

Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission Business Meeting Packet



Videoconference Business Meeting
Held Wednesday, February 7, 2024





Mark Gordon
Governor

Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission

5300 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3340
Mark Harshman, Chairman | Telephone: 307-777-4015



Darin J. Westby, P.E.
Director

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Tentative Itinerary

Tentative Schedule of Events		
Event Timeline:	Event Description:	Event Location:
Tuesday, February 6, 2024 <i>Attire: Business Casual</i>		
Various – 1:45 P.M.	Fly/travel to Cheyenne	
2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	Education Session	WYDOT Headquarters Building Highway Development Conference Room 5300 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009
4:00 P.M. – 6:15 P.M.	Hotel Check-In & Time on Your Own <i>Group will meet in hotel lobby to head to dinner at 6:15 P.M.</i>	Little America 2800 W. Lincolnway Cheyenne, WY 82009
6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Commission & WYDOT Staff Dinner	Wyoming Rib & Chop House 400 W. Lincolnway Cheyenne, WY 82001
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 <i>Attire: Business Dress</i>		
7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M.	Breakfast & Hotel Check-out <i>Depart hotel by 8:15 A.M. to drive to meeting location.</i>	Hathaway's Restaurant 400 W. Lincolnway Cheyenne, WY 82001 <i>Reservation Name: Wyoming PSCC</i>
8:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.	Business Meeting	WYDOT Headquarters Building Auditorium 5300 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009
11:00 A.M.	Depart for Home	



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Darin J. Westby
Interim Director

Agenda

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. ROLL CALL**
- IV. INTRODUCTIONS**
- V. CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA (Tab 1)**
- VI. ACTION ITEMS**
 1. Consideration of October 25, 2023, Draft Meeting Minutes (Tab 2)
 2. Consideration of WyoLink Applications (Tab 3) – Mr. Gardiner
 - A. Dubois Police Department
 - B. South Lincoln Emergency Medical Service
 - C. Sheridan County School District #1
- VII. UPDATES/DISCUSSION**
 1. Director's Report – Director Westby
 2. Chief Technology Officer's Report – Mr. Smolinski
 - A. NG911 Updates
 - i. Lumen – Jeff Winkleman
 - ii. FCC Outage Reporting Requirements – David Furth
 - iii. Location-based Routing – Leela Parimisetty
 - B. WyoLink Funding/ARPA
 3. Emergency Communications Program Report – Mr. Kelly
 - A. 16-Tower Buildout Report (Tab 4) – Mr. Smolinski
 - B. WyoLink Operational Updates – Mr. Gardiner
 - i. WyoLink System Reports (Tab 5) – Mr. Gardiner
 - ii. WyoLink System Upgrades – Mr. Gardiner, Dave Reigert, & Kevin Parker

The order of agenda is subject to change. The State of Wyoming supports the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone needing aid should contact the Commission Secretary at 307-777-4015. Every effort will be made for reasonable accommodations.

- C. Statewide Interoperability Coordination Updates – Mr. Kelly and Mr. Smolinski
 - i. CISA Update – Jeremy Johnson
 - ii. PSCC Working Groups Update
- D. Commercial Emergency Communication Services Update – Mr. Kelly and Mr. Smolinski

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

X. ADJOURNMENT



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Draft Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

The Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) met in the I-80 Room of the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) Training Building on Wednesday, October 25, 2023. Chairman Mark Harshman presided, calling the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Mark Harshman, Chairman	Karl Germain, Commissioner
Monte McClain, Vice Chairman	Phillip Franklin, Commissioner
Dwane Pacheco, Secretary	Cindi Shank, Commissioner
Paul Bertoglio, Commissioner	Matt Waldock, Commissioner
Matt Carr, Commissioner	John Wetzel, Commissioner
Mike Choma, Commissioner	Darin Westby, Ex Officio

Commissioner Owen St. Clair was absent.

III. Introductions

The following attendees participated in the meeting:

Nathan Smolinski, Chief Technology Officer	Tracey Murdock, Senior Public Safety Advisor, FirstNet Authority
Mark Kelly, Emergency Communications Manager	Lesia Dickson, Area Director, FirstNet Authority
Neil Gardiner, WyoLink Support Manager	Garett Doyle, Regional Manager, AT&FirstNet
Aimee Binning, 911 Planning Coordinator	Kimberly Chapman, Commission Secretary
Tim Kunkleman, Regional Director, Lumen	

Susan Elliott assisted with virtual meeting management.

