

MINUTES
Region 43 (Washington)
700 MHz & 4.9 GHz Regional Planning Committee
January 26, 2004 - 1000 to 1200
Yakima Police Department
200 South 3rd Street
Yakima

Meeting Summary:

The RPC met to discuss 700 MHz & 4.9 GHz regional planning issues, SIEC updates, actions in other RPCs and NPSTC and to review FCC/industry documents of interest. The Regional Plan for the Public Safety 700 MHz Band in Region 43 was reviewed and submitted to the group for final edits and approval for transmittal to the FCC.

Reminders/ Action Items:

Voting status – attendees are once again reminded to consider becoming voting members. A letter or an email sent to the Chair by anyone one level above you in your agency naming you as the agency designated voting member is all that is required to become a voting member.

Region 12 Plan Review – attendees who volunteered to review the Region 12 Plan Draft are reminded to identify any issues that might be detrimental to the interests of Region 43 and to send comments to the Chair by February 16th. These issues will be included in the February 23rd meeting agenda for review by the full Regional Planning Committee.

1. Roll Call and Introductions

The following individuals participated in the meeting:

Kevin Kearns	Ron Solemsaas
Dave Brush	Jay Morrison
Cammie Enslow	Kris McGowan
Ken Rhodes	Ron Moyer - phone
Dean Heinen	Doug Kerr - phone
Bob Bushey	Terry Miller - phone
Spencer Bahner	Fred Radovich - phone
Valerie Eveland	Hai Phung - phone
Bob Wentworth	Babu Parayil - phone
Dennis Hausman	Ron Moyer - phone
Keith Cook	Jim Cole - phone
Jon (Wiz) Wiswell	Keith Flewelling - phone

During introductions participants were asked to identify themselves and their agencies and provide information (in general terms) on any known or expected interest by their agency or agencies around them in either the 700 MHz and/or the 4.9 GHz band in 2005 and 2006. Since this has been done at past meetings (see previous minutes for details) only new information is noted herein.

- Jon (Wiz) Wiswell – the City of Seattle has applied for a 4.9 GHz license and is pursuing wideband data (potentially involving King County when ready).
- Terry Miller – WSDOT has plans (and a license) for 4.9 GHz.
- Ron Moyer - Pierce Transit is currently involved in an RFP for 700 MHz, and is discussing the potential use of 4.9 GHz for vehicular data offloading.

Attendees are again reminded to verify their contact information on the sign-in sheet and to self-subscribe to the Listserv on the website, www.region43.org.

2. Approval of Minutes of December 15, 2004

Dennis Hausman made a motion to approve the December minutes. Bob Wentworth seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report:

The current balance is \$165.00, which is expected to cover remaining expenses.

Vacant Vice-Chair Position:

Clark Palmer is unable to fulfill the requirements of the position due to work demands. Nominations will be accepted now with the goal of electing a new Vice-Chair at the February meeting. No nominations were made at this meeting.

3. General Information Updates – All

• SIEC updates –Dennis Hausman

The Draft Inventory of Public Safety Communications Systems – Phase 2 Report has been released. Over 300 agencies participated in filling out survey forms. This information will be used to create a technical implementation plan for statewide interoperability (see <http://isb.wa.gov/siec/Public%20Safety%20Committee.pdf>). Interview and forum findings were detailed in the High-Level Final Statewide Public Safety Communications Interoperability Plan (for details see <http://isb.wa.gov/siec/documents/Communications.pdf>).

An RFI will be released on Thursday and will be sent out to trusted state entities.

Jay Morrison, Fred Radovich and Kit Eldredge attended these meetings. These deal with all state spectrum. Technical Clearinghouse meetings occur monthly and are open to the public. Discussion of inventory issues followed:

- Jon (Wiz) Wiswell – asked what are some of the security issues around the entries into the inventory, especially PL tones, tower sites, and frequencies?
- Dennis Hausman – responded that the info on the inventory is just a number count of agency radios. He then asked, what information agencies might be uneasy about sharing, as he is certain that the survey did not violate any sensitive areas?
- Jon (Wiz) Wiswell – remarked that although individual information might not be sensitive, in conjunction with other information it might become sensitive.
- Dennis Hausman – replied that they are aware that combined information can be dangerous and have taken steps to avoid the problem.
- Kevin Kearns – remarked that, scrolling thorough the document, it looks like summary information, not anything that is specific in nature.
- Dennis Hausman – regarding the RFI, he is hoping to release it on Thursday. Information will be needed from vendors, perhaps by the end of March or

beginning of April. There will also be a presentation target due date. Other dates will be forthcoming for additional vendor information requirements.

