

Region 43 (Washington)
800 MHz Regional Planning Committee
Minutes

June 29, 2005 - 1300 to 1630
Washington State DOT Vancouver Facility
4100 Main Street, Vancouver, Washington

1. Sign-in and Introductions

Introductions were brief since attendees had previously introduced themselves during the 700 MHz portion of the meeting.

Kevin Kearns – RPC Chair	Harlan D. Ohlson – WSDOT
Cammie Enslow – KCSO	Terry Miller – WSDOT
Capt. Debbie Huntsinger – KCSO	Jon “Wiz” Wiswell - City of Seattle
Spencer Bahner – Sparling	Babu Parayail - Port of Seattle
Kit Eldredge – M/A-COM, Inc.	Kris McGowan – FCC
Ron Solemsaas – SERS	James White – Clackamas County, OR
Keith Flewelling – CRESA	Walt Pierce – Snohomish County PUD
Jim Cole – CRESA	John Minish - Snohomish County PUD
Jeremy Millman – CRESA	Jason Grant – Cisco Systems
Mike Cooney – Tropos Networks	Maria Adkisson – Cisco Systems
Mike Cooney – Tropos Networks	Dan Nowell – Cisco Systems
Jim DeFreeuw - Tropos Networks	Jeff Nightingale – Motorola
Phone:	
Hai Phung –King County Metro Transit	Jay Morrison - SERS
Dean Heinen – Yakima County	Fred Radovich – Motorola

Attendees were 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 800 MHz Committee Listserv on the website, www.region43.org.

2. Approval of Minutes of April 27, 2005

There was a motion by Walt Pierce and a 2nd by Jon “Wiz” Wiswell and the minutes were approved.

3. Current 800 MHz Committee Membership

A map showing current 800 MHz Committee membership by location was displayed for the benefit of the group (see page 27 of the meeting slides). The region is currently divided up into 6 Zones with designated representatives from each zone. This creates a problem when positions become vacant. When the Plan modification is written, the Zone concept will be eliminated and any eligible licensee will be allowed to designate a voting member to the Committee, just like is done in the 700 MHz Committee.

4. General information updates

Rebanding Waves:

A map showing the 4 rebanding Waves was displayed (see page 29 of meeting slides) and dates of major milestones (as summarized in Motorola's newsletter dated May 31, 2005) were reviewed for the benefit of the group:

- May 27, 2005 – Freeze on new non-NPSPAC (851.0125 – 861.9875) 800 MHz applications in Wave 1 Regions and any site within 70 miles of the border of a Wave 1 Region. Modifications that do not add frequencies or change the footprint of existing systems will continue to be accepted. Applications filed to accomplish re-banding in the region will continue to be accepted.
- June 27, 2005 – Start of voluntary relocation negotiations for incumbents on Channels 1-120 (851.0125 – 853.9875) in Wave 1 Regions.

Note: during this period voluntary negotiation with Nextel to relocate out of channels 1 to 120 will begin for Wave 1. Clackamas County has two channels in this category but has not yet been contacted.

- September 26, 2005 – End of voluntary negotiations, start of mandatory negotiations for 1-120 incumbents.
- December 26, 2005 – End of mandatory negotiations for Wave 1 Channel 1-120 incumbents.

Note: as this is the end date for mandatory negotiations everyone located in channels 1 to 120 should be ready to move.

- February 8, 2006 – End of non-NPSPAC application freeze in Wave 1 Regions and sites within 70 miles of Wave 1 borders.

Note: the freeze was intended to avoid someone within 70 miles of the border area making a change that affects someone previously moved. More information on the licensing freeze is available on the APCO site at:

<http://www.apco911.org/frequency/800RB/800licensefreeze.htm>

- December 26, 2006 – 18 month benchmark. Nextel must have relocated all 1-120 incumbents in 20 NPSPAC Regions and initiated negotiations with all NPSPAC incumbents in those same regions.

The Chair noted that Washington will be affected twice in these proceedings, by Oregon in Wave 1 and Idaho in Wave 2. Kris McGowan, from the FCC Field Office, asked about the State of Montana. The Chair responded that to the best of his knowledge terrain effects and the scarce use of 800 MHz in northwestern Montana should preclude any impacts on Region 43.