IV. Agenda Adjustments

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

V. Action Items

1. Draft Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Bertoglio, seconded by Commissioner Franklin, and unanimously carried to approve the August 9, 2023, business meeting minutes.

2. WyoLink Application

It was recommended by Mr. Gardiner, moved by Vice Chairman McClain, seconded by Commissioner Carr, and unanimously carried to approve the applications from Wind River Transit Authority, Pennington County, South Dakota, and Sheridan Area Search and Rescue.

Following a discussion on an application presented at the meeting by Classic Air Medical, the commission delayed consideration of the application until the February 7, 2024, business meeting. Commissioner Choma preferred that the WyoLink office staff review the application before the commission took action on it. Mr. Gardiner reminded the commission that typically private entities are sponsored by counties to access WyoLink talkgroups.

VI. Updates/Discussions

1. Director's Update

Mr. Smolinski presented a brief update from the director.

Recruitment and Retention

Mr. Smolinski reported that the director is working with Wyoming Administration and Information and the Human Resources Division to create hiring incentives to attract quality candidates and fill vacancies. These incentives are intended to be offered for positions agency-wide.

Mr. Smolinski reported that the agency was able to obtain pay increases for dispatchers, which will attract qualified applicants for dispatch vacancies.

Space Efficiency Study

Mr. Smolinski reported that the department has contracted a consultant to complete a space efficiency study. The study will evaluate WYDOT's current use of space in our facilities to determine if new construction or expansions are needed. The consulting firm will conduct a site visit before the end of the year and issue their recommendations in early 2024.

Joint Transportation, Highways, and Military Affairs Committee (JTC) Meeting

WYDOT leadership is preparing for the JTC meeting on November 3, 2023. Mr. Smolinski reported that WYDOT is monitoring several potential bills, including Bill Draft: 24LSO-0085 Light and high profile vehicle closures. The bill proposed increasing fines for violators to \$2,500 and [possible] loss of a driver's license. The department will monitor the progress of all transportation-related bills and update the commission as necessary.

2. Chief Technology Officer's Report

Mr. Smolinski presented his update, with additional information provided by Ms. Binning.

Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Update

Ms. Binning participated in the planning meetings for the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) and reported on the discussion surrounding 9-1-1 and NG9-1-1. The 9-1-1 funding deficit was a major concern, and participants discussed strategies to decrease the \$3.2 million deficit between 9-1-1 fees collected and services provided. One option identified by stakeholders is to expand the 9-1-1 fee category to capture more revenue, but this would require legislative action to accomplish.

Another concern identified by the stakeholders was cybersecurity. There are two major cybersecurity risks to 9-1-1 service: denials of service and swatting calls. A denial of service happens when multiple 9-1-1 calls are placed simultaneously and disrupt a telecommunicator's ability to answer legitimate calls. This is typically caused by robocalls to public safety answering points (PSAPs) using the 9-1-1 circuit and it can delay the response of emergency services to real emergency incidents.

Swatting calls are essentially prank calls to PSAPs requesting assistance with fake events that require the response of multiple agencies and entities. This limits the resources that will be available in a community for real emergency incidents. Ms. Binning reported that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has a database of active swatting incidents in the U.S. that is accessible to PSAPs and telecommunicators. She will share more information on this database at the Wyoming Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and National Emergency Number Association (NENA) meeting in November.

Cybersecurity Grants

Ms. Binning announced that cybersecurity grants are available through the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, which is facilitating the grants for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. She encouraged all stakeholders to work with their local emergency management coordinators to ensure the community has a cybersecurity plan. The funding may then be used to help the community develop a strong resistance to the cybersecurity threat.

Wyoming NG9-1-1 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Data Model Letter

Ms. Binning reported that a letter was sent to stakeholders on October 3, 2023, on behalf of the PSCC, to introduce the NG9-1-1 GIS Data Model. The letter encouraged stakeholders to begin gathering and compiling GIS data. Ms. Binning shared that some stakeholders have already expressed their willingness to implement the new standards.

In response to a question from Vice Chairman McClain, Ms. Binning said that no concerns about the model have been shared with her or the working group that developed the model.

