



APPROVED MINUTES
 NV COMMUNICATIONS
 STEERING COMMITTEE

DATE	January 11, 2012
TIME	1:30 PM
LOCATION	3050 East Flamingo Av, Las Vegas NV 401 S Carson St, Carson City NV
METHOD	Teleconference
RECORDER	Hanne Epstein

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members	Present	Committee Members	Present
		Tim Kuzanek	
Lou Amell (Vice-Chairman)	X	Dan Lake	
Steve Albertson	X	Lester Lewis	X
Don Belcher		Chris Perry	X
Robert Chisel	X	Jeff Page	
Jake Conely	X	Bonnie Petti	
Tony DeMeo	X	Vernon Scarbrough	
Mark Foxen	X	Jeffery Stilson	X
Craig Harrison	X	Hyman Walker	
Tammy James	X		
James Johns	X		

CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairman Amell called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Hanne Epstein DEM called the roll and a quorum was declared.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Amell asked if there were any members of the public who wished to make a comment at this time. Hearing none he went on to the next agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Amell called for comments and discussions to the minutes of the NCSC meeting of November 9 of 2011. No comments were put forward. Jake Conely moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairman Amell called for a vote; the minutes of the NCSC meeting of November 9 of 2011 were unanimously approved.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Vice Chairman Amell stated that he appreciated everyone showing up and was looking forward to continuing the fantastic work of the NCSC is doing. He said he expected lots of discussions and participation by all NCSC members in the time ahead. Vice Chair Amell went on to make it known that Jeff Page had submitted a letter addressed to DEM Chief Smith in which he resigns from the NCSC. Chairman Amell thanked Jeff Page for his work on the NCSC.

SWIC STAFF REPORT

Jeff Yeagley reported that during his first 45 days as the SWIC he had met and discussed communications with the northern Nevada Fire Chiefs, several sheriffs, the Governor and senator Heller. Net result of all the activity has been that interoperable communications will most likely be in top five of the priority listing of the Nevada Homeland Security Commission.

Jeff Yeagley went on to report on the HSGP /IECGP projects. The IP the gateway project is moving forward. The gateways have been installed in all four shared trunk systems. Additional work is still pending on the centralized talk-groups mainly on the radio end, where 8000 radios needs to be correctly programmed to the four core system. A list of items to be completed as well as a timeline for the project is being developed.

Training funds have been earmarked for system operation, maintenance, and overall subscriber use education.

Technical assistance from OEC to conduct at least five training this year has been requested. The training requested include: Development of Standard Operation Procedures/Communications Plans, Follow up of Statewide Planning Workshop, Development of Governance Documentation, and training of All Hazards Communications Unit Leaders as well as All Hazards Communications Technicians. A funding Sustainability workshop for June-July timeframe 2012 has also been scheduled.

Clark County Microwave project is almost finished they are wrapping up on the accounting ends.

Homeland Security Working Group process work has started on a call for projects for the FFY12 funding cycle. The SWIC and the NCSC Grants Subcommittee are currently collecting data on projects for vetting, review, and prioritization. Seven projects have been received to date. The prioritized list will first go to the NCSC for approval, then to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security for final approval and funding.

NECP goal 2 was achieved and it was acknowledged by OEC that Nevada is 100% compliant.

Jeff Yeagley is working with the SAA to certify the effort and apply IECGP funds to hardware purchases.

The Chairman of the NCSC had asked staff to investigate and report on five significant events that occurred in the state relative to Interoperable Communications and the effectiveness thereof. The Air Race crash, AMTRAK/truck crash, IHOP shooting, the Caughlin Fire, and the JA Nugget shooting are the five events. The report is complete and in review. The

purpose of the short reports are to help identify any gaps in communications equipment or training that could be filled by future grants or training.

Certain common gaps will be addressed. A lot of the cell towers were massed out during the events and there were some minor hardware issues such of lack of coverage in the Nugget Casino. Most of the common issues come down to training. A lot of people were not aware of the interoperable tools that were available to them including available talk groups that were not used. Gaps have been identified and training plans are being put in place to fix them.

State of Nevada Interoperable communications projects status: Out of 54 total projects 34 have been completed.

Jeffrey Yeagley finished his report by calling attention to upcoming events relevant to interoperable communications:

February 8th: Communications Rodeo Exercise, at the Las Vegas Motor Speed Way.

