

WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL 800 MHz COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

800 MHZ USERS COMMITTEE

Minutes

Tracy Moore, Chair
Rob Larson, Vice-chair
Keith Mullen, Secretary

Monday ~ December 12, 2016 ~ 10:00 a.m.

REGIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
5195 SPECTRUM BOULEVARD, RENO, NEVADA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (Non-action item)

Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

PRESENT: Bill Ames – Washoe County Sheriff's Office; Richard Burger – Nevada Department of Transportation; Clay Griffin – Washoe County Sheriff's Office; Sam Hicks – Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District; Ray Guzman – Reno Tahoe Airport Authority; Jon Kelley – Washoe County School District; Chris Ketring – Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District; Rob Larson – City of Reno; Anthony Masten – Nevada Air National Guard; Tracy Moore – Washoe County School District; Keith Mullen – City of Sparks; Jason Reynolds – University of Nevada, Reno; Kirt Warren – Washoe County School District; Jim Whalen – Nevada Department of Transportation; and Teresa Wiley – City of Sparks. David Hunkup – Reno Sparks Indian Colony, joined the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

ABSENT: Ed Atwell – University of Nevada, Reno; Lance Avansino – Reno Sparks Indian Colony; Steve Baker – Truckee Meadows Water Authority; Bryan Boren – Veterans Administration; Jeff Byrne – North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; Bonnie Conder – Reno Tahoe Airport Authority; David Curtis – Nevada Air National Guard; Geoff Daforno – Truckee Meadows Water Authority; Andy Gebhardt – Truckee Meadows Water Authority; Remy Mauro – Reno Tahoe Airport Authority; Tom Nelson – Reno Tahoe Airport Authority; Don Pelt – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; David Paulon – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Ryan Sommers – North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; and Paul Wiley – City of Reno.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Non-action item)

There were no public comments.

3. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2016 MINUTES (For possible action)

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

It was moved by Member Wiley, seconded by Member Mullen, to approve the September 15, 2016, minutes, as submitted. MOTION CARRIED.

4. FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 WCRCS (Washoe County Regional Communications System) BUDGET [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible action to recommend that the 800 MHz JOC (Joint Operating Committee) approve, deny or otherwise modify the 2017-2018 WCRCS Budget proposal.*

Quinn Korbolic – Washoe County Technology Services, provided an overview of the proposed 2017-2018 WCRCS (Washoe County Regional Communications System) budget noting that there is a 3.25-percent increase thus raising the annual cost per radio to \$274.49. The increased operations

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costs is based on a 7-percent cost of living increase and OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) contribution per employee. The recommendation is to approve the budget as present and maintain the 5-percent contribution to the infrastructure preservation fund.

Chair Moore recommended that members present take the budget information back to their respective organizations as the 800 MHz JOC (Joint Operating Committee) will take final action on the budget at their January 27, 2017, meeting.

Member Moore commented that it is always difficult to be faced with increased costs, the reality is that the system is aging and the region is moving forward with a new statewide radio system. Therefore, Member Moore can recommend approval of the proposed budget.

There were no public comments.

It was moved by Member Moore, seconded by Member Mullen, to recommend that the 800 MHz JOC (Joint Operating Committee) approve the 2017-2018 WCRCS (Washoe County Regional Communications System) budget increase of 3.5 percent and 5-percent contribution to the Infrastructure Preservation Fund as presented. MOTION CARRIED with none opposed.

- 5. 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, explained that there were no LID's (Logical Identification Number) available for radio usage. Mr. Tayler explained that five are being held for specific agencies that decommissioned radios under an existing rule that allows the agency to hold the LID until July 1 of the next year. Additionally, there are three radios held for system usage as needed.

Dave Hunkup – Reno Sparks Indian Colony, joined the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Mr. Tayler noted that radios at the Washoe County Juvenile Center have been using the digital mode of operations for about a week with the systems performing as expected.

Responding to an inquiry from Member Larson about the use of Verizon, Mr. Tayler explained that he did not have any details on the Reno issues with any specific carrier.

Dena Avansino noted that the City of Reno had moved some public works radios to the Push to Talk and that the range offered by the Verizon network was not appropriate as there are a number of "dead spots" in the area. The City of Reno continues to look at other providers and agencies.

Chair Moore encouraged each agency to review their radio inventory and release used LID's back to the system.

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

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Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, drew attention to the report (copy on file) noted that there was a slight increase in the number of push-to-talk. Winterization of the mountain tops sites has been completed with all microwave and antennas tested for proper alignment. Mr. Tayler noted that the alignment of Metro Simulcast is expected to be completed in the next couple of weeks and that the “burn-in” of the new overlay is underway. Mr. Tayler noted that the “burn-in” will allow an opportunity to correct any issues with the installation over the next 30-days.

- 7. AREAS OF LIMITED COMMUNICATIONS** [For possible action] – *An informational update review, discussion and possible direction to staff on the recently purchased P-25 Phase 2 equipment to cover the Rancho Haven/Red Rock Road and other areas.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, noted the use of the vehicular platform on the P25. The results of the testing thus far are very encouraging. Cabinets have been fitted for the equipment and battery. The repeater can support 128 radios and up to 64 talk groups. The P25 system has improved communications in certain portions of the Red Rock/Rancho Haven area. Mr. Tayler encouraged member agencies to contact him to coordinate a system test in remote areas. Mr. Tayler explained that the vehicular mounted repeater would be an asset of the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and will be called out in emergency situations as needed.

- 8. COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM RADIO UPDATE** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible direction to staff to work with NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation), NV DPS (Nevada Department of Public Safety) and NV Energy on testing and evaluating possible new radio system technologies.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, commented that the RFP (Request for Proposal) is nearing completion and release once the binding agreements of the partner agencies are completed (Washoe County, NDOT and NV Energy).

- 9. COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND RADIO UPDATE** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible direction to staff on the change-over to newer technology radio system and radios as current models are being phased out.*

Shawn Tayler – Regional Communications Coordinator, reminded those present to make sure the new equipment is compatible with the existing EDACS system and the incoming P25 platform to maximize their investment.

Chair Moore noted that the Washoe County School District has asked for assistance to determine what upgrades are needed to bi-directional amplifiers that might not be capable of the incoming technology. Chair Moore noted that the current system in place at Washoe County Schools supports 800 and 900 MHz but not the 700 MHz range. It is uncertain what the costs for upgrade or replacement will be.

- 10. 800 MHZ USERS COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** (Non-action item) – *No discussion among 800 MHz Users Committee members will take place on this item. The next regular meeting is scheduled on January 19, 2017.*

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The January 19, 2017, meeting agenda may include, but is not limited to: 1) Election of Officers; 2) Review and discussion of the RFP (Request for Proposal); and 3) Consideration of a policy to require an annual audit of LID's (Logical Identification Number).

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Non-action item)

There were no public comments.

12. ADJOURNMENT (Non-action item)

Chair Moore adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

AS APPROVED BY THE 800 MHz USERS COMMITTEE IN SESSION ON JANUARY 31, 2017.