



The Meeting of Utah Communications Authority's
Public Safety Advisory Committee
Location: Electronic Call
April 10th, 2023
Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome: Sheriff Tracy Glover**
Thank you for joining us today.

2. **Roll Call**
Tracy Glover
Rob Nelson
Clint Smith
Darin Adams
Lisa Zundel/Amber Mortensen
Mike Mathieu
Neil Johnson
Brian Gwilliam
Travis Trotta
Mike Phillips
Andy Smith
Lynne Yocom
Jared Rigby

Committee Members Absent:

Andy Smith
Mike Brown
Jared Rigby

It appears we have nine out of twelve, but I am not sure what we need for a quorum. Mike Mathieu, we need eight members of the committee to constitute a quorum.

3. **Approval of minutes**

30 January 2023 meeting minutes

Motion: Clint Smith

Second: Darrin Adams

Motion Carries unanimously

Note: Tracy Glover, since I got the opportunity to do the minutes last year, I found that sometimes it's difficult to know who made a motion and who seconded the motion. So when you make a motion, please say your name and then the motion, and the same for the second. That'll be helpful for the minutes.

4. Remarks from UCA Interim Director Tina Mathieu

Tracy Glover stated there had been a change in leadership at UCA, Quin has resigned, and Tina Mathieu is now the acting Director of UCA. Tina asked to be moved down in the agenda because she was catching an Uber to her hotel.

5. Report from UCA Radio Network Division Director Phill Krebs

Phil shared two slides with the group. So, we'll start our update on our existing system, the 800 megahertz we're calling the legacy system. In Carbon County, we were able to get the price dispatch site online and the Castle Gate site online. That solved a lot of the problems that we've been having down there. In Daggett County, we brought the East Park site online. This is our initial 800-megahertz coverage for Daggett County. Because of that, we've got some user training planned in the area. Mike Veenendaal will be doing training in the area on how to use the radios, how the radios are programmed, that sort of thing. We have one more site called Goslin that's planned for Daggett County before we go live with P25. That's a in the three-month time frame. Wayne County, we've got our Hanksville site ready sitting there, to be brought online—we just recently got FCC approval. That system will be online as soon as we run through our checklist. In Kane County we've had some issues reported arising from no cell or radio coverage at or around the coral pink sand dunes area. We are looking in the area to potentially put a new site probably won't be doing anything prior to P25. As far as a new site out there is going, we just don't have a lot of resources to install it, but probably the best way to deal with the issues that we've seen out there are to patch the VHF and UHF resources in the area to an 800-megahertz call group. So, our plan is to schedule a meeting with Kane County to discuss that patching.

Tracy Glover: So that sounds good, Phil. I'm in Kane County, and obviously that coral pink area is difficult. One of the problems with patching there is that the moccasin of VHF site which is, I believe, is still owned and serviced by UCA. It's maybe one of the few VHF sites that you're continuing to maintain. It's been down and I'm not sure if the site itself might be working. So that's something we need to work together on with you guys and make it so that we can patch those together. Ultimately, we're happy to get together with you and look at a couple of options.

6. Report from P25 Manager Eric Larson

Eric had a family emergency and is being covered by Phill Krebs. We've got coverage testing for the P25 700 MHz on 119 sites. We have two sites, Daniels, and Dutton, that need civil remediation before testing can happen in those areas. This testing will take six months to complete. We still have 9 sites that need backhaul infrastructure. We've then got 12 solar sites that are turned on for testing and then

back off because they were not designed to handle both systems. We are still scheduled for Q1 of 2024 for system cutover. You'll note the L3 Harris has installed the Symphony consoles at the PSAP's along with interoperability gateways. The point [of the gateway] is to basically bridge the VHF/UHF and the 800 MHz system.

Andy Smith asked if the interoperability gateway will include county owned equipment.

Phil Krebs: I am not sure, but I will look into it. I know that each interoperability gateway is able to patch, I think 44 radios. So, if it is in the same room, it is just a wire away from being connected. If it is on a mountain top, that's a different question. We have had a lot of discussion about if the interoperability gateway should be located on the mountain top site or at the PSAP. We are not opposed to the mountain top option where the gateway is a 10-foot wire away.

