

WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL 800 MHz COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

Tracy Moore, Chair
Charles Moore, Vice-chair
Christine Vuletich, Secretary

**Friday ~ January 19, 2018 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Washoe County Administration Complex
Building A – Second Floor Caucus Room
1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL [Non-action item]

Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A quorum was established.

PRESENT: Ed Atwell – UNR–Police; Charles Atkinson – TMWA; Craig Betts – Washoe County; Bryan Boren – VA; Dave Cochran – Reno; David Curtis – Nevada Air National Guard; Jamie Edrosa – RTAA; Adam Garcia – UNR–Police; Dave Hunkup – Reno Sparks Indian Colony; Denise Inda – NDOT; Reid Kaiser – NDOT; Chris Maples – Sparks; Charles Moore – TMFPD; Tracy Moore – Washoe County School District; Jason Reynolds – UNR-Police; Ryan Sommers – North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; and Christine Vuletich – Washoe County.

ABSENT: Brian Allen – Sparks; Lance Avansino – Reno Sparks Indian Colony; Valerie Barr – Reno Sparks Indian Colony; Mark Cameron – RTAA; Sam Hicks – TMFPD; Jon Kelley – Washoe County School District; Chris Ketring – TMFPD; Rafael Leal – VA; Arlen Melendez – Reno Sparks Indian colony; Sabra Newby – Reno; Pat Nielson – TMWA; Darrell Norman – VA; David Paulon – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Don Pelt – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Mark Regan – North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District;

VACANT: DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) and FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation).

David Watts-Vial – Deputy District Attorney, was also present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

There were no public comments.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS [For possible action] – 1) Chair; 2) Vice-chair; and 3) Secretary

Chair Moore opened nominations.

Adam Garcia nominated Ed Atwell for Chair, seconded by Dave Hunkup.

Ed Atwell accepted the nomination.

Charles Moore nominated Tracy Moore to serve as Chair, seconded by Christine Vuletich.

Tracy Moore accepted the nomination.

There were no public comments on either nomination.

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The nomination to elect Ed Atwell as Chair failed with only two assenting votes: Dave Hunkup and Adam Garcia.

The nomination to elect Tracy Moore as Chair carried with ten assenting votes: Dave Cochran, Chris Maples, David Curtis, Reid Kaiser, Ryan Sommers, Charles Moore, Charles Atkinson, Bryan Boren, Christine Vuletich and Tracy Moore.

Christine Vuletich nominated Charles Moore to serve as Vice-chair, seconded by Chris Maples.

Charles Moore accepted the nomination.

There were no public comments.

The nomination to elect Charles Moore as Vice-chair carried unanimously.

David Hunkup nominated Christine Vuletich to serve as Secretary, seconded by David Cochran.

Christine Vuletich accepted the nomination.

There were no public comments.

The nomination to elect Christine Vuletich as Secretary carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2017, MINUTES [For possible action]

Hearing no public comment Chair Moore asked for Board discussion or a motion.

It was moved by Charles Moore, seconded by Chris Maples, to approve the October 20, 2017, minutes, as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

5. NEVADA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (NPSCC) [For possible action] – *An informational update and possible direction to staff on recent activities of the NPSCC.*

Ryan Sommers stated that there was no report and that a meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2018.

No specific action was taken.

6. FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 WCRCS (Washoe County Regional Communications System) BUDGET [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to approve, deny or otherwise modify the 2018-2019 WCRCS Budget proposal as recommended for approval on November 16, 2017, by the 800 MHz Users Committee.*

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Chair Moore opened the agenda item.

Quinn Korbolic – Washoe County Technology Services, outlined the recommendation of the 800 MHz Users Committee to approve the 2018-2019 budget with a 10-percent contribution to the infrastructure fund. The 1.5-percent increase in the budget is due to wage and benefits cost increases. The average per radio cost in this budget has been lowered to \$285.00 from the previous \$288.00. Mr. Korbolic then noted the breakdown in costs by agency and the inclusion of BEON radio and P25 in the next fiscal year. P25 radios are billed at the same rate of other system radios.

