

# STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**June 9, 2016**

**ATTENDEES:** Sheriff Leo Dutton, Chair, MSPOA; Tom Butler, DOJ/MHP; Joe Briggs, MACo; Jason Smith, Governor's Office - Indian Affairs; Delila Bruno, DMA/DES; Bob Drake, MSVFFA (Alternate);

**GUESTS:** Quinn Ness, DOA/SITSD; Steve Noel, FirstNet; Tracey Murdock, FirstNet; Justin Shore, FirstNet; Sandra Barrows, Barrows Consulting; Mike Feldman, DOJ/MHP; Trudy Skari, DOA/SITSD; Wing Spooner, DOA/SITSD; Rhonda Sullivan, DOA/SITSD; Dan Sullivan, DOA/SITSD; Roger Smith, Lewis & Clark County; Dale Osborne, DOJ/MHP; Jessica Sweet, FirstNet; Noah Horan, DOA/SITSD; Jennifer Schofield, DOA/SITSD; Bob Armstrong, DOJ/MHP; Brad Steiner, Motorola Solutions.

**CONFERENCE CALL:** Dorothy Gremaux, MLC&T (Alternate); Roger Nasset, MACOP (Alternate); Steve Keller, MDT (Alternate)

**Call to Order:** Sheriff Leo Dutton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. Introductions were made.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bob Drake moved to accept the May minutes and Tom Butler seconded. The motion carried.

**FirstNet 2016 Consultation:** Tracy Murdock, Justin Shore and Steve Noel, all of FirstNet, were present today to provide information on upcoming FirstNet processes and to answer questions. They began by providing a presentation that included the following:

- Overview of FirstNet:
  - Network demanded by public safety for priority and interoperability.
  - FirstNet created by law to develop/implement a single nationwide public safety broadband network.
  - Network will be public/private partnership to limit agency risk, speed deployment and meet public safety unique needs.
  - Evaluation phase has kicked off with RFP released in January with proposals due in May. The award of contract is expected in late 2016.
- Montana Consultation Events to Date:
  - Initial consultation meeting held October 29, 2014 in Helena.
  - MT State Fire Chief's Assoc., June, 2015 in Ennis
  - MT Telecommunications Assoc. Annual Meeting, August, 2015 in Missoula
  - Date collection call, October, 2015
  - SPOC kickoff meeting, January, 2016
  - MT Indian Nations Working Group, March, 2016 in Polson

- FirstNet State Plan:
  - State Plan influences include:
    - What the law requires
    - What states are looking for
    - What the RFP will produce
    - What the FCC & NTIA need
  - FirstNet State Plan Concept/Content:
    - One portal with two purposes:
      1. Public Safety Entities: coverage, services, applications/ features, devices & accessories
    - Governor: Policy compliance, timeframe/cost & interoperability.
- State Plan Consultation, Development & Delivery: RFP released in January, with governance group meetings, SPOC team interactions and executive consultation; and preparation of state plans and FirstNet contract awards taking place from April – November 2016; with delivery to Governor for 90-day review.
- The Governor’s Decision:
  - Band 14 CORE: No decision required
  - RAN deployment: Governor makes decision regarding opting out
  - Wireless Services, Products & Applications: Public Safety Entities decide to adopt or not adopt.
  - Governor Considerations: Timeline risks; RAN deployment; Ongoing RAN cost; technical capacity and operational risks.
  - How long the process for NTIA and FCC to evaluate is unknown, so completion is unknown.
- Preparing for Adoption Consultation Task Teams (CTT):
  - The first CTT: Quality of Service, Priority & Preemption (QPP)
  - Local User Training Input obtained
  - CTT next steps:
    - While moving forward into adoption, CTTs will help inform on policies/plans.
    - The board’s opinions and the value proposition of QPP and how to best incorporate that value into FirstNet services is of critical importance to them.
    - Share points of contact for whom FirstNet should be following up with regarding delivering training/needs.
- Quinn Ness: SIGB has no compelling reason to recommend to Governor Bullock to opt out; however, if the choice were made to opt out, there are several issues:
  - How can the legislature approve federal spending authority within 90 days? Convene a special session?
  - As the State would be responsible for the maintenance of the RAN, can we expect the legislature and governor to approve ongoing appropriations and assume the risks of operating the RAN, when it’s not clear what the future revenues would be?
  - Would also need FCC and NTIA approval.
  - We have no spectrum or frequencies. We would have to agree to terms and lease spectrum from FirstNet.
  - Current assessment is that opting out is not a feasible option.

- Joe Briggs questioned excess spectrum and the possibility of leasing it out; and Justin explained that the RFP and law states there is ability for FirstNet partners to lease out excess spectrum to commercial customers that is not being used by public safety.
- Leo Dutton questioned whether there may be problems when approaching the legislature for LMR funding. Justin replied that LMR is not going anywhere and to keep investing/maintaining in those systems. Also, it's imperative that this fact be driven home to the legislature.

**Statewide LMR System:** Roger Smith provided brief background for the current system, then provided the following technical status report:

Roger reported that the current Aviat contract for extended support maintenance and warranty for the statewide microwave system expired on March 31, therefore he's requesting assistance from the SIGB. He has requested that Aviat provide a new proposal for maintenance and support. Roger also requested sustainability funding for technical support and repair service for the system, as he is in charge of all support through the grant including technical repair, servicing, and all circuit mapping across the state.

- The following costs are required for eight sites in need of equipment repair (ODUs and IDUs; constellation line and Truepoint radios):
  - Cost for one year: \$178,331
  - Cost with discount and three-year prorate at 30%: \$183,313
  - Cost for one-five years: \$108,997
- Microwave sustainability and upgrades for end of life, bandwidth expansions and Ethernet requirements:
  - Stratex DXR end of life and support, links that require upgrade: **\$555,906**
    - STARC Amory to Knob Hill (Helena area)
    - Wirth Ranch to Sunset to Stonewall
    - Shane Ridge to Palisades (Red Lodge Mtn.)
    - Butte 9-1-1 to Fleecer Mountain.
    - All radios will be upgraded to new Eclipse radios that will support all future needs and are currently under production with support.)
- Constellation radios that are at end of life and support and links that require upgrade: **\$614,108**
  - Roosevelt County System includes five links:
    - Deadman Butte (Fort Peck),
    - Windy Hill,
    - Wolf Point Dispatch
    - Poplar
    - Scout Hill/Culbertson
  - Truepoint 5000 Harris links at end of life without new production, limited support and require upgrade for Ethernet support: **\$1,176,163**
  - Aviat Eclipse radios will need bandwidth upgrades and upgraded to Ethernet capabilities:
    - Helena to Great Falls: **\$310,600**
    - MacDonald Pass to Highflat (Bozeman area): **\$481,600**
    - Ethernet upgrades to existing 11 links, (2ea.) STARC Armory to MacDonald Pass, STARC to LEC, STARC to Fort Harrison, Fort Harrison to Hogback

- TOTAL Funding Required: Approximately \$3.5M for upgrades and technical support.
- Quinn Ness pointed out that the LMR system and the microwave network are two separate systems/networks. The statewide LMR and MW systems require critical decisions as to “who” is going to operate, maintain and offer these services. This may either be state agencies, counties or local governments.

**Public Comment:** None

**Next Meeting/Adjourn:** The next meeting is August 11, at DOT, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Commission Room, 1:30-3:30. (The July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled.) This meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.