



Mark Gordon  
Governor  
K. Luke Reiner  
Director

# Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission

## MEETING MINUTES



Mark Harshman  
Chairman  
Telephone No.:  
(307) 777-4015

### I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Public Safety Communications Commission was held in Buffalo on Tuesday, May 14, 2019. Chair Harshman presided, calling the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

### II. COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Mark Harshman, Chairman  
Kebin Haller, Commissioner  
Mike Choma, Commissioner  
Luke Reiner, Ex Officio

Jonathan Downing, Commissioner  
Dwane Pacheco, Commissioner  
Doug Frank, Commissioner

### III. STAFF PRESENT

Pat Lewis, Chief Technology Officer  
Troy Babbitt, Telecommunications Program Manager  
Mike Kahler, AG's Office

Katie Pfister, Commission Secretary  
Nathan Smolinski, WyoLink Systems Supervisor

### IV. CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

One (1) change was made to the agenda, adding the Biannual Report for review by Mr. Lewis as an Update/Discussion Topic immediately following the Director's Update.

### V. ACTION ITEMS

#### 1. Draft Meeting Minutes dated February 13, 2019

*Motions:* It was moved by Commissioner Frank and seconded by Commissioner Choma to approve the Draft Meeting Minutes dated February 13, 2019. As there were no adjustments, the Commission then voted on approval of the minutes. *Motion Carried.*

### VI. UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS

#### 1. Director's Update

Director Reiner's update included information about his month and a half in his new role. He explained that upon his initial review of the agencies purpose, mission, and vision that there was previously no mention of statewide interoperable public safety communications. He noted that this would be a key element in each of those categories moving forward. Director Reiner also mentioned that he and a few members of staff and the Commission would be attending the Joint Transportation, Highway's & Military Affairs Committee the following day to share the message of the importance of the WyoLink system, and it's funding needs in terms of maintenance and expansion. Director Reiner's final item was regarding a recent meeting with the Wyoming County Commissioner's Association, and his message of collaboration and partnership in conveying the need for emergency communications funding moving forward.

#### 2. Biannual Report

Mr. Lewis distributed the 2017 Biannual Report to the Governor and Joint Transportation, Highways, and Military Affairs Committee, noting that the report was coming due for resubmission by May 31, 2019. It was determined that the report would reflect funding information similar to the presentation information that would be conveyed to the committee the following day, and that Mr. Babbitt and Mr. Smolinski would run the finalized report by the Commission via email before it's submission on May 31, 2019 for their concurrence.



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### VI. UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

#### 3. WyoLink Training Update

Mr. Smolinski noted that training has been available for roughly 60 days, with a meeting in Sheridan held March 22, 2019, and more trainings slated for Highway Patrol and the Department of Criminal Investigation. He also explained that outreach continues in trying to coordinate user specific training needs throughout the state, highlighting recent user specific training discussions held in Teton County.

#### 4. 16-Tower Build-Out Project Updates

Mr. Smolinski reviewed the 16-Tower Build-Out Project Monthly Report, which included the following updates:

- **Buffalo:** Groundbreaking event scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 4:30 P.M. Spectrum fingerprinting is scheduled for the week of May 6, 2019, and is required for VHF Frequency Combiner design. Microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. FCC frequency coordination is underway. The tower and shelter are on order. Zoning and permitting will not be required. The location was ID'd on WYDOT property.
- **Wright:** Spectrum fingerprinting is scheduled for the week of May 6, 2019, and is required for VHF Frequency Combiner design. Microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. FCC frequency coordination is underway. The tower and shelter are on order. Zoning and permitting will not be required.
- **Orin Junction:** Spectrum fingerprinting is scheduled for the week of May 6, 2019, and is required for VHF Frequency Combiner design. Microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. FCC frequency coordination is underway. The tower and shelter are on order. Zoning and permitting will not be required. The location was ID'd on WYDOT property.
- **Lusk:** Spectrum fingerprinting is scheduled for the week of May 6, 2019, and is required for VHF Frequency Combiner design. Microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. FCC frequency coordination is underway. The tower and shelter are on order. Zoning and permitting will not be required.
- **Newcastle:** Microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. Coordination efforts are underway with the City of Newcastle for the buildings placement. Discussions have progressed to vetting all technical issues, as well as equipment placement, and lease agreements. A collocation opportunity with Union is being pursued. An application has been submitted for evaluation and cost estimates, and the partnership may include a collocation with Union on an existing WyoLink Tower.
- **Sundance (Crook):** The site survey has been executed. NEPA and Cultural Field Work scheduling, and an updated State Land Application to include additional survey data is underway are all underway. Discussions are underway with the local telco for a fiber backhaul connection, and with the Crook County Sherriff's Office on possible collocate options.
- **Greybull:** Microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. Site surveying, and NEPA and Cultural Field Work scheduling are underway, weather permitting, and an updated State Land Application to include additional survey data is underway as well.
- **Northern Goshen County:** Currently escalating our efforts for FAA feedback, and moving toward FCC



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### VI. UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