Applications Received Outside of the Filing Window Period:

In the previous meeting the Committee passed a motion to come up with a plan for dealing with applications received outside the semi-annual filing windows from areas within 75 miles of the Oregon border. The Plan lacks language to allow for flexibility in the dates without a formal plan modification. Assuming that the group will come up with a full plan rewrite, we can file a focused plan amendment that only changes that piece. By the middle of August we expect to be able to accept applications on a monthly basis. Pending DOT requests may require an STA process. The Chair will write up a focused Plan amendment and the FCC will expedite getting it out on consent pending modification to remove the window concept.

The Chair requested discussion in general terms about whether this is a concept the group feels comfortable with:

- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – remarked that this concept sounds good to him.
- Terry Miller – asked, how will the TA regard this?
- Kevin Kearns – responded, that it shouldn't be an issue since we are dealing with NPSPAC channels not channels 1 to 120
- Fred Radovich – added that he doesn't know if there is anyone attending from the DOC but there are also 2 prisons in that area.
- Kevin Kearns – showed a map of the 75 mile area in question and added that we need to decide if we want to stick with 75 miles or make the change state wide.

This additional flexibility would allow licensees to proceed with much needed work relative to the Region 35 rebanding efforts in Wave 1. After discussion with the FCC it was determined that a formal plan modification is required prior to commencing with the acceptance of monthly applications. However, the Plan can be amended to modify only this issue, reviewed and sent out for comments to expedite approval. The Chair plans to file the Plan amendment with the FCC by July 11th, with the goal of August approval. In the interim the Chair could consent to STAs following review by the RPC and issue formal letters of approval following Plan amendment.

Motions:

- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell made a Motion to approve an amendment to the Plan to allow for monthly processing of applications on a statewide basis. There was a second to the motion by Keith Flewelling and the Motion passed unanimously.
- Jay Morrison made a Motion with a second by Jon "Wiz" Wiswell to approve an additional Plan amendment to allow any eligible to designate a voting member to the Committee (similar to the 700 MHz RPC). The Motion passed unanimously (see page 32 of the meeting slides for specific language).

5. Applications Received Outside of the Filing Window Period

There are currently fourteen outstanding WSDOT application packages and an application from Region 35 (Clackamas County) requiring Region 43 concurrence. Page 35 of the meeting slides shows a map of the transmitter sites. Site, channel and action for each site have been copied to the minutes from the meeting slides for convenience. See slides for individual coverage maps.

WSDOT #1 – Dry Hollow, Columbia County

- Requesting Channels 604, 644, 682 and 765
- All of these are already assigned in the Plan for statewide use by WSDOT
- Action - Approved administratively by the Chair

WSDOT #2 – Alpowa Summit, Garfield County

- Requesting Channels 760, 830 and 695
- 760 is a statewide DOT channel in the Plan
- 695 and 830 are both Unassigned in the Plan, and both have been assigned to WSDOT in numerous places
- No apparent co-channel or adjacent-channel issues
- Since some of the 5dBu and 25dBu coverage areas overlap into Idaho, will forward to Region 12 for confirmation.

