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Proceedings:

The Quarterly KWIEC meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. by Chairman Jim Barnhart.

Roll was called with the following members responding:

Members Present: Jim Barnhart, Terry Stephens, Fred Engle, Rebecca Hopkins, William Marcum, Mike Daly, Mike Gribbin

Proxies Sent: Dan Mauer - proxy Tony Downs, Brad Bates - proxy Derek Nesselrode, Col Ewing - proxy David Blevins

Members calling in: Ken Jorette, Randy White, Mitch Mitchell, Mitch Mitchell

Quorum Present: Yes

Jim asked if there was any discussion on the last quarter's meeting minutes and with there being none called for a motion to approve the minutes. Chief Gribbin made the motion which was seconded and unanimously approved by the committee.

Chairperson's Report (Briefed by Chuck Miller):

- 1) The Annual Public Safety Report – the report is in its final stages and is being reviewed by the Commissioner. It was due on the 15th but Chuck received approval to submit the report after the deadline to complete a final review/edit.
- 2) Wireless Project Reviews – a total of 86 were submitted to date and were reviewed against OEC/KWIEC requirements. Of the 86 submissions, 84 met OEC/KWIEC requirements and one did not. The remaining project is missing information which was requested and is being waited on now.
- 3) The State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) - It was last reviewed and approved in July 2011. The OEC has announced several planned revisions of their requirements so we will be realigning Kentucky's review cycle to avoid or at least reduce rework. The planned target will be a review in the beginning of the fourth quarter and KWIEC approval at the December meeting.
- 4) Funding Initiative Workgroup: The lack of KWIEC funding was addressed in the 2012 Annual Public Safety report, as was requested. A letter to the legislators from the KWIEC is being considered.
- 5) Narrowbanding – according to the FCC database of licensed frequencies, Kentucky still has about 1/3rd of its fixed licenses set-up as wideband only. This is an “as reported” number and the actual count is probably somewhat better since many end users do not take the time to properly update their license even after they have replaced or converted their equipment to narrowband. The database is the only metric we can use to measure at this point though.

Public Safety Working Group Report (Briefed by Derek Nesselrode):

- 1) The Kentucky Field Operations guide (KYFOG)¹ – It was completed in August and a PDF version will be posted to the KWIEC website soon. Electronic versions (PDF) are

¹ a tactical pocket guide intended to provide interoperability information for Kentucky's first responders

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convenient (for laptop/Smartphone/etc.) but at least one hard copy should be kept in tactical command vehicles. Printing costs are high (from \$6 each for lots of 5000 to \$84 in single units). Less expensive alternatives are being researched now.

- 2) The SCIP – the PSWG has realigned their review to the new OEC cycle. The PSWG will review, revise, and update the SCIP and should have it ready for approval at the next meeting. A new broadband piece will also be added.
- 3) Standard Operating Procedures – TA requests to OEC are pending to assist in development of several SOPs. These would be a “boots on the ground response” or best practices for on scene deployment. The PSWG will be working with OEC to develop these. OEC has recommended doing a Governance and Outreach piece. Dates and deliverables are TBD.
- 4) A Public Safety Broadband Workshop will be coming soon.

Broadband Working Group Report (Briefed by Derek Nesselrode):

The Broadband report was broken down into Kentucky based and federally based initiatives.

Overview -

- 1) Derek and Jim attended the meeting in Washington DC. They confirmed that Kentucky is taking the appropriate steps for broadband and our data collection concept is in line with everyone else. So far Kentucky has met all of the recommendations.
- 2) Kentucky has established a point of contact for FirstNet and set a governance structure. It will be responsible for outreach and for making recommendations to the Governor.
- 3) FirstNet will do outreach to the states and will develop a RFP. Based on this RFP, Governors will have a very short window to make their opt-in/opt-out decision. States considering opting-out must be working on their RFP in parallel so that it is ready when the decision is made.
- 4) Development of Kentucky’s broadband plan has started. Taking advantage of the workshop that DHS has offered will greatly help the group and speed along development.

