

WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

800 MHz Joint Operating Committee

Ryan Sommers, Chair
Don Pelt, Vice Chair
Bryan Boren, Secretary

****Draft Meeting Minutes****

**Thursday, January 22, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

**Washoe County Administration Complex
1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, 89512
Building A, Second Floor, Caucus Room**

This meeting was held at the physical location listed above and via teleconference.

Committee website: https://www.washoecounty.gov/technology/board_committees/800mhz_joc

Committee Members

Dave Cochran, City of Reno	Nicole Lacap, Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (Alternate)
Craig Franden, City of Reno (Alternate)	Chris Ketring, Truckee Meadows FPD
Derek Keller, City of Sparks	Vacant, Truckee Meadows FPD (Alternate)
Connie Shepperd, City of Sparks (Alternate)	Ian Dasmann, TMWA
David Almada, Nevada Air National Guard	Aaron Reyes, TMWA (Alternate)
Matthew Lund, Nevada Air National Guard (Alternate)	Ed Atwell, UNR/NSHE
Jae Pullen, Nevada Dept. of Transportation	Jeremy Irwin, UNR/NSHE (Alternate)
Seth Daniels, Nevada Dept. of Transportation (Alternate)	David Brown, FBI
Ryan Sommers, North Lake Tahoe FPD	Vacant, US DEA
Russ Barnum, North Lake Tahoe FPD (Alternate)	Bryan Boren, US Dept. of Veterans Affairs
Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Ray Leal, US Dept. of Veterans Affairs (Alternate)
David Paulon, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (Alternate)	Vacant, Washoe County
Jarrold Nunes, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	Vacant, Washoe County (Alternate)
John Hecimovich, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (Alternate)	Mark Mathers, Washoe County School District
Ricardo Duarte, Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority	Seana Baker, Washoe County School District (Alternate)



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Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Present

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| • City of Sparks | Derek Keller |
| • Nevada Air National Guard | David Almada |
| • North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District | Ryan Sommers |
| • Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe | Don Pelt |
| • Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority | Ricardo Duarte |
| • Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District | Chris Ketring |
| • Truckee Meadows Water Authority | Aaron Reyes |
| • UNR | Ed Atwell |
| • US Department of Veterans Affairs | Bryan Boren |
| • Washoe County School District | Mark Mathers |

Absent

- City of Reno
- Nevada Department of Transportation
- Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
- US FBI
- US DEA (vacant)
- Washoe County (vacant)

Deputy District Attorney Jennifer Gustafson, Washoe County District Attorney's Office, was in attendance. She noted that vacant positions do not count towards quorum; eight members needed to be present at the meeting and there were ten, so there was a quorum.

Chair Ryan Sommers, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, said Washoe County should have two members to fill their vacancies by tomorrow. He was just waiting for confirmation from County Manager Kate Thomas.

2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROVIDING PUBLIC COMMENT VIA TEAMS/TELEPHONE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no response to the call for public comment, and no comments were submitted prior to the meeting.

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4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

There was no response to the call for public comment.

Ed Atwell, University of Nevada, Reno, moved that Ryan Sommers be appointed as Chair of the 800 MHz Joint Operating Committee, Don Pelt be appointed as Vice Chair of the 800 MHz Joint Operating Committee, and Bryan Boren be appointed as the Secretary of the 800 MHz Joint Operating Committee. Mark Mathers, Washoe County School District, provided the second. Upon a call for the vote, the motion carried on a 9-0 vote.

5. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2025, MINUTES

Sarah DeLozier, Washoe County Technology Services, indicated that those minutes were not available for approval at this time. She recognized that there is an Open Meeting Law component to not having minutes approved in time, but discussions are underway about hiring a contractor to handle that duty.

6. FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 WCRCS (WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM) BUDGET

Quinn Korbolic, Washoe County Technology Services, stated staff typically takes past budget expenditures into account when creating new budgets. He reviewed the staff report and the two budget worksheets included in the agenda packet for this item. He indicated that the radio count was not for fiscal year (FY) 2027; it related to the number of active radios in 2025, the last complete fiscal year. He noted the proposed increase in infrastructure contribution could help fund equipment replacement as it reaches its end of life.

Mr. Korbolic highlighted the significant reduction in salary and benefits, which was critical in helping maintain a flat budget. The reason for the increase in the overhead budget was because the County will no longer subsidize overhead for special revenue funds. Overhead expenditures included rent for warehouse and office space, administrative costs, and his time. The \$200,000 figure in the budget worksheet is a placeholder, he said, and will change once the budget is finalized. He believed the \$4,200 figure in the line item for FY2025-26 equipment noncapital was an error, and the reason for the large increase in the proposed budget for that line item was because the \$75,000 in undesignated budget was moved there. It will be used to purchase test equipment for the new system.

In response to Committee member questions, Mr. Korbolic explained that carryover funds are not explicitly stated in the worksheets. To determine that figure, one would have to compare the expense figure at the bottom of worksheet one to the corresponding final budget for that year. Ed Atwell, University of Nevada, Reno, felt that should be part of the data. Mr. Korbolic responded that each budget contains a buffer, and expenses typically end up being less than budgeted, so the remaining funds stay in the account. In the past, leftover operations and maintenance funds were moved into the Infrastructure Fund. The \$1 million in current leftover funds is slated to be used for construction expenses.

