

MINUTES
NCC Region 43 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee
March 4, 2004
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Spokane, WA

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Following individuals participated in meeting.

Kevin Kearns	Allan Josue (phone)
Jon (Wiz) Wiswell	Dave Brush
Dean Heinen	Bob Wentworth
Spencer Bahner (phone)	Spencer Bahner (phone)
Terry Miller (phone)	Fred Baker
Clark Palmer	Guy Cranor
Valerie Eveland	Ken Gustafson
Cammie Enslow	Hai Phung
Gary Amundson	Doug Kerr
Alan Hull	Brenda Hilzer
David Pinion	Bob Lincoln
Jon Beck	Tom McGill
Larry Sheridan	

During introductions, participants were asked to identify any known or expected interest in either the 700 MHz or the 4.9 GHz band in the next couple of years. We have done this at the past few meetings (see those minutes for details) so only new information is noted in these Minutes.

Jon Beck from the Whitman County area noted there may be some interest in using 700 for some data applications.

Ken Gustafson noted that there is similar interest in Whatcom County.

Val Eveland noted that the same was true for Benton County.

- 2. Agenda Modifications** – None. Powerpoint slides were used to discuss agenda topics which are viewable on the Region 43 webpage at www.region43.org
- 3. Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2004**

Motioned to Approve by Dean Heinen, 2nd by Wiz, Minutes approved.

4. Election of Secretary

Allan Josue was stepping down as the Secretary. Kevin requested a volunteer and/or nominations for the Secretary position. After explaining the Secretary duties, Cammie Enslow volunteered and was approved.

5. Treasurer's Report

Spencer reviewed the report. Current balance is \$1,285. Kevin noted that he will be submitting receipts for printing costs for today's meeting and that we'll be getting a bill for the use of the room.

6. Information Updates

SIEC (see slides)

Latest SIEC plan is out, version 1.11. The State inventory per legislative requirement was completed and submitted on Dec. 31, 04. Local public safety agency inventory form/survey is coming out soon. Distribution will be made through the nine Region Homeland Security Coordinating Districts. This inventory requests a significant amount of information about public safety communications systems and also about use of amateur radio. The RPC will submit a letter and the region plan with recommendations concerning the interoperability portion of the plan.

Other RPC/NPSTC Actions (see slides)

Southern California, Region 5 plan will be through the Comment and Reply Comment cycle soon. The Missouri plan is undergoing inter-region coordination and should be out on Comment soon. The RPC Association, as a group, will be requesting that NPSTC recognize the association as a member of NPSTC.

LPTV

Cammie Enslow and Dean Heinen briefed the members on their efforts thus far. An extensive contact list of LPTV broadcasters in Washington has been prepared. A draft letter to them has been prepared providing the status of the region plan and indicating to them that public safety agencies may begin licensing and operating on designated channels once FCC approves the region's plan.

Outreach

Outreach efforts have been extensive. Over two dozen agencies from fire, law enforcement, emergency management, tribes, and others have

expressed high interest in the 700 MHz RPC process. Effort will continue to further identify agencies and encourage them to participate in meetings and to provide a designated representative to serve as a voting member.

7. Draft Plan Review and Comments (see slides for further details)

Draft Plan Version 6

The following dates were identified for finishing and eventually adopting the plan.

March 31, 2004: Final draft completed and available for final review.

April 15, 2004: Mail out plan to adjacent regions for their review and comments.

Either May 26 or June 30, 2004, adopt the plan.

Section 3.2

Concerning existing interoperability systems within the state, Clark Palmer indicated that LERN and NLEC are considered as “LERN”. The LERN frequency is considered as the primary channel and NLEC frequency as the secondary channel. Allan Josue was asked to prepare a paragraph about CEMNET, since it had not been previously addressed.

Section 3.3

Kevin was going to put together a paragraph concerning impacts when the state begins to migrate to the 700 MHz channels.

Section 3.4.2

Clark Palmer was requested to put together a paragraph on how the state plans on using the state government designated channels. The state has already submitted and received the license for the 2.4 MHz state spectrum.

