



Mark Gordon
Governor
K. Luke Reiner
Director

Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission

MEETING MINUTES



Mark Harshman
Chairman
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I. CALL TO ORDER

A Planning Session for the Public Safety Communications Commission was held in Casper on Tuesday, April 16, 2019. Chair Harshman presided, calling the Planning Session to order at 12:23 P.M.

II. COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Mark Harshman, Chairman
David Gier, Commissioner
Frosty Williams, Commissioner
Paul Bertoglio, Commissioner
Luke Reiner, Ex Officio

Jonathan Downing, Commissioner
Dwane Pacheco, Commissioner
Doug Frank, Commissioner
Kebin Haller, Commissioner

III. STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT

Pat Lewis, Chief Technology Officer
Troy Babbitt, Telecommunications Program Manager
Mike Kahler, AG's Office

Katie Pfister, Commission Secretary
Nathan Smolinski, WyoLink Systems Supervisor
Nick Agopian

IV. PLANNING SESSION DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. JTC Interim Topic Presentation Discussion

Chair Harshman & Mr. Lewis lead the Commission in reviewing the presentation outline for the impending interim topic presentation to the Joint Transportation Committee on May 15, 2019. Mr. Lewis recounted the background of why the interim topic had been introduced for legislative consideration. He explained that WyoLink requires ongoing maintenance in order to preserve its effectiveness, to which the state has provided funding for a large portion of the systems capitalization, maintenance, and operation costs through both general and highway funds. Mr. Lewis stressed that there is currently no dedicated, sustainable funding source for the state's critical statewide interoperable public safety communications system.

The Commission reviewed the potential dedicated revenue sources previously determined for legislative consideration for the ongoing maintenance and operation costs of the state's critical public safety communications system, which included the following:

- Enforcing Existing Legislation/Billing Local Agencies
- Utilizing Highway Funds
- Utilizing General Funds:
- Creation of a Public Safety Communications Fee
- A Hybrid of Above

The Commission then discussed the pros and cons of each of the options, still concurring that the most viable option to date would be the creation of a Public Safety Communications Fee. They also determined that case studies would be provided during the presentation to the Joint Transportation Committee meeting, to include information from both Fremont and Natrona counties.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The Planning Session adjourned at 2:13 P.M.