

MINUTES
NCC Region 43 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee
September 25, 2002
1000 to 1500
Washington State, Emergency Operations Center, Camp Murray, WA

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Kevin Kearns called the meeting to order at 1010. The following individuals attended the meeting:

Kevin Kearns	Bruce Bradlund
Clark Palmer	Fred Radovich
Spencer Bahner	Gary Amundson
Allan Josue	Peter Hambuch
Jon Wizwell	Emory Washington
Dean Heistand	
Hai Phung	
Terry Miller	

2. Agenda Modifications

Added to the agenda was a presentation by Motorola about interoperability solutions and future funding sources.

3. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Allan Josue, 2nd by Spencer Bahner, the March 27, 2002 Minutes were approved.

4. Election of Secretary

Due to resignation of Alan Hull as the Secretary, the floor was open for nominations for a new Secretary. Allan Josue, WA EMD, indicated interest in assuming the position and without other nominations being made, was elected to serve as Secretary.

5. Information Updates

Kevin Kearns reported on the following:

- The Computer Assisted Pre-coordination Resource and Database (CAPRAD) is up and functioning. CAPRAD will allow region planners to formulate plans, select channels for use within a region, and manage use of the 700 MHz spectrum in coordination with other users. A nationwide channel packing

plan is being entered to facilitate channel usage within and adjacent regions. Until final packing plan for all regions is accomplished, a dummy set of data has been entered. Currently, the only "real" channels that are entered into the database for pre-coordination use are those as assigned by Region 5, Southern California Region, as they are the only region that has filed a region plan with the FCC. To prepare regions to use CAPRAD, a train-the-trainer program administered by the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) in Denver, CO has been established. All regions are encouraged to have at least one person receive the training. Currently the intent of our region is to possibly send two individuals for the training. Committee members felt that two members should receive the initial training, which will then train others within the region. It was recommended that names of individuals to possibly attend the training be submitted to Kevin Kearns by October 9, 2002. Individuals desiring to attend must understand that they should be willing to have an ongoing role in the RPC planning effort by supporting our data entry and working within the CAPRAD system, and being a trainer for others. Performing this duty will take some time away from or add to, normal job requirements. A final decision and selection will be made by October 16, 2002 and arrangements to attend the training will then be made. Additional information on CAPRAD is available in the NPSTC newsletter: <http://www.npstc.org/newsletter/v1issue3.pdf>

- The Region 5, Southern California Region plan will be posted by FCC for comment in the very near future. This is the first plan submitted to the FCC, as such, it's recommended that all review. Of significance in the Region 5 plan, is that they chose not to use the nationwide pre-coordinated packing plan but developed their own based on their specific needs and geographic considerations. This will primarily effect Region 6, Northern California Region and Region 3, Arizona Region in development of respective plans with regard to channel assignments along respective borders with Region 5.

6. Education/Outreach Committee

Members discussed and felt it was necessary to have an effective outreach/education program to inform all possible participants in the 700 MHz spectrum of the region planning process and ongoing activities that will eventually lead to use of the spectrum. The effort will not only inform future users, but also to encourage participation in the RPC process. To initiate an effective program, Motorola offered their

services to work with members of the RPC to develop presentations and information campaign that would be presented throughout the region. To possibly chair this effort, Dennis Hausman of DIS will be asked by Clark Palmer to fulfill this role, since he has undertaken a similar effort with the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC). Any voting and non-voting members of the RPC who can devote some time to developing and implementing a outreach/education campaign should contact Kevin Kearns.

7. Review and Discussion of Documents

Kevin Kearns and Clark Palmer reviewed with those present the following documents:

NCC RPC Guidelines: The NCC is pretty close to finalizing the revised RPC planning guidelines, which provides the template for what a regional plan should consist of when regional plans are being developed. It's expected that the document will be posted on the NPSTC and Region 43 web page [www.region43.org] within the next 3-4 weeks. All present support using the proposed plan format and text, with appropriate modifications made to reflect our region, as what our region plan will look like. Spencer Bahner, the Plan Drafting Committee chairperson, will lead the effort in drafting our plan for submission to the FCC. The guidelines talk about RPC's setting up various sub-committees to develop and implement region plans similar to the NCC subcommittees. Our region has chosen to form the following committees to meet this need. The SIEC will address and develop the interoperability section of the plan. The Plan Drafting committee, to develop/implement the plan, and the Education/Outreach committee, to develop/administer an information campaign so 700 MHz participants are aware/familiar with ongoing activities.

SIEC Draft Interoperability Section: A draft of Section 6 of the RPC plan has been developed, with several comments and proposed changes being received. Comments and proposed changes can still be submitted. Clark Palmer indicated that the draft was going to be submitted to the SIEC for approval, however, with the NCC guidelines being changed, and the deadline for submitting to the RPC for inclusion in the final RPC plan being delayed, it had been determined by the SIEC, Technical/Operations workgroup, that the SIEC members would be provided an update on the development of this section. Kevin Kearns raised the question on why trunking of interoperability channels, on a secondary basis, was not going to be allowed within the region. Clark Palmer and Spencer Bahner indicated in their responses that the workgroup saw the trunking issue as a political concern, in that

if trunking of interoperability channels was allowed as part of an agency's day-to-day operating infrastructure, the using agency, even though they would be required to release the trunked channels for use during an emergency; would be reluctant to release them. As presented in the proposed Section 6, trunking will be allowed on deployed systems, which are supporting a specific emergency/disaster and where the need for that is identified. With regards to naming the 700 MHz interoperability channels, the NCC is establishing a naming convention for all designated interoperability channels below 512 MHz, 700 MHz, and 800 MHz.

Kevin and Clark informed members that the NCC is giving consideration for developing guidance on interoperability channels other than those within the 700 MHz. With the identification by FCC of interoperability channel sets for operating below 512 MHz, it was recommended that NCC develop guidance on usage of these channel sets. Generally, the NCC supports the concept that SIEC's be involved in developing interoperability plans similar to what they envisioned for the 700 MHz spectrum. Several states, including Washington, will be addressing interoperability concerns in the other spectrums.

8. Drafting Committee

Spencer Bahner reported that he had received comments/changes from Port of Seattle and DNR (Jim Kelly) on the initial draft plan proposal. Comments/changes are still being accepted so they can be reviewed and/or incorporated into the region plan, which will use the revised NCC Plan Guidelines as the framework for the region plan.

9. Future Meeting Schedule – Confirmation of Locations

The next meeting will be held on November 20, 2002 in Yakima. Dave Bush will confirm exact location with Kevin Kearns, which will then be posted on the region's website [www.region43.org]. A complete list of other future meetings can also be found on the website.

10. Other Items/Good of the Order

It was recommended that a list of the RPC Officers, Sub-committee Chairpersons and members be listed on the listserv.

Motorola gave an informational presentation on levels of interoperability and on funding sources coming available through DOJ and Homeland Security that could be used for improving

interoperability within the states. The presentation materials will be posted to the website.

11. Adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.