Section 3.4.6

Cammie Enslow volunteered to put together a paragraph concerning a tribal component in the planning process.

Section 3.4.7

Allan Josue was requested to put together a paragraph concerning E9-1-1 operations within the state.

Section 4 and 5

Kevin will prepare paragraphs for these sections. Concerning Section 4 – Notification, the timetable of what has occurred will be presented and as the plan is finished, adopted, and implemented, the notification process will expand to ensure all public safety eligibles are informed.

Section 6

Extensive discussion was made on this section and what would be recommended to the SIEC concerning modifications on how the interoperability channels should be assigned. The RPC will prepare a letter to the SIEC which will cover the following:

- Requested that the SIEC delegate the technical administration of I/O channel placement to the RPC
- Clarified that I/O requirements only apply to use of General Use narrowband channels
- Change the I/O channel requirements to be based on bandwidth consumed instead of channel count
- Added reduced I/O channel count and/or extended implementation to the exceptions that could be considered by the SIEC (or designee)
- Removed the language that requirement that the State hold all I/O channel licenses
- Request that the State implement I/O infrastructure commensurate to their 2.4 MHz of total spectrum

Section 8

Discussion focused on two options that are proposed concerning filing windows for spectrum applications.

- Option 1 would establish eight (8), six month long filing windows. Based on the plan being approved in 2004 and the first filing window to commence immediately, the final filing window would close in 2007. During these filing windows, county-by-county allocations would be based on the pre-coordinated allocations established in the CAPRAD database. After the final filing window is closed, applications for channels would be considered for all available channels so long as co-channel and adjacent-channel interference criteria are met.
- Under Option 2, during the first two years after plan approval and implementation, allocations would be made per the pre-coordinated CAPRAD database. Beginning the third year, allocations would be considered for all channels as long as co-channel and adjacent-

channel interference criteria is met. In addition to these options, it was discussed that the trigger for considering applications could be the time that Canadian broadcasters clear their use of the spectrum.

- Concerning filing windows, it was suggested that 4 years may be too short, in that local jurisdictions are hard pressed to identify project requirements and funding. It was also suggested that after the eighth filing window, the FCC be requested to approve the extension of the application process and add more filing windows.
- Overall, after discussion, it was generally felt that Option 1 be used, and then during the 7th filing window, consideration be given to determine if additional windows would be needed. If needed, the RPC, at that time, would prepare the appropriate request and/or plan change and submit to the FCC.

Section 9

When scoring applications, it was noted that further clarification was needed particularly when addressing shared systems. It was felt that higher points should be given to applications where multi-agency shared systems were being designed.

Section 10 – 13

These sections are still needing further development and will near completion in the next Draft version.

Appendix C

It was suggested and accepted that this appendix would be dropped from the plan in light of the Department of Homeland Security's decision to implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS). All federal, state, and local agencies will be required to participate in this system, particularly if agencies are requesting federal funding.

8. 4.9 GHz Regional Planning (see slides)

This was officially the convening meeting of the 4.9 GHz regional planning process. 4.9 GHz planning will be done by a workgroup of the 700 MHz RPC. Terry Miller moved to establish the group, and was seconded by Clark Palmer. The motion was passed and the group was established. The Chair for the group is Clark Palmer. Other members include: Cammie Enslow, Dean Heinon, Dennis Hausman, Terry Miller, Bob Wentworth, Guy Cranor, Valerie Eveland, Dave Brush, Ray Yocom, and Mark Bailey.

The slide presentation listed several concepts that the workgroup will look in to. A 4.9 GHz plan will be prepared and submitted by July 30, 2004. Due to short suspense, the workgroup will prepare a plan that can be reasonably prepared and accomplished. It's not expected that all facets of the use of this spectrum will be addressed.

9. Future Meetings

- Next Meeting is March 31, 2004 in Olympia
- April 28, 2004 Meeting will be in Yakima
- May 26, 2004 Meeting will be in Everett
- June 30, 2004 Meeting will be in Yakima

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1400 hours.