

**NPSPAC Region 43 Regional Review Committee**

Date: October 17, 2000

Time: 10:00 AM

Where: Palace Restaurant , Ellensburg, WA

**Meeting called to order by Chairperson Kevin Kearns at 10:11 AM****1. Introductions:**

<b>Attending:</b>	<b>Agency:</b>	<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
Kevin Kerns	King Co EMD	kevin.kearns@metrokc.gov	206-979-1313
Bob Wentworth	City of Spokane	bwentworth@spokanecity.org	509-625-7720
Jay Morrison	SNOPAC 911	morrison@snopac.snohomish.wa.us	425-388-0508
Pat Buller	WA State Patrol	pbuller@wsp.wa.gov	425-649-4654
Alan Hull	WA State DOT	hulla@wasdot.wa.gov	360-705-7013
Allan Josue	WA EMD	a.josue@emd.wa.gov	253-512-7037
Jon Wizwell	City of Seattle	jon.wizwell@seattle.wa.us	206-684-0187
Wayne Wantland	City of Yakima	wwantlan@ci.yakima.wa.us	509-575-6048
Den Heistand	Kitsap Co, CENCOM	mdh14@tscnet.com	360-478-5269
Ken Gustafson	Bellingham Fire	kgustafson@cob.org	360-676-6831
Tom Samuelson	City of Bellingham	tsamuelson@cob.org	360-676-6906
John Fleckenstein	Chelan Co. Sheriff	john.fleckenstein@co.chelan.wa.us	509-664-5347

**Attending Guests:**

Kevin Donohoe	Tacoma Fire	kdonohoe@ci.tacoma.wa.us	253-591-5730
Steve Taylor	Taylor Consulting	vx800@att.net	425-881-2999

**2. Agenda Modifications**

No modifications were made to the agenda items presented.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of April 25, 2000**

Motion by Jon Wizwell: "Motion to accept the minutes as submitted." Motion passed.

**4. Ratification of New Zone Representatives and Alternates**

All zones now have representation on the Regional 43 Review Committee.

The new members are as follows;

Zone 1 – Ken Gustafson, Alternates – Kathy McClymount, Tom Samuelson

Zone 3 – Rick Lazo

Zone 4 – John Fleckenstein

Zone 5 – Tom Deccio

Motion by Alan Hull: "Motion to accept the new Zone Representative and their Alternates". Motion passed.

**5. Election of Officers**

October is the Regional 43 Review Committee annual meeting and time to appoint new officers for a 1-year term. The positions for election are; Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. Nominations were as follows:

Chair: Kevin Kerns and Bob Wentworth

Vice Chair: Bob Wentworth

Secretary: Jay Morrison

Kevin Kerns was voted to the Chair position by secret ballot and Bob and Jay accepted their uncontested positions. Motion by Wayne Wantland: "Motion to destroy the ballots". Motion passed.

Kevin Kerns discussed the need for Zone 2 to re-consider other eligible participants to serve on the Regional Review Committee. Zone 2 represents the largest body of NPSPAC licenses within the state and considerable time has passed with no change in representation. With the migration plans of Snohomish County and the City of Tacoma toward 800 MHz trunked systems, Zone 2 should consider other qualified individuals to serve.

Motion by Bob Wentworth: “Zone 2 is directed to reconsider their membership participation to allow others the opportunity to serve as primary and alternate representatives”. Motion passed.

## **6. Snohomish County Simplex Application and Testing Results.**

Spencer Bahner, Radio Systems Manager for Snohomish County Emergency Radio Service (SERS), who was unable to attend the meeting because of illness, provided a multi-page test result document for committee review and comment on the use of the unassigned Guard Channels for simplex use. The proposal is for short-range tactical communications on a non-interfering basis to adjacent trunked and conventional repeater channels. Spencer’s document (appendix A) described the test process, conditions, methods, results and a conclusion. A list of “suggested rules” for assignment of the Guard Channels was also submitted.

