

WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL 800 MHz COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

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

**Friday ~ January 18, 2019 ~ 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 10:05 a.m. A quorum was established.

PRESENT: Ed Atwell – UNR; Craig Betts – WC; Bryan Boren – VA; Mark Cameron – RTAA; Jamie Edrosa – RTAA; Denise Inda – NDOT; Rishma Khimji – Reno; Chris Maples – Sparks; Charles Moore – TMFPD; Tracy Moore – WCSD; Jason Reynolds – UNR; Ryan Sommers – NLTFPD; and Christine Vuletich – WC.

ABSENT: Brian Allen – Sparks; Charles Atkinson – TMWA; Lance Avansino – RSIC; Dave Cochran – Reno; Todd Curtis – NvANG; Thor Dyson – NDOT; Adam Garcia – UNR; Scott Gorgon – TMFPD; Sam Hicks – TMFPD; Dave Hunkup – RSIC; Jon Kelley – WCSD; Chris Ketring – TMFPD; Rafael Leal – VA; Pat Nielson – TMWA; Darrell Norman – VA; David Paulon – PLPT; Don Pelt – PLPT; Mark Regan – NLTFPD; and Ronald Wilson - FBI

VACANT: DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration).

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 for Chair.

It was moved by Charles Moore, seconded by Christine Vuletich, to nominate and elect Tracy Moore as Chair.

Chair Moore accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations or public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Moore opened nominations for Vice-chair.

It was moved by Chris Maples, seconded by Ryan Sommers, to nominate and elect Charles Moore as Vice-chair.

Charles Moore accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations or public comment.

800 MHz Communications System Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

January 18, 2019

Page 2 of 7

The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Moore opened nominations for Secretary.

It was moved by Charles Moore, seconded by Chris Maples, to nominate and elect Christine Vuletich as Secretary.

Christine accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations or public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2018, MINUTES [For possible action]

It was moved by Member Atwell, seconded by Member Inda, to approve the October 19, 2018, minutes, as submitted.

There were no public comments.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Ryan Sommers commented that the NPSCC was dissolved at the end of 2018 and that the item can be removed from future agenda. Mr. Sommers noted that the work of the NOSCSC will be absorbed by the DEM (Division of Emergency Management)

6. LID (Logical Identification Number) STATUS UPDATE [For discussion only] – *An ongoing review and discussion on the issue of limited LID availability on the Washoe County Regional Communication System.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, commented that only eleven LID's were available and that staff continues to search for other LID's that may be available. Mr. Tayler explained that the LID's are being held to provide cross connections between the current EDACS system and the P-25 system. Mr. Tayler encouraged members to notify him of any unused LID's.

7. SYSTEM STATUS UPDATE [Non-action item] – *An informational update on the operational status of the 800 MHz Communication System.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, noted that there was some ice damage at the Slide Mountain site due to a large chunk of ice crushing and deforming the ice shield and feed horn. The recently purchased Polaris was critical in gaining site access for temporary repairs. Mr. Tayler noted that there had been no noticeable effect on communications other than areas along I-80 west near Farad.

800 MHz Communications System Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

January 18, 2019

Page 3 of 7

8. **NEVADA SHARED RADIO SYSTEM PROJECT UPDATE** [For discussion only] – *A review and discussion on the progress of the Nevada Share Radio System project including discussion on project schedule and impacts of the project specific to the Washoe County Regional Communications System.*

Quinn Korbolic – Washoe County Technology Services, noted that Shawn Tayler has been involved with the buildout.

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, noted that the first stages of system design entails frequency planning that is currently being discussed by the three partner agencies (Washoe County, NDOT and NvEnergy). Mr. Taylor also noted that there has been some discussion about using 700 MHz, which is limited to Public Safety Users. However, NvEnergy is not considered a Public Safety User. Therefore, the three agencies are using combined lobbying efforts to have that restriction modified to allow NvEnergy to qualify. Currently mapping is underway to determine site locations. It is expected that the new NSCs will be deployed in late summer or fall of 2019.

9. **FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 WCRCS (WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM) BUDGET** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to approve, deny or otherwise modify the 2019-2020 WCRCS Budget as recommended by the 800 MHz Users Committee.*

Quinn Korbolic – Washoe County Technology Services, commented that the budget proposal had been distributed with the agenda. Mr. Korbolic then highlighted key elements of the 2019-2020 budget noting the intent of maintaining a level budget with only a slight increase of 1.2-percent while decreasing the cost per radio by 70-cents.

Member Vuletich commented that there had been no changes in personnel. However, the Collective Bargaining Agreement expires on June 30, 2019, and contract negotiations will commence in February 2019. An update on the agreement will be provided at the next meeting along with any modifications to the budget.

