



Meeting Minutes Nevada Public Safety Communications Committee

Attendance	DATE	Friday, July 28, 2017	
	TIME	1:30 P.M.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Division of Emergency Management Training Room 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, Nevada 89701	
		Clark County Fire Department, Station 18 2 nd Floor Conference Room 575 E. Flamingo Road Las Vegas, NV 89119	
	METHOD	Videoconference and Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Shealyne Schultz	
Committee Members	Present	Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
Jim Wright	X	Samantha Ladich (AG Rep)	X
Scott Taylor	X	Shealyne Schultz (NDEM Staff)	X
Sandra Barfield	X	Robert LeGrande (TDD)	X
Gary Hames		Kaevon LeGrande (TDD)	X
Chris Ipsen	X	Adam Geisler (FirstNet)	X
Chris Lake	X	Brian Maholic (AT&T)	X
Rudy Malfabon	X		
Dane Mattoon	X		
Matthew Morris			
Vincent Puglia	X		
Shannon Rahming	X		
Ryan Sommers	X		
Caleb Cage	X		
Tom Lawless			

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright called the meeting to order and Shealyne Schultz called roll. A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Co-Chair, Director Wright opened the meeting for public comment. There was none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Co-Chair, Director Wright opened this agenda item for approval of the minutes from the May 1, 2017, NPSCC meeting. Chris Ipsen made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Rudy Malfabon seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

4. UPDATE ON FIRSTNET OUTREACH TO DATE

Chief Caleb Cage provided an introduction and overview of the agenda item. He explained the need to provide an overview of the due diligence that has gone into outreach and the effort gone in to provide partners and FirstNet with the information necessary going forward.

Co-Chair, Director Wright introduced speaker Robert LeGrande with The Digital Decision (TDD). Robert provided a presentation to the NPSCC members. Copies of these slides are available upon request.

The presentation provided an overview of outreach efforts that have been completed to date. This included the analysis and data collection that was done previously. Robert noted that 1500 stakeholders were reached, there were 150 in attendance at various meetings or webinars, and there was contact with various emergency service agencies. He explained that data collection surveys were received from every public safety discipline allowing for a representative sample for the state.

5. REVIEW OF FIRSTNET DRAFT STATE PLAN

Robert and Kaevon LeGrande with TDD provided an overview of the review process that state has taken in regard to the draft state plan released by FirstNet. They explained that this process allowed for the state and locals to measure the FirstNet solution against their requirements. Kaevon walked members through the state plan decision process, providing an overview of the steps that have been taken. Robert explained that all of the information that has been gathered will be given to the Governor in a report by August 10th to ensure he can make an objective decision.

Co-Chair, Director Wright noted that the Committee and state staff have received briefings and met with FirstNet through the process. He stressed the attention and time that has been taken through this process, reminding members of the effort that has been put into it.

Adam Geisler with FirstNet provided a brief presentation outlining the efforts taken by FirstNet and the vendor decision process. Copies of these slides are available upon request. Adam went over some of the steps FirstNet noting the establishment of a relationship with a company that has a significant footprint and having a team built primarily off of individuals with a public safety background. He explained that FirstNet started with 20mghz of spectrum and AT&T has taken that and expanded it four times over by opening up their entire network for public safety. He explained that this is a 25 year relationship that has deliverables over that span, noting this is a starting point for public safety and there will be ongoing conversation. He spoke to the timelines that have been set moving forward; 45 days for state's comments on the draft state plan that closes August 4th, 45 days for FirstNet to respond to the comments, and then a mandated 90 day clock for the Governor's decision to opt-in or opt-out. Come December the plan will be open and available for the states that opt-in.

Adam explained the decision the Governor will make is a 25 year decision. This decision determines who builds the radio access network, who manages the network, and who pays for upgrades to the infrastructure for the span of those years. As the network grows the responsibility of who builds and maintains the radio access network and technology growth will fall on this decision. If a governor chooses to opt-in, FirstNet will be responsible for this and the evolving relationship is good for 25 years. Should a governor choose to opt-out the

state will be responsible for building, maintaining, and upgrading over the 25 years. He stressed the importance of keeping the competitive element in mind with other carriers that still exist. Lastly, Adam explained that the parameters that will be put in place for AT&T will be the same for the state. He stressed that the dialogue between the state and FirstNet will not stop and will continue for 25 years.

Director Wright spoke to the Executive Order that established the Committee and noted one of the tasks they are directed to do is make a recommendation to the governor to opt-in or opt-out. He noted the review they have been doing with presentations and the information they have been provided with over the years. He opened the meeting up for discussion.