May 9-11th: Statewide Interoperability Conference in northern Nevada. An agenda is being worked on and more details will come out in e mails in the near future

June 2012: Statewide Interoperability Communications Exercise, details to follow.

REPORT ON ACTIONS BY THE LTE (LONG TERM EVOLUTION) SUB-COMMITTEE

Lester Lewis reported that the last meeting of the LTE subcommittee was held on December 8, 2011. The main item of the meeting had been the planning of the upcoming governance workshop, scheduled to take place on January 12, in Reno. OEC/ICTAP is conducting the workshop which is planned to bring everyone in the LTE working group to the same level on LTE governance.

UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE BROADBAND WAIVER

Chris Magenheimer reported that Rick Nelson from NDOT has been the lead on correspondence with the FCC. Recommendations necessary to progress the Nevada Broadband Waiver had been outlined based on the discussions.

Chris Magenheimer and Rick Nelson presented a motion to the Nevada Homeland Security Commission, on January 7th. The motion confirmed the commitment of the Commission to progress the waiver request. The motion was adopted.

Chris Magenheimer reported that based on the motion, a letter will be filed with the Chairman of the FCC in support of our waiver request. With this letter, the help and support of the Governor and the delegation in Washington DC we should be fairly close to moving forward with the waiver application process.

Chairman Amell asked if Chris Magenheimer felt he had support enough to get the job done in supporting the waiver.

Chris Magenheimer confirmed that the group was working well and was progressing and had the resources needed at this time.

UPDATE FROM THE NCSC GRANT SUBCOMMITTEE

Tammy James reported that the subcommittee is still waiting on the closing date for submitting projects which will be Sunday January 15. Once all projects have been submitted the grant sub-committee will get back together and using the criteria discussed at the previous meeting vet all the projects and bring them back to the NCSC for decision making. Seven projects have currently been submitted.

Chairman Amell asked Tammy James if she had a date for the Grant sub- committee meeting that would follow the deadline for submitting projects.

Tammy James said she would expect the meeting to be held within two weeks after the project deadline.

REPORT FROM THE UASI COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

Mark Blomstroem reported on the Clark County School District (CCSD) Planning Project, the goal of which is to fundamentally improve the organization and effectiveness of CCSD emergency communications.

Phase I, the gap analysis, has been completed.

Phase II, the development of a funding sensitive plan addressing radio, telephone and all forms of internal communications , *including external linkages* has the initial part of the plan development ,a comprehensive inventory done at 95%, and the initial development of the plan completed 25%.

To assist with the plan development an Inter-operable Emergency Communications Working Group has been created, made up of CCSD communication users. The group has just had its first meeting. A Governance Committee made up of executives and managers appointed by the CCSD Superintendent will meet in February to consider the draft plan.

Phase III, the narrowband reprogramming task is complete as of last week. 1500 UHF units in the CCSD Transportation Department have been successfully reprogrammed, mostly mobile radios in busses
Overall this project is on-schedule and will be completed by May.

Mark Blomstroem went on to report on the Las Vegas Urban Area Planning Project the goal of which is to create a roadmap for coordination and improvement of interoperable communications over the next five years.

Phase I of this project was completed last August in compliance with the original grant deadline. An extension of the grant deadline has since been received, allowing Phase II to build on results from Phase 1 and provide more specific directions in the form of a roadmap for improvement. Recently, additional interviews of end users have been accomplished as outtake surveys following various Interoperability training classes. Also, two facilitated discussion meetings with key stakeholders have been held. The meetings addressed Governance and Policy as well as Training and Exercise. This project is on a very tight schedule and must be completed January 31st. The Urban Area Communication Working Group planning process and work on the identified initiatives will continue. The final report will be distributed to stakeholders, likely in February.

Mark Blomstroem finished his report talking about recent interoperability training. Using PSIC Project #2 funding and a team of seasoned Nevada instructors, 2 weeks of interoperable communications classes were held in Nov-Dec. The training had 52 participants in 10 classes through the 2 weeks. There is work underway to schedule another week of the classes in the March April. Mark Blomstroem thanked DEM, OEM, Vegas PBS and the LV UA CWG for making this training possible.

PROGRAM (PSIC) REDISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT UNUSED GRANT FUNDING –

Pete Reinschmidt explained that item at the November 9th meeting there was an error in the reported amounts available, there was in fact less funding available than what was first reported. He asked the NCSC members to look at the seven listed projects and rank them for remaining funding to be distributed. Pete Reinschmidt mentioned that there may be some discretionary funds available that were not listed on the spreadsheet that could also be applied.

