



The meeting of the Utah Communications Authority's Public Safety Advisory Committee
Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Saint George Utah
November 30th, 2022 9:15 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome: Chief Mike Mathieu

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present:

Clint Smith
Darrin Adams
Rob Nelson
Tracy Glover
Mike Mathieu
TJ Brewer
Mike Phillips
Lynne Yocom
Jared Rigby
Alicia Gleave
Andy Smith

Committee Members Absent:

Ken Wallentine
Mike Brown
Mike Rapich

3. Approval of Minutes

October 5th 2022 Minutes

Motion: Darrin Adams

Second: Clint Smith

Vote: Motion Passed with all in favor

4. Existing Motorola Radios on the new system. Motorola's Walter Whatley:

Chief Mathieu introduced the issue by explaining concerns that have been presented to the committee regarding available funding for the purchase of new Harris radio equipment while not addressing the current fleet of radios across the system. Whatley was invited to explain how the migration can be addressed by agencies that plan to keep their Motorola radios and upgrade them to become compliant with the new system. Whatley explained the history of Motorola's footprint in Utah. He explained that the Legacy XTS and XTL line of radios are no longer supported and have not been supported for about 10 years. In about 2009, Motorola started selling the Apex 7000 radio. At the time there was no thought of a P25 compliant radio system. Most of the APEX 7000 radios from that era are not P25 Phase 1 compliant but may be upgraded. Motorola is producing a document that will prompt users to supply information to Motorola to determine what is in each radio so they can figure out what will be needed to get the fleet up to date and ready for the new system. Whatley stated that most APEX radios can be updated with flash upgrades. From about 2014-2018 Motorola began marketing new APEX radios that included phase one compliance. Starting in 2021, working with UCA, Motorola began including TDMA in most radios. Motorola, with the help of UCA, is sending out a guide for agencies to provide the model and flash code from each radio in their fleet. With this information, Motorola will be able to quote the cost of upgrading the radio to become compliant with the new system. If your radios are phase 1 compliant, they will work on the new system. Phase two compliance will have to be purchased but is not required as of now. Whatley recommended that every radio get aligned by a technician occasionally to make sure the firmware is updated, and the agency is getting the best performance out of the radio. He continued that they have discovered that some antennas are specific to 800 MHZ. The new system will have 700 MHZ bands as well. Antennas may need to be adjusted or replaced for proper performance. While most radios are GPS capable, it will need to be programmed into the radios and compatible software would need to accompany the technology to be able to read the data. Whatley answered questions about what features can be ordered

in the APEX radio line. Chief Mathieu asked Whatley about the timing of upgrading an agency's Motorola fleet. Can the radios be programmed to run on both systems to alleviate problems with the switch over? Whatley stated that is a coordination issue with UCA. Whatley was asked about lead time for equipment. He stated that some items are still back ordered but that lead times are coming down. Radios are about 6 weeks out, but batteries currently have longer lead times. Flash upgrades have a few weeks of lead time.

5. Radio Division Report: Phil Krebs

Krebs stated that he gave the radio division report yesterday at the user's conference and he is willing to answer any further questions. Krebs was questioned about the process of upgrading 800 MHZ repeaters that are on the current system. UCA stated that the equipment on the trunked system should work fine, and that the system will stay working through the change.

6. P25 Division Report: Eric Larson

Phil Krebs spoke for Larson. Krebs stated that the upgrade is two thirds complete overall. 92 of 126 radio site routers are online and 19 out of 29 PSAP routers are online. Overall, site remediation is 94% complete. UCA is starting the PSAP console installations now. Larson stated that equipment has been delivered to Weber County for the first PSAP console installation. Mathieu stated that the committee has had questions regarding the possibility of turning on a portion of the system as the buildout wraps up. Director Stephens explained that some of the final upgrades include backhaul upgrades. He further explained that UCA wants to do adequate testing on every corner of the system to make sure they are adequately prepared to mitigate risks. Testing will be conducted throughout 2023 in preparation for a 2024 go live.

7. Interoperability Division Report: Michael Veenendaal

Veenendaal stated that he provided a report earlier in the user's conference and was willing to answer any further questions. He was asked about fleet mapping and the elimination of LZ talk groups. Veenendaal stated that for better clarity, they are changing over to air to ground rather than LZ. A question was asked regarding communications with other states like Colorado and Arizona. Veenendaal stated that the ideal solution is to use an ISSI. This requires two party consent. Discussions are underway with neighboring states to try to solve this problem.

8. International Fire Code (IFC) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) facility radio communications issues:

Chief Mathieu stated that the international fire code has been broadly adopted across Utah. NFPA 1221 communication recommendation standard discusses BDA and DAS systems. These tools are designed to improve radio signal inside buildings. If a company is constructing a large building that limits the ability of emergency responders to communicate from within their building, the fire marshal can require the installation of systems to enhance the signal. These systems are required to be registered with the FCC and UCA. As we move to the new system, the current BDA's and DAS equipment may not work properly. These systems will need to be adjusted, reprogrammed or replaced to work properly. UCA has drafted a letter to notify registered owners of the BDA and DAS systems that they will need to make adjustments to their equipment. Director Stephens stated that sadly many of the systems are not registered. UCA will work with the Fire Marshal's Office to achieve broad compliance.

9. Additional Items: (for the good of the order)

Chairman Lance Davenport offered thanks from the UCA Board for the work of the Public Safety Advisory Committee member's work.

10. Meeting Schedule:

January 9th 2:00 pm

We are working to coordinate better for a meeting notice and calendar.

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: Mike Phillips

Second: Darrin Adams

Unanimous vote

Meeting Adjourned.