

Minutes

South Dakota Public Safety Communications Council April 25th, 2008

The South Dakota Public Safety Communications Council or SDPSCC as it will be named for the remainder of this document was held at 9:00 a.m., April 25, 2008 in the Capital Building-LRC 464. Any additions or corrections prior to the next scheduled meeting are welcome.

Members Present: Steve Christensen (SD Police Chiefs' Assoc.), Sheriff Fred Lamphere (SD Sheriffs' Assoc.), Dayton Myers (SD National Guard), Brad Steifvater (SD Emergency Managers' Assoc.), Dennis Gorton (SD Fire Fighters' Assoc.), Rebekah Craddock (SD Assoc. of Healthcare Organizations), Kris Jacobsen (sitting in place for Shirlee Leighton SD Assoc. of County Commissioners), David Atherton (SD APCO/NENA Chapter), Danny Hayes (SD EMT Assoc.), Larry Jandreau (Tribal Government), Christopher Lewis (Dept of Interior), Bryan Gortmaker (DCI), and Jeff Pierce (BIT).

Members Absent: Greg Fuller (DOT), Ken Wesche (DOA), Jim Holmes (DOH), and Emmett Keyser (GFP)

Guests: Otto Doll (Commissioner of BIT), Bob VanWinsen (OEM), Todd Dravland (BIT/SRC Engineering), John A. Berheim (Homeland Security Coordinator), Bill Davis (Motorola Inc.), Sonny Hagseth (Motorola Inc.), Curtis C. Reese III (Western Communications), and Mark Morgan (EF Johnson).

Chairman Gorton called the meeting to order.

Dennis Gorton, Chairman, welcomed the Council and guests to the meeting. He asked the council if they wanted any additions to the agenda. There were no added additions to the agenda. He also asked if minutes from October 2007 needed any additions or corrections.

Rebekah Craddock motioned to approve the minutes of the October 2007 meeting, there being no additions or corrections, Danny Hayes seconded the motion—carried.

Clarification of the bylaws was discussed. Denny recalls the last discussion was unclear on stand ins voting or representing an organization. Jeff states they need to be appointed by the Governor as an official vote.

Jeff Pierce provided budget information and informed the council that we are on track with personal and travel budget. On the other hand, we have asked for expense help and are no

longer able to use grant funds. The major issue is that we need a budget to cover telecommunications. We have had an extend of \$281,000, but has not been enough. Too many excess cost. The Harriet towers, for better cell service, has been very expensive and has taken money out of general funds budget. The telecommunication funds are a constant. Jeff will be working on FY2010 in August, setting up budget and getting Governor's approval. They may need some testimony on the value of the system. The budget is based on the original budget, but now have additional sites and will need to expand.

The plan to recruit cost on space is to lease space. The return will go to the land owner for lease of property and back into general expenses, explained as the fair market value. Otto has asked that we standardize our rates on towers.

GPS/AVL/MDT updates:

We have moved to cellular based data and work with both Verizon and Alltel, using up to 700 megabits. The state rate on unlimited date is \$37.99 and \$31.99 for Network/Licensing. To get everybody on data max you can contact Delton Tripton at (605)773-4636. They will provide the set up and networking.

Action Required:

Jeff Pierce or Delton Tripton to write an article on this for the State Bulletin.

Organizations will send out feedback to others if this is working well or if there are any problems.

Health Care Facilities:

Preparedness of training has been done. They have tested the systems to see if employees answer and respond. The response rate is 76% on last test run. Tests are done on a quarterly basis.

PSIC Grant:

The PSIC Grant was approved with additional information required. Our plan was approved with few expansions. The money for this will be disposed from a line of credit. We will submit this to the Feds to reimburse the State.

There are two sections to the approval; the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) and the Investment Justifications (IJ). We are trying to get the locals to match 20%. If local funds are not available to match (20%), funding will be put back in the pool and made available elsewhere. Discussed was the distribution formula (by radio counts from the survey), and that the grants would be administered through the regional EM contact. The IJ approved was for the upgrade of radios to the P25 trunking standard, with 80% going to locals. Discussed was if older EFJ radios should be upgraded or replacement radios purchased instead. The state is refining its application for Strategic Reserve (STR) funding as more details were requested.

In consensus, local PSIC money should be distributed to the regions based on the percentage of mobiles in use and radios held back to be put on system. Motion to accept this acknowledgement was made by David Atherton, 2nd by Steve Christensen—Carried.

Cops Grant Status:

The COPS Grant is unavailable at this time.

Action Required:

Jeff will be working with David and others when this grant becomes available.

Timetable or plan on conversion to P25:

Many discussions and questions were made after the presentations from EF Johnson and Motorola. Best guidance from council would be to move forward with Phase 1. Motion to move forward was made by Fred Lamphere, 2nd by Brad Steifvater—Carried.

Interagency MOU between Feds and State

We will receive some information on this topic from Chris Lewis.

Homeland Security Updates: John Berheim

John mentioned to the Council that we have received a 6.1 million dollar Homeland Security Grant for FY08.

Digital Radio Infrastructure Updates: Jeff Pierce

Incorporate training into basic personnel training:

Radio Survey Results: Jeff Pierce

Power Issue:

Annual Interoperability Report:

Organization Reports:

Sgt. David Driscoll has retired and is asking that a replacement be found for him on the SDPSCC Council.

Motion to accept Sgt. Driscoll's resignation on the SDPSCC was made by Ken Wesche, 2nd by Fred Lamphere—carried.

Steve:

The Police Chiefs' comments were that the system doesn't work as well as it says it does, there are still some problems out there. He also noted concern about the EF Johnson radios.

Steve mentioned that they also realize it is not their own money to spend, it is the taxpayer's.

Fred:

The Sheriffs' reported dissatisfaction with radios and coverage. It was mentioned that the radios may not be working correctly because of site switching. Fred will be attending a meeting in Deadwood and will try to gather more input while he is there.

Dayton:

Just noted that the National Guard has held off on some of their spending until they see what is happening here.

Brad:

Brad requested that someone be appointed as a liaison for the group so that changes and updates can be forwarded to them. Natalie Harer will be that liaison.

Denny:

Nothing for the Council at this time.

Rebekah:

Nothing for the Council at this time.

Doug: Highway Patrol

Inquired about the letters that Jeff Pierce sent out after the Rally in Sturgis, Jeff noted that those letters just informed some people that their radios were attempting to access talk groups that should not have been accessed.

David Atherton:

Could be more migration but the initial and recurring costs are issues.
PSAPS-Communication Centers should be included in the surveys
EM-would like to be included in the information on the Grants
Need to constantly upgrade radios and fees.

Danny:

EMT's want to have coverage upgraded West River.

Ken:

Discussed the importance of having radio coverage in case of wildland fires.

Shirlee:

Central Assessments funding is down.
Asked that we support the Liquor tax and increases in surcharges, they keep our county governments in business.

Jim:

Nothing to report at this time.

Larry:

See the attached Tribal Governments Organization report.

Chris:

Concern over the loss of 2 frequencies that the Federal government determined South Dakota does not need. This was an unexpected and they gave several reasons for dropping them. DOI has requested to obtain those 2 frequencies and the DHS is doing a baseline work up. It does not affect South Dakota at the present time but with expansion in the future this will become an issue.

Adjournment:

Chris made the motion to adjourn, Steve 2nd –carried.