Mr. Korbolic outlined the per radio cost determined by the number of active radios during the previous year. Mr. Korbolic noted that the 800 MHz Users Committee is recommending a 10-percent contribution to the Infrastructure fund.

Responding to Member Atwell's inquiry about the proceeds of the Polaris sale, Mr. Korbolic explained that the equipment had been traded in on the replacement for the Polaris. Washoe County received a trade-in value of \$5,000.00 for the old equipment towards the purchase of the new one. Mr. Korbolic noted that the budget is tracking as expected. Additionally, the 800 MHz JOC may decide to make a contribution in the amount of 20-percent into the Infrastructure Fund although the 800 MHz Users Committee had recommended a 10-percent contribution.

Denise Inda – NDOT, noted concerns about NDOT paying more at the end of their participation in the EDACS system. Therefore NDOT is opposed to any increase in the infrastructure Fund contribution.

800 MHz Communications System Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

January 18, 2019

Page 4 of 7

Member Vuletich concurred with Ms. Inda and stated her support for the recommended 10-percent contribution to the Infrastructure fund.

Mr. Korbolic explained that there may be a minor change in the budget as salary may be absorbed in the non-capital equipment.

Rishma Khimji noted that the City of Reno is in the midst of their budget process and that she may have to seek an augmentation due to the increased costs. Ms. Khimji suggested that member agencies receive budget information earlier for the 2020-2021 budget cycle.

Mr. Korbolic noted that Washoe County has the same issues as noted by Ms. Khimji. Mr. Korbolic pointed out that there may be additional increases as the P-25 system is implemented. Mr. Korbolic commented that he would reach out to member agencies to develop financing for the incoming system and hopes to do so before the next quarterly JOC meeting.

During the discussion it was pointed out that increased costs may be attributable to an increase in the number of radios each agency is using. It was noted during the discussion that all agencies operate somewhat differently and that there are various other projects and needs vying for limited budget resources. As the discussion continued it was suggested that for the next fiscal year the previous year's budget and increases could be used as a guide to establish funding needs for the next budget cycle.

Jamie Edrosa – RTAA, noted that he had reached out to RTAA staff as he began the budget process to determine potential funding needs.

David Watts-Vial – Deputy District Attorney, noted that staff from each agency could discuss budget issues so that the budget can be reviewed earlier in the process.

Chris Maples – Sparks, suggested that in the future the budget discussion be moved to the fourth quarter meeting.

Chair Moore noted that there is a letter on file from NDOT who will be withdrawing in the next budget year as EDACS is phased out. Chair Moore noted that WCSD had wanted to add 35 radios but was unable to do so due to the limitations of the EDACS system.

There was additional discussion about the amendments to the Interlocal Agreement. It was pointed out that NDOT is not planning to leave the EDACS system that had been previously stated as the region moves to the P-25 system.

It was moved by Janie Edrosa, seconded by Charles Moore, to approve the 2019-2020 budget with a 10-percent contribution to the Infrastructure Fund.

There were no public comments.

The motion carried unanimously.

800 MHz Communications System Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

January 18, 2019

Page 5 of 7

- 10. UTILIZATION OF WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE FUND** [For possible action] A review discussion and possible action to approve, deny or otherwise modify a request to utilize \$750,000 from the Washoe County Regional Communication System Infrastructure fund as a partial payment of Washoe County's second milestone payment as defined in the System Purchase Agreement between Washoe County and Harris Corporation, dated September 27, 2018; as recommended by the 800 MHz Users Committee.

Quinn Korbolic – Washoe County Technology Services, provided an overview of the request withdrawal of \$750,000.00 from the Infrastructure Fund to partially cover the milestone payment to Harris Corporation. Mr. Korbolic explained that the intent is to replenish the Infrastructure fund with ongoing contributions. Mr. Korbolic noted that Washoe County had made the initial payment of \$533,981.00 and the requested \$750,000.00 will help reduce the balance of \$1.25-million for the second system milestone payment.

Member Vuletich noted that the intent is to reduce the balance owed on the incoming system and is, in her opinion, an appropriate use of the Infrastructure fund. Additionally, Washoe County will pay the rest of the costs and is working on an allocation scenario to cover costs.

During the discussion it was noted that the \$10-million costs for end user equipment is paid over a 5-year period. As the discussion continued it was explained that the minimum obligation is to purchase 4,000 radios over a 5-year period. In the event that the region does not meet a minimum 4,000 in radios there will be a penalty. However, a decision has not yet been made on how or if any penalty is shared by member agencies.

Denise Inda – NDOT, noted that NDOT has a similar requirement in their contract and that she believes the partner agencies will meet the commitment as it presented the best rate possible.

Responding to Ms. Khimji's inquiry about how the share money will be billed to member agencies, Mr. Korbolic pointed out that the \$750,000.00 reduces the amount owed by Washoe County to Harris.