Responding to Charles Moore's inquiry about the number of LIDs and radios on the system, Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, explained that each agency is billed for the number of active radios. Once a radio has logged onto the system the radio becomes billable. Mr. Tayler explained that the number of billable LID's tends to fluctuate and that due to the limited number of available LID's some agencies have identified unused radios and started to use them. Mr. Tayler also explained that the P25 radios do not require an EDACS identification number and that there are well over a million LID's for P25.

Mr. Korbolic explained that BEON radios are currently charged about half of what regular radios are billed.

Mr. Taylor explained that when an agency decides to remove a radio from the system the full year will be billed if activated at the start of the billing cycle. Mr. Tayler pointed out that the first year is not changed.

It was moved by Charles Moore, seconded by David Cochran, to approve the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 WCRCS budget, with the 10-percent infrastructure contribution. The motion carried unanimously.

7. **LID (Logical Identification Number) STATUS UPDATE** [For possible action] – *An ongoing review, discussion and possible recommendation to recommend that the 800 MHz Joint Operation Committee (JOC) approve, deny or otherwise modify recommendations to resolve LID issues with WCRCS (Washoe County Regional Communications System) Users.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, noted that only 8 LID's were currently available and that some agency's had restructured their usage and turned in unused LID's.

Chair Moore noted that the Washoe County School District is in the process of adding 20 buses to the fleet and that radios are being pulled from non-essential personnel to cover the needs.

Responding to Ed Atwell's inquiry about turning in unused LID's, Mr. Tayler explained that if the LID were being transferred to another agency then that agency would become responsible for the billing with an adjustment made to the agency that released the radio. Mr. Tayler reiterated that an agency typically gets the first year free with the requirement that the payment be made the end of last year of activation. Mr. Tayler further explained that each agency owns their radios and that the

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LID would be deactivated if it were released. The radio itself would be deprogrammed and that the LID if returned would be available to other users. Mr. Tayler also noted that the Reno Police Department has plans to move some radio operations to P25 radios in the next year.

There were no public comments and no specific action was taken.

- 8. 800-MHz REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM PROJECTS UPDATE** [Non-action item] – *An informational update on the status of the DC Conversion project for the communications system.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, noted that all sites other than the water tank at Lake Tahoe had been converted to DC power and that Peavine has had the update to 48-volts that will support either vendor.

- 9. NEVADA SHARED RADIO SYSTEM PROJECT UPDATE** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible direction to staff on the status of the project that Washoe County is working in partnership with NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation) and NV Energy to evaluate technology and vendor options to meet the P25 communications standard.*

Denise Inda – NDOT, noted that proposals were due today (January 19, 2018) and that the Selection Committee remains intact although some changes were made to the membership due to personnel changes. The Selection Committee changes were filled with appropriate agencies with a mandatory meeting for the members on Monday, January 22, led by the administrative and legal divisions. Once the technical portions are reviewed Administrative Services will open the financial side for review of costs. A combination of the two scores (technical and financial) will go to the partners NDOT, NV Energy and Washoe County for review and final decision. Once that process is completed member agencies can begin negotiations with the selected vendor.

Responding to Ed Atwell's inquiry about which of the meetings are open to the public, Ms. Inda stated that these are not considered open public meetings. Ms. Inda also noted that the design build select processes will be under the oversight of legal counsel and administrative services.

Reid Kaiser – NDOT, explained that the public will have an opportunity to make comment at the NDOT Board meeting.

Quinn Korbolic commented that while the process is taking somewhat longer than expected, NDOT has been the driving agency in the process. Mr. Korbolic expressed his appreciation to their team who he believes has been good in working with vendors and the proposal process to make it a fair and objective process. Mr. Korbolic noted that the team includes individuals from NV Energy and Washoe County as well as NDOT.

Jim Whalen – NDOT, expressed his appreciation to Mr. Korbolic for his assistance in helping to assure that state regulations were being followed.