- **Actions in other RPCs and NPSTC – Kevin Kearns**

Other RPCs:

- Oregon - Region 35 no new information has been received.
- Idaho - Region 12 has completed their plan and we have received their Final Draft for review and comments by Region 43. The Chair identified current volunteers and invited others to volunteer to review the Region 12 Plan. The following RPC members have agreed to join the Chair in the document review:

Dennis Hausman

Terry Miller

Jon (Wiz) Wiswell

Cammie Enslow

Volunteers are reminded to identify any issues that might be detrimental to the interests of Region 43 and to send comments to the Chair by February 16th.

These issues will be included in the February 23rd meeting agenda for review by the full Regional Planning Committee.

- Reminder: to see any plans filed for the 700 MHz band search on Proceeding 02-378 at http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/comsrch_v2.cgi

NPSTC:

Meeting material from the January 24th meeting should soon be available at <http://www.npstc.org/meetings.htm>.

The December Spectrum Newsletter is available at

<http://www.npstc.org/newsletter/v4issue2.pdf>.

NPSTC meetings are currently being held in Orlando, Florida. Topics under discussion include Canadian 700 MHz and 800 MHz cross-border and interoperability channel issues and planning, coordination of SIEC efforts through formation of a national NPSTC subcommittee and the potential for construction of nationwide broadband public safety networks to create affordable broadband opportunities for public agencies (see page 8 of the meeting slides for further details).

National Association of Regional Planning Committees (NARPC):

The Chair noted that LPTV and Translator licenses continue to be issued in the 700 MHz band on a secondary basis. The FCC has notified licensees that they are obligated to send notifications to RPCs of intent to construct. In turn, RPCs are advised to notify licensees of anticipated public safety construction. This issue has been of local concern. Many of these stations are licensed by religious/ethnic groups and it may be problematic to force these stations off the air due to the minimal economics of their operation. As agencies get closer to construction it may be prudent to send out another letter reminding them that their operation is secondary. The Chair will prepare a letter to send out to TV licensees when the FCC approves our Plan. FCC representative, Kris McGowan, reminded the RPC that the FCC office in our area could assist with notification efforts. She suggested calling the FCC if you have issues, and they will call the station directly (however, if they are hard to reach, a letter might be more effective).

4. Canadian 700 MHz Band Allocation Decision – Kevin Kearns

The Industry Canada proposed 700 MHz band rulemaking issues such as standards, interoperability, planning and authorization mechanisms, common service plans, harmonization with the US band plan, etc and is available at:

[http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/vwapj/sp746e.pdf/\\$FILE/sp746e.pdf](http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/vwapj/sp746e.pdf/$FILE/sp746e.pdf)

Comments were filed by Region 43 encouraging use of a similar band and channelization plan to that used by the US, use of a regional planning process, spectrum pre-packing coordinated across the border and use of the same Interoperability channelization and modulation standard as the US with Interoperability channel deployment tied to spectrum allocation as it is in Region 43. Similar comments were filed by E-COMM. NPSTC filed comments that cautioned against full interleaving along border areas. Conference calls have been recommended for further discussion of Canadian and Mexican cross-border issues. There will also be discussion regarding 800 MHz cross border planning, ICALL/ITAC uses across the border. There has been little international response as yet, and there are no written plans for cross border coordination. There have been several conversations with Ken Gustafson, the meeting with E-COMM and CRESA, and some deployments are planned. Committee members are reminded to let the Chair know if they hear of any further planning efforts. Discussion followed:

- Dennis Hausman – asked if there has been any discussion regarding the use of interoperability channels during the upcoming Olympics?
- Kevin Kearns – responded that there is none at this time
- Spencer Bahner – added that Industry Canada had solicited information concerning the state of interoperability resources within Canada. The only uniform resource in Canada appears to be the ICALL/ITAC channels. They may only have 10 channels programmed.
- Kevin Kearns – added that during NPSTC meetings there was discussion about using the NPSTC umbrella to pull together all entities. The Chair of the governing board of NPSTC will be reaching out to local NPSTC groups to form subcommittees to further SIEC interests/issues.

5. Review of 700 MHz Band Plan – Kevin Kearns

The RPC was reminded that filed plans for the 700 MHz band could be accessed on the ECFS search page at http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/comsrch_v2.cgi.

The 700 MHz band plan was reviewed for the benefit of the group (see pages 13 - 15 of the meeting slides). It was noted that Canada is currently planning to allocate only channels 63/68 for public safety use, while the US is using channel pairs 63/68 and 64/69. Other blocks are reserved for CMRS, with the CMRS and public safety blocks separated by guard bands. The BC government wanted to allocate 10 MHz for broadband purposes. This idea was formalized in discussions by the Spectrum Coalition. One concept that has emerged is that of nationwide broadband spectrum available for shared use. This issue is politically charged, but may result in public safety being able to use the infrastructure. See trade magazines and the web for additional information, as vendors will be lobbying regarding this issue.