It was moved by Jamie Edrosa, seconded by Rishma Khimji to approve the \$750,000.00 from the Infrastructure Fund as a partial payment as defined in the purchase agreement between Washoe County and Harris Corporation, dated September 27, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

- 11. AMENDMENTS TO THE WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT** [For discussion only] *A review and discussion on the possible adoption of amendments to the Washoe County Regional Communications System Interlocal agreement.*

Quinn Korbolic – Washoe County Technology Services, noted that there has been discussion about the modifications circulated several months ago and has been distributed to legal counsel for each of the member agencies for review. Mr. Korbolic asked that any comments or suggested changes

800 MHz Communications System Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

January 18, 2019

Page 6 of 7

be sent to Deputy District Attorney David Watts-Vial and/or him to identify redundancies for discussion at the next quarterly meeting.

Rishma Khimji commented that one of the City of Reno concerns is the lack of a financial payment plan to review.

Mr. Korbolic noted that he understands the concern and is working on an agreement that will be brought to the JOC for approval.

Ed Atwell noted his interest in having a Pricing Committee in place to review the recommendations before coming to the JOC.

Mr. Korbolic noted that staff is working on development of a contract with a financial consultant.

Member Vuletich explained that staff has been directed to provide contact with member agencies on their preference of a financial person that has knowledge of budget and debt financing. Member agencies will be invited to participate with the available options coming back to the JOC for recommendations.

David Watts-Vial – Deputy District Attorney, reminded the body that this is a discussion about finance and how to amend the Interlocal. Mr. Watts-Vial pointed out that any Subcommittee would be subject to the provisions of the Open Meeting Law. Mr. Watts-Vial pointed out that a future agenda item could be added to discuss and appoint a Subcommittee. Mr. Watts-Vial emphasized that any JOC participation in a Subcommittee would have to be less than a quorum of this body.

Chris Maples – Sparks, the City of Sparks legal counsel had noted some concerns. It has been suggested that Sparks Legal work with Mr. Watts-Vial to address those concerns.

Mr. Watts-Vial noted that he had talked with the Reno City Attorney's office and that this is not an amendment but rather a new legal document for the incoming system.

Denis Inda – NDTTO, pointed out that NDOT will not be a signing part for the new agreement and is working with their attorney to get formal comments to Mr. Korbolic. Ms. Inda noted that NDOT will continue to pay into EDACS until such time as it is dissolved.

During the discussion it was noted that there are two separate agreements one for the EDACS and one for the incoming P-25 system. The new agreement provides the governance for the new system along with a functional document for repayment. It was emphasized that Washoe County has the ultimate fiscal and legal responsibility for the P-25 system. It was pointed out the member agencies need to discuss the issues with their respective legal counsel to address concerns. As the discussion continued, it was noted that the forum for discussion of issues fall to Washoe County who has the sole financial and legal responsibility for the system.

12. END-USER RADIO EQUIPMENT PURCHASES [For discussion only] – *A review and discussion of procedures for end-user radio equipment purchases through the System*

800 MHz Communications System Joint Operating Committee

Minutes

January 18, 2019

Page 7 of 7

Purchase Agreement between Washoe County and Harris Corporation, dated September 27, 2018.

Quinn Korbolic – Washoe County Technology Services, commented that this is repeat item from last meeting on how agencies work with Washoe County and Harris to purchase radios. Agencies wishing to purchase radios must obtain a letter of authorization from Washoe County so the radios are eligible for the discounted rate. Additionally, any requests for authorization need to include contact information.

13. 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 19, 2019.*

David Watts-Vial – Deputy District Attorney, explained that if the body wishes to engage in back and forth discussion of an item it must be agendized for possible action. Ultimately it will be the desire of the body to determine whether or not any action is required. Mr. Watts-Vial pointed out that there is no legal requirement to take action regardless of staff recommendation.

Chair Moore asked that Item 5 be removed from future agendas.

Chris Maples – Sparks suggested an agenda item on the potential LID cost per radio on the current system without NDOT's participation.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

Jayne Leighton – Harris, expressed her thanks to Shawn Tayler, who convinced the other Users to select Reno, NV over San Antonio, TX; the Harris International Users Conference & Training Symposium will be held at the Peppermill in Reno, NV from April 28 – May 2, 2019. As the host, Shawn Tayler will receive 5 free passes. These free passes are being offered to the board of the JOC. He will need names of those wishing to attend prior to March 29, 2019. Shawn has the full agenda and all necessary information.

Mr. Tayler noted that this is educational opportunity for users that maintain consoles.

Ms. Leighton emphasized that this is a User event.

15. ADJOURNMENT [Non-action item]

Chair Moore adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

Approved in session April 19, 2019, as written.