7. Report from Interoperability Division Director Michael Veenendaal

The fleet map has been sent out to all agencies—it came out through PSAP's and directly to the chiefs and sheriffs. Please review the information and adjust as needed. There will be trainings coming up across the state. We are asking each agency to sign off on the fleet map so we can get it right the first time and move forward to the next step. We will be meeting with you to set radio personalities or code plug. We want to make sure that we get all of those personalities built—you may have several based of the way you do business. Our group continues to provide training and getting new radios ready to go out.

Tracy Glover asked about a joint SWAT exercise with Lewis and Clark County in Montana. We are in the planning phase and we were wondering if there is a way to tie the radio systems together.

Michael Veenendaal: Ok, we will look at that and see if we can do something.

Mike Mathieu asks a question about fleet mapping. I am trying to come up with an explanation, almost like a fleet mapping for dummies—meaning firefighters and police officers that don't deal with radios at the level we do. I am still confused. Please chime in and help me understand. How do the application of different talk group types work? Car-to car is self-explanatory. The regional channels are to be used within the regions like Weber, Morgan, and Davis counties. Those agencies in that footprint can interoperate on a regional channel. Then on a county events [channel], like our marathon, which is a planned event. That is what the county event channel was created for and meant for. And then there is OPS which is countywide which sounds like a countywide event. One is planned and the other is not. OPS is used for ongoing emergency events like a SWAT call or a fire ground event. But the footprint is essentially the same—if I understand that right. So could you address the difference between the county event and county OPS and then move out to the statewide channels; which I believe are called tac.

Michael Veenendaal: So events are for interoperability in the county where multiple agencies are coming together. OPS are more singular agency, but multiple agencies might have them. Events is going to be for those special things where you bring all county groups together for an event. So, the events channel are, to bring that interoperability within the county. The TAC channels are for regional events, where you are bringing somebody in from outside of your area that needs to communicate and operate. We are willing to come out and help present or train on anything and to answer questions.

Tracy Glover: Thanks for those questions and clarification

4 Remarks from acting UCA Director Tina Mathieu

Tracy Glover stated there had been a change in leadership at UCA, Quinn has resigned, and Tina Mathieu is now the acting Director of UCA. Tina asked to be moved down in the agenda because she was catching an Uber to her hotel. Those who are waiting their refunds for the radios because we changed the base model from the 185 to the 200—those refunds have been issued this week. Nate has been working on demos. We still have 2 to 2.5 million dollars for radios if anyone is interested. We have received all of the state radios. UHP has like 33 pallets of radios. We're getting all of the local radios, and I am in the process of putting together a huge order that will go in next week. Our goal, like Mike Veenendaal said earlier we will program and then deliver them to the agencies as soon as we can. That will obviously be contingent on getting the fleet maps authorization back—so we can build those code plugs. Another thing we are going to do, and a lot of you have heard and more information to come, but we are going to allow agencies to program their own radios. We will still build the code plug so that we can maintain the talk group integrity. Once the request comes in and the code plug is built, we will then ship that off to the designated person to program their radios. No fees per radio. More to come on this. We are meeting with the PSAP's on the 26th and letting them know there will be some software to purchase and some dongles, but it's pretty inexpensive. That is something in a new direction. The board meeting is next Wednesday. They will have a closed meeting to discuss opening the director's position and what process they will go through. So, we will know more next week.

Tracy Glover: I guess everyone is aware, Tina is the acting director. As the chair of this committee, I didn't realize I got to listen in on the board meeting and the PSAP meetings.

Mike Mathieu: That is why I didn't tell you, so you would for sure take over the chair. You are a non-voting member of the board now.

Tracy Glover: The first meeting I attended was probably a little more intense than most. But the one thing I realized was this—this committee is an advisory committee. I have learned a lot of things about the radio system, which has been beneficial to me. In this first meeting the board wanted our input. Each of us represents some demographic in public safety. Please reach out to your constituents.

Mike Mathieu: I just want to reiterate what you just said. We want to be a functioning committee. It is incumbent upon us to come up with issues and concerns. In terms of interoperability issues or anything else within the interoperability of the radio division that we can make UCA successful with our input instead of gripes to our fellow public safety providers. If something is not working funnel those to this committee and then we take those issues to UCA. We should try to come up with things to recommend if we can.

