

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

**April 26th, 2006 - 1000 to 1200**  
**Sparling**  
**4100 194th Street SW**  
**Lynnwood, WA**

**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, RPC Chair - City of Seattle

Spencer Bahner – Sparling

Marjean Penny - Community Transit

Ken Rhodes – KCSO

Captain Deborah Huntsinger - KCSO

Cammie Enslow – KCSO

Ron Solemsaas – SERS

Babu Parayil – Port of Seattle

Tom Eckels – Hatfield & Dawson

David Mendel - King County RCS

Steve Taylor - City of Tacoma

Phone:

Alan Josue - EMD

Dave Brush – City of Yakima

Bob Wentworth – City of Spokane

Ray Hawkins - Pierce Transit

Harlan Ohlson - WSDOT

Ken Brown – City of Puyallup

Dean Heinen – Yakima County

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](http://www.region43.org).

**2. Approval of 700 MHz/4.9 GHz Minutes of February 22 , 2006**

There was a motion by Bob Wentworth and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Mendel and the minutes were approved subject to correction of the date in item 3 to 2006.

**Approval of 700 MHz/4.9 GHz Minutes of March 29, 2006**

There was a motion by Bob Wentworth and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alan Josue and the minutes were approved.

### 3. Information Updates

- **SIEC Updates – Spencer Bahner**

The SIEC has been working on a new governance model and project plan, which is about 80% complete. One of their responsibilities is the review of any wireless activity (even the purchase of a dozen radios). Alan Josue is expecting to review anything that is put out there. WSP will be the lead agency for the development/implementation of radio over internet protocol (ROIP) capability to be established at the state level on a regional basis. It is uncertain whether they will be seeking grant money or DHS funding to implement ROIP or whether existing resources will need to be used.

The next SIEC Executive meeting is scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup>. The SIEC Advisory Working (SAW) group routinely meets on the first Thursday of the month. Meetings begin at 0800 hours and are scheduled to continue to 1700 hours, if necessary, although they usually end earlier. Discussion followed:

- Ron Solemsaas - asked if there is intent to review local installations if they are state funded.
- Spencer Bahner – responded that funding coming through the State is not subject to review. For better or worse, there is a hands-off strategy, unlike in many other states. He added that the State appreciates attendance by local jurisdictions at the SAW group meetings. The State wants to know of pending projects that are occurring statewide. The DHS has requirements to meet on federal grant projects, especially with respect to interoperability projects. They want to know who is using tactical channels. Since they will have to interface with local jurisdictions they want to know what is occurring. However, they will not interfere or tell locals what to purchase.

Further information on this issue is available on the SIEC website:

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

- **Actions in Other RPCs – Jon “Wiz” Wiswell**

Region 12 (Idaho)

The Region 12 Plan submitted on August 17<sup>th</sup> 2005 was approved March 14<sup>th</sup> 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). Montana is using regional P25 VHF while Idaho is moving ahead with 700 MHz so this may not be an issue for some time. For further info see:

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

Region 35 (Oregon)

Spencer attended the RPC meeting in Oregon yesterday and noted that there is some apathy regarding 700 MHz at this time. He added that they have a draft plan but it needs vetting by a larger audience. This meeting was their first in awhile. They are in Wave 1 and are currently busy with the 800 MHz re-banding project. Filed plans for the 700 MHz band are available on the ECFS search page at:

[http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/comsrch\\_v2.cgi](http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/comsrch_v2.cgi)

Note: search on Proceeding 02-378

- **General FCC/Industry Updates – Jon “Wiz” Wiswell**

- 700 MHz Broadband Channels:

- The Eighth Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeking comments regarding re-channelization of spectrum in the 700 MHz band to accommodate broadband communications was released by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on March 21<sup>st</sup>, with comments due by May 20<sup>th</sup>.

- See WT Docket 96-86 on the following website for further information:

- [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-34A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-34A1.pdf)

- LPTV Issues:

- The RPC was reminded that LPTV applications on channels 63, 64, 68 & 69 are secondary and must be coordinated with affected Public Safety agencies. Discussion followed:

- Spencer Bahner – noted that Sparling is working on a VHF radio project and have been involved with site ownership issues with a translator owner. They discovered that he had been operating another dozen transmitters without FCC authorization.

