

December 12, 2019 Meeting Notes for the Public Safety Communications Council

In Attendance:

Jeff Pierce, Brad Maupin, Scott Rechtenbaugh, WO1 David Goodwin, Harold Timmerman, Kevin Karley, Todd Dravland, Bruce Nachtigall, Brian Soehl, Mike Waldner, Andy Barth, Paul Reiter, Doug Penniston, Jason Jones, Nick Carlson, Brent Long, Jon Hubregtse, Chuck Kevghas, Casey Collins, JD Geigle, Jim Pearson, Chuck Kludt, Gary Jaeger, Tim Rave, Doug Barthel, Ian Paul, Jay Gerlach, Paul Dockter, Ryon Skaggs, Staci Ackerman, Mike Rosonke, Bob Van Winsen.

Chair Goodwin called meeting to order at 10:00

Roll Call, 18 members in attendance so quorum was met.

Request for additional Items to add to Agenda:

None. Rave approved agenda, Timmerman second. Approved on voice vote.

Approval of September 2019 Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Reiter, second Geigle. Approved on voice vote.

New Business:

1. New Council Member/Changes

Introduced to the meeting were:

- John Wiik – SD Senate (District 4)
- Jim Pearson – Tribal (Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe EM)

2. Use of Federal Interoperability Channels

Dan Hawkins, the DHS Regional Coordinator for Emergency Communications covered the overview for use of national interoperability channels such as the VFIRE, VTAC, etc. These channels are not intended to be used for routine tactical or ground channels unless the situation clearly involves disparate departments where resources such as these channels are required for communication. Also, the channels should not be used at all unless the agency is licensed for use or is covered under another license. The state has licensed these channels for statewide use for 10,000 users, so is a matter of having an executed consent form for each agency. State Radio will work on the development of such a form and make that available on the SDPSCC.sd.gov website.

The recently licensed federal interoperability channels require federal participation in an event and the approval of that federal agency to utilize those channels. Difference between national interoperability channels which are licensed by FCC and federal which are licensed by NTIA.

A significant amount of discussion went into this subject with wide participation.

3. System Upgrade – Deep Dive

- **Funding.** The good news is that the balance of the funding for the system upgrade and the initial bump in operating expenses are both in the FY21 Governors proposed budget. While the budget still needs to make it through session, it is definitely a good start.
- **Schedule.** The initial proposed timeline for system upgrade listed the upgrade of the Sioux Falls simulcast upgrade beginning in July of 2022. Feedback from that user group indicated that that might predate their ability to have all equipment ready for the transition. Discussion turned to possibly having the first upgrade take place at the Rapid City simulcast sites, which seemed to be acceptable if we wait until after the Sturgis Rally. Will work with Motorola on a final schedule and present at the March meeting.
- **Contract.** State Radio/BIT is working with Motorola on the final contract for the upgrade, to include milestone payments and schedule for buildout.
- **Test Site.** The cost for the test site to confirm programming in radios prior to rollout has dropped to a little over \$83K with the parts we had on hand to help with the site build. Plan is to get the test site ordered as soon as possible.

4. Outage 11-02-2019 to 11-03-2019

The council was provided an overview of the system-wide outage that resulted from an improperly disconnected circuit breaker during routine maintenance on the backup power system. The hard shutdown caused the failure of critical devices in the system, and a significant effort was made by Todd Dravland and Ryon Skaggs of State Radio to return the system to full wide-area operation.

A conversation by Reiter, Collins, Pierce, and others of backup procedures in the event of such a failure, COOP planning, and how users communicate when such a system failure occurs followed the outage report. An effort is underway to identify and put into policy proper procedures for such failures in the future.

5. Virtual Meeting Discussion

The topic of utilizing virtual options to hold and allow further input into the council meetings was discussed and a broad consensus of attendee's felt that the current model of in-person meetings best fit the mission and objectives of the group. This subject will be revisited annually.

Old Business:

1. FYT2020/2021 Budget:

Pierce provided overview of the State Radio budget. At this time all aspects of the budget are at expected levels. For FY21 budget, BIT/State Radio will be requesting around \$230,000 to the base budget for expected increased support costs in 2021, which is in the Governor's proposed budget along with the remaining \$5.1M to complete the upgrade.

