

# Status Meeting Minutes

WyoLink Contact Number: 307-777-WLNK (9565)

Date: November 23, 2015 Time: 10:00 A.M. To 10:28 A.M.

WYDOT, 5300 Bishop Blvd, Cheyenne, Planning Building, Geology Conference Room,

**Location:** first floor (south end)

Conference Phone: 877-278-2734 PIN: 674402

Bill Walter, PSCC by phone Mark Harshman, Natrona County EMA by phone

Bob Symons, PSCC

Paul Card, WY State Health by phone

Brian Eggleston, DCI by phone

Paul Newman, Motorola by phone

Attendees Dan Perko, WSF Paul Newman, Motoroia Robert Wilson, WYDOT

Dave Riegert, Motorola Robin Etienne, Sweetwater Co by phone
Derrick Migneault, BLM by phone Steve Langworthy, Motorola by phone

Jose Crespo, Motorola by phone Troy Berg, WyoLink

#### 1. Core Site Status

a. **Monument Ridge (BTNF):** November 23, 2015:

**Status**: Status moved to Risk Management section.

b. Salt Pass (BTNF): November 23, 2015:

**Status:** This site is operational. The decommissioning of the old site may be complete in 2015. Sealed bids were opened Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> and the bid was awarded to Larson Tower Specialists of Riverton, Utah. WYDOT and the Forest Service inspected the decommissioning work on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. The Forest Service representative was satisfied with the work.

**Actions**: Actions at this site have been completed and this item is now closed.

# 2. <u>Local Site Status:</u>

a. **Glenrock**: November 23, 2015:

**Status**: Installation has been completed. Site is now on the air

**Actions**: Punch list items are being worked on and completed before item is to

be closed.

b. **Archer Interchange**: November 23, 2015:

**Status**: In Progress. The RF equipment has been installed. Microwave

equipment has been received.

**Actions**: Scheduling in progress for installation which is projected to be

completed mid to late December. Archer to be completed first and then the Fox Farm upgrade. Both projected to be completed by end of December.

## **3.** Console Connectivity: November 23, 2015:

Status: Work orders have been submitted with ETS to convert the leased T1 circuits for Sundance and Pinedale to Wyoming Unified Network (WUN). Bob Symons indicates he would like to set up a CSSI testing session with several console vendors. Installation of the CSSI depends on when the funds become available. Work orders have been submitted to ETS to convert the leased T1 circuits to Sundance and Pinedale to Wyoming Unified Network. Lessons learned during the Sheridan T1 conversion will be applied to conversions in Sundance and Pinedale as well as any other agencies. The Wyoming Unified Network at Sundance has been installed. Once the Casper end is extended from Casper College to the Casper Port of Entry, testing of this link will begin. The WyoLink Support Office will coordinate with affected agencies well in advance of any conversion work to avoid any unplanned outages. Cody, Pinedale, Riverton and Thermopolis Wyoming Unified Network installations are in process Actions: Glenrock is staging this week to be completed by end of December. Douglas/Converse County in progress but unlikely to be completed by end of year. Big Horn County projected to be completed by end of January.

# **4.** Adjacent State Connectivity: November 23, 2015:

**Status**: Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Utah are all in varying stages of system update and compatibility and are contemplating connectivity with Wyoming among other states. When WyoLink obtains CSSI, it will give us the ability to connect with adjacent states via ISSI. Colorado and Nebraska are the most immediate possibilities and will depend on T1 connectivity with these states. The contract for CSSI and it's installation has cleared the Attorney General's Office as to form.

**Actions**: Some ISSI equipment has shipped. Remaining equipment is being expedited to arrive by end of year. Plans to use yet to be determined.

- **5.** Risk Management: These are WyoLink issues posing significant risk to the system and a description of the risk.
  - Medium Risk. October 19, 2015. **Hoback Area Communications:** a. The analysis of coverage maps for Kismet Peak and Monument Ridge indicate that Kismet Peak would not provide necessary coverage along Highway 189/191 in north western Sublette County, nor along Cliff Creek Rd in the back country in this portion of Sublette County. Of the 6 sites considered for coverage in the Bondurant area, Monument Ridge is the only technically feasible site providing needed coverage. Marty anticipates it is unlikely construction will be approved at Monument Ridge before 2017 due to the amount of time it will take for the Forest Service to evaluate our proposal. At this time, funds are not available to construct a site at Monument Ridge. Permission for BER based coverage testing has been granted by the Forest Service who also provided a suggested route to place a test radio on Monument Ridge for testing of coverage. A revised proposal was submitted to the Forest Service proposing using the existing Fire Lookout. This proposal is being evaluated by the BTNF Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). It is possible that the Fire Lookout's presence on the National Register of Historic Places may be an obstacle to using this building for WyoLink Equipment. The issues revolve around the lookout itself and how the viewshed

would be affected by a WyoLink tower in the vicinity.

**Actions**: The BTNF is performing an on site survey to determine if the proposed site will affect the viewshed. Additional information is being gathered and other sites are being considered by WyoLink at this time to suppliment information gathered for coverage in this area.

b. Local Activity Affecting WyoLink Performance: Low Risk. November 23, 2015.