9-1-1 Outages

Mr. Kunkleman, with Lumen, reported on recent 9-1-1 outages in Wyoming. A 10.5-hour outage event occurred on September 19, 2023, beginning in the early morning hours and lasting until early afternoon. The outage was caused by a maintenance malfunction at a third-party fiber facility—Lumen leases fiber facilities from two third-party vendors. During routine maintenance, the vendor's network was accidentally interconnected with Lumen's network and this caused many unusual system anomalies. Alarms misidentified the problem as a fiber cut, but the network was still operating to a degree that would not be possible in the event of a true fiber cut. The vendor did not notify Lumen of the issue's true cause until noon.

The Casper to Gillette fiber route, which is the only fiber route in that area, was impacted by the outage. Four PSAPs in Gillette, Campbell County, Crook County, and Newcastle were isolated from the system. While rerouting calls, Lumen experienced issues with PSAPs that serve as backups for each other but were simultaneously afflicted by the outage. The calls were ultimately rerouted to a wireless number because some wireless devices were still working.

Mr. Kunkleman reported that Lumen is unsure how many calls were unanswered or unsuccessfully rerouted. The company is able to provide a number of customers potentially affected by the outage.

Commissioner Shank shared information on outages and service disruptions in Lincoln County, and she encouraged Mr. Kunkleman to reach out to Lincoln County Emergency Management or the dispatch supervisor to investigate these incidents.

Vice Chairman McClain informed Mr. Kunkleman that many Wyoming PSAPs are not receiving the proper, federally mandated notifications of outages from Lumen. Ms. Binning shared that state 9-1-1 coordinators from several states were affected by the outage and received no notification or communication from Lumen. She reminded the commission that the Federal Communications Commission requires immediate notification of primary and secondary outages. Mr. Kunkleman stated that he would visit with Lumen's network operations center to investigate why PSAPs and state offices are not receiving outage notifications.

In response to a question from Chairman Harshman, Mr. Kunkleman shared that Lumen has initiated new protocols and procedures to improve communication between the company and third-party vendors following the September 19 outage.

WyoLink Funding/American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Mr. Smolinski updated the commission on the most recent expenditures of ARPA funds allocated to WYDOT for WyoLink. Of the total \$35 million award, \$4.5 million was used to purchase equipment for local entities and the equipment is beginning to be delivered.

Mr. Smolinski reported that an estimated \$13 million of the total award has been spent to date. The funds must be expended by the end of 2026.

Mr. Smolinski requested approval for a \$500,000 change order to the previously approved \$15 million contract with Motorola to provide updates to the microwave

system. The additional funds will be used to conduct structural analyses on existing tower sites. Part of the analyses will include geological and technical surveys of the tower foundations and surrounding ground. The analyses will provide structural data for an additional 25 sites, which the department presently lacks.

Following a question from the chairman, Mr. Smolinski shared that the contract will fund necessary repairs or mitigations of issues uncovered in the analyses.

Action: It was recommended by Mr. Smolinski, moved by Vice Chairman McClain, seconded by Commissioner Germain, and unanimously carried to approve the \$500,000 change order to conduct structural analyses of WyoLink tower sites.

3. Emergency Communications Program Manager's Report

Mr. Kelly provided an update on the Emergency Communications Program. The update also included information presented by Mr. Gardiner regarding WyoLink operations.

16 Tower Buildout Report

Mr. Smolinski provided additional information on a few of the tower sites included in the report. Fiber will soon be installed at the Lusk site and will complete construction at the site.

Fencing will be erected around the Evanston site to improve security.

Mr. Smolinski reported that the team worked with Motorola to create an accelerated schedule for the optimization of field network equipment. Equipment at the Newcastle and Meadowlark sites will be optimized next week and the Meadowlark tower should subsequently go online. Optimization at Kismet is scheduled for the following week. The site will initially operate on fiber and a microwave link will be added next year.

Mr. Smolinski explained the new icons on the WyoLink Local Towers and Locations Site Map. He highlighted the two new sites in Saratoga and Sheridan, which will be built with ARPA funds. Groundwork has commenced at both sites. Work at the northern Sheridan site will stop soon as it is on a wildlife refuge and motorized vehicle access to the site ends November 1. The team can continue work at the site for an additional one to two weeks with non-motorized access. Motorola has been instructed to complete surveys at the site as quickly as possible to ensure construction commences in May. Work will continue at the Saratoga site, which is a collocate with Union Wireless, until winter weather conditions halt construction.

