

Region 43 (Washington)

800 MHz Regional Planning Committee

March 29, 2006 - 1200 to 1500

Yakima Police Department – 200 S. 3rd Street

Yakima, Washington

1. Sign-in and Introductions

The following individuals participated in the meeting:

Steve Taylor, Chair – City of Tacoma

Jon “Wiz” Wiswell - City of Seattle

Ken Rhodes – KCSO

Cammie Enslow – KCSO

Dave Brush – City of Yakima

Dean Heinen – Yakima County

John Melvin – Grant County Sheriff’s Office

John Zwosta – Pierce County Dept. of Emergency Management

Chang Choi - Motorola

Phone:

Bob Wentworth – City of Spokane

Ron Solemsaas – SERS

David Mendel – King County RCS Manager

Spencer Bahner - Sparling

Jay Morrison – APCO

Ron Tiedeman – City of Puyallup

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.

3. Approval of Minutes of February 22, 2005

There was a motion by Jon “Wiz” Wiswell and a 2nd by Bob Wentworth, and the minutes were approved, subject to a correction of section 3. d. to change “Region 43 concurrence” to “Region 12 concurrence”.

4. Approval of Minutes of November 30, 2005

There was a motion by Jon “Wiz” Wiswell and a 2nd by Bob Wentworth, and the minutes were approved.

5. Plan Rewrite

Draft #2 of the 800 MHz Regional Plan has been completed and was posted on the Region 43 website on March 27th. The interim change requests eliminating zones

and filing windows were sent to the FCC on March 27th. The final rewrite of the Plan is expected to be ready for next month's meeting on April 26th.

6. Re-banding Subcommittee

A re-banding subcommittee consisting of Harlan Ohlson, Chair, and members David Mendel, and Ron Solemsaas, was formed at the February 22nd meeting. The goal of the subcommittee is to act as a communication forum and provide timely and relevant informational updates on the re-banding process to the rest of the Region 43 membership. The Chair invited others interested in this process to join the subcommittee.

7. Applications

EPSCA (Coal Creek)

This is a 6 channel Intellirepeater site, consisting of channels 612, 632, 650, 769, 803 & 823. This is co-channel with the existing City of Seattle 6 channel Intellirepeater site, WPFQ240, located at Apple Cove. The City of Seattle has released a letter of concurrence. It is expected that interference will be limited by directional antennas with downtilt, reduced ERPs, antenna height above terrain and terrain blockage and other factors such as discrete connect tones and Smartzone channel protection.

EPSCA (Education Hill)

The Education Hill site is a 6 channel Intellirepeater site with the same co and adjacent channel limitations as Coal Creek. Again, the City of Seattle has attached a letter of concurrence to the application and it is expected that interference will be mitigated by directional antennas with downtilt, reduced ERPs, antenna height above terrain and terrain blockage and other factors such as discrete connect tones and Smartzone channel protection. The Chair invited discussion on this issue:

- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – noted that extensive testing has been done at Apple Cove and all three sites have been investigated. It appears that they will not interfere with each other. However, he recommended testing once the sites are installed.
- Steve Taylor – added that it looks like the 25 dBu contours for the adjacent channels are fine. He added that in the new Plan we will be eliminating filing windows. He then opened the floor to approve this application subject to applications coming in during the existing filing window.

Jon "Wiz" Wiswell made a motion to approve this subject to no other applications coming in during the existing filing window. Dave brush seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion was approved.

City of Puyallup:

The City is re-licensing 5 frequencies that have expired recently due to non-construction. They are requesting extended implementation during the first two years to develop facilities and infrastructure, and a third year to migrate 500 radios.

Additionally, they will be returning Public Works and Fire Tactical frequencies during 2007 and 2008 (see the slide on page 10 for a list of co-channel and adjacent

channel users). No interference is predicted for Edgewood. The Chair sees no issues with this assignment. He invited further discussion from the group:

- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – commented that he predicts no issues with RJC or KCCH but wants David to comment.
- David Mendel – responded that he is bringing it up on his screen and is guessing that there is some significant overlap affecting KCCH. The RJC is not an issue.
- Spencer Bahner – added that he is looking at Edgewood. The DOT has a site on Queen Anne Hill. Downtown is geographically isolated.
- David Mendel – commented that he thinks it's OK.
- Spencer Bahner – noted that there is also a DOC site at Monroe but it is well shielded and should not be a problem
- Ron Tiedeman – noted that the concept behind the plan was to look at additional sites in case Edgewood or another site didn't work.
- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – asked, "Will you be doing simulcast?"
- Spencer Bahner – responded, "Yes, simulcast." and added that it's the same location as the original Puyallup license. The City allowed reuse of these channels. Historically, the campus applications have been treated as secondary. The concept was that it was already established and King County was being granted permission to use these channels as secondary. The outstanding issue is to what degree protection is required due to the historical significance and footprint. The downtown jail does radiate a signal outside of the building. There is an intentional external radiator with pattern control designed to push signal into the jail and other administrative buildings.
- David Mendel – asked Spencer if he anticipates problems.
- Spencer Bahner – responded that if problems are encountered, some pattern modification to the north could address these because there are terrain obstructions. He asked if the Committee wants to consider this with some modification.
- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – asked what type of antennas will be used.
- Spencer Bahner – responded that panel antennas will be used at Lake Tapps and Edgewood, and omni-directional antennas will be used at the EOC & EPSCA. He noted that Edgewood is a high site
- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – noted that he sees a quandary. He thinks that Pierce County should be given priority usage, even though King County has been in service for a long time. He added that he is struggling with whether we should put in some language regarding handling potential interference.
- Steve Taylor – agreed that this may be a good idea, and that the signal coming from King County should be tested. He asked Ron when the EOC site will be up.
- Ron Tiedeman – responded that they are in the permit stage right now, and will soon be doing the site engineering. At the end of week they will have a meeting regarding the site. This has been a regional effort. They have been working on it for seven months and the effort is finally gaining momentum. They expect to break ground within the next 2 months.

- David Mendel – added that the KCCH frequencies are not built out today. They are waiting for the STA, which should arrive any day. The RJC is operating on their 5 frequencies at this time but they are only designed for in-building use.
- Jon “Wiz” Wiswell – suggested that at a minimum we should say that before the new Pierce County facility is turned on there should be coordination between Puyallup and King County.
- Steve Taylor – agreed that King and Pierce counties should coordinate efforts. They are looking to create a regional system between Tacoma and Puyallup, and may be doing some switching of frequencies, if the combiners work out.
- Jon “Wiz” Wiswell – mentioned that he did extensive drive coverage testing of SERS, Pierce County, etc.
- Steve Taylor – emphasized the point that all parties have both a desire and an obligation to work together to mitigate interference.

Jon “Wiz” Wiswell made a Motion to approve the application subject to no competing applications being submitted within the current filing window; and subject to an affirmative obligation for King County and Puyallup to work together to mitigate interference, if it occurs. Jay Morrison seconded the motion. None were opposed and the Motion carried.

8. ICALL/ITAC Status

ICALL/ITAC status to date appears on pages 20 and 21 of the meeting slides.

Discussion ensued on potential ITAC channel changes for 715:

- David Mendel – noted that this channel is monitored by KCSO, Valley Comm and Bellevue.
- Jon “Wiz” Wiswell – added that ICALL is undergoing an engineering effort by ICTAP right now representing applications for two transmitter sites in each of three counties: King, Snohomish and Pierce. He noted that ICALL may be a different beast than it is today. There is a problem with overlap. The best solution will be simulcast for the three counties eventually
- Steve Taylor - mentioned that he will send out a request for correction of ICALL/ITAC lists to ensure accuracy. He will also work with ICTAP to get coordinates and tower height, etc. data listed. He may be able to get this put on the CASM tool.
- David Mendel – noted that last month Wiz brought up the fact that he was seeking a letter to license his ITAC channel.

9. Good of the Order Discussion

- Jay Morrison, APCO advisor - mentioned that he has received at least a dozen license requests. Licenses requests were received through AASHTO, with a five day window to respond. He added that he denied all of the applications that came through seeking Region 43 approval.

- Steve Taylor- added that they have 9 frequencies they need to re-license. Given that these were from May of 2000; they had been approved but expired.
- Jon "Wiz" Wiswell – commented that they still need to go through the process again
- Jay Morrison – said he did not see any terminated licenses on his screen
- Steve Taylor- replied that he sees expirations in August of 2005. He asked if this action is administrative or requires action by the full committee.

Jon "Wiz" Wiswell made a Motion to approve WPQY653, the Striped Peaks site and WPRF276, at Chelan Butte administratively by the Chair when they come through with the proper showing (contours and full application package. Steve Taylor noted that he will communicate with Harlan Ohlson on the two sites he sent and will confer with Jay Morrison on the other sites. There was a Second by Dave Brush and the Motion was approved.

6. 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 during 2005 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. Meetings will generally be held on the same dates as the 700 MHz/4.9 GHz meetings (usually the last Wednesday of each month) to limit travel to regional planning related meetings to once a month.

- **April 26th – Sparling (4100 194th Street SW, Lynnwood)**
- **May 31st – Eastside (Location TBD)**

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1210 hours.

8. Vendor Presentations

None were scheduled for the March meeting.