8. Good of the order

Brian Gwilliam: introduced himself as the Chief of the Lone Peak Police Department and as the President of the Utah Chiefs of Police Association.

Lynne Yocom: asked a clarifying question if this was an open public meeting and if it is posted, which it is.

Clint Smith: Asked for an invite to the board meeting to be sent out so it could be added to our calendars—if we have time we can attend the meeting. This will be sent out. If we are aware of the discussions the board is having it will help us be much more effective in our roles on the advisory board.

Tracy Glover: I agree. If we know the issues they are trying to deal with on their level, we will be more effective in advising them as we are called to do.

Andy Smith: Please pass on I have been impressed with the recent outreach, and the improvement on the programming side as well. There has been more communication in the last six or eight months than I have seen in a long time. We need to keep hammering home the interoperability between county VHF systems and systems in bordering states. Being able to cross-communication is vital. My hope is that we can get that solved this next year.

Tracy Glover: For those border counties we need better interoperability and I know Colorado and Arizona want better interoperability—it is obviously complicated.

Tina Mathieu: I just wanted to speak on the Arizona and Colorado comments. We have discussed this in-house, and we know it is something that is needed. For those of you that do live on the borders of other states, this is definitely on our radar, but we will need more input from you guys. Captain Trotta is setting up an appointment on that. We are engaged in that and want to have more communication and conversation on that issue. So, it is definitely on our radar. Lynne Yocom has been awesome on Navajo Mountain and I believe we can get on Navajo Mountain by October—We are working through the process.

Tracy Glover: Shared a story about a chase that went into Arizona. In the after action review the Arizona folks were talking about how they're trying to somewhat mirror what Utah has done for communications.

Rob Nelson: We are getting a lot of requests from other states. Can you tell us or at least tell us more about how Utah is doing things from a governance standpoint, from an interoperability standpoint and an overall cooperation standpoint. Technology exists to connect the border states but it is really up to the powers that be in those states and how they will get done and prioritized. The legislature is becoming more sensitive the Class 1 and 2 counties that have small communities that have been left out of funding for radios. The UCA team has been doing a good job communicating to their stakeholders. As we go forward into what is a very important year and into next year.

Mike Mathieu: I think it would be great to have UCA at any upcoming fire and , sheriff's, police chief's meetings to give updates and timelines. It is a critical year, and everyone needs to be engaged—UCA is happy to engage in any meetings.

Tina Mathieu: Please get your fleet mapping documents signed and sent back to us—that is going to be one of our biggest projects. We are looking for locations to program radios and we are looking at facilities that have big indoor areas, like fire station bays where we can set up shop out of the elements. There is a lot of things and lots of coordination to keep everyone on the same page. Maybe this committee needs to meet monthly.

If you purchased L3H radios we will program them as they come in and get them out to you. The Motorola radios will have to be programmed at cutover which will be a huge undertaking. If you have

locations in your area that you think would be a great to be able to pull patrol car through. Please reach out to us.

Tracy Glover: Please reach out to those who you represent and pass this information on. As committee members we need to take our assignment seriously—this is a big year.

Clint Smith: recommended that the committee meet monthly to keep up with the fast-paced year ahead of us. The group agreed and Sara will send out the invites to the meetings. we will meet on 26 June 2023 and then go to a monthly meetings for the remainder of the year. We will stick to the last Monday of the month, at 14:00, except December which will be on the 18th.

Nate Mutter: Has put together a radio demo and Q&A with L3 Harris and UCA. We will be doing demonstrations throughout the state. We will start off in Ogden in the morning of the 24th and be up in Logan later in the day. There will be demos in Utah County, Carbon County and Emery County. The 26th we will be in Vernal. Southern Utah May 22nd, Nephi, followed by Richfield, then Moab and then we will end up in Cedar City on Thursday. I believe UCA will be coming along with us to field any questions about the transition.

9. Next meeting 26 June 2023 at 14:00

10. Motion to adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Jared Rigby

Second: Andy Smith

Meeting Adjourned