WyoLink Operational Updates

WyoLink System Reports

Mr. Gardiner shared WyoLink usage data from the third quarter (Q3) of 2023. There was an average of about 2 million push-to-talks (PTT) and 144,424 minutes of airtime for the quarter, which is typical for the time of year. The top 20 talkgroups for Q3 were law enforcement agencies.

The commission agreed with Mr. Smolinski's suggestion to include data comparisons of usage between the same periods in multiple years.

In response to a question from Commissioner Wetzel, Mr. Gardiner shared that system capacity is not currently a concern but the team notes the amount of “busies” at each site. The team analyzes the cause of the “busies” to determine whether usage spikes are incident-driven or if additional channels are necessary.

WyoLink System Upgrades

Mr. Gardiner reported that the GTR fixed station/repeater upgrades are complete. Thirty-five sites have been upgraded since October 2022. Mr. Gardiner thanked Motorola, their subcontractors, and everyone involved for completing the upgrades.

Channels were added at several sites during the GTR upgrade process. The Copper Mountain site, near Shoshone, now has seven channels.

The equipment upgrades will allow the team to upgrade system software to a newer version (2022). The team has begun to process data in preparation for the software upgrade, which is currently scheduled for May 2024.

As a part of the upgrade, new core routers will be added in Casper and Cheyenne. The new routers are necessary for the system to transition to Ethernet from older technologies (T1 and DS3 connections) currently in use.

SAR and MPLS Project

Mr. Gardiner updated the commission on the SAR and MPLS project, also known as the microwave backhaul. Phase I of the project was to replace the service aggregation routers (SAR) in a loop from Cheyenne to Casper. Phase II extended the upgrades into the rest of the state. The last section to be upgraded is in Sheridan County and, weather permitting, should be completed soon. The upgraded technologies allow for more redundancy in the system, which in turn creates a stronger, more robust network.

Mr. Gardiner reported that the department has ordered two NFM-P servers to manage, maintain, and monitor the network and the SARs. The equipment will soon be upgraded with the latest firmware to ensure optimal system operation and facilitate improved system monitoring.

Mr. Smolinski shared that the goal of these projects and upgrades is to ensure that the system is reliable and has greater redundancy. The routers will be able to handle a dual-feed of microwave and fibers connections, which ensures a seamless transition between connections in the event of a failure.

Following a question from Chairman Harshman, Mr. Gardiner shared that the upgrades will provide new features to end users. More information on these features will be provided at future meetings.

Statewide Interoperability Coordination (SWIC) Updates

Mr. Smolinski and Mr. Kelly provided the SWIC updates.

Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) Update

Mr. Smolinski provided the commission with the September 2023 draft of the SCIP. The three-year plan was drafted using the input provided by stakeholders at online

meetings and an in-person workshop over the summer, and addresses the needs and priorities of local organizations and governments. The SCIP lays out goals that address land mobile radio (LMR), 9-1-1, broadband, alerts and warnings, cybersecurity, and funding. Each objective under a goal is assigned a specific “owner” to ensure that action is taken and the overall goal is achieved.

The goals outlined in the SCIP could be used to guide the work of the PSCC working groups. Mr. Smolinski suggested that the working groups could develop recommendations and possible actions for each of the objectives assigned to the PSCC, which the commission would approve or adopt.

Mr. Smolinski reviewed SCIP goals and objectives that are assigned to the PSCC [or working groups]. Objectives 1.3, 4.2, 5.7, and 7.1 are good tasks to assign to the working groups. The commission had no concerns with the objectives.

Action: It was recommended by Mr. Smolinski, moved by Commissioner Shank, seconded by Vice Chairman McClain, and unanimously carried to approve the SCIP as presented.

Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS) Update

Mr. Kelly reported that the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) offers subscribers priority access and processing on landline telephone networks during emergency incidents through the GETS program.

The Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) allow entities to register voice and data circuits that are critical to operations for priority access. The TSP program also gives registered circuits priority for repairs or reinstallation. Mr. Kelly is working with Enterprise Technology Services to register some Wyoming circuits.

