



South Dakota Public Safety Communications Council January 2009 Meeting

January 15, 2009

0900 meeting was called to order by Denny Gorton with 13 council members present and 35 total in attendance.

Roll call was held by secretary Mande Brinkman.

No additional items were presented to be added to the agenda.

New business:

- Election of Officers was discussed, and need for elections to be held.

Previous Meeting Notes Corrections:

- Section 4, clarify that company discussed was South Dakota Network (SDN).
- Routine dispatch, not to use Interagency as a dispatch channel.

Motion to approve, Chris Lewis, second Steve Christensen.

700 Mhz organizational meeting:

Region 38 convener Todd Dravland called the meeting to order and gave a brief overview of the reason for the committee. Following his presentation, an in-depth presentation by Bette Rinehart of Motorola followed with an outline of the process.

At the conclusion of the presentations, and election was held to establish officers and Todd Dravland was elected Chairman and Jeff Pierce Vice-Chair.

Discussion was held on future meetings and an agreement to hold future meetings in concert with regional and statewide meeting of the different public safety disciplines was reached. This will reduce the need for additional travel and help ensure better participation.

In attendance at the meeting were:

Mande Brinkman, State of South Dakota (BIT)
Greg Fuller, State of South Dakota (DOT)
Andy Alban, State of South Dakota (GFP)

Craig Price, State of South Dakota (DCI)
Daren Ketcham, Director Metro Communications
Lynn DeYoung, Minnehaha County Emergency Manager
Curtis Rees, Western Communications
Rod Bowar, Kennebec Telephone Co.
Mark Benton, Midstate Communications
Dennis Gorton, Pennington County Fire
Brad Steifvater, McCook County Emergency Manager
David Atherton, South Dakota APCO/NENA Chapter
Dayton Myers, South Dakota National Guard
Fred Lamphere, Butte County Sheriff
Jeff Ball, Sioux Falls 2-Way
Jon Groen, Sioux Falls Fire
Matt Tooley, Metro Communications
Steve Christensen, Platte Police Chief
Bill Rains, EF Johnson
Bette Rinehart, Motorola
Myrna Trimble, Rosebud Sioux Tribe
Todd Dravland, State of South Dakota (SRC)
Jeff Pierce, State of South Dakota (BIT)
Chris Lewis, US Dept of Interior
Larry Jandreau, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
Ken Wesche, State of South Dakota (DOA)
Lee Axdahl, South Dakota 911 Coordinator
Mike Larson, Larson Communications
Mike Harmon, State of South Dakota (DHS)
Dale Miller, Blackhawk Fire
Dennis Mallow, Blackhawk Fire
Kristi Turman, State of South Dakota (OEM)
Bob VanWinsen, State of South Dakota (OEM)
Doug Hinkle, State of South Dakota (OEM)
Bill Davis, Motorola
Sonny Hagseth, Motorola

Old Business

Budget

Request for \$420,000 to cover costs associated with increased network and responsibilities was reduced to \$273,000. Will need to utilize tower revenue to pay operational costs, eliminating the source for tower maintenance.

No new homeland security funded projects in process at this time.

Infrastructure plan including upgrade of communications infrastructure was sent to Governor for possible Stimulus funding.

Kristi Turman of Office of Emergency Management discussed the future of DHS and FEMA.

Discussed possible solutions to infrastructure funding, PSIC & other sources.

Mike Harmon discussed funding from the perspective of the state DHS office.

Discussed need to set firm deadlines on upgrade phases.

Discussed other funding sources such as Firefighter grants, private corporation contributions, etc.

A considerable amount of discussion was spent on the infrastructure conversion, SmartX, Tyco Proposal & associated costs.

Discussion on MOU between US Dept of Interior and State of South Dakota, just a scheduling problem holding up the final step.

Todd discussed system upgrades to sites, antennas, etc.

Open discussion on paging was held.

EF Johnson

Bill Rains of EF Johnson went over the upgrade process held the prior summer, and also discussed upcoming release of equipment and software.

Questions posed to Mr. Rains included the discontinuance of support for older models of radios, problems with user training, failure rate of upgraded radios.

Motorola

Bill Davis followed up with a discussion of new Motorola equipment, current programs.

Larson Communications

Mike Larson finished the vendor presentations with an overview of his 900mhz data offerings.

Interagency

Much discussion was held on the practice of dispatching on the Interagency talkgroups. As this is set up as a mutual aid talkgroup, it is not appropriate to use as a regular dispatch channel unless an emergency is happening. Todd Dravland sent out letters to 3 identified dispatch centers that were using these as ordinary dispatch channels.

New Business

Jeff Pierce discussed his RECCWG meeting for FEMA Region 8, and also regional communications. Issues covered in the meeting included:

- Grant funding, expected to level out.
- Trying to increase the role of working group members.
- Expecting much more annual reporting tied to grant funding.
- Office of Emergency Communication is required to submit regional status reports to congressional subcommittees.

Discussion on value of the RECCWG to South Dakota.

Discussed upgrade to software in EFJ and Motorola radios, will depend upon funding, at discretion of local entity.

State 911 board took effect July 1, Lee Axdahl is director of program.

Next meeting location, talked about moving meetings around to allow participation from agencies out in the field.

By-Laws-- Dave Atherton made a motion to appoint current officers to one additional term, second by Dayton Myers.

No further discussion, motion carried by unanimous vote.

Waiting for DPS member to be appointed.

Chris Lewis motion to adjourn, David Atherton second. Motion carried.