

## **September 12, 2019 Meeting Notes for the Public Safety Communications Council**

### **In Attendance:**

Jeff Pierce, Brad Maupin, Scott Rechtenbaugh, WO1 David Goodwin, Steve Swenson, Harold Timmerman, Kevin Karley, Todd Dravland, Bruce Nachtigall, Brian Soehl, Mike Waldner, Andy Barth, Paul Reiter, Doug Penniston, Jason Jones, Maria King, Nick Carlson, Brent Long, Jon Hubregtse, Chuck Kevghas, Casey Collins, JD Geigle.

Chair Goodwin called meeting to order at 10:00

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

### **Request for additional Items to add to Agenda:**

None.

### **Approval of June 2019 Meeting Minutes:**

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

### **New Business:**

#### **1. New Council Member/Changes**

Introduced to the meeting were:

- Charlie Kludt – SD Firefighters (not present)
- Kevin Karley – APCO/NENA
- Senator Cronin resigned seat, so currently open
- Tribal position still open, but group discussed potential candidates, and if membership should be opened to more than one position.
- Question of additional membership by groups such as the Fire Chiefs, Ambulance Directors, etc. was approached by Nick Carlson and JD Geigle.
- The topic of re-extending the 2017 offer to the Governor's Office for a seat on the council was discussed and that will be forwarded to the Noem administration.

#### **2. New Council Chair, organization & group vision outline**

New Chairman WO1 Goodwin outlined some changes he would like to implement:

- A binder of information for all council members.
- Setting a regular cadence of meetings. Extensive discussion of timing with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of March, June, September, and December being the default dates. Next four meetings to be as follows December 12, 2019, March 12, 2020, June 11, 2020, and September 10, 2020. Timmerman proposed the above schedule for vote, with Nachtigall seconding the proposal, passed on voice vote.

#### **3. Test Site**

Pierce and Dravland outlined the proposed system test site that would allow the confirmation of programming templates for state, local, and other agencies prior to system going live. BIT/State Radio is hoping to utilize spare parts to offset most of the test site costs. Once online the site will

be available for radio shops to confirm their P25 programming. The final budget for the test site will be a factor in timeline for construction.

**4. Over the Air Programming**

The council had an extensive discussion on Over-The-Air-Programming (OTAP). The option allows centralized programming of radios and would be a significant benefit to system users, but the initial cost estimates were significant and some yet to be determined. Rapid City/Pennington County has their own techs and is somewhat less a factor, but for vendors such as Brian Soehl to be able to program remotely would potentially save his customers a considerable amount. This will be revisited during the December meeting when we have more firm information.

**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.

**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.

**3. Digital Radio System Updates:**

Dravland provided system updates relating to the Union County sites (16,559 calls last month). User ID's are up to 26,177 from 25,993, and talkgroup ID's increased by one from 1508 to 1509. Working on tower inspections, software updates for consoles, and a codeplug has been sent to Motorola for review. Sturgis rally brought no complaints about the radios system, Collins confirmed. Carlson brought up potential coverage issue area in the Tilford area, other areas around the Black Hills were similarly pointed out as well.

The below was proposed by Motorola and generated significant discussion with the group. This is the first concrete operational plans and was welcomed by attendees.

## 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								

Additional time was dedicated to an overview of the upgrade plans for the individual RF sites, the simulcast sites, and the equipment covered in the ongoing support plan, the SUA.

#### **4. FirstNet/Broadband**

Pierce, Waldner, and Penniston covered the current status of the FirstNet system in South Dakota. 32 of the 38 committed sites covered in the opt-in plan are scheduled for construction in 2020, with the balance hopefully the following year.

Waldner went over the preliminary results from the ongoing public safety broadband application survey, and the council members and visitors were encouraged to distribute the survey to every level of first responder agencies possible.

#### **5. Event/Emergency Response Communications**

Dravland provided an update on the equipment that has been configured to support disasters and events in South Dakota. To this point BIT/State Radio has 6 encrypted base stations that can be used at any level of government in situations.

#### **6. 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 Ambulance Association and State EMS Association. Geigle will provide contact information.

#### **7. Standard programming template**

Dravland covered the progress to date on the standard programming template. This template will be used to program both the current profile and the updated P25 profile. The state does have the system key for the P25 system, and talkgroup ID's will remain the same. The proposed template has been sent to Motorola for review and comment.

#### **8. Encryption Standard**

AES-256 is the default standard moving ahead and should be the only encryption option ordered if working with other agencies. Timmerman reported that the EMA conference held this week had a session with the SAA and that only law enforcement would be approved for DHS funding by default for funding requests related to encryption.

## **9. Council Member Terms**

All current council members began a three-year term on or after June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Members are in various points in the 9 years allowed for non-state membership, in 2021 we will need to review all member terms so that we have awareness of when a member's term expires.

Pierce will work on updating the open meetings site for terms.

### **Organizational Reports:**

Jones – State Municipal League meeting October 9<sup>th</sup> in Aberdeen

Rechtenbaugh – Will help promote app survey.

Maupin – Road advisory for those heading east.

Goodwin – Introduced Jon Hubregtse who will be the new NG radio guy.

Reiter – Discussed situation encountered by Nebraska National Forest personnel who had an accident in a remote area, and passenger did not know how to operate radio which delayed response to the site. A good reminder to do annual radio refresher training.

Barth – Fully staffed in Rapid City, updates to radios about 60% completed. Discussed P25 conversion, and not sure how that will impact his operations.

King – King covered the recent grant that allows local PSAP's access to updated equipment, covered contract with Century Link for NG911 services.

Motion to Adjourn by Geigle

Second by King

Meeting adjourned 1310