

MINUTES
NCC Region 43 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee
January 28, 2004
1000 - 1300
Snohomish Public Utility, Everett

1. Roll Call and Introductions

During self-introductions, each participant was asked to provide an overview of any plans their agency had to utilize the 700 MHz band or the 4.9 GHz band in the next couple of years, or any knowledge of plans by others.

Clark Palmer, WSP – There are no current plans to use the 700 MHz or 4.9 GHz bands in the WSP. WSDOT is working on plans to use 700 MHz under the State license to expand its trunked radio system.

Cammie Enslow, King County Sheriff's Office – There are no current plans to use either band, but there is interest in exploring this further to see if a wideband data system is a future possibility.

Fred Radovich, Motorola – Noted that the new radio the WSDOC is buying will be capable of using both the 700 and 800 MHz bands, but there are no infrastructure plans in the 700 MHz band at this time.

Zohreh Zandi, Community Transit – There are no firm plans yet, but they do have an interest in looking at the 700 MHz wideband channels for future data needs.

John Lapham, Community Transit – In addition to Zohreh's comments, notes some interest in 4.9 GHz for broadband data offload from transit coaches for things like SmartCard readers.

Kit Eldredge, M/A-Comm – Perceives a fair amount of general interest in both bands, but no firm plans other than those discussed by others.

Walt Pierce, Snohomish Public Utility – No plans in either band at this time.

Dean Heistand, CENCOM – Considering using 700 MHz wideband channels for a voice/data system in the 2008-2010 horizon. Some interest in 4.9 as well.

Other meeting attendees had nothing significant to report that wasn't covered by others or as reported in our last meeting:

Dave Brush
Guy Cranor
Dennis Hausman
Dean Heinen
Kevin Kearns

Bob Wentworth
Jon (Wiz) Wiswell
Emory Washington
Tom Eckles

2. **Agenda Modifications** – None

3. **Approval of Minutes of**

Motion by Jon (Wiz) Wiswell, 2nd by Walt Pierce, to approve the Minutes of July 30, 2003 and November 19, 2003. The Minutes were Approved. It is also useful to review the PowerPoint slides from these meetings (posted on the web site with the minutes) to get further details on issues.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

Spencer Bahner advised that the current checking account balance was \$1,286.

5. **Information Updates**

- SIEC Updates** – Dennis Hausman advised that the SIEC completed its first deliverable, the Inventory of State Government Operated Public Safety Communications Systems. Work is now underway on drafting the planning documents and the local government system survey. This survey will be coordinated through the Homeland Security planning regions. Dennis also noted that they've applied for a Department of Homeland Security grant to assist in the planning process. The next SIEC meeting is scheduled for late February, but will probably be moved to March. Information will be posted on the SIEC website at www.siec.wa.gov. Dennis also noted that there will be an SIEC Technology Clearing House session on February 10th. He also noted a meeting of the NTIA on February 10th and 11th which will be the only session for non-federal input on their spectrum planning process.
- **Actions in other RPCs** – Kevin Kearns noted that there has been no action on the Region 5 (Southern California) or Region 24 (Missouri) plans. Region 35 (Oregon) is meeting on March 10th in Hood River and this will also be the convening meeting for their 4.9 GHz process. Region 12 (Idaho) met on January 21st.
 - **Formation of a national RPC Association** – Kevin Kearns advised that there was pretty broad support for this idea and that formal support letters are being generated to present to NPSTC for consideration at their next meeting.
 - **LPTV Notification Letters and other TV Issues** – Cammie Enslow and Dean Heinen advised that they have compiled the contact information for all the LPTV and translator licensees in the state and will send out the information letter as soon as it is developed. Kevin Kearns reviewed the Motorola White Paper information and noted the impacts co-channel and adjacent-channel TV stations can have on spectrum availability in our area.
 - **Assigning an Outreach Workgroup** – Kevin Kearns asked for a small Workgroup to step forward to handle getting information and advertising out for our upcoming 2004 meetings. This will be essential to make sure we get all eligible licensees

informed of our process and encourage their participation. Kit Eldredge agreed to lead this effort and Cammie Enslow and Fred Radovich will assist him.

5. Draft Plan Review and Editing

Kevin Kearns noted that he'd not been able to put as much time on this work as he wanted through the holidays and no subsequent draft has been produced. He reviewed the timeline proposed at the last meeting and suggested a revised schedule to completing our plan and getting it off to the FCC. Basically this plan is as follows:

- Circulate Draft Version 6 (Near Final) the week of February 2nd
- Meeting March 4th in Spokane to review comments and make edits as needed
- Meeting March 31st in Olympia to do the same and produce "final draft" by April 15th for comment and neighbor-region coordination
- Meeting April 28th to consider final comments from this coordination
- Meeting May 26th to vote on final edits and final adoption
- Transmit to FCC in June

Dennis Hausman made a Motion, 2nd by Jon (Wiz) Wiswell, to adopt this schedule. The Motion Passed.

Kevin Kearns introduced an Interoperability policy issue we need to consider for referral to the SIEC. Our current draft contains language that requires licensees to implement a certain number of Interoperability channels with comparable mobile coverage to their licensed system, based on the number of channels they are assigned from the Plan. We had previously recommended that we use bandwidth consumed instead of assigned channel count, and this approach still has broad support.

But two questions have been posed that we need to debate:

- Should we also consider recommending guidelines for deferred or reduced implementation thresholds or timelines for early adopters so they can wait until neighboring systems develop and more effective I/O strategies can be developed?
- If the licensee is a non-traditional eligible, like Metro Transit, and no other traditional public safety agencies have implemented 700 MHz systems in the area, is there guidance we want to suggest on reduced or deferred implementation?

General debate followed. There was some agreement that the cost implications of the language in the current plan draft could be significant, and we may want to require the equal-footprint for the Calling Channel, but may not need it for all the other channels. It was also noted that early implementers were at a disadvantage in implementing 800 MHz I/O channels so there is some value in waiting until there are other system operators to coordinate efforts with. It was also noted however that the requirement for I/O channels isn't just for local Interoperability, and it's important to have the capability in place if outside 700 MHz radios find their way into the area and need assistance.

Since this is an issue that will ultimately need to be resolved by the SIEC since they control the Interoperability portion of the Regional Plan, we will need to debate this to resolution at our March 4th meeting.

6. 4.9 GHz Regional Planning

Kevin Kearns reported our formal convening meeting will be March 4th. He discussed briefly some of the points in Motorola's FCC filing that speak to their views on the emission mask, leveraging 802.11j technology into the US band plan and other issues. More information is contained in the presentation slides for the meeting. A proposed schedule for a 4.9 GHz plan was discussed but more details will come together after we get the formal process launched.

7. Other Items/Good of the Order

Nothing to report.

8. Next Meeting and Future Meetings

The next meeting will be on March 4th at the Spokane Center in Spokane. Subsequent meetings will be on:

March 31st in Olympia

April 28th in Yakima

May 26th in Everett

June 30th in Yakima

Further details will be posted on the web site.

9. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 1205