enhancements and how to develop a budget proposal to meet the expectations of the Governor for cost sharing. Discussion on “equal to or better than”, this is a difficult statement to identify and develop a cost for when it is not known what it may take in terms of radio sites needed. The percentage of coverage could be for any given area or compared to the current legacy system in operation. Many local agencies have developed radio systems to cover certain areas within their response areas because of needs. Any solution will need to take the local target areas into consideration. Discussion will need to be held with the local agencies during the gap analysis to determine the local target hazards.

The funding for enhancements has been requested by the Governor to WYDOT through the discussions of local agencies asking that WyoLink provide the expected portable radio coverage. This budget may be a best estimate of what it would take to provide the expected coverage and may or may not be the total required for the individual agency expectations.

If a funding stream is developed through the legislature for the enhancements, the PSCC could work with the local agencies on developing priorities around the state. This could create a problem with the local agencies if they feel that some other area would get all of the funding and that local agency would be left out. The managers of the project and the PSCC will need to have flexibility on determining the areas that enhancements would be developed.

Chairman Kennedy recessed the meeting into a work session to develop a goal statement on providing portable radio enhancements at 11:00 am.

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting back to order at 12:00 pm.

A goal statement on portable radio enhancements was developed during the work session and states:

“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.”

Danny Glick made a motion to approve and forward the goal statement to the PSCC at the June 22, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dan Perko and passed on a voice vote.

Budget Proposal for Low-Level Radio Sites

Rob Wilson led a discussion on a proposal from WYDOT on providing portable radio coverage. The budget proposal includes a cost sharing with local agencies. This budget proposal is through a request from the Governor to WYDOT to develop a proposal for inclusion in this year’s budget for the next biennium. Of the twenty four radio sites that are currently included in the

frequency plan, two of the sites – Laramie County and Natrona County are included in the present WyoLink construction budget. The WYDOT budget proposal includes only the Radio Frequency equipment portion of any new radio sites at an estimate of \$365,000 per site. The budget estimate does not include the civil work for that radio sites – site leasing, tower, building, and power.

There was discussion on if some communities would be able to provide the funding for the site civil work. The budget proposal needs to have enough leeway to provide for negotiations with local agencies to develop radio sites. It is important to try to submit a budget proposal that covers all of the expected costs for a one time appropriation instead of continually returning to the Legislature for more funding. *The WYDOT budget proposal is attached for reference.*

Dan Perko made a motion to accept the WYDOT funding proposal of \$365,000 per site with an additional \$4,000,000 for site development and present the budget to the PSCC at the June 22, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Danny Glick and the motion passed on a voice vote.

Cheyenne/Laramie County Low Level Radio Site

Bob Symons stated that after the spectrum fingerprinting and noise floor testing, the Water Tower is a viable site for Cheyenne if Federal Radio Frequencies are used. Bob Symons has been reviewing the federal frequency needs with the Federal Partnership in Interoperable Communications (FPIC). Bob Symons stated he would send the request to the FPIC for five (5) frequency pairs to be used for the Cheyenne Low level Radio Site.

The City of Cheyenne has a lease agreement with Union Telephone for the Tower at the Water Tank site and that agreement includes a provision for public safety access on the tower. The City of Cheyenne representatives were asked to work with Union Telephone to secure the tower for use as a WyoLink low-level radio site. Marty McCoy and Tom Mahon will provide the Cheyenne representatives the information on what equipment would be required for installation on the radio tower.

Dan Perko made a motion to move forward with developing the Cheyenne Water Tank site as a low-level WyoLink site. The motion was seconded by Kim Lee and passed on a voice vote.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Symons
PSCC Administrative Support.