#### **4. 700 MHz Regional Plan Status Update - Jon “Wiz” Wiswell**

The 700 MHz Plan document was submitted electronically to the FCC on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The thirty day comment period commenced on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The fifteen day reply period was set for April 13<sup>th</sup> to April 28<sup>th</sup> with the decision document scheduled to be release two to three weeks later. As of April 24<sup>th</sup> there have been no comments. The Chair has had discussions with Metro Transit, Pierce Transit and Community Transit regarding potential use of the 700 MHz band. He invited discussion on 700 MHz issues:

- Hai Phung - reported that 9 channels had been set aside for Metro.
- Marjean Penny – asked the Chair to touch on the application process.
- The Chair – responded that applications must be submitted through the RPC with applicable engineering showings. They will then be forwarded to the frequency coordinator and finally be sent to the FCC. It may take 60 days or so before the frequency coordinator will be ready to send the request to the FCC. The application is subject to return with requests for changes.
- Hai Phung – asked who handles frequency coordination.
- Tom Eckels – replied that APCO is handling applications for 700 MHz.
- David Mendel – asked who can answer questions definitively?
- Spencer Bahner – replied that there is info on their website. He is unsure whether EMSA can do these.
- Hai Phung – noted that he had followed the CAPRAD plans submitted to the FCC when selecting his channels.
- Tom Eckels – added that he assumed a set of nine 25 KHz blocks.
- The Chair – responded that he is unsure which nine of the 23 available will wind up on Hai’s license.
- Tom Eckels – added that he expects that to be part of the application process.
- Ray Hawkins – asked when we will be able to begin filing applications.
- The Chair – responded that the Region 43 Plan may be approved by the May meeting.

- Spencer Bahner – suggested that it may be prudent to delay submission of applications until the June meeting.
- Ray Hawkins – remarked that he is concerned as the RFP is already out.
- Spencer Bahner – suggested giving Motorola the list of channels available for Pierce County so that they can assist with the selection.

## **5. 4.9 GHz Regional Plan Status Update - Jon “Wiz” Wiswell & Dean Heinen**

The Chair noted that although the 4.9 GHz Plan document was submitted electronically to the FCC at the same time as the 700 MHz Plan, it will not appear on the FCC website. He mentioned that we may wish to keep a database of 4.9 GHz users to assist with planning and coordination issues and asked for volunteers to assist in this work.

Dean Heinen mentioned that in our planning process we discussed using the CAPRAD database to manage this issue. A list of licensed users could be readily available on the RPC website. He added that on the last page of our Plan we included a data entry sheet. He suggested that we should come up with a better place to locate the document, push it out and make people aware of it. He has received emails asking about how to deal with point-to-point/multipoint. He sent the form out asking for input. Discussion followed:

- Steve Taylor – asked if there should be a way to input data without changing anything.
- The Chair – responded that only certain people (e.g. Hai Phung & Terry Miller) can enter data into CAPRAD but anyone can access it in read-only mode.
- Dean Heinen - asked if we should send out a letter to licensees asking them for info on their deployed sites. He suggested that the best start would be to make a change to the website to make it more available to users. They could then copy off the form and submit it to a specified email or snail mail address.
- The Chair – offered to sit down with the King County website support staff and attempt to come up with a solution.
- Dean Heinen - mentioned that the data sheet was about 90% cribbed from another application and may not be a perfect fit for our CAPRAD entries. He added that all the fields are there but it could be edited to make CAPRAD entry easier and more intuitive for our users.
- The Chair asked Hai Phung to review the form and suggest possible changes to make CAPRAD entry easier. He also invited input from the group.
- Dean Heinen – suggested that perhaps we could use DOT as a test case for this. He thinks they may have put up a 4.9 GHz system (Harlan Ohlson was no longer on the line to confirm this). Dean suggested that we remind the users that point-to-point operation is considered secondary and can be run for only twelve months, but after that it must be licensed. He added that he reminds potential users to horizontally polarize point-to-point installations to avoid interference with LMR, which is almost always vertically polarized.

## **6. Good of the Order**

None.

## **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.

- **May 31<sup>st</sup> –Yakima Probation Services (207 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Yakima)**
- **June 20<sup>th</sup> - Sparling (4100 194th Street SW, Lynnwood)**

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**

Dean Heinen made a Motion to adjourn the meeting and Harlan Ohlson seconded the Motion. The 700 MHz/4.9 GHz portion of the meeting was adjourned at 1100 hours.