

**MINUTES**  
**Region 43 800 MHz**  
**Regional Review Committee**  
**February 23, 2005 - 1300 to 1630**  
**King County Regional Communications and Emergency Coordination Center**  
**3511 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Renton**

**1. Sign-in and Introductions**

The following individuals participated in the meeting:

Kevin Kearns	Brooke Flynn
Dave Brush	Harlan Ohlson
Cammie Enslow	Andy Middlebrooks
Capt Deborah Huntsinger	Ivan Nepomuceno
Ken Rhodes	Travis Boettcher
Bob Bushey	Kim Workman
Valerie Eveland	Jeff Nightingale
Ron Solemsaas	Tim McDowell
Tom Howell	Bob Wentworth – phone

Attendees are again reminded to verify their contact information on the sign-in sheet and to self-subscribe to the 800 MHz Committee Listserv on the website, [www.region43.org](http://www.region43.org).

**2. Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2005**

Dave Brush made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes, Valerie Eveland seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

**3. Information Updates**

WSDOC Radio System:

The WSDOC is planning to use the same three WSDOC channels currently approved for statewide use and ITAC-3 at their other facilities for their new system in Mason County at the Mission Creek Corrections Center for women. The Chair has issued a letter of approval to allow them to proceed with licensing and STA applications.

**4. FCC or Industry Documents of Interest related to the 800 MHz Rebanding**

Documents, presentations FAQs and Webinars related to the 800 MHz rebanding process are widely available.

For documents, slides and webinars relevant to 800 MHz re-banding see APCO's "800 ALERT" web site at <http://www.apcointl.org/frequency/800hp.htm>

- FAQs relevant to the process are available at the FCC website at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/publicsafety/800MHz/bandreconfiguration/faq.html>
- The Transition Administrator's web page is available at <http://www.800ta.org/index.html>
- See the NPSTC web site at <http://www.npstc.org/> for similar resources.

Other attorney and vendor web sites of interest include:

- Shulman Rogers web site at <http://www.800mhzrebanding.com>

- M/A-COM's web site at <http://www.macom-wireless.com/800rebanding>
- Motorola's web site at <http://www.motorola.com/cgiss/800rebanding>

- **Supplemental Order and Order on reconsideration – FCC 04-294**

This document was issued on December 22, 2004 and published in the Federal Register on February 8<sup>th</sup> with an effective date of March 10<sup>th</sup>. See [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-294A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-294A1.pdf).

Issues covered include:

- Clarification of the deadline for return of Guard Band licenses by Nextel, clarification of spectrum value and issues regarding their letter of credit.
- Establishment of an interim interference protection thresholds during rebanding.
- Establishment of dates for completion of the rebanding process.
- Clarification of Plan modification sequential to rebanding, frequency coordination and transactional cost issues.
- Clarification of roles and authority of the TA and Nextel with respect to licensees. The single most important issue responded to in FCC 04-294 was the interference criteria during rebanding.

Summarized/reviewed from the January meeting slides:

- The -101/-104 dBm interference protection standards won't be enforced until after the Region is completely rebanded.
- During rebanding the protection criteria will be -85/-88 dBm (mirrors the 50 dBuV/M design guidelines in TIA TR-8 for urban systems).
- Systems that fail to meet the -85/-88 thresholds, but are able to meet the -101/-104 thresholds, other interim measures apply:
- CMRS carriers must mitigate unacceptable interference on public safety control channels (up to 4) such that the public safety receiver maintains a minimum C/(N+I) of 17 dB
- CMRS carriers must attempt to provide the same protection to voice channels using Best Practices approaches
- If voice channel protection can't be accomplished, CMRS carriers must provide a report demonstrating why mitigation is not practicable
- The TA can be asked to mediate if the report or mitigation results are not satisfactory.

## 5. Transition Administrator Announced Rebanding Schedule

The Chair sent out Notes from the APCO Symposium in January to the RPC list and is requesting feedback. Anything the group might wish to add can be sent out to the RPC through the Listserver.

At the APCO meeting the TA announced the regional scheduling approach for NPSPAC Regions. A copy of the Regional Prioritization Plan of the 800 MHz Transition Administrator is available at the FCC website:

[http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native\\_or\\_pdf=pdf&id\\_document=6516982905](http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_document=6516982905).

