

**Minutes**  
**NPSPAC Region 43 Regional Review Committee**  
**May 22, 2002, 10:00 AM**  
**Yakima Justice Center**

**1. Roll Call and Introductions**

Kevin Kearns	Spencer Bahner	Jim Quackenbush
Alan Hull	Ross Morris	Jon Wiswell
Bob Wentworth	Tom Samuelson	Ken Gustafson
Pat Buller	Steve Taylor	Dave Brush
Allan Josue		

**2. Approval of Minutes of March 27, 2002**

The minutes were approved with the following comments. Accuracy of the language in Item 3 (Plan Rewrite Sub-Committee) reading "*the current APCO's standard is no longer than 3 seconds access to a channel with 75 units per simplex channel or 100 units per trunked channel*" was corrected to read "*The original APCO standard is no longer than 3 seconds access to a channel with 75 units per conventional channel*". A suggestion was made that the term "*Best Standards*" in Item 4 (Nextel NPRM) should be changed to the correct term "*Best Practices*".

**3. Applications for Review or Action**

Washington County, OR

The Washington County documentation was not completed for this meeting. WSDOT commented that one pair of the Region 35 frequencies presents challenges to two WSDOT sites in Clark County. The Committee decided to hold the application pending additional material from the applicant.

City of Portland, OR

The City of Portland applied for two channels (#663 & 704) for their Arrowood site and two simplex channels (#641 & 643) for fireground simplex use. There was some initial concern about interference with the simplex channels to WSDOT coverage in the Vancouver area but those concerns were resolved between the parties. The use of these channels by Portland was approved.

Benton County Simplex

Benton County applied to use the five (5) channels designated in the Plan for their use (616, 636, 674, 694, 714) for tactical simplex operation within their service areas. Since their trunked system has adequate capacity to meet their needs, they do not foresee a need to use these channels in their infrastructure in

the future, but they need tactical channels for fireground operations and when the incident is outside the coverage footprint of the infrastructure. Other agencies in Benton County may at some time in the future require some or all of the NPSPAC channels. Assigning the channels as simplex only until other agencies with a higher, better use apply for the frequencies was approved. No repeaters can be used unless a plan is presented to and approved by the Committee. The frequencies can only be used within Benton County. Benton County must program and monitor ITAC, ICALL and State OPS channels. The Chair will communicate these restrictions to Benton County by letter.

#### WSDOT use of County-assigned channels

Applications for use of county assigned channels by a state agency, the Washington State Department of Transportation, were discussed. The applications were tabled at the last meeting because of limited time available to prepare for debate, the potential for establishing a precedent and the current redraft in-process status of the Region 43 plan. Some stated belief that the current plan does not address the issues presented by the application.

The chair yielded to the vice-chair for a discussion regarding what determines a legal application. WSDOT argued that the current plan provides for use of assigned frequencies by any eligible entity within county boundaries and because WSDOT has offices in the counties in question, WSDOT is an eligible entity. Others argued that the state application pre-empts other potential users within the counties and that state agencies are not eligible entities for the county frequencies. WSDOT responded that many of the counties in Washington want to use the WSDOT system for emergency communications purposes.

Ross Morris made a motion that the WSDOT applications represent valid applications that require the committee to accept for discussion and further action. The motion was seconded by Allen Josue and approved by voice vote. WSDOT affirmed their willingness to work cooperatively with the other counties affected by the applications. An amended motion was made by Spencer Bahner and seconded by Pat Buller to 1) put off final action on the Capital Peak (613, 633, 653, 804, 822, 825) and South Mountain (728 & 810) sites until next meeting together with 2) call for a meeting of the affected parties – WSDOT, King County, Snohomish County, Pierce County – for further technical review of the Capital Peak and South Mountain sites prior to next meeting and 3) take action on the Baw Faw (623, 655, 664) , Chelan Butte (624, 650 & 819) and Striped Peak (727) applications. The motion carried. The designated facilitator of the meeting of affected parties was Allen Josue. The vice-chair turned the meeting back to the chair.

#### Snohomish County In-Building

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Snohomish County application for use of 617, 667, 705 & 766) for in-building systems with the condition that they would operate on a non-interfering basis with other licensees. The motion carried. The Chair will communicate this by letter to SERS.

#### King County In-Building

A motion was made and seconded to turn over the application to a subcommittee to determine appropriate frequencies to be used, done in conjunction with and by the same subcommittee and facilitator reviewing the WSDOT applications for South Mountain and Capital Peak. The motion carried.

#### **4. Plan Re-Write Sub-Committee and Revisions to By-Laws**

Revision Level 4 was distributed for review. A suggestion was made to require assigning VHF/UHF turn-backs to a pool for reassignment. Another suggestion was made that the plan rewrite should be posted on the Region 43 website for review and comment by all eligible bodies. This would then allow the Committee to take action on a specific document with specific comments prior to filing it with the FCC. The sub-committee chair agreed to do this.

#### **5. Zone 2 Implementation of Interoperability Repeaters**

A discussion around the need for coordination of interoperability repeaters/sites for all of the western Washington, not just Zone 2, led to further discussion about the need to manage all of the repeaters and sites. A suggestion was made that all of the currently identified interoperability repeater sites in the state, not just western Washington, needed to be documented on a map along with the corresponding approximate coverage areas. Steve Taylor agreed to chair a sub-committee for further discussion.

#### **6. NPRM on Interference to Public Safety 800 MHz Systems**

Kevin Kearns updated the Committee on the current status of the NPRM. He noted that as of this meeting date, 219 comments had been filed with the FCC.

#### **7. Adjourn**

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1405 hours.

Next meeting date and location to be announced at a future time.