**Status:** Bob and Marty have discussions as necessary with local agencies to see what can be done to reduce the impact to WyoLink from their local operations. The WyoLink Office tracks usage on the system (including busies) to keep aware of possible issues on WyoLink both now and in the future.

**Actions**: There are no updates at this time.

**6. Coverage:** November 23, 2015.

**Status**: WyoLink continues to perform BER based coverage testing of newly activated sites as well of areas that have not been completely tested.

**Actions**: Marty followed up on reports of coverage issues.

- a. Glendo EMTs reported poor WyoLink coverage in the Glendo area. A visit by WyoLink revealed that antenna issues and radios needing tuned were major contributing factors to this difficulty. Absolute Solutions was present and indicated they would be tuning radios in Platte County. Closed.
- b. American Medical Response in Cheyenne reported coverage issues north of Durham Estates and near the Carpenter School through a third party. Further information from American Medical Response indicates their radios are working properly and they have no issues. Closed.
- c. Marty, Larry Sheridan and Bob Symons met with WHP on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss their concerns with WyoLink coverage at several areas around the state. Bo Symons and Capt Walter noted specific areas of coverage concern are Lovell, north of Torrington to Lusk and the Flaming Gorge areas.
- **7. Busies:** November 23, 2015:

**Status**: The WyoLink Office tracks usage on the system (including busies) to keep aware of possible issues on WyoLink both now and in the future.

Actions: During the fire in the Casper area over the weekend of October 10<sup>th</sup>, there were over 1,300 busies. Research reveals these busies were on Casper Mountain VHF and Casper POE sites. At one time, there were 30 talkgroups active which was a major contributor to the high busy rate. A radio tech from ComTech was on site at the Casper Dispatch Center and recommended that the number of talkgroups in use be consolidated. By Sunday evening, the busy rate had fallen dramatically. Marty and Bob Symons are working with the Casper Dispatch Center to explore solutions that would curtail extremely high busy rates like this in the future. Bob Symons, Brian Eggleston and Mark Harshman to meet 24 Nov. Proposed solutions to be submitted to Operations Group to examine better utilization of combined talkgroups during high use events.

#### **8. Dragging Traffic:** November 23, 2015:

**Status**: The WyoLink Support Office is not aggressively tracking instances of dragging traffic unless it results in busy indications, but does research occurrences when time permits and they are noticed. WyoLink users are encouraged to move off their normal dispatch talkgroup when traveling outside their home area to avoid dragging their dispatch traffic to a remote portion of the state unnecessarily. This can cause unnecessary loading on towers removed from their local area and create busy indications both in these remote areas and in their home area.

**Actions**: There have been no notable occurrences of dragging traffic over the last month.

### **9.** Codeplug Schedule: November 23, 2015:

**Status**: The WyoLink Office has completed 2721 codeplugs to date in 2015, with an average wait time of a week and a half.

Actions: The WyoLink Support Office completed 326 codeplugs to date during November. The WyoLink Office currently has about 20 codeplugs on our schedule. Newly submitted codeplug requests should be completed in about 2 weeks.

# **10.** WyoLink Usage: November 23, 2015:

**Status**: Currently there are about 16,000 radios able to use WyoLink. There are 264 agencies approved to use WyoLink with 112 State and Federal agencies and agencies in 19 Counties having moved their operations to WyoLink. Recent research has revealed that Motorola has a beginning point for considering a site as busy enough to warrant expansion. This beginning point is 0.1% of all Push To Talks (PTTs) receiving a busy indication. This is not a hard and fast standard and is subject to modification by the system owner, but it is a good starting point.

**Actions**: During the month of November, WyoLink saw 1,838,954 calls. WyoLink usage through the end of November, 2015 was 18,601,763 calls. Busy indications systems wide during 2015 have been 0.065% by PTT count. To date in 2015 WyoLink has been available over 99.99% of the time.

#### 11. PSCC Meeting: November 23, 2015:

**Status**: If you know of anyone who would like to receive notices for PSCC meetings, please contact Bob Symons (307-777-5065 or <a href="mailto:bob.symons@wyo.gov">bob.symons@wyo.gov</a> ) or Marty McCoy (307-777-4756 or <a href="mailto:martin.mccoy@wyo.gov">martin.mccoy@wyo.gov</a> ) and we will add you to the distribution list for these notices.

**Actions**: The next PSCC meeting will be December 7, 2015. Location is to be at ETS in the Rogers Building in Cheyenne and on hanout. When more details are available, they will be mentioned here.

#### **12. WyoLink User Training:** November 23, 2015:

Status: Bob Symons will be updating the training program. When details are available, they will be posted here. If anyone would like training, please contact Bob Symons.

Actions: There are no updates at this time.

**13.** Next Meeting: The next WyoLink Status meeting will be Monday, December 21, 2015 at 10:00 at WYDOT, 5300 Bishop Blvd, Cheyenne, Planning Building, Geology Conference Room, first floor (south end). There will be a Conference Phone available for anyone wishing to call in and participate. The number is: 877-278-2734 PIN: 674402