The Wireless Priority Service (WPS) is similar to GETS, but subscribers are given priority access on wireless networks.

Program Update

Mr. Kelly reported that new radio and vehicle repeaters are scheduled to be installed in Wyoming Highway Patrol vehicles in WYDOT districts 1, 2, and 4 on December 4-12, 2023. BearCom will handle the installations.

Radio installations for the WYDOT fleet are progressing well: District 1 is 20 percent complete; Districts 2 and 3 are 70 percent complete, but will be 100 percent complete by the end of the month; District 4 is 40 percent complete; and District 5 is about 70 percent complete.

Mr. Kelly reported that the department still plans to donate old radios to local entities. He has received requests from 14 entities and 203 WYDOT radios are available. The total does not include 20 radios that were recently donated to Park County. Mr. Kelly stated that the program will begin fulfilling requests—the bulk of which are for portable radios—in early 2024.

In response to a question from Commissioner Shank, Mr. Kelly reported that the equipment requests have come from various types of local law enforcement, first responder, and emergency services entities around the state.

Critical Connect

Mr. Kelly reported that Montana has accepted the memorandum of understanding and it is under review by the Wyoming Attorney General's office. Once it is signed, the systems for the two states will be connected through Critical Connect. The MOU can be used as a model for adding other neighboring states.

Commercial Emergency Communications Services Update

Mr. Smolinski discussed stakeholder messaging on the Compact Rapid Deployable (CRD) units and Critical Connect. The commission agreed that messaging about each system should come from the PSCC.

FirstNet Progress Update

Mr. Smolinski introduced Tracey Murdock and Garrett Doyle, with AT&T and FirstNet Authority, and invited them to update the commission on the progress of the five-year network buildout in Wyoming.

Ms. Murdock reported that First Responder Network Authority, which is an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration, was created in 2012 in response to communication failures during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. FirstNet's purpose is to build, operate, and maintain an interoperable public safety broadband [wireless] network. FirstNet entered into a public-private partnership with AT&T to build out the network.

In 2017, states were allowed to opt in to FirstNet. A plan to buildout a network in Wyoming was presented to Governor Matthew Mead in June 2017 and the state opted into the system in July 2017. The plan committed to delivering a unique set of capabilities including a dedicated FirstNet core, the FirstNet deployable program, mission critical push-to-talk (PTT), high power user equipment, enhanced location-based services (z-axis), a dedicated 24-hour security operations center, and more.

Ms. Murdock shared that FirstNet relies on feedback and engagement with public safety professionals to build the network with the capabilities and features that local communities need. Mr. Doyle stressed that all participating states, no matter how many subscribers, are given equal opportunity to provide input on the network.

Ms. Murdock shared some of FirstNet's innovative strategies to improve the network. Network features and services are tested and verified at a lab in the FirstNet Technical Headquarters in Boulder, Colorado. Additionally, FirstNet has partnered with the Public Safety Research Center to conduct immersive simulations that provide cost-effective ways to train first responders. FirstNet has also partnered with the Third Generation Partnership Project to develop international standards for mobile telecommunications and public safety communications.

Mr. Doyle reported that over 27,000 public safety agencies and organizations are subscribed nationwide, and approximately 5.3 million devices are using FirstNet for primary communication. FirstNet offers 2.91 million square miles of coverage and ranks as one of the top five cellular providers in the U.S.

Mr. Doyle provided an overview of FirstNet operations in Wyoming. Over 100 Wyoming agencies and 40 communities use FirstNet, and thousands of subscriber units are on the system. Laramie and Natrona counties have the highest concentration of subscribers. Mr. Doyle reported that AT&T FirstNet has exceeded its original commitment to the state on Band 14 coverage. Over 200 tower sites in Wyoming transmit Band 14, which is a segment of the radio spectrum reserved for emergency communications. AT&T has invested \$90 million in the Wyoming network since 2020.

Mr. Doyle reported that public safety continues to drive innovation. AT&T remains committed to improving the mission critical communications and PTT ecosystem. Mr. Doyle shared that AT&T recognizes that LMR interoperability is a crucial component of mission critical communications for users. He reported that advancements in high-powered equipment has helped AT&T expand networks and extend the reach of cellular communications, which is critically important in rural states like Wyoming.