6. Region 43 700 MHz Plan Final Editing & Approval

The Final Draft has been circulated to our notification lists and to Regions 12 and 35 (Idaho and Oregon). A formal consent letter has been received from Region 12, but we are still waiting to hear from Region 35. Final edits have been incorporated into the Plan and the RPC Bylaws. The Chair invited the group to submit any further edits for incorporation into the document on-line during the meeting. Edits follow:

Section 1 – Regional Planning Committee Leadership

Minor edits were added to correct addresses.

Section 2 – Regional Planning Committee Membership

There have been changes to language regarding attendees, plus some minor grammatical changes.

Section 4 – Information and Notification Process

This section was expanded to specify how outreach was conducted to all groups, including Tribal agencies, and there were minor changes in the language. The Chair showed the group the spreadsheet prepared by the Notification Committee to log activity and collect mailing and email address information and noted that it will be incorporated into the document as an Appendix and added to the Table of Contents.

Section 5 – Regional Plan Summary

In this section the word “allocation” was changed to “allotment”.

Section 6 – Interoperability

In subsection 6.5, in the paragraph regarding encryption, it was suggested to add language to match changes to the NCC standards recommending AES encryption. Instead, the Chair recommended that the Plan language reference part 90 of the FCC Rules, subject to SIEC approval. In Appendix A – Table of Interoperability Channels, the names from the NCC documents were used for the channel pairs. The existing appendix was replaced with the NCC version. GTAC language was changed in subsections 6.6, 6.9 and 6.12 and edited to remove detailed language and the reference to Appendix A, which lists all the interoperability channels. The title of subsection 6.10 was changed from Wideband Data Standards to “Channels”. In subsection 6.11 language was changed to state that Washington State will use the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Section 8 – Allocation of General Use Spectrum

In subsection 8.2 a suggestion had been made to add language that Region 43 will amend this plan to include a wideband allotment methodology if one is established in the future. The Chair invited discussion on this issue:

- Dean Heinen and Dave Brush – commented that this is unnecessary. This language was deleted.

In subsection 8.4 a suggestion had been made to add language acknowledging that we will adapt to changes in existing international treaties. Discussion followed:

- Kevin Kearns - suggested leaving the language of the subsection “as is”.
- Jon (Wiz) Wiswell – commented that such a statement feels clumsy.
- Spencer Bahner – noted that there are other references to Canadian issues and maybe we need to add an additional section.
- Kevin Kearns – responded that he feels it should remain in section 8.
- Kris McGowan – suggested adding another subsection, 8.5 to deal with it.
- Kevin Kearns – agreed to add subsection 8.5 - Canadian Border Issues, leading off with the paragraph suggested by Betty and adding a paragraph describing

the current consideration in Canada relative to the use of 700 MHz for public safety and Land Mobile use.

- The group – suggested reordering the subsections to make this 8.4 and Application Filing Windows, the last subsection (8.5).

Section 11 – Evidence that the plan has been successfully coordinated with adjacent regions

The Chair noted that the intra-regional coordination and consent letters will be circulated and then incorporated into Plan.

Section 13 – Detailed description of the future planning process, including but not limited to the amendment process, meeting announcements and minutes, database maintenance and dispute resolution

Subsection 13.2 formerly referred to NLETC. This language was changed to avoid confusion. References to “NLETC” were replaced with “CAPRAD”. References to “Inter” were replaced with “Intra”.

Section 14 – Certification by the Chairperson that Regional Planning Process was Open to the Public

Jon (Wiz) Wiswell, RPC Secretary, will witness the signatures of the Region 43 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson on this page.

Appendix A – Table of Interoperability Channels

This exhibit will be formatted to landscape to make it easier to read.

Appendix B – Interoperability Channel MOU Template

Channel names will be changed to match NCC nomenclature.

Motion and second to approve the Final edited Plan

The Chair requested a Motion to approve the Plan.

Bob Wentworth made a motion to approve the plan as edited, contingent upon SIEC approval of the recommended changes to Section 6 - Interoperability.

There was a 2nd by Dean Heinen. A vote was taken by Roll Call. The voting membership unanimously voted to adopt the Plan with the noted contingencies.

By-Laws edits

The group agreed upon the following edits to the By-Laws:

Article I NAME AND PURPOSE

1.1 Name and purpose

Revise the language to specify that the name of the group is the Regional Planning Committee (RPC).

Article II MEMBERS

2.1 Number, Election and Qualification

Define members vs. voting members.

Clarify the procedure to state that voting members shall be designated in writing by an official from the eligible agency who is at least one-level senior to the designated voting member.

2.6 Meetings

Cleaned up text. Fixed numbering problem (sub-article 2.7 missing).

