

The Meeting of the Utah Communications Authority's Public Safety Advisory Committee

Location: Via WebEX Remote Meeting

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome: Colonel Mike Rapich

2. Roll Call

Board Present:

Andy Smith

Darin Adams

Mike Mathieu

TJ Brewer

Mike Rapich

Rob Nelson

Mike Phillips (need to renew membership)

Tracy Glover (need to renew membership)

Board Absent:

Kevin Rose

Jared Rigby

Lynne Yocom

3. Approval of June 8, 2021 Minutes

Motion: Andy Smith

Second: Mike Mathieu

4. Report from Interoperability Division

James Baker gave a presentation.

- Currently transitioning onto the UCA trunked System.
- Updates on Patch solutions from the conventional VHF to the trunked system.
- Parleys Canyon Fire Follow Up
 - Continued offering of communications support throughout the fire.
 - Event 10 was utilized by the request of UDOT
 - County Resources operated on the Sheriff's Office Service talk group
- Millard Fatal Crash
 - Confirmed state and local resources were able to communicate.

- Intermountain HealthCare is purchasing new trunked radios for pre arrival at the facilities in the area.
- Sevier County
 - SC is working towards migrating all the disciplines onto the trunked system.
 - We are currently reaching out to all the stakeholders to have a seamless migration from the legacy conventional system onto the trunked system.
- Recent Meetings
 - Basin dispatch (Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties) involving drive test of coverage
 - Box Elder (Box Elder Fire and UDOT shed utilizing Snowville site) involving drive test of coverage
 - Carbon County and City of Price involving drive test of coverage
 - Sevier County in the migration plans
 - Kane County meeting involving drive test of coverage

5. Report from Radio Division

a. P25 Deployment Update

Brad Morris - next site(s) coming on line:

Hanksville, Goslin, Copper Ridge, South Creek, Topper Rocks (Garfield County) will begin construction Sept 6th. Anticipate quick turnaround. Attempting everything we can to keep personnel safe. Working toward site remediation work.

Andy Smith - Question on interoperability group with Colorado.

Significant incidents occurring across the state - communications working really well.

6. Encryption

Chief Mathieu

Weber & Morgan Counties - all fire and law enforcement agencies met and discussed the need for encryption and ability to have interoperability. They made a policy for their area. Chief Mathieu gave the group this presentation with the suggestion that this advisory committee should take an active role in making a recommendation for all public safety users.

- Radio Encryption Information. Differing levels of encryption which indicate how long it would take for an individual to decipher.
- Why do we need it? Officer Safety, Scene Security, HIPAA Regulations.
- Levels of Encryption
 - DES Data Encryption Standard - Beginning level
 - DES OFB - next level

- AES Advanced Encryption Standard - top level, gold standard, unfathomable to decipher
- Encryption Keys - Single Keys vs Dual Keys
 - Single Key allows all public safety to communicate while maintaining integrity of encryption, cost effective, if a channel needs to be protected from other public safety the channel would not be programmed into individual radios.
- Radios
 - Motorola XTS 2500 - older radios being cycled out - cannot be encrypted
 - Motorola APX 6000 - current radio used, can be encrypted
 - Harris P25 - come equipped with encryption, cost unknown
- Recommendation - AES 256-bit Encryption, Single Key. Radios to be determined by each individual agency. Encryption will communicate effectively between radio systems which are programmed with the same channels.

Questions & Discussion.

James Baker - recognize that there is value with everyone having a single key, uniform across the state. Cost effective.

Tracy Glover - concern in rural Utah, equip every volunteer with a trunked radio may not be the "good guys". May not want them all to have a radio. James Baker - Could give them only your talk groups. Don't allow them to have LE frequencies.

We want to have a system that allows us to all work together. This would be a decision from the committee as reps from end-users. Take this back to your agencies and groups and come prepared to discuss at the next meeting. Chief Mathieu will share his slides with the group.

7. Action/Follow-up Items for Committee Members

Interoperability Training

Fleet Mapping

Committee Vacancies

Encryption - Action Item: Reach out to your groups/associations and present encryption information. Come back prepared to have a discussion and make recommendations.

Chief Mathieu will send out slides.

End User Equipment

8. Round Table

Sheriff Tracy Glover - mentioned the concern and need for a relationship to exist in an easy way for repairs to be made.

Dave Edmunds - we need service level agreements in place before we can respond, unless exigent circumstances that will threaten public safety. Please help get these agreements signed.

TJ Brewer - Hanksville Tower - will that cover Ticaboo? No, they are trying to figure it out but Ticaboo is in an area that is exceedingly hard to get radio coverage. They have committed to build a site at Bullfrog Marina to make an RF site.

9. Next Meeting

Tuesday, Oct 26 @ 3:00 pm

10. Meeting adjourned at 4:47 pm

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