



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Public Safety Communications Committee

Attendance	DATE	Thursday, August 21, 2014	
	TIME	9:00 A.M.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Division of Emergency Management State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, Nevada 89701	
	METHOD	Single venue	
	RECORDER	Janell Woodward	
Committee Members	Present	Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
James Wright	X	Christopher Smith	X
Michael Barnbeck	X	George Molnar	X
Dave Gustafson	X	Thomas Lawless	
Rudy Malfabon	X		
Mitchell Sperling	X	Samantha Ladich (AG Rep)	X
Chris Ipsen	X	Janell Woodward (NDEM Staff)	X
Scott Taylor	X	Rick Martin (NDEM Staff)	
Matthew Morris		Kelli Anderson (NDEM Staff)	
Dave Hunkup	X	Selby Marks (NDEM Staff)	X
Louis Amell	X	Karen Hall (NDEM Staff)	X
Michael Brown			
Sandra Barfield	X		
Kevin Judice			
Bill Welch			
Gary Hames	X		

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright called the meeting to order and Janell Woodward called roll. A quorum was established with 13 of 18 total of the membership in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright opened the meeting for public comment. Director Wright reminded committee members to identify themselves when speaking during the meeting as well as to speak loudly.

Director Wright indicated there have been some questions recently regarding the Department of Public Safety Communications Bureau. This was previously located within Highway Patrol but they were moved to the General Services Division. Many are still contacting Highway Patrol for dispatch-related questions and issues so the Department of Public Safety wants to be sure to get the word out regarding this change.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 30, 2014 MEETING.

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 30, 2014 meeting. Gary Hames made a motion to approve the minutes and Dave Gustafson seconded. Chief Chris Smith indicated a correction to the wording of number 9 in the minutes regarding the two phases of the state consultation meetings. The wording should read, "The first phase will include the entire body of the NPSCC. The second phase of the meeting will be targeted toward the Governor's staff with a small number of NPSCC members in attendance." Dave Gustafson made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes requested by Chief Smith and Co-Chair, Director Michael Barnbeck seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATOR (SWIC) REPORT.

George Molnar, the Nevada SWIC, gave an update on his recent activities for SLIGP outreach. George had an opportunity to speak with Kristi Wilde from FirstNet regarding the schedule of the state consultations. Kristi indicated that state consultations will most likely extend out into 2015 with the first four state consultations occurring in 2014 including Maryland, Minnesota, Washington, and Oregon. At this point, FirstNet will contact Nevada to set up a date and time for the initial state consultation meeting. Oregon has invited Nevada to attend their state consultation and George plans to attend.

Of note, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has been sued by the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) over one of the pieces that concerns FirstNet, and that is the methodology for the spectrum option that would free up the spectrum that is now being used by television broadcasters, and provide the funding for FirstNet. This may be a problem down the line. FCC's position is that their methodology is sound and the suit by NAB is groundless. George will be keeping a close eye on that.

Frequency coordination requests and licensing requests for the helicopter emergency services channel have been submitted. This will be a coordination channel between air ambulances and ground resources on VHF, statewide in Nevada. This is expected within the next few months. A question was asked whether the helicopter emergency services information would be pushed out to the other agencies such as Metro doing search and rescue working with medical. George stated this would be part of the interoperability strategy making this information available to all agencies wishing to participate.

Training team material is partially updated for two of the four large courses. These are with the training team for review and revision. The remaining two large courses will be completed shortly.

A communications rodeo is being considered for spring 2015. George is communicating with several different agencies who will likely participate in that rodeo event.

5. UPDATE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) COMMITTEE

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright gave an update regarding the RFP process indicating the RFP is currently going through the State process and could take several months. Chief Chris Smith supported this and stated that it could actually be out there sooner than that.

6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright stated we would do email polling of the committee members to determine which dates in October would work for the next meeting.

7. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS (OEC) GOVERNANCE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP

The Nevada Public Safety Broadband Coverage Objectives Workshop was performed by Shawn Ward and Jason Matthews from the Office of Emergency Communications/Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (OEC/ICTAP). The electronic form of presentation is available on the NDEM website.

Broadband Overview

An overview of OEC was given as well as broadband. The SWIC, George Molnar, is the point of contact for Nevada in requesting technical assistance from the OEC with five requests per year. However, priority sessions such as this broadband workshop, are not included in the five technical assistance workshops per year. Discussion centered around the following highlights:

- Current state: Public safety competes with public for priority. Land Mobile Radio (LMR) is currently the only mission critical system.
- Immediate goal: FirstNet's first goal is to make data mission critical for public safety.
- Long-term goal: FirstNet's goal is to develop mission critical voice over Long-term Evolution (LTE). Timeline is years down the road.
- Key challenges: Spectrum. They now have 20 MHz in the 700 range and next is to build the networks using this spectrum. Other challenges include funding, governance, policy, national architecture approach, interoperability, public safety unique requirements, and transition from existing mission critical networks.
- LTE technical highlights. Most are going toward 4G standards. Security and authentication and priority of service are the two biggest issues with commercial carriers currently. Extensive discussion ensued among the NPSCC members regarding priority of service and security.
- Core network: Services, enhanced packet core, transmission, and data centers.
- Radio Access Network (RAN) and device considerations.
- 700 MHz band allocation is Band Class 14 and FirstNet is the license holder for that spectrum.
- Mission critical voice – no standardized solutions exist today that can meet all requirements. Extensive discussion ensued regarding governance issues with future technology. Of note, use of body cameras for first responders out in the field is currently becoming an important issue.
- FirstNet: Overview of the development of FirstNet, their strategic plan, FCC spectrum auctions, responsibilities of FirstNet by law, staffing makeup, and Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). George stated that Nevada has a voice on PSAC with the representative from APCO who is from Nevada and has been involved in public safety communications for many years.

- FirstNet State Consultation process overview. Federal assets will be gathered by the Feds.

Coverage and Capacity

How FirstNet designs the state system will depend on how each state defines their needs.

- Coverage objectives: Reminder that this coverage will be data first and voice later. This will not be a replacement for LMR.
- Focus on where coverage is needed based on what each state indicates. This includes capacity with total users as well as estimated number of sites.
- Boundaries: Based on census population, utilization of cell tower on wheels. Discussion ensued regarding sharing of assets, best way to cover uncovered areas when needed. Question was raised regarding Federal entities opting in or out and Federal agencies will be automatically opted in though participation will vary. George Molnar clarified the meaning of “opt in” and “opt out.”
- Coverage objective vs. coverage map: Coverage objectives identify the State’s coverage goals and coverage maps show predicted coverage for the network build-out. Discussion included in-building coverage, handheld coverage, vehicular modem/partial handheld, and finally satellite deployable based on less than 5 people per square mile. Tribal areas were also discussed.

Users

The focus is on the users and what user needs are. Discussion included the following topics:

- LMR versus LTE capacity: LMR is channelized and LTE is one pipe for all users.
- Public safety users from first responders.
- Mobile Data Survey and results. Average nationwide was \$20-50 per month. GIS is the top desired application. General consensus from survey is that agencies will not pay any more for services than they are currently paying.
- Public Safety Tools website. More broadband tools will be showing up here in the future.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright opened the meeting up once again for public comment. There was no comment from the public.

9. ADJOURN

Co-Chair, Director Jim Wright called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandi Barfield made the motion for adjournment and Dave Gustafson seconded. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.