Chairman Amell opened up the discussion of the projects and ranking for funding to the NCSC members. Each project that had applied for additional funding got the opportunity to present their project in front of the NCSC committee.

After presentations of projects and discussions **James Johns** put forward a motion for the following priorities

Priorities:

1. Douglas County Radio Tower: \$100.000
2. Washoe County two portable repeaters: not to exceed \$ 34.000

- 3. Clark County gateway/Training: \$252,085.00
- 4. Hamlink for Nevada Hospitals: not to exceed \$100.000

Chris Smith called for amendment to the motion to include funding for Lincoln County radio, a total of 22,022.68. The amendment was not accepted by the NCSC members.

Chairman Amell called for a vote for the motion put forward by James Johns as stated, all voted for, non opposed, the motion passed.

Lester Lewis asked to get the total amount of funding passed in the motion

The priorities, were they all to be filled, would come out to a total of \$486,085.00

Chairman Amell asked that if there were additional funds available that it be brought back to the NCSC committee to look again at the projects that did not receive enough funding or no funding at all, so the NCSC could assist in getting these projects accomplished.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Amell called for any public comments,

Terry Bohl commented that he had been at the Nevada Homeland Security meeting to present the Tribal Land Mobile Radio interoperability Preliminary Engineering Study. The gap analysis concluded that there are significant communications interoperability issues within the 27 tribes of Nevada. To build out the system to connect the rurals and the tribes and be compliant with the P25, a funding source just short of \$40,000,000 would be needed. Terry Bohl noted that the Governor is in full support of the project and Terry Bohl would now ask the NCSC for its support in moving forward with the project.

Chairman Amell stressed the importance of giving the NCSC a better understanding of what the project was meant to do before the committee had to make decisions on supporting it and suggested to Terry Bohl, that he present the project at the next NCSC meeting for Discussion/ for Possible Action. Terry Bohl agreed to this.

There was one question from the public about deadline, content and possible specific format for projects to be submitted for the 2012 funding cycle.

Jeffrey Yeagley noted that the deadline would be January 15. The project application should include, name of the project, detailed description for what the project entails and total costs.

Lester Lewis noted that the Request for Bid (RFB) for the LTE governance should be coming out towards the end of January. The RFB it is important because it will put Nevada in a good position with the waiver. Lester Lewis thanked David Loar for leading the efforts on the RFB so far.

No further public comments were heard, Chairman Amell went on to the final agenda item.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Amell** called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lester Lewis motioned to adjourn the meeting Vice Chair Amell called for a vote, all voted in favor, none opposed, Vice Chair Amell adjourned the meeting.

Meeting notes completed by Hanne Epstein, for questions call (702) 486-4430 or email hepstein@dps.state.nv.us

Acronyms:

Communication Asset Survey and Mapping: CASM	Nevada Division of Emergency Management: DEM
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Communications Unit Leader Training: COM-L	Next Generation 911: NG9-1-1
California Field Operations Guide: CalFOG	Office of Emergency Communication : OEC
Federal Department of Energy: DOE	Public Safety Answering Points: PSAPs
Federal Department of Homeland Security: DHS	Public Safety Interoperable Communications: PSIC
Federal Emergency Management Agency: FEMA	Radio Frequency Identification: RFID
Federal Fiscal Year: FFY	Regional Tactical Interoperable communications Plan: RTICP
Homeland Security Grant Program: HSGP	Remote Communications Support Vehicles: RCSV
Homeland Security Working Group: HSWG	Request for Information: RFI
Interoperable Communications Coordinator: ICC	Request for Proposal: RFP
Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program: ICTAP	Southern Nevada Area Communications Council: SNACC
Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program: IECGP	Standard Operating Procedures: SOP
Internet Protocol: IP	Statewide Interoperability Coordinators: SWIC
Internet Protocol/Voice over Internet Protocol: IP/VoIP	Urban Area : UA
Long Term Evolution (LTE)	Urban Area Security Initiative: UASI
Las Vegas Metro Police Department: LVMPD	Very High Frequency: VHF
National Environmental Policy Act: NEPA	Voice Over Internet Protocol: VOIP
National Nuclear Security Administration: NNSA	Washoe County Sheriff's Office: WCSO
Nevada Communications Steering Committee: NCSC	