The RRC committed agreed with the conclusion that the Guard Channels could be assigned with little or no chance of harmful interference with reasonable separation between primary channel users and users operating with modest power levels on the interstitial Guard Channels. It was discussed that mobile power levels will not exceed 35 watts with 15 watts recommended. Not all radio in use today have the capability to reduce power by half to meet the 15 watt limit suggested by Spencer. ERP was not suggested since some systems may require higher gain antennas for optimal performance on their primary system.

Discussion followed regarding the “Suggested Rules” for adjacent simplex operation. It was determined that use of the Guard Channels should follow the existing mutual aid priorities already set forth in the Regional Plan. Use is on a secondary and non-interference basis to adjacent primary assignments. Only the repeater output pair for voice communications will be assigned and use of CTCSS/DCS will not be permitted. Digital and encrypted voice communications will be allowed. Items 4, 5 and 7 were deleted from the proposed Rules. Kevin Kerns will re-craft the language of the GC Rules and email them to the committee members.

Motion by Pat Buller: “Motion to accept the GC Rules as rewritten”. Motion passed.

SERS 20 channel simplex application was reviewed. SERS agreed to delete three frequencies because of potential conflict with DOT wide area operations. Alan Hull requested that a fourth channel be deleted because of a potential conflict with a new license at Gold Mountain. The channels deleted from the SERS application are 866.0500, 866.1250, 867.1000 and 868.1000.

Motion by Wayne Wantland: “Motion to approve the SERS Guard Channel application on 16 channels with the deletion of the four frequencies as mentioned”. Motion passed.

## **7. Skagit County Public Works – Addition of a Site**

The committee reviewed the Public Works application to reuses a previous licensed NSPAC channel at Leonard Ridge north of Concrete. Application was approved.

## **8. Plan Re-Write Sub-Committee**

The committee Chair, Spencer Bahner, was not available to provide a status report on the re-write progress. Kevin Kerns has asked several regions to provide their plans as examples. Five plans have been received so far. Of interest was the Arizona Plan, where efforts are underway to convert to a 12.5 kHz band plan. Anyone with an interest to work on the re-write should make themselves know to Spencer.

## **9. Discussion of the Implementation of Interoperability Repeaters.**

Jon Wizwell, the committee chair, had nothing to report. Alan Hull reported difficulties finding agencies to monitor the I-Call and I-TAC repeaters. WASDOT has installed 2 of their committed 7 repeaters and need facilities that are willing to monitor the channels on a 24 hour basis. The location of the remaining repeaters needs to be addressed by the Interoperability committee. Anyone with an interest to work on the committee should make themselves know to Wiz.

**10. Reminder of the First Region 43 700 MHz Planning Meeting November 14<sup>th</sup>**

Kevin Kearns is the official FCC recognized convener for the 700 MHz Plan process in Region 43. The first meeting will be held November 14, 2000 at 1:00 PM, PST at:

King County Emergency Management  
7300 Perimeter Road South, #128  
Seattle, WA 98108

The purpose of the meeting is to begin the formation of a coordinated regional plan for Region 43. All parties having Public Safety interests within Region 43 are encouraged to attend.

**11. Other Items**

Tacoma provided an update on the status of their 6-7 site simulcast system. They are trying to interest other county and city agency on to the system. Site locations are being finalized and equipment order may be placed at the end of this year or first of 2001. Tacoma's goal is to be operational in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2001.

Update on the Commercial Mobile Radio Interference (CMRS) in the 806 and 821 MHz spectrum. CMRS is a national problem and not specific to any radio vendor. APCO has requested Public Safety agencies experiencing interference from Nextel or B-side cellular to fill out a status report which is available on the APCO website. A task force will develop a testing protocol to help agencies gather data. Currently the FCC does not consider mobile receiver desense caused by a close-spaced transmitter an interference issue. Radio managers must be familiar with CMRS issues and meet the challenge of operation in high RF environments.

Meeting Adjourn at 14:06



**Region 43 Review Committee**

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Morrison  
RCC 43, Secretary