State Meeting –

- 1) Kentucky had its first Broadband meeting on Sep 25th. The discussion included a technical overview, a briefing on planning methodologies, and a discussion on the roles of the State and local agencies and governance bodies (KWIEC, Broadband Workgroup, FirstNet).
- 2) The Broadband Working Group is the core group (reporting to the KWIEC), but associates with expertise in different areas (financial/budget, utilities, etc) will be asked to assist.
- 3) OEC is offering a directed workshop (toward the Broadband Workgroup and the KWIEC) to assist states. Derek is following up and will brief next quarter.
- 4) Planning Grants will also be available to all states. Nationally \$135 million will be available in Feb 2013 with awards being based on population density. The money can only be used for very specific planning purposes (including outreach).
- 5) After the planning is complete the RFP will be released, reviewed and recommendations made to the Governor’s Office. The realistic time frame for the decision is two years out.

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FirstNet meeting

- 1) Their first meeting was also on Sep 25th. They established their by-laws, made resolutions on the frequency spectrum, and were briefed on a conceptual network architectural for the system.
- 2) They identified 285,000 sites and structures nationally which represents over \$350 billion in previous investments. They also discussed using existing utilities infrastructure as well as state and local government infrastructure (like KEWS).

700 MHz Voice Plan (Briefed by Bob Stephens):

[The 700 MHz plan was made available to the KWIEC for review prior to the meeting. The 700 MHz plan is available for download from the KWIEC website.]

- 1) The PSWG² completed the 700MHz voice plan³. Surrounding states have reviewed the plan and responded that they are ok with the plan. There are still a number of states that don't have plans.
- 2) High Level Overview–
 - a) The first 16 channels of the 700 plan are all interoperable frequencies. Every 700 MHz radio will have these programmed in; it is not optional.
 - b) P25 is the only digital platform authorized in this 700 plan.
 - c) There are processes for campus use, low power use, aircraft use, vehicle repeaters, etc.
 - d) These frequency's are coordinated nationwide with some exceptions on the borders of Canada and Mexico.

Bob Stephens asked the KWIEC for approval to submit the plan as written to the Federal Communications Commission. This submission would satisfy Kentucky's requirement to have a coordinated and approved 700 MHz plan in place.

VOTE – Jim called for a vote and the KWIEC voted unanimously to approve the 700 MHz plan and authorize its submission to the FCC.

New Business and Open Discussion

In answer to a previous question – Chuck Miller accessed the FCC ULS frequency database to show the KWIEC specific examples by County of the reported radio systems still operating in wideband (25 KHz) only mode in Kentucky (>30% of the state).

Derek Nesselrode said that this is an outreach and education problem and this doesn't reflect the entire problem. In some cases channels are abandoned and the licenses just get ignored.

² The PSWG is also known as the Regional Planning Committee for Region 17

³ It describes how we will use the 700 MHz frequencies, and the rules for their use

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Bob Stephens mentioned that the first people the FCC is going to come at are the agencies that have done that.

Bill Marcum asked if this fell within his responsibilities to report back to KACo and tell them what they need to be doing (*in regard to licensing*).

Derek Nesselrode replied that the FCC is sending information to the license holders. But license holders and users are often not the same thing. A flood of information is being put out by any association that has anything to do with public safety.

Jim Barnhart felt that the KWIEC website was the tool to be used for getting KWIEC information out. Perhaps alerts where users can sign up for them was a possibility.

Derek Nesselrode said that when it comes to problems like this we work well with local governments but farther down we don't have a mechanism in place for (effective) outreach.

The discussion concluded with Chuck reminding the group that compliance with narrowbanding was listed as a concern in the Annual Public Safety Report and would be available once it had been approved for release.

Adjournment:

The next meeting will be in mid December 2012.

With there being no further business, Jim adjourned the meeting.