June 25, 2020 Meeting Notes for the Public Safety Communications Council

In Attendance:
Jeff Pierce, Brad Maupin, Scott Rechtenbaugh, Steve Swenson, Harold Timmerman, Todd Dravland, Bruce Nachtigall, Doug Penniston, Jason Jones, Casey Collins, JD Geigle, Jim Pearson, Gary Jaeger, Andy Barth, David Goodwin, John Wiik, Doug Barthel, Heather Perry, Mike Rosonke, Staci Ackerman, Mike Waldner, Kevin Schuelke.

Chair Goodwin called meeting to order at 10:04

Roll Call, 15 members in attendance so quorum was met.

Request for additional Items to add to Agenda:
Pierce, request for additional Special Operations talkgroups on behalf of Matt Tooley of Metro Communications.

Approval of March 2020 Meeting Minutes:
Motion by Timmerman, second Maupin. Approved on voice vote.

New Business:

1. **Chairman Deployment**
   Chairman Goodwin will be deployed for nine months, discussion on council business during this time. While covered in the council by-laws, the chair wanted a discussion on the topic to ensure that members were OK with having vice-char and member at large filling in during his absence. Vice-Chair will function in chair role until chair return from deployment.

2. **System Upgrade Contract**
   Contract with Motorola had been approved both from a functional perspective along with a legal process (Signature process was completed on 6-26-2020). Next step will be the development of a detailed design review (DDR) which will outline the steps ahead and assign timelines to those processes.

3. **Upgrade Schedule**
   While the two simulcast systems (Rapid City and Sioux Falls) will be first to be converted because of the amount of work to be done, discussion was held on rather the project started in a lower-density area to impact less users initially, or a higher density area to ensure that any issues would be uncovered earlier and not proliferated. Simulcast system work will commence 3rd to 4th quarter 2022, with site work starting in July of 2023.

4. **COVID Effect on Local Funding/Radio Purchases/Readiness**
   The impact of COVID on the ability of agencies to prepare and be ready for the upgrade rollout was discussed. The upgrade needs to happen to assure viability of the entire network, but general consensus was that agencies should be ready. DPS has had funding held up that was designated for radio purchases, but local agencies have been planning and replacing radios.

5. **Major Events Upcoming in 2020**

   Fourth of July, Mt. Rushmore. Considerable discussion on activities and communications support for the fireworks even taking place. Highway Patrol will be support for the event and are working with COML Patrick Gerdes on utilizing the state digital system, repeaters set up for the event, along with the deployables that ATT/FirstNet is providing.

   Sturgis 80th Rally. Crowds for the 80th rally are expected to be average, and some of the events will be cancelled. Highway Patrol radios are once again being configured for the event, however housing for many of those that will be working the event has been complicated by the early opening of BHSU where many were to be housed in the dorms.

   Mike Waldner gave an overview of the Bridge for PS app and that it will be used be some of the responders both state and local in the events upcoming. This application has been tested in previous events and has proven to be a valuable auxiliary communications tool.

6. **Test Site**

   The P25 test site is up and operational and will be in place to allow functional testing of radio programming. Agencies with programmed radios or radio shops will be able to test live on the system radio to radio and P25 to SmartZone.

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 had $230,000 added to the base budget for expected increased support costs in 2021. With FY20 at end and FY21 about to start, the budget will reset to 100% levels.

2. **Grant Status:**

   Pierce 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.

3. **Digital Radio System Updates:**

   Dravland provided system updates on maintenance and repair issues. User ID's are up to 27,718 from 26,177 and has required us to purchase additional licenses, and talkgroup ID's increased to 1522 from 1508. Frank Jarman provided an update for Pennington County, if funding can be secured, a simulcast system will be installed in the Hill City/Keystone area.

4. **FirstNet/Broadband**
   Pierce, Waldner, and Penniston covered the current status of the FirstNet system in South Dakota. Additional sites committed in the opt-in plan are scheduled for construction in 2020, the status of those provided by Penniston.

   Waldner covered the activities of the broadband subcommittee, and his work with the Bridge for PS application.

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
   - Ambulance Association
   - State EMS Association.

6. **Standard programming template**
   The discussion on standard programming also included the additional agenda item of adding Special Ops talkgroups to the standard plan. The issue of enough special ops talkgroups during past emergencies and the potential of needing more as we look at events and other emergencies ahead. The consensus was to add another 3 to 6 additional talkgroups to a zone committed to that purpose and move the St Fire talkgroups to another area in the radios. A motion to have State Radio move ahead with that programming reorganization effort was made by Geigle and seconded by Collins. Passed on a voice vote.

7. **Encryption Standard**
   The council had a discussion on some of the recent events in the state by which scanner traffic streamed over the internet was affecting response efforts. General consensus was that there will be more encryption utilized in the future.

8. **Additional Agenda Item**
   The discussion of adding additional talkgroups to the standard template was discussed in #6.

Organizational Reports:
Jones –
Rechtenbaugh – Chad Carpenter retired.
Maupin —

Goodwin – Will be deployed, SGM Cerny will attend on behalf of the National Guard.
Barth –
Geigle – Thanks for the opportunity to serve.
Timmerman – Annual conference in September.
Pierce -- Recognize JD Geigle
Maupin –
Wiik –
Barthel –
Jaeger –
Pearson –
Swenson --

Motion to Adjourn by Geigle
Second by Pierce

Meeting adjourned 1155