2. Grant Status:

Pierce and Waldner provided updates on the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) SLIGP 2.0. The grant total will be \$247,251 over two years and will require a \$50,591 match by the state, which will be primarily covered with soft match through time spent on the

project. Grant will be used to get a better grip on current broadband capabilities, find common apps that are appropriate.

The availability of DHS grants for communications equipment is contingent upon:

- Having a designated SWIC
- Aligning all projects to the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP).
- Updated threat assessment (THIRA).
- Requires investment in cybersecurity.
- Coordination with interoperability governance such as the SDPSCC.

3. Digital Radio System Updates:

Dravland provided system updates as follows:

- Test site will be in Pierre, 2 voice 1 control channel.
- 48 volt backup systems replacing UPS systems at the tower sites. Will provide 4 hours of backup vs. 30 minutes for a UPS.
- Replacing receive antenna at the Madison site.
- Madison site also now has a fiber feed to it, 12th site with this service.
- Working on redundancy for master site equipment that failed in power outage.
- Working with PSAP’s for backup capabilities with master site outage.
- A code plug for P25 is completed, will need to be tested when test site is up.
- 26,618 radio ID’s issued, up 1,000 in past month. Will try to recover ID’s when original radios are pulled from service.
- 1,510 talkgroup ID’s issues, no change from last report.
- Working on projects at the port of entry at Valley Springs and HHS.
- Mitchell tech position open, Ryon Skaggs leaving Pierre position.
- Additional input on radio ID’s (which we are charged for) by Timmerman, Reiter, Kevghas, Dockter.

The below was proposed by Motorola and discussed by the group. Nothing is locked in and more to come from contract negotiations.

Proposed Project Timeline

ACTIVITY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
P25 Fleetmap and Subscribers								
Deploy P25 Test Site								
Upgrades								
P25 Contract Negotiations								
Layer 3 Ethernet Backhaul Deployment								
SmartX to P25 Upgrade								
Potential T1 Network Decommissioning								

4. FirstNet/Broadband

Waldner went over the preliminary results from the ongoing public safety broadband application survey. A complete report will be presented to the council in March. Also a request correspondence that will be sent out to all services asking for participation in a broadband application working group. Goodwin and Reiter recommended a deadline for response which will be set at January 31st.

Penniston provided an update of FirstNet activities, currently 1,000,000 subscribers in 10,000 agencies. Discussed a new aerostat deployable site which will allow more flexibility for deployables in areas like the Black Hills as can be extended up to 1,000 feet.

5. Unified Correspondence;

Currently notifications related to council meeting announcements and follow-up notes are sent out to the following groups;

- SD Dept of Ag
- SD Association of County Officials
- SD DOT
- SD Municipal League
- SD Fire Fighters
- SD Emergency Management Association
- SD Fire Chiefs
- SD Sheriff's Association

It was recommended that we also include the Fire Marshal's Office, Ambulance Association and State EMS Association, and other tribal entities. Geigle provided contact information. Pearson is working on tribal contacts.

6. Key-File, code-plug templates

A "System Key" file is required to be programmed into any radio needing access to our network. A new Key has been received for the P25 system from both Motorola, and EFJ/Kenwood and work has been underway to develop a template for new & reprogrammed radios to allow programming when radios are in shop. The first P25 codeplug was delivered to Sioux Falls 2-Way for the Watertown PD in November.

Skaggs reported that the Kenwood key has been developed and out, with the Motorola Key coming shortly. Additional input from Soehl, Carlson, and Kevghas.

Reiterated that programming templates will be able to be tested as soon as test site is operational, hopefully quarter 1 2020.

7. Encryption Standard

AES-256 is the default standard moving ahead and should be the only encryption option ordered if working with other agencies. After the timeline was raised by Nachtigall, a July 1, 2023 timeline was recommended by the council to have encryption converted by.

Organizational Reports:

Jones – none

Rechtenbaugh – none

Maupin – none

Goodwin – none

Reiter -- Changes coming 1-1-2020 to CAD system. Changes will empower IC's to be able to make decisions and organize as the situation requires. IRWN hub, Inform App, WLF operations

Barth – none

King

Barthel – Upcoming legislative session radio funding.

Kevghas – none

Nachtigall – none

Jaeger – none

Karley – none

Kludt – none

Timmerman – none

Pierce – none

Rave – none

Pearson – none

Collins – none

Geigle -- none

Motion to Adjourn by Geigle

Second by Reiter

Meeting adjourned 1330