- Chair recommends approval pending Region 12 consent.
- Action - Approved

WSDOT #3 – Gardiner, Jefferson County

- Requesting Channels 613 and 824
- Channel 613 has adjacent-channel uses at Seattle's Apple Cove site and by Community Transit in Snohomish County
- Channel 824 is assigned in the Plan to San Juan County, and has adjacent-channel uses at Seattle's Apple Cove site and by SERS Simulcast.
- The 25 dBu coverage area appears to indicate that adjacent-channel interference might be a problem into western Snohomish County, and mobiles operating on CT or Apple Cove might create interference to WSDOT site receivers
- Channel #613 is Secondary to Canada, but the -107 dBw/m2 map indicates signal above this level beyond the Canadian border (not the RPC's issue, but just a note to the applicant)
- Chair recommended caution, maybe some empirical testing before approval and invited discussion about this site due to potential for adjacent channel interference and interference over the water to Canada:
 - Jay Morrison – asked where do mobiles intend to operate?
 - Kevin Kearns – brought up contour maps and showed that it doesn't even get across Whidbey Island as the antenna has 5 degrees of downtilt. He added that the 25 dBu contour looks worse than it is because most of the contour is over the water.
 - Jay Morrison – asked, do we have existing users with that type of close tolerance?
 - Kevin Kearns – replied that he recommends caution and some empirical testing and invited further discussion from the group.
 - Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – replied that it is potentially problematic for Apple Cove and his users and he is uncomfortable with approving this site due to potential interference problems
 - Spencer Bahner – added that he has questions about mobile operation. That site is used to provide coverage across the water. We might ask DOT if there might be a site near Sequim that could be used.
 - Terry Miller – responded that this site is part of the intended coverage for the Olympic Peninsula. There is another site "around the corner", and they are already using it. Another opportunity might be from Seattle looking back across the water.
 - Jay Morrison – asked, why didn't you turn it north?
 - Spencer Bahner – thinks there is an omni-directional antenna at the site.
 - Terry Miller – responded that they are using downtilt and 7.15 db
 - Spencer Bahner – asked, is that an existing site? If so, testing could be done now. It seems challenging since there are adjacent channel and Canadian issues
 - Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – replied that he would like to see different frequencies selected, rather than do testing and shoehorn in.
 - Kevin Kearns – asked, how does SERS feel?

- Ron Solemsaas – replied that they concur with Wiz.
- Kevin Kearns – asked, how does WSDOT feel about looking for other channels? They agreed to do so.
- Kevin Kearns – summarized that the concurrence is to look for different channels. If this is all that is available we can perform testing. He asked is it the will of the group to bring it back to the group if testing is necessary.
- Jon “Wiz” Wiswell – replied, yes, bring it back.

Action – Declined to approve given all the issues, WSDOT to look for different channels.

WSDOT #4 – Hopkins Hill, Lewis County

- Requesting Channels 695, 760 and 830
- All of these Channels were already approved on this site at the December 2001 meeting
- Action – Approved administratively by the Chair

WSDOT #5 – King Mountain, Whatcom County

- Requesting Channels 683 and 759
- These are both Guard channels between WSDOT statewide channels, so they will only interfere with themselves if there are any issues
- The -107 dBw/m2 map indicates signal above this level beyond the Canadian border. Not at RPC issue, but just for information to applicant
- Chair recommends approval
- Action – Approved

WSDOT #6 – Klickitat, Klickitat County

- Requesting Channels 758, 784 and 829
- 758 is already a WSDOT channel for statewide use so no problem there
- 784 and 829 are Unassigned in the Plan and is already used by WSDOT in a number of locations. There are no apparent adjacent-channel interference concerns
- Since some signal appears to go into Oregon, the Chair will also refer this to Region 35.
- Chair recommends approval following Region 35 consent
- Action – Approved once Region 35 consents.

WSDOT #7 – Lemanasky Mt, Okanogan County

- Requesting Channels 683, 759 and 608
- 608 is assigned in the Plan to WSDOT for statewide use
- 683 and 759 are Guard channels between WSDOT statewide assignments, so adjacent-channel interference would be to themselves
- The -107 dBw/m2 map indicates signals above this level beyond the Canadian border. Not an RPC issue, just information for the applicant
- Chair recommends approval
- Action - Approved

WSDOT #8 – Megler, Pacific County

- Requesting Channels 758 and 829
- 758 is assigned in the Plan as a WSDOT statewide channel
- 829 is Unassigned in the Plan but has been assigned to WSDOT at a number of locations
- No adjacent-channel problems
- Since site coverage extends into Oregon, the Chair will refer this to Region 35 for consent
- Chair recommends approval following Region 35 consent
- Action – Approved once Region 35 consents.

WSDOT #9 – South Bradwood, Clatsop County, Oregon

- Requesting Channels 760 and 830
- 760 is assigned in the Plan to WSDOT for statewide use, so no problem there
- 830 is Unassigned in the Plan but used by WSDOT at a number of locations.
- No adjacent-channel problems
- Since site coverage extends into Oregon, the Chair will refer this to Region 35 for consent
- Chair recommends approval following Region 35 consent
- Action – Approved once Region 35 consents.

