**South Dakota Public Safety Communications Council**

**6-22-2017, Pierre, SD**

**Called to order and roll-call: 9:02 AM JD Geigle, Vice-Chair**

14 of 18 members present or had proxy attending: Kull, Ackerman, Rechtenbaugh, Maupin, Goodwin, Timmerman, Nachtigall, Collins, Geigle, Reiter, Saunsoci, Kevghas (DOH), Pierce.

Not present: Wilcox, Barth, Tooley, and Duke.

**Additional Agenda Items**

1. Motorola sale of radio upgrades.
2. Rapid City Regional.
3. Communications issues in NE SD.

**Approval of March 2017 minutes:**

Minutes approved by Reiter, second Timmerman. Approved by voice vote of council.

**New Business**

1. **FirstNet Award/State Plan Evaluation/Next Steps**

Approximately a 90 minute discussion on FirstNet and where the project was heading. This lengthy discussion was led by Tracey Murdock of FirstNet who provided a history and update on current progress, Garrett Doyle of ATT who provided an overview of the service offerings, potential pricing and plans, and coverage and Jennifer Harder of FirstNet who provided some additional technical detail on the project and the services offered.

Pierce and Waldner provided some state perspective on the plan, evaluation, acceptance process, priority and pre-emption, and future role of state in the process.

Questions from council, Gorton (pricing & coverage), Kevghas (pricing, training, & second responders), Rechtenbaugh (subscriptions).

Pierce and Waldner introduced the review committee, Dion Reynolds, Chris Saunsoci, Todd Dravland, Mike Waldner, Jeff Litterick, Jeff Pierce, David Zolnowsky, Craig Eichstadt, Casey Collins, Bruce Nachtigall, Matt Tooley, SFC David Goodwin.

Plan review is allowed 45 days, follow up meeting to approve review committee plan will be held July 20th.

1. **2017/2018 Budget.**

Pierce covered existing budget, some items skew the percentages, State Radio will end the year in better condition that the past year, and plan to pre-pay as much as possible to reduce stress on 2018 budget.

State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) $72,882 expended of state funds or soft match and $290,123 of federal funds.

Discussion on use of revenue from tower leases to cover tower-related costs.

**FY18 Budget Request.**

No increase to existing budget.

1. **Keystone XL Pipeline**

Discussion was held on the role of the statewide communications system in relation to the potential buildout of the Keystone XL pipeline. Questions from the council on potential protest sites, mobile site deployment (Goodwin). Dravland and Pierce discussed preparations such as drive testing and potential solutions for underserved areas.

1. **Air-Ground Communications**

A lengthy discussion was held on the SD Department of Health plan forwarded for air to ground communication for EMS units as well as ground to ground communication for those units. Input to the discussion by Geigle, Reiter, Timmerman, Gorton, Pierce, Brian Soehl. Motion by Kevghas to the following:

*“The South Dakota Public Safety Communications Council recognizes the talkgroups ALS-W, ALS-E, and ALS-2 as renamed talkgroups available statewide on the system. We do not as a council require programming of the is talkgroup by any first responder potentially involved with landing an air EMS unit, but encourage it.”*

Motion seconded by Timmerman. Approved on voice vote.

1. **Restart on radio system upgrade?**

Significant discussion held on path ahead for the radio system and upgrade. Pierce led discussion with contributions by Gorton, Brian Soehl, Timmerman, Geigle, and Ackerman. Discussion centered on an ask for system upgrade/ongoing maintenance and funding sources for those funds. Discussed were user fees, general funds, on-line sales taxes, booking fees. Council determined that to provide a funding stream for the current upgrade needed and future upgrades, that an additional $1,450,000 per year into a revolving fund would provide a reliable funding source to future proof upcoming upgrades as well as begin to address the underserved areas of the state. Geigle proposed a vote on the amount to request and Timmerman second. Approved on a voice vote.

1. **Encryption Standards**

Discussion on encryption standards. The DES-based encryption now utilized as a state standard is no longer considered secure, and with the P25 standard being AES default, it will be tied to funding from DHS grants for encryption-enabled equipment ongoing. Discussion included input by Gorton, Pierce, Dravland, Nachtigall, Soehl, Geigle, and Dan Hawkins of DHS. The action item for this agenda was to provide awareness to the different representative groups that AES will be required for grant related acquisition of encryption equipment.

1. **Using Interagency as a dispatch talkgroup**

Discussion on use of RC INT for communications with Parole Officers in the Rapid City area. This generates a significant amount of traffic on a talkgroup that is intended as a mutual aid channel. Dravland will communicate with the dispatch and parole folks to work on a solution.

1. **Other**

* Motorola

Gorton discussed a marketing strategy by Motorola Solutions that allows agencies to purchase an upgrade for their current radios and have it configured at a later date. Informational item.

* Rapid City Regional

Geigle led a conversation on a policy that Rapid City Regional Hospital implemented concerning radio access to the ED. The talkgroup being required to access the ED by radio is not one commonly programmed into radios and potentially will result in extra cost to ambulance services to comply. Kevghas volunteered to look into it with the hospital.

* NE communications issues

Ackerman led discussion on issues with the radio system not being accessible during a recent weather event. Efforts have been made to identify a potential issue, but none so far. Dravland and the SRC team are now analyzing system data that will hopefully cast a light on what might have transpired.

**Old Business**

1. **Grant Status**

This item was covered in the budget item of New Business.

1. **Digital Radio Infrastructure Updates**

Todd Dravland gave an overview of projects underway and completed relating to the statewide radio system. Discussion on the WAVE application, improvements and repairs to the system, and projects ahead were discussed. System talkgroup counts have increased to 1497 from the 1491 existing during the previous council meeting.

1. **SCIP Update**

Pierce updated group on request for a SCIP update request through DHS.

1. **OEC UPDATES**

Dan Hawkins gave an update on OEC activities. Discussed encryption standards and other relevant items to our state.

1. **Train the Trainer**

Pierce and Dravland updated group on the training program. Gorton suggested integrating P25 and system update into the training.

1. **Radio Collection/Distribution Process**

Nothing new in this front, very few radios coming in at this time.

1. **Corson/Madison Tower Replacement**

Dravland updated group on transition to new tower at the Madison site.

1. **WAVE Project**

Dravland updated the group on current WAVE status. Installed at Pierre, Sioux Falls, and working on Sturgis.

1. **Expansion Sites**

No news on this item.

1. **Other**

No new other business.

**Organizational Reports**

Reiter, June 27-29 Medevac exercises, has all dispatchers hired, Rapid City and Sioux Falls forming extraction teams.

Pierce, roster and travel forms.

Nachtigal, radio programming.

Geigle, funding request

Kull, Clark communications issues

Ackerman, NE communications issues

Next meeting

Meeting sometime in June. Ackerman to adjourn, Goodwin second.