

Region 43 (Washington)
700 MHz/4.9 GHz Regional Planning Committee

March 29, 2006 - 1000 to 1200
Yakima Police Department – 200 S. 3rd Street
Yakima, Washington

Meeting Summary:

The RPC met to discuss the status of the 700 MHz & 4.9 GHz Plan documents, actions in other RPCs, SIEC, NPSTC and FCC document updates.

1. Roll Call and Introductions

The following individuals participated in the meeting:

Jon "Wiz" Wiswell - City of Seattle
Ken Rhodes – KCSO
Cammie Enslow – KCSO
Dave Brush – City of Yakima
Dean Heinen – Yakima County
John Melvin – Grant County Sheriff's Office
John Zwosta – Pierce County Dept. of Emergency Management
Chang Choi - Motorola

Phone:

Bob Wentworth – City of Spokane
Ron Solemsaas – SERS
David Mendel – King County RCS Manager
Doug Kerr – Carlson Wireless Technologies
Hai Phung – King County Metro
Spencer Bahner - Sparling
Jay Morrison – APCO

Attendees are again reminded to verify their contact information on the sign-in sheet and, if interested in staying abreast of Region 43 activities, to self-subscribe to the 700 MHz Committee Listserv on the website, www.region43.org.

2. Approval of 700 MHz/4.9 GHz Minutes of February 22 , 2005

The minutes for the February 22nd 700 MHz meeting will be posted on the Region 43 website for review prior to the April 29th RPC meeting.

3. Information Updates

• **SIEC Updates – Spencer Bahner**

The SIEC has been working on a new governance model and project plan which is expected to be frequency and technology agnostic. Last month the State elected to require Project 25 (P25) as the standard for new system purchases. This includes

any new trunked systems and systems requiring advanced digital features and requires that any new system or equipment purchases should, at a minimum, be upgradeable to P25. They are reviewing local jurisdictions that have put together new systems (OPSCAN, etc.) as they are interested in getting info on what agencies are currently doing. This new requirement has created problems for the DOC as they currently have conventional systems and cannot flash and/or upgrade. This means they will have to toss everything out and start over. The next SIEC meeting is scheduled for April 20th, followed by the SIEC Executive meeting on June 7th. The SIEC Advisory Working (SAW) group meeting occurs on the first Thursday of the month (April 6th and May 4th). Meetings begin at 0800 hours and are scheduled to continue to 1700 hours, if necessary, although they usually end earlier. Presentations are scheduled for the Executive meeting on the OPSCAN model for governance. Further information is available on the SIEC website:

<http://isb.wa.gov/committees/siec/index.aspx>

- **Actions in Other RPCs –**

- Region 12 (Idaho)

- The Region 12 Plan submitted on August 17th 2005 was approved March 14th 2006. In their Plan Region 12 asked for a waiver of Section 90.527 (a) (5) of the Rules requiring concurrence from neighboring Regions. The waiver was necessary because Region 12 was unable to obtain a Letter of Concurrence and Dispute Resolution Agreement from Region 25 (Montana). For further info see:

- <http://wireless.fcc.gov/publicsafety/700MHz/regions/region12.html>

- Region 35 (Oregon)

- The Oregon RPC is continuing to work on a strategy to complete the writing of their Plan so that it can proceed through the Committee process.

- Region 24 (Missouri)

- Region 24 submitted their Plan on March 7th 2005. The first license, WQEQ501, for a six-site, four-channel 700 MHz trunked radio system, was granted to the City of Independence, Missouri, on March 2nd 2005.

- Filed plans for the 700 MHz band are available on the ECFS search page at:

- http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/comsrch_v2.cgi

- Note: search on Proceeding 02-378

- Questions and discussion followed:

- - Hai Phung – asked how long it took from the time Idaho submitted its Plan until it was approved.
 - Spencer Bahner – responded that the Region 12 Plan was submitted on August 17th 2005 and approved March 14th of this year. However, he expects our turnaround to be closer to the 120 days the FCC has projected.

- **General FCC/Industry Updates**

- 700 MHz Broadband Channels – Dean Heinen

- On March 19th the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted the Eighth Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeking comments regarding re-channelization of spectrum in the 700 MHz band to accommodate broadband communications. This would enable aggregation up to 3.1 MHz channels per approval by individual RPCs. Alterations to the narrowband portions of the 700 MHz public safety band are not expected to occur. Preserving guard bands to protect

narrowband voice operations is supported. Motorola presented a plan preserving spectrum at the top and bottom of the band. NPSTC provided multiple plan options, including proposed preservation of three 50 kHz channels at the top and bottom of the band. Lucent's plan discarded wideband channels, proposing two 1.25 MHz guard bands. Comment is also sought on the proposal by the Public Safety National Coordination Committee to adopt the wideband data interoperability standard, Scalable Adaptive Modulation (SAM) and to require that all wideband radios be capable of supporting the SAM standard. Comments are due within 60 days of the release of the NPRM.

