

**MINUTES**  
**Region 43 800 MHz**  
**Regional Review Committee**  
**January 26, 2004 - 1300 to 1500**  
**Yakima Police Department**  
**200 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
**Yakima**

**1. Sign-in and Introductions**

The following individuals participated in the meeting:

Kevin Kearns	Ron Solemsaas
Dave Brush	Jay Morrison
Cammie Enslow	Kris McGowan
Ken Rhodes	Ron Moyer - phone
Dean Heinen	Doug Kerr - phone
Bob Bushey	Terry Miller - phone
Spencer Bahner	Fred Radovich - phone
Valerie Eveland	Hai Phung - phone
Bob Wentworth	Babu Parayil - phone
Dennis Hausman	Ron Moyer - phone
Keith Cook	Jim Cole - phone
Jon (Wiz) Wiswell	Keith Flewelling – phone

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

**2. Approval of Minutes of November 17<sup>th</sup> & December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

Bob Wentworth made a motion to approve the November and December meeting minutes, Valerie Eveland seconded the motion and the minutes for both meetings were approved.

**3. Review of Current 800 MHz Band Allocations in Non-Border Areas**

The current and post-rebanding 800 MHz band allocations in non-border areas were reviewed and discussed for the benefit of the group (see meeting slides, pages 24 – 26). Canadian border area allocation and reallocation conditions were also reviewed (see meeting slides, pages 27 – 32).

**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. Page 34 of the meeting slides shows the FCC FAQs.

- 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>

## 5. Region 43 Response to TA Inquiry

Region 43 received a letter from the Transition Administrator dated December 21, 2004 and responded on January 5, 2005 with answers to several questions posed in the letter. The text of the letter is available at

<http://www.region43.org/docs/800mhz/ResponsetoinquiryfromTransitionAdministrator.pdf>

Issues included a request for contact information regional systems, planned construction or upgrades, Canadian border sharing issues and requisite coordination in the Vancouver/Portland area. The TA was encouraged to meet with Regions 43 and 35 to further discuss strategy (see slides for further details). The SIEC responded on behalf of the WSDOT, WSDOC and WSGA (see slides for link).

Discussion on rebanding issues followed:

- Dennis Hausman – noted that the DOT may have to retune equipment up to 8 times to make the transition.
- Kevin Kearns – replied that when he read the State response it sounded like the State wanted the money to migrate to 700 MHz to create green space, having decided that it may cost less to just move out of the band.
- Jon (Wiz) Wiswell – responded that this might prove to be a good strategy. If you take the money and move, the same money will be spent and you may end up with a better system. He asked, why not allow public safety to upgrade if that option is permitted?
- Dennis Hausman – asked, what if the State plan were to go VHF?
- Kevin Kearns – answered that he has heard that Utah and Montana are moving on a path like that.
- Dennis Hausman – warned, "Delay will kill us".

## 6. Near-Term Timelines

Timelines have been established, although petitions for reconsideration/stay continue to be filed unsuccessfully. Deadlines include:

- January 31<sup>st</sup> - TA is scheduled to publish the re-banding schedule
- February 7<sup>th</sup> - Nextel is expected to accept the re-banding plan
- March 7<sup>th</sup> - Nextel is expected to certify the funding
- 30 days after the Federal Register publication of the Supplemental Order (FCC 04-294) - Nextel is expected to surrender its Guard Band licenses

## 7. Supplemental Order and Order on reconsideration – FCC 04-294

This document was issued by the FCC on December 22, 2004 and is available at: [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-294A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-294A1.pdf).

Issues include, clarifying the deadline for Nextel to return its guard band licenses and issues regarding their letter of credit, value of the spectrum, and other

procedural issues including timelines relative to Nextel and other ESMR operators and EA licensees. Interference protection issues were clarified and the deadline for CMRS carriers to create an interference reporting mechanism was extended to 60 days. Benchmark dates were modified and the overall 36-month completion deadline restated. Frequency coordination requirements, transactional costs and the role of the TA were clarified. See the meeting slides for detailed information. The interference protection issues arose out of the fact that the 101/-104 dBm protection standards cannot be met until after rebanding is accomplished. The FCC agreed to an interim protection standard of -85/-88 dBm temporarily but required mitigation of unacceptable interference on public safety control channels. The TA can be asked to mediate if mitigation results are unsatisfactory. Public safety agencies may be required to put techs in the field to cooperate with this effort. It is expected that regions will be ordered by population and the target areas will be those with most intense usage of the band. The FCC will issue a public notice of the start date for region X and will expect the rebanding to be accomplished in 36 months. The TA assigns the new channels, which are pre-coordinated in the plan. On the NPSPAC channels it's the same plan moved down. Discussion followed: Spencer Bahner – asked, of the 806 channels, with the lower channels moved up, are those channels under the purview of the RPC? Kevin Kearns – responded that they are not under the purview of the RPC. The RPC handles only the NPSPAC channels.

## **8. Regional Plan Re-packing?**

During previous meetings the group has addressed this issue and decided not to act on it. However, during the NPSTC meeting it appeared that some Regions are considering re-packing so it came up again for discussion. If re-packing were to occur it would have to be a two-step process. It is not expected that this could be easily accomplished in the 6-month window following the issuance of the Public Notice commencing the rebanding process (see meeting slides for further details).

## **9. 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 were identified:

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

#### **10. Other Items/Good of the Order**

Other items? None.

#### **11. 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.

- **February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting – King County Regional Communications and Emergency Coordination Center**
- **March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting – Yakima Police Department, Yakima**
- **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

#### **12. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1420 hours.