#### 4. 16-Tower Build-Out Project Updates (Continued)

- Northern Goshen County (Continued):** compliance. The Permission to Survey Forms were signed and returned by the private landowner. Surveying will be scheduled, followed by NEPA and Cultural Field Work, weather permitting. The proposed site plots were delivered to two (2) adjacent private landowners, and Right-of-Way is working with them toward favorable agreements as part of the site determination process. A location was ID'd adjacent to an FAA HP Radar, requiring coordination efforts with the FAA regarding any restrictions.
- **Rock Springs (Tank Hill):** Partial microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. Right-of-Way had discussions with the Sweetwater County Water Board, determining no foreseeable issues. Access easements with private landowners have been completed, and upon approval, a site survey, NEPA, and Cultural field work schedule shall presume, weather permitting. Collocate discussions with Sweetwater County Water Board have taken place. Zoning research is underway, and it is unlikely that a hearing will be required. It was determined that this will be an 800Mhz site.
- **North Big Horn County (Little Sheep Mtn.):** Microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. The Site Survey was executed, and upon BLM approval, NEPA and Cultural Field work schedule will presume. Scoping BLM to verify if additional surveys are required, and awaiting application and proposal approval on specific requirements. An application and proposal were submitted to the BLM for the selected location on Little Sheep Mountain, East of Lovell, and is currently under review to proceed.
- **Rock Springs (14 Mile Hill):** Partial microwave path surveys were completed, and the report delivered on May 6, 2019 is under review. The Site Survey was executed, and upon BLM approval, NEPA and Cultural Field work schedule will presume. Scoping BLM to verify if additional surveys are required, and awaiting application and proposal approval on specific requirements. An application and proposal were submitted to the BLM for the selected location on 14 Mile Hill, North of Rock Springs, and is currently under review to proceed.
- **Alcova:** The Site Survey was executed, and upon BLM approval, NEPA and Cultural Field Work scheduling will presume. Scoping BLM to verify if additional surveys are required, and awaiting application and proposal approval on specific requirements. An application and proposal were submitted to the BLM for the selected location adjacent to the Union tower, South of the reservoir, and is currently under review to proceed.
- **Ten Sleep (Meadowlark):** Delivering technical specifications to USFS for review and approval, and communication has resumed regarding application requirements. Awaiting delivery of Cost Recovery Plan from USFS, a requirement of the application. Site surveying, NEPA, and Cultural Field Work must be scheduled in accordance with weather and snow levels at this particular location. An application and proposal were submitted to the BLM for the selected location above Meadowlark Lake, and is currently under review to proceed.
- **Evanston:** Permission to Survey forms were signed and returned by the private landowner. Site surveying, NEPA, and Cultural Field Work must be scheduled in accordance with weather and snow levels at this particular location. Permission to Survey were delivered to the selected landowner at Medicine Butte, and once signed and returned, surveying will be scheduled, followed by NEPA and Cultural Field Work. The negotiations regarding a request for payment from the landowner in order to receive permission to survey



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### VI. UPDATES/DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

#### 4. 16-Tower Build-Out Project Updates (Continued)

**Evanston (Continued):** has been resolved. The proposed site plots were delivered to two (2) adjacent private landowners, and Right-of-Way is working with them toward favorable agreements as part of the site determination process.

- **Jackson:** A location was selected at Teton Pass, has been reviewed with local agencies, and the application process with the Caribou Targhee USFS office is underway. Locations have been ID'd (*primary and alternative*), and engaging in discussions for possible collocation options.
- **Bondurant:** Upon Sublette County's decision to construct a county-wide system, we are awaiting technical information to schedule discussions in order to determine an optimum site location.

#### 5. Statewide Interoperability Coordination Update

Mr. Babbitt provided updates on recent meetings. One meeting to Pittsburg for NCSWIC, noting he had to depart early and was unable to participate, and another to Salt Lake City for RQWIG, announcing that Verizon participated and is working toward providing competitive solutions to AT&T/FirstNet. He also highlighted the partnership between the agency and Homeland Security, noting they were recently able to sit in on the State Advisory Commission Meeting. He conveyed that approximately 47 applications for radio's from across the state were received totaling \$4.3M, which far exceeded the available funding level of \$815,000. Mr. Babbitt explained that more grant guidance is needed and would be provided in the future to ensure that applications are only submitted by those who qualify for this type of assistance.

#### 6. FirstNet Update

Mr. Babbitt conveyed that Ms. Terri Baca the president for AT&T New Mexico and Wyoming who is charge of external and legislative affairs would be meeting with Governor Gordon on May 17, 2019 to discuss AT&T buildout plans in Wyoming. He also noted that staff continues working with highway patrol on testing for the buildout of FirstNet.

#### 7. NG911 Update

Mr. Babbitt announced that a workshop will be held July 17-18, 2019 in Casper, bringing together 911 subject matter experts to assist in the creation of an outline for the state's 911 plan.

#### 8. Farewell Presentation

Chair Harshman thanked Mr. Lewis for his service, and wished him well on his retirement.

### VII. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Frank, and seconded by Commissioner Haller to adjourn the May 14, 2019 business meeting at 4:03 P.M. *Motion Carried.*