



The Meeting of the Utah Communications Authority's Public Safety Advisory Committee
Location: Via WebEX Remote Meeting
Monday, January 10, 2022
Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome: Colonel Mike Rapich

2. Roll Call

Board Present:

Andy Smith

Clint Smith

Jared Rigby

Ken Wallentine

Kevin Rose

Lynne Yocom

Mike Mathieu

Rob Nelson

Tracy Glover

TJ Brewer

Mike Rapich

Board Absent:

Darin Adams

Mike Phillips

3. Approval of Minutes

November 17, 2021

Motion: Andy Smith

Second: Lynne Yocom

Vote: The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Election of Committee Chair

In the past the Vice Chair has been nominated to be the incoming Chair for the new year. The current Vice Chair is Ogden Fire Chief Mike Mathieu. The Board reviewed that the Chair and Vice Chair should be a representative from Fire and a representative from Law Enforcement; each seat would alternate between Fire and Law Enforcement.

Nominations: Sheriff Glover made a motion for Chief Mathieu to serve as the Chair of the Committee.

Motion was seconded by Andy Smith.

Vote: The motion passed with all in favor.

5. Election of Committee Vice Chair

Nominations: Colonel Rapich made a motion for Sheriff Glover to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee.

Motion was seconded by TJ Brewer.

Vote: The motion passed with all in favor.

6. Report from Interoperability Division

- Training and Strategy

An update was provided that there has been a transition period in this division with James Baker moving to the P25 Division and Mike Veenendaal joining as the Interoperability Division Director. An annual interoperability exercise will occur along with quarterly end user training in the future.

- Committee Concerns or Suggestions - Chief Mathieu reviewed the role of the advisory committee is to advise the Director and UCA Board on matters of concern as it relates to the radio network division or the interoperability division and provide for communication with end users.

The Hilldale Fire Chief is having issues with fleet mapping and will submit these issues.

7. Report from P25 Division

Harold Clements provided an update from the Radio Division stating L3 Harris has paused for the season as they cannot get to the site anymore. 119 FDC applications were needed for the 700 band and 107 have been granted by the FDC and the others are in process.

All of the equipment will be installed by the fall of 2022. Following that coverage testing will occur in the Spring of 2023 for the entire system. Migration will occur following the coverage testing. Once all users have migrated and the system has functioned without any issues for 30-days, UCA can officially sign for the system and begin removing the legacy system. If end users are purchasing radio equipment from L3 Harris, they will need to begin ordering these in 2023 and the migration will occur towards the end of 2023.

If a user were to use older P25 compliant equipment with the new system, the P25 radios will be reprogrammed and work on the new system. This will be scheduled by agency as the migration occurs. Most radios can hold both loads of the legacy and P25 systems. There will be some logistical management that will need to occur with those that cannot hold both loads. A patch will occur to allow communication across the two systems. The migration plan will be communicated to this Committee as soon as it is known to allow for further communication on challenges and logistics management with end users. As the sequencing of migration is determined this plan will need to be communicated out to the stakeholders.

8. Report from Radio Division

Brad Morris provided an update that they are struggling with impacts from COVID. They are working to keep the system running and there are working with different agencies to coordinate system changes. They are working on the network for system environmentals throughout the State are being overhauled; the routers are installed in support of the P25 update.

The group discussed the southeast region connection with Grand Junction and Colorado. Colorado preferred a consolette which has been provided. James Baker will be able to provide an update on this status in the future.

The group discussed option for Utah/Navajo sites. They have met with Navajo Health Systems and are discussing options for working together on sites. Lynne Yocom will work to assist in facilitating a meeting with UCA and the Navajo Nation Tribal Government for access and site approval.

A recent interoperability moment occurred between Utah and Arizona on the state line. When the incident crossed over into Arizona, there was a lack of radio communication. Arizona is preparing to do a major upgrade in the northern half of Arizona and will work with UCA to improve the interoperability across the Arizona state line.

9. Action/Follow-up Items

Chief Mathieu, Colonel Rapich, Sherriff Glover, Dave Edmunds, Quinn Stephens and James Baker are meeting to follow-up on the encryption discussion to understand all of the technical issues associated with this area. This item will be placed on the next meetings agenda to review with the entire committee to ensure that end users will be able to understand how encryption works.

10. Round Table

Appreciation was expressed to Colonel Rapich for assistance with helicopter access to be able to repair equipment.

Andy Smith stated there was a recent outage in December from a windstorm and they were unaware the system was down for a period. He stated that when their Dispatch contacted UCA, there was an issue of customer service. If this occurs in the future a request was made to report this to the Director immediately. There are several issues of coordination with this outage in that some of the infrastructure that was failing was not UCA equipment.

Appreciation was expressed to Colonel Rapich and Chief Mathieu serving as Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee for the last year.

11. Next Meeting

A minimum of four meetings should occur annually and the Committee agreed to meet every other month. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16th at 2 pm.

12. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 pm.