



Mark Gordon
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Education Session Minutes

An education session was held for the Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. The group toured the FirstNet Technical Headquarters in Boulder, Colorado. The tour began at 12:30 p.m.

The following commission members were present, constituting a quorum.

Paul Bertoglio, Commissioner	Phillip Franklin, Commissioner
Matt Carr, Commissioner	Monte McClain, Vice Chairman
Mike Choma, Commissioner	Matt Waldock, Commissioner

Commissioners Karl Germain, Mark Harshman, Rick Kaysen, Dwane Pacheco, Cindi Shank, Owen St. Clair, and John Wetzel were absent.

The following WYDOT staff and guests were present and participated in the session.

Nathan Smolinski, Chief Technology Officer, Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT); Mark Kelly, Emergency Communications Program Manager, WYDOT; Kimberly Chapman, Commission Secretary, WYDOT; MacKenzie Sewell, Assistant Attorney General, Wyoming Attorney General’s Office; Tracey Murdoch, Senior Public Safety Advisor, First Responder Network Authority; Kim Coleman Madsen, Senior Manager of Stakeholder Collaboration, First Responder Network Authority; John Beltz, Group Leader and Security Officer, PSCR; and Monika Bochert, Program Management, PSCR.

Tour of FirstNet Technical Headquarters

The tour of the FirstNet Technical Headquarters included multiple presentations and demonstrations. Ms. Coleman and Ms. Murdoch began the tour with a presentation on the history of the First Responder Net Authority and its public-private partnership with AT&T.

Staff from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) - Public Safety Communication Research Division (PSCR) presented on their work at the Public Safety Immersive Test Center. The PSCR was established to expand land mobile radio (LMR) to LTE, and to accelerate the adoption and implementation of advanced public safety communications technologies. The group’s key research areas include Next Generation systems, mission critical voice, user interface/experience, location-based services, and unscrewed aircraft systems.

The PSCR established the Open Innovation program to leverage innovation and creativity from inventors and collaborators from across the globe. The program uses prize challenge competitions to solve discrete and well-defined problems. PSCR staff provided demonstrations of recent prize challenge projects including a command dashboard integrating Next-Gen technology, 3D mapping of interior spaces using light detection and ranging (LiDAR) technology, unmanned aircraft system (UAS) indoor operations, augmented reality interface/display, and more.

Following the PSCR presentation, FirstNet staff provided a demonstration of their compact rapid deployable (CRD) unit and a mini CRD unit. The CRDs function as a portable cell tower and provide internet connectivity during incidents and emergencies. WYDOT has two CRD units available for deployment to Wyoming communities upon request.

The tour of the FirstNet Technical Headquarters concluded with a visit to the FirstNet Innovation and Test Lab. During the visit, the group toured FirstNet's server cluster and observed traffic tests of FirstNet and AT&T mobile networks. Additionally, the staff demonstrated LMR to LTE connectivity on FirstNet.

The tour concluded at 4:00 p.m.