WSDOT #10 – SR-142, Klickitat County

- Requesting Channels 695, 760 and 830
- 760 is assigned in the Plan to WSDOT for statewide use, so no problem there
- 695 and 830 are Unassigned in the Plan but has been assigned to WSDOT in numerous locations.
- No apparent adjacent-channel issues
- Since site coverage extends slightly into Oregon, the Chair will refer this to Region 35 for consent
- Chair recommends approval following Region 35 consent
- Action – Approved once Region 35 consents.

WSDOT #11 – Wauconda Pass, Okanogan County

- Requesting Channels 644, 680 and 762
- All three are already assigned in the Plan for statewide use
- 644 is assigned to WSDOT, while 680 and 762 are assigned to WSDOC but have also been used by WSDOT with WSDOC consent
- The -107 dBw/m² map indicates signals above this level beyond the Canadian border. Not an RPC issue, just information for the applicant
- Chair recommends approval following confirmation from WSDOC that the WSDOT use doesn't present it any problems.
- Action - Approved once WSDOC confirmation is received by the Chair

WSDOT #12 – Franson Peak, Ferry County

- Requesting Channels 613 and 824

- 613 is assigned in the Plan for use in Douglas, Klickitat and Thurston counties. It has also been assigned to WSDOT at Goat Mt. in Okanogan County.
- 824 is assigned in the Plan for use in Douglas and San Juan counties. It has also been assigned to WSDOT at Goat Mt.
- There are no apparent adjacent-channel interference concerns
- The -107 dBw/m2 map indicates signal above this level beyond the Canadian border. Not at RPC issue, but just for information to applicant
- The Chair recommends approval
- Action - Approved

WSDOT #13 – Skyrocket, Walla Walla County

- Requesting Channels 606, 683 and 759
- 606 is assigned in the plan for WSDOT statewide use, so no problem there.
- 683 and 759 are both Guard channels between WSDOT statewide assignments, so they only present problems to themselves
- Since site coverage extends into Oregon, the Chair will refer this to Region 35 for consent
- Chair recommends approval following Region 35 consent
- Action – Approved once Region 35 consents.

WSDOT #14 – East Saddle Mt., Adams County

- Requesting Channels 602, 610, 648 and 686
- All these channels are assigned in the Plan for statewide use by WSDOT
- Action - Administratively approved by the Chair

Clackamas County

Clackamas County is building a 4-site simulcast system to serve the Highway 26 corridor. Given the location of the sites, there will be some signal that falls into Washington. Given the shortage of channels in the Washington/Oregon border area, they have selected channels that have limited or no impact on Washington assignments or uses (see map in meeting slides for relationship to existing sites and predicted coverage contours).

- Requested Channels and analysis:
- 602 – Assigned to WSDOT for statewide use, and used at their Klickitat site in Klickitat County. No signal in that direction so no apparent interference issue. Upper-adjacent is ICALL, lower-adjacent is Guard.
- 613 – Assigned in the Plan to Klickitat County but not used by any agency in the County. Upper-adjacent is used by Clark County at their Yacolt site; lower-adjacent is used by Clark County at their Marble Creek site. No apparent signal reaching that point that would cause adjacent-channel interference concerns.
- 782 – Assigned to SERS. No adjacent-channel assignments in the border area.
- 786 – Unassigned in the Plan. No adjacent-channel assignments in the border area.

- 828 – Unassigned in the Plan. WSDOT uses the lower-adjacent at their Roosevelt site in Klickitat County, but again, no signal in that direction so no apparent interference issue.
- Chair recommends granting consent to Region 35 for these assignments
- Action – Approved

6. Washington State Homeland Security Region IV Interoperability Project – Status Update

Coordination with Region 35 on this issue is on hold pending notification of the channels they intended to use.

**7. Vendor Presentations – 1500 to 1630
(May start earlier if agenda moves quickly)**

- Cisco
- Tropos Networks

Vendor Presentation scheduled for July 27th

- **Cisco Public Safety Networks Using 4.9 GHz Technology**

8. 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 concurrent with the 700 MHz RPC, 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.

- **July 27th – Benton County Emergency Services, Richland, WA**
- **August 31st – Portland Emergency Communications**
Note: this will be a joint meeting with Region 35
- **September 28th – Yakima Probation Services, Yakima, WA**
- **October 26th – Vancouver/Portland area, location TBD**
- **November 30th – Eastside, location TBD**
- **December 28th - ???**

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1630 hours.