



**Matthew H. Mead**  
Governor

**William  
Westerfield**  
Chairman

# State of Wyoming

---

## Public Safety Communications Commission

WyoLink Operations Work Group Meeting  
September 22, 2011  
Phone Conference Call

Chairman Mark Harshman called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Meeting participants: Mark Harshman, Dave Johnson, Bob Wyatt, Marty McCoy, Lauri Wempen, Jerry Kennedy, Brian Eggleston, Patty Bauer, Robert Wilson and Bob Symons

### WyoLink Membership

PSCC Administrative Support bob Symons presented the list of June 2011 to September 2011 WyoLink applicants. The applicants include Sweetwater County Community Nursing, Johnson County Public Health, Sheridan County School District #2, Big Horn County Fire Warden, Teton County School District, Big Horn County Fire District #5, City of Lander/public Works, Kaycee Ambulance and Guardian Flight. Guardian Flight is a for profit private company which provides fixed wing and helicopter ambulance services in Sweetwater County. The Sweetwater County Emergency Management Coordinator has provided a letter of support to Guardian Flight, per PSCC policy. **Brian Eggleston made a motion to approve the applicants and forward the recommendation to the PSCC. The motion was seconded by Dave Johnson and passed on a voice vote.**

Bob Symons presented information on the WyoLink Applications which have been approved for membership, but the signed Membership Agreement has not been completed. Fifteen agencies have started the WyoLink membership process and have not completed the agreement. The list does not include the applicants approved at the June 2011 PSCC meeting.

### Portable Coverage Enhancements (PCE)

Signed Portable Coverage Enhancement Agreements have been executed with the City of Casper, Laramie, Lander/Fremont County, Goshen County, Riverton, Hot Springs County, and Sheridan.

Marty McCoy provided an update on the Portable Coverage Enhancement Project. Portable Coverage Agreements have been sent to Douglas and Platte County. PCE sites are completed and operational in Torrington and Laramie. Casper/Natrona County migrated to WyoLink upon the completion of the 800 MHz site and radio upgrades in March of 2011. PCE sites are currently under construction in Thermopolis, Riverton and Lander. Motorola is currently planning on site visits and core sampling the first or second week of October in Douglas, Sheridan, Gillette and Rawlins. Wheatland is in the process of acquiring a lease for a site at the Wheatland REA site.

### Casper Mountain VHF Usage

There has been a excessive busy rate on the Casper Mountain VHF site since the migration of the Casper area 800 MHz. The Casper Mountain VHF site has five (5) channels and the Casper Mountain 800 MHz site is a twelve (12) channel site. The difference in the number of channels and how the WyoLink system

uses “all start” for all talkgroups is the main cause for the busies. All start means all registered users on a talkgroup must have a site resource available before any call can be initiated, so a busy on the VHF site will also be a busy on the 800 MHz site.

There is a possibility that Natrona County may add a second twelve channel site near Alcova. This could add to the busy problem. All of the VHF and 800 MHz radios have identical talkgroup plans, so all of the radios could operate on all talkgroups.

WyoLink Support Manager Marty McCoy recommends expanding the Casper Mountain VHF site to seven (7) channels. It is Marty’s opinion this addition will reduce the busies to an insignificant number of busies and the busy time will be reduced. Casper has not had a problem with busies before WyoLink migration and that is their position today.

What are the funding options? This will be a topic for the September PSCC meeting. WyoLink already has two frequency pairs available for the additional channels on the Casper Mountain VHF site. The Natrona County Sheriff’s office has both 800 MHz and VHF radios. Wyoming Medical Center is using VHF. The Natrona County School District is reviewing migration to WyoLink and the schools could cause additional problems. Does the Casper POE site have the same problems as the Casper Mountain VHF site?

The WyoLink Support Manager will be reviewing the site loading and talkgroup usage to determine additional possibilities for improvement. There may be operational changes which could help alleviate busies. The WyoLink Support Office and Casper/Natrona County will be meeting to discuss the busies in more detail.

WyoLink currently is licensed for 12,000 ID’s and more than 11,000 ID’s have been issued. WyoLink is working with Motorola to increase the number of licenses. Marty McCoy will be providing GenWatch reports on the Casper VHF and 800 MHz usage which will be forwarded to the PSCC for review.

### **Interoperability**

Clarification was requested on the usage of the MAT and CAT talkgroups. Bob Symons will be developing a Wyoming Interoperability guide. The SALECS users have also requested this type of information. Bob Symons has been working with all of Helicopter ambulances which operate in Wyoming on one protocol for air to ground communications with the helicopters. Communication exercises are a good way to review the usage of interoperable talkgroups and channels.

Being no further business, Chairman Harshman adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Symons  
PSCC Administrative Support