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Mr. Atwell thought the Committee should approve what that leftover money would be used for before it is spent, adding that he felt operations and maintenance funds should be expended on upcoming operations. Mr. Korbolic said the County was open to suggestions about how to report and manage the agencies' funds. Mr. Atwell suggested including that information in a quarterly report for the Committee. Sarah DeLozier, Washoe County Technology Services, assured the Committee that funds are not removed without the Committee's authorization.

Chair Ryan Sommers, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, thought that a future agenda item could be requested to discuss better reporting on the budget. He offered to gather feedback about what Committee members wanted on the report and discuss it with Mr. Korbolic. Mr. Korbolic confirmed that there are no current plans to spend infrastructure funds, and should that opportunity present itself, an item would come before the Committee.

Mark Mathers, Washoe County School District, lauded Mr. Korbolic and budget staff for presenting a flat budget. He wanted a clearer idea of the plans for the Infrastructure Fund, as well as a target balance for the account. He felt money should not continue to be added to that account if it did not need to be. Mr. Korbolic replied that there was no target balance. Using the \$1 million in the Infrastructure Fund will reduce the balance to the minimum, which he estimated to be \$800,000. He suggested a future agenda item to discuss the ultimate goal for the funds in that account.

Kari Estrada, Washoe County Technology Services, noted the beginning fund balance for the Infrastructure Fund was \$1 million, and \$700,000 was budgeted to help support the P25 radio system. That figure does not include incoming revenue. She offered to put something together to help the Committee understand what was in the fund and what had been approved to come out of the Infrastructure Fund over the past few years. Mr. Mathers indicated he was reluctant to approve a budget which includes a 10 percent infrastructure charge until more information is provided.

Chris Ketring, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, asked about the discrepancy in the decrease in radio costs presented in December compared to the decrease mentioned during the presentation. Mr. Korbolic stated that updated information was received, and radio costs decreased between December and now. Ms. DeLozier pointed out that the Committee could opt to convene another meeting if it wanted to delay action on this item, but she hoped to get some input so a tentative budget could be submitted soon as it was already past staff's deadline to do so. The County ultimately wanted to support all partner agencies. Mr. Korbolic said that if the Committee wanted to continue the item, a special meeting would likely need to be set up for February.

Mr. Mathers proposed that the Committee approve the operating budget without the 10 percent infrastructure charge at this time, and it could vote on that separately once more information about the status of the fund and potential plans for it was presented. Ms. Estrada said the County could work with that proposal. Ms. DeLozier remarked that she would work with Ms. Estrada.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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Mark Mathers moved that the proposed operating budget be approved without the 10 percent infrastructure account charge with the intention to discuss and vote on that account during a future special meeting. Ed Atwell provided the second. Upon a call for the vote, the motion carried on a 9-0 vote.

Chair Sommers indicated he would make a request for a special meeting during Agenda Item 8.

7. SYSTEM STATUS UPDATE

Regional Communications Coordinator Tyler Gerber-Winn conducted a slideshow presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: WCRCS Staff Update and System Status Update (3 slides). He noted that there were three open senior network engineer positions, but two were already filled. He described the repair work done on radio service equipment in greater detail.

Responding to Committee member questions, Mr. Gerber-Winn confirmed that the senior network engineer position was previously held by John Byerly. Quinn Korbolic, Washoe County Technology Services, indicated that the projects detailed in the presentation related to the P25 radio system. He explained that the change order did not come to the Committee because it pertained only to Washoe County's contract with L3 Harris and was not related to construction.

Mark Mathers, Washoe County School District, wondered how far along the project was. Mr. Korbolic indicated that the status of the Nevada Shared Radio System project would be discussed during the P25 Radio System Joint Operating Committee meeting.

Ed Atwell, University of Nevada, Reno, asked for elaboration about the permit with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Mr. Gerber-Winn stated it was a revised permit resubmitted to BLM, and there was no expectation that the lead times would be the same as they were before. The third-party contractors were very communicative with BLM, and he expected a six-week turnaround. Chair Ryan Sommers, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, stated that BLM has a third-party contractor to handle National Environmental Policy Act and Nevada State Historic Preservation Office matters. They now have a new contractor to conduct those studies. Mr. Korbolic confirmed that all studies have been completed, and after the six-week period, everything should be ready for construction to begin in March. He said the County partnered with the Nevada Department of Transportation to consolidate all BLM permitting into one tranche, and it paid to expedite processing.

8. 800 MHz JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Chair Ryan Sommers, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, requested a special meeting to review and potentially take action on the 10 percent infrastructure charge. Quinn Korbolic, Washoe County Technology Services, offered to provide backup materials to all Committee members and gather individual input. Deputy District Attorney Jennifer Gustafson, Washoe County District Attorney's Office, noted that anything sent to the whole Committee also needed to be provided to the public.

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Chair Sommers wondered whether it would be helpful for the Committee to have a treasurer or whether that was captured within the secretary position. Mr. Korbolic did not believe that position was contemplated in the interlocal agreement, but he was open to getting input from another person about the best way to present budgets. Sarah DeLozier, Washoe County Technology Services, emphasized the County's desire to better support the Committee and the partner agencies.

The next regular meeting of the 800 MHz Joint Operating Committee is scheduled for April 16, 2026.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no response to the call for public comment.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Approved as written in session April 16, 2026.