2.8 Call and Notice

Section A - clarified language for consistency.

Section B - clarified language to allow sufficient notice of meetings. Decided on five working days, with notice by email sufficient or phone if no email.

Section C - noted that minutes will be posted on the Region 43 website

2.11 Alternates to Voting Members

Language was clarified to specify that alternates be designated to the Chair in writing. Language was also added regarding designating a permanent or one-time alternate in writing.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS AND AGENTS

3.4 Chairman and Vice Chairman

Language was clarified to state that the Chair shall be responsible for maintaining the official records of the RPC, posting them on the Region 43 web site, and making them open for RPC, FCC and public review. There was some discussion re: responsibility for these duties in the absence of the Chair. The Chair wants the bulk of the responsibility and records need to remain with him.

ARTICLE IV AMENDMENTS

Language was changed to refer to section 13.1 of the Plan.

Motion and second to approve the Final edited By-Laws

The Chair requested a Motion to approve the By-Laws.

Jon (Wiz) Wiswell made a motion to approve the By-Laws as edited. There was a 2nd by Dennis Hausman. The voting membership unanimously voted to adopt the By-Laws as edited.

7. 4.9 GHz Regional Planning Workgroup

Updates from the NPSTC meeting

- Pinellas County, Florida is currently launching a prototype for a mixed 4.9 GHz/5.9 GHz (ITS) system to provide high-speed wireless connectivity to public safety agencies.
- Major vendors are working towards channel plan agreements for their 4.9 GHz equipment. Yakima County has offered to beta test Cisco products
- Several regions are working toward the May deadline for filing 4.9 GHz band plans.

4.9 GHz Demonstration Event in California

The Event has been rescheduled due to delays in acquiring the FCC experimental airborne license required to hold the event. The latest brochure is available at:

<http://publicsafetycommunications.org/Wi-Fi-1.php>.

The Chair requested for an immediate update if the date changes again as he has been coordinating the establishment of data links to our EOC for the event.

Discussion of Region 43 4.9 GHz Draft Plan Version 1 – Dean Heinen

The Draft Plan has been aligned with the plans developed by California Regions 5 & 6 and will be aligned with Regions 12 and 35 plans if they develop them. State of Washington information in the document was gleaned from state and Yakima County resources. The group suggested shortening the description of the region to align with the 700 MHz Plan regional description, and referring to the 700 MHz Plan for administrative issues to reduce the necessity for Plan revisions. Doug Kerr suggested setting aside some capacity for ad hoc networking. Discussion ensued around state requirements vs. RPC decisions. It was suggested that one or more agencies might have views that differ from the majority. Ideally, the group would attempt to arrive at a consensus. There was discussion regarding whether the channels are 5, 10, 15 or 20 MHz (rather than 40 MHz). It was suggested that we consult Section 90.1213 of the Rules for this issue, Section 90.1211 for suggested Plan outlines and Section 90.1215 for bandwidth vs. power limits. Dennis Hausman volunteered to add our 4.9 GHz effort to his distribution list. The Chair noted that

all 700 MHz minutes have included 4.9 GHz activities and that outreach information will be aligned with Committee records. It was suggested that we write a “story” demonstrating potential uses of 4.9 GHz and send it out through both the RPC and Dennis Hausman’s distribution lists to interested agencies.

Dispute resolution was discussed at some length. Kevin Kearns advised that the RPC should handle dispute resolution only if all parties are in agreement to accept RPC authority; otherwise it should fall to the FCC. Dean offered to work on language regarding dispute resolution and to bring it back to the group at the next meeting for further discussion. He noted that he would like to see applications and point-to-point links entered into the CAPRAD system. He further suggested that we include a recommendation to use horizontal polarization on point-to-point links to reduce potential interference to mobile/portable operations (which is usually vertically polarized). Doug Kerr noted that this planning could be part of a grander plan promoting the idea of an industry standard interface for the country. Thus, in the event of an emergency on the state borders all the equipment would be interoperable. He noted that the more agreement we have the more clout we will have with the vendor community. Finally, the group agreed to adhere to the NPSTC proposed channel plan until we hear otherwise.

8. 700 MHz/4.9 GHz Future Meeting Dates

The 700 MHz/4.9 GHz meetings will be scheduled from 1000 to 1200 hours, followed by the 800 MHz meeting from 1300 to 1500 hours. Vendor presentations will be scheduled to occur following the 800 MHz meeting, ending at 1630 or earlier.

- **February 23rd meeting – King County Emergency Coordination Center**
- **March 30th meeting – Yakima Police Department, Yakima**
- **Continuing on the last Wednesday of each month if needed, or switching back to the last Wednesday on the odd numbered months pursuant to the 700 MHz RPC Bylaws**