Mr. Korbolic pointed out that the current EDACS system has exceeded its life expectancy and that replacement parts now have to be purchased on the open market when they can be found. Mr.

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Korbulic noted that one of the servers for the current system had needed a new hard drive that used the outdated Windows NT.

Adam Garcia – UNR – Police, left the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Mr. Korbulic noted that the incoming P25 system was an open platform that should accommodate radios from a variety of vendors. However, some functions might not be available depending on the type of radio and vendor. Once completed the NSRS will provide seamless communications statewide at no additional cost. Mr. Korbulic also pointed out that there is an Opt-out Clause in the agreement and that NDOT does not plan on leaving WCRCS until such time as the P25 system is fully activated and EDACS has been closed. Mr. Korbulic noted that the 800 MHz JOC does have authority over the Washoe County portion of the P25 system and the JOC will retain the ability to recommend changes to the NSRS.

There was some discussion about the frequencies being used. It was explained that the frequencies are owned by Washoe County and that there is a 700 MHz frequency available in addition to the 800 MHz frequencies allotted to Counties by the state.

Ms. Inda noted that NDOT has looked into the potential of Washoe County being a separate system and that while that is not a first choice it is hoped there is sufficient mutual benefits to the NSRS for partner agencies to stay.

Mr. Korbulic noted that the contract provides an equitable level of governance for all parties. Mr. Korbulic noted that the vendor selection is due in the mid-to-late February time frame and that once the contract is executed the costs per agency should be available sometime later in 2018. Mr. Korbulic reiterated that NDOT has indicated they would not remove themselves from WCRCS until the EDACS system is decommissioned, which is not expected for five to seven years. Mr. Korbulic noted that there may be an increase in costs to remaining member agencies once NDOT leaves the Washoe County system. Mr. Korbulic reiterated that the P-25 platform should accommodate all radios that meet P25 standards and that some unique features of the P25 might not be available on all radios. It is anticipated that radios will be replaced in a five to eight year timeline.

There was some discussion about the cost and anticipated financing of the P25 system. As the discussion continued, it was pointed out that the budget for the Washoe County system had been designed to set aside funding for the replacement system but that not enough has been set aside. However, those monies have been used for a variety of other purposes such as replacement of damaged equipment rather than an assessment of member agencies for such costs. It was suggested that a report be developed indicating how much money would current be available had the set aside not been used for other things. Other discussion noted that the current communications system had been in use for about 17-years and that it was unknown what the life expectancy might be for the P25 system. Other discussion suggested that future budgets include a separate line item for system replacement that cannot be used for other needs, such as damaged equipment. As the discussion continued, it was pointed out that the economic downturns in 2000 and 2008 had negatively impacted local budgeting processes.

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No specific action was taken.

- 10. ANTENNA SYSTEM REPLACEMENTS UPDATE** [For possible action] – *An informational update on the status of the WCRCS Site Antenna Infrastructure and a review, discussion and possible action on a plan to replace damaged and aging units.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, commented that the upgrade and repairs at the Slide Mountain site had been delayed due to weather and access issues. Work will resume once the site is assessable.

There were no public comments and no specific action was taken.

- 11. SYSTEM STATUS UPDATE** (Non-action item) – *An informational update on the operational status of the 800 MHz Communication System.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, commented that the system alignment had been delayed somewhat due to the weather and that alignment of the Lake Tahoe equipment would start once access to the sites opens. Mr. Tayler asked that members contact him with any other issues that may have arisen.

- 12. 800 MHz JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** [Non-action item] – *The next meeting of the 800 MHz JOC (Joint Operating Committee) is scheduled April 20, 2018. No discussion among Committee Members will take place on this agenda item.*

Chair Moore suggested that a representative of the vendor come to the April 20, 2018, JOC meeting.

- 13. PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item]

Charles Moore – TMFPD, introduced Scott Gorgon his new Assistant Chief.

- 14. ADJOURNMENT** [Non-action item]none

Chair Moore adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

AS APPROVED BY THE 800 MHz JOC (Joint Operating Committee) IN SESSION ON MARCH 2, 2018.