Background Notes: Per the FCC band plan adopted in 1998, the 700 MHz public safety spectrum (764-776 MHz and 794-806 MHz) is equally divided between narrowband (voice and low-speed data services) and wideband channels (high-speed data and slow scan video services). Within the 12 MHz of paired wideband spectrum, 4.8 MHz is currently designated for general use and 1.8 MHz for interoperability, and the remaining 5.4 MHz is held in reserve for future public safety needs. General use spectrum licenses are subject to a regional planning process similar to that used in the 800 MHz public safety band. Under the current rules, the individual channels within the general use and interoperability wideband segments have a bandwidth of 50 kHz, and licensees can aggregate three 50 kHz channels up to 150 kHz. The Notice seeks comment on three specific proposals to modify the 700 MHz band plan submitted by the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council; Motorola, Inc.; and Lucent Technologies, Inc. All three plans propose combining the general use, interoperability, and reserve wideband segments in order to permit broadband communications. The proposals also support the creation of guard bands to protect narrowband voice operations. The Notice also invites additional proposals and seeks comment on the FCC's tentative conclusion not to alter the narrowband portions of the 700 MHz public safety band. Additional information is available at the following website:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-34A1.pdf

- **NPSTC Meeting Updates – from notes submitted by Kevin Kearns**

700 MHz related:

- 8th NPRM related to creating broadband channels in the existing 700 MHz allocation
- Draft letters of support coming to RPC Chairs so they can support New York's waiver petition

800MHz related:

- Continuing efforts to make sure RPCs use the NCC recommended naming convention for 800 MHz interoperability channels when they re-program equipment during re-banding and in their updated regional plans. A Workgroup is going to update this list and it will be distributed to RPC Chairs when it is done.

General:

- In addition to the conference call phone number that is available to participate in the meetings without travel, they have now started to post the slides on the web site as the meeting is going on so you can be looking at the same thing that is at the meeting. By the June meeting they are hoping to have a contract in place with a web conferencing service so you can watch

the presentations as they are made. Even if this isn't in place by that time, it is now pretty easy to participate in NPSTC activities without having to travel. If anyone has questions, feel free to contact me.

- The updated SAFECOM Statement of Requirements will be officially released soon. The pre-release version is posted on the NPSTC web site at http://www.npstc.org/documents/SRSoR_V11_030606.pdf.

The NPSTC newsletter can be downloaded from the NPSTC web site:

<http://www.npstc.org/newsletter/v6issue2.pdf>

Presentations from the last meeting are available at:

<http://www.npstc.org/meetings.jsp>

4. 700 MHz Regional Planning Process - Status Update

The 700 MHz Plan document was submitted electronically to the FCC on February 7th. The thirty day comment period commenced on March 14th. The fifteen day reply period is April 13th to April 28th with the decision document to be release two to three weeks later.

5. 4.9 GHz Regional Planning Process - Status Update

The 4.9 GHz Plan document was submitted electronically to the FCC on February 7th.

6. Good of the Order

John Melvin has been researching wideband Ubiquity cards, using industrial grade router boards, plugging mini PCI cards into them. With six radios plugged in he is able to do sectorized routing at \$110 for a complete radio on cards. He will send a summary sheet to the Chair and post it on the website and will share printed copies with those present at the meeting.

7. Future Meeting Dates

The 700 MHz/4.9 GHz meetings will be scheduled to occur from 1000 to 1200 hours, followed by the 800 MHz meeting from 1300 to 1500 hours. The 800 MHz Regional Review Committee will continue meeting on a monthly basis during 2006 to complete a plan re-write process and deal with issues surrounding the re-banding process. Vendor presentations will occur directly following the 800 MHz meeting, ending at 1630 or earlier. Meetings will generally be held on the same dates as the 700 MHz/4.9 GHz meetings (usually the last Wednesday of each month) to limit travel to regional planning related meetings to once a month.

- **April 26th – Sparling (4100 194th Street SW, Lynnwood)**
- **May 31st – Eastside (Location TBD)**

It is expected that we will be continuing with our standing meeting on the last Wednesday of each month through at least the 1st and 2nd Quarter of 2006.

8. Adjourn

The 700 MHz/4.9 GHz portion of the meeting was adjourned at 1045 hours.