Three initial "waves" of NPSPAC regions to be reconfigured have been identified, beginning with first wave starting formal negotiation by June 27, 2005. The following two waves will be three months apart with Wave 3 beginning formal negotiation by the January 3, 2006. A number of significant regions, comprising 25% of the population have been identified as "Wave 4" and must await further

international agreements to handle interference in border areas. Region 43 is in Wave 4 because we share a border with Canada and are affected by treaty issues. The Chair suggested to the TA the possibility of splitting off some of southern Washington and handling it with Oregon and the TA thought that might work. The TA was concerned about the possibility of “creep” but may be open to tackling the southern areas so there may be the ability to plan. The path we are on is to schedule a meeting with the TA for Regions 43 and 35 to discuss reconfiguration. The FCC will issue an official start date. If we can coordinate some portion of southern Washington with region 35 we need to be ready right away to meet the Wave 1, June 27<sup>th</sup>, start date. Timelines were established mandating that all regions start within 30 months of the established start date, and end within 36 months. A map of all 55 NPSPAC regions and their wave assignments, followed by a table of wave assignments can be found on pages 35 and 36 of the document. During the five months spanning Plan delivery and formal commencement of the negotiation for reconfiguration of the first wave, the TA will be responsible for frequency planning and process and policy development. The TA emphasized the fact that FCC guidance is the most important criteria for them.

- **Continuing Challenges**

SMR operators have filed a motion to have BearingPoint (formerly KPMG) removed as the TA. They have suggested there might be a conflict of interest due to BearingPoint’s other work for Nextel. Information has been filed by BearingPoint and others indicating that the work was fully disclosed and that there is enough separation to avoid mixing issues. If the FCC agrees that this is a problem and/or litigation occurs necessitating the selection of a new TA, it could impact the timing. It is hoped that the FCC will deal with this issue quickly to avoid delays.

## 6. 800 MHz Regional Planning Issues

- **Proposed framework for 2005 and beyond Plan**

- Do away with the Zones and Zone Representatives.
- Allow any eligible licensee to designate a voting member (as in the 700 MHz RPC process).
- Remove county-area channel allocations and begin accepting applications from any eligible licensee for appropriate channels.
- Include the original county-area assignment tables as a guide to indicate where channels were originally “packed”. This will assist in processing subsequent applications.
- Continue to have the two filing windows each year to handle competitive applications (aligned with the 700 MHz windows when they are established).
- Retain any other key features such as scoring, I/O, etc.

- **Revised timeline for 2005 and beyond Plan**

- February meeting – first Draft of a new Plan presented to the Planning Group.
- Next two months – review and edit the Draft in monthly meetings.
- April – final Draft vetted at our monthly meeting.
- May – Circulate to Oregon and Idaho for comments and consent.
- June – hold formal Vote to approve for transmittal to FCC.

Volunteers for the plan drafting workgroup:

- Steve Taylor

- Jon (Wiz) Wiswell
- Babu Parayil
- Ron Solemsaas

## 7. Other Items/Good of the Order

None. However, discussion followed on some additional rebanding issues:

- Harlan Olson – thanked the Chair for his negotiation efforts with the TA. He also suggested that the formation of some kind of committee might be helpful. WSDOT is expected to be in a multi-wave situation. They will need to ask the TA/Nextel to define their green space and thinks that they will support negotiating with a panel or a committee.
- Kevin Kearns – noted that the challenge they are up against is that the 806, 809 and 821 MHz sites do not have much freedom to move. They will need to put channel sets at sites and that is a much more difficult undertaking.
- Harlan Olson – responded that if we could develop multi-band radio, perhaps we could use that.
- Kevin Kearns – replied that the question is out there already and it raises an interesting concept: if you are at the end of the cycle, you could just move one time. The general answer, however, was, is there is a way to do that within the 36 month window? Otherwise, it is necessary to vacate the band. He suggested that we could talk about it.
- Harlan Olson – suggested that by being in wave 4 we will see the hands played by others.
- Kevin Kearns – replied that we will have seen the Region 35 rebanding process.

## 8. Future Meeting Dates

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. Meetings will be scheduled from 1300 to 1500 hours. 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.

- **March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting – Yakima Police Department, Yakima**
- **April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting – King County ECC**
- **May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting – Benton County Emergency Services**
- **June 29<sup>th</sup> – Washington State DIS Boardroom**
- **The Agenda and meeting material will be posted to the web site, [www.region43.org](http://www.region43.org), and sent to the email list server prior to the meeting.**

### Vendor Presentations:

February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting – Dataradio & Motorola  
 March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting – Proxim (& Cisco?)

## 9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1420 hours.