Chief Caleb Cage asked representatives of TDD if part of their report to the Governor will include an analysis stating where additional sites should be added for greater coverage throughout the state. Robert LeGrande advised that the report will include this information.

Director Wright stated that even though this report is coming later than anticipated the Committee has received sufficient data and they have been having discussions with FirstNet. He urged everyone to recognize that this is coming on fast. He noted that given several factors they need to realize the benefits of opting in vs. opting out. It was explained that opting out would cause a heavy financial burden with the 25 years that the state would have to obligate funding for. He spoke to the last legislative session and the struggles associated. He stressed the need to look at this realistically and that he does not see the state having the financial backing or technical requirements to opt-out. It was noted that there has been significant work gone into this and there are several states that are ahead of Nevada indicating an opt-in decision. He believes the Committee is ready to make a recommendation to the Governor and noted that the Governor makes the ultimate decision. He called for a motion that as a Committee they make a recommendation to the Governor and opened for additional discussion.

Shannon Rahming stressed the importance of looking at what the coverage is and negotiating to ensure that the coverage that does not appear to be good in an area is advocated for. She noted the importance of this in the rural areas.

Director Wright advised that there have been discussions with FirstNet regarding coverage and the rural areas of concern. He stated that they have had commitment from FirstNet that they will work with the state to develop solutions to ensure necessary coverage.

Dane Mattoon stated his agreement with Director Wright and the need to push forward for coverage in rural areas. He explained that this is the state's only chance to do so and that they are in no position to take on a project this big.

Dane Mattoon made a motion to make a recommendation to the Governor to consider opting in and Scott Taylor seconded. All were in favor with no opposition and the motion carried.

6. FIRSTNET AND AT&T PRESENTATION

Brian Maholic with AT&T provided a brief presentation on the options that will be made available with FirstNet. He explained that applications will be critical to how FirstNet drives adoption and provided an overview. He spoke to the push-to-talk services that will be made available and the value behind them. He noted there will be mission critical applications and a push-to-talk voice service available. The mission critical applications will be a service provided over the long-term roadmap for FirstNet and only push-to-talk voice will be available initially. The push-to-talk will utilize the LTE network and will be cellular based

person-to-person. This is available today and aligning to standards. He provided a demonstration on how the push-to-talk is able to call into a radio environment.

Brian spoke briefly on the type of devices that will be provided. These will vary with traditional devices (premium) and then more rugged designs (low-tier). They are working with manufacturers to address the needs of public safety with the intent to capture certain price points and drive the applications that have value. He added that there will be a number of devices and accessories that will be offered with FirstNet.

Co-Chair, Director Wright commented on when they were first being introduced to FirstNet and the initial confusion on what it was going to be. He explained that many individuals went in thinking that they should hold off on LMR system replacements as voice was going to be all that was offered. He noted that immediately they were told that if they had LMR to be replaced that they should proceed as voice was not going to be in the vision immediately. He noted that it was originally thought that it would just be a data carrier and voice would come later. However, it appears that with the partnership that has been developed it seems FirstNet and AT&T have been able to jump ahead with voice capabilities.

Robert LeGrande commented on the development. He stressed the importance of ensuring states and counties do not stop with their current LMR investments as those are the mission critical communications used today. He continued that though the industry is coming onboard to do non-mission critical push-to-talk and in the future, mission critical application, LMR will continue to be an option. FirstNet and AT&T are giving stakeholders a starting point and opportunity to make these decisions when they are ready to transition. He commented on the ability to interoperate outside of the LMR coverage footprint. However, he stressed the importance of not changing current paths to mission critical push-to-talk until the standards have been implemented.

Director Wright advised there was no plan to do this and they will continue to pursue the system replacement. He views this as a benefit and enhancement to current systems.

Brian added that they see it as complementary and that there is value in the ability to take push-to-talk services with you when you are fully aware you are not in the current LMR coverage footprint.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Co-Chair, Director Wright opened the meeting for public comment.

Rohit Bhanot with Ravada Networks introduced himself and provided a brief background on his history with public safety broadband. He explained he was here to speak about his experiences traveling the country and advised he has been actively engaged in lobbying for public safety communications. He stressed the need for states and the community to take the time allotted by FirstNet to explore other options and speak with peers in other states noting there are a lot of innovative solutions available.

8. ADJOURN

Co-Chair, Director Wright called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shannon Rahming made the motion for adjournment and Rudy Malfabon seconded. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.