Mr. Doyle reported that AT&T sends part of the user fees back to FirstNet for reinvestment into the network. He stressed the importance of providing feedback to AT&T and FirstNet as local needs and individual agency priorities will guide reinvestments into the network.

Mr. Doyle and Ms. Murdock praised Wyoming for leading innovation in interoperability through efforts to integrate LMR and LTE networks using Critical Connect.

Ms. Dickson reported on the future direction of FirstNet Authority FirstNet is focused on monitoring AT&T's performance to ensure the public-private partnership is successful, and that together, FirstNet and AT&T are fulfilling commitments made to Wyoming and other states. The Authority uses deliverables to assess AT&T's performance and progress against contract objectives.

FirstNet plans to use congressional allocations and user fees from AT&T to expand the deployable fleet, enhance the FirstNet core for 5G network capabilities, and improve in-building coverage and resiliency. Ms. Dickson reported that FirstNet is committed to working with public safety professionals to ensure their needs are considered in decisions on network evolution, service improvements, and coverage enhancements.

VII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VIII. Recognition of Outgoing Commissioner

Chairman Harshman recognized former commissioner Jonathan Downing—whose term ended on June 30, 2023—and thanked him for his many years of service to the PSCC.

IX. Announcements

Ms. Chapman introduced Sara DiRienzo, Governor Gordon's policy advisor on transportation, gaming, wildlife, and workforce issues.

Ms. Chapman presented the proposed commission meeting schedule and commissioners provided feedback on meeting dates and locations. Chairman Harshman

requested a third in-person meeting and asked the staff to review the budget to determine if an additional in-person meeting is possible.

X. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Bertoglio, seconded by Vice Chairman McClain, and unanimously carried to adjourn the October 25, 2023, business meeting at 11:38 a.m.



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Draft Education Session Minutes

An education session was held for the Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) in the I-80 Room of the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) Training Building at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

The following commission members were present, constituting a quorum.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mark Harshman, Chairman | Phillip Franklin, Commissioner |
| Monte McClain, Vice Chairman | Karl Germain, Commissioner |
| Dwane Pacheco, Secretary | Cindi Shank, Commissioner |
| Paul Bertoglio, Commissioner | Matt Waldock, Commissioner |
| Matt Carr, Commissioner | John Wetzel, Commissioner |
| Mike Choma, Commissioner | Darin Westby, Ex Officio |

Commissioner Owen St. Clair were absent.

The following WYDOT staff and guests were present and participated in the session.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Nathan Smolinski, <i>Chief Technology Officer</i> | Vince Garcia, <i>Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program Manager</i> |
| Mark Kelly, <i>Emergency Communications Manager</i> | Suzie Roseberry, <i>GIS/ITS Developer</i> |
| Neil Gardiner, <i>WyoLink Support Manager</i> | Kimberly Chapman, <i>Commission Secretary</i> |

WYDOT/County Collaboration for Road Reporting & Blow Over Risk Messaging

Mr. Garcia and Ms. Roseberry presented information to the commission on road condition reporting and the new blow over program. Ms. Roseberry reported that a major issue during the previous winter(s) was navigation systems routing travelers onto impassable or closed county roads when [highway] road closures are in effect. Travelers were stranded on impassable roads and had to be rescued by county staff and first responders.

Ms. Roseberry is working with the counties to identify roads that will automatically show as closed on the WyoRoads map when WYDOT closes highways. WYDOT will then provide this same information to third party navigation companies via a centralized data feed.

Following a question from Commissioner Choma, Ms. Roseberry stated that WYDOT is working with all of the counties to identify specific county road closures in relation to closures on certain segments of highways. In response to a question from Commissioner

Shank, Mr. Garcia shared that it only takes a few seconds for information from WYDOT's centralized data feed to be shared with third party companies and integrated into their maps.

Ms. Roseberry reported that WYDOT provides data to the Situational Data Exchange (SDX), which hosts information for the Connected Vehicle project and for third party navigation companies. The SDX, which originated with the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and is now controlled by Trihydro, is a nationwide information source for data providers and consumers. WYDOT provides information on road conditions and closures, construction, and incidents to the SDX. WYDOT provides information to Sirius XM, Google (Waze), and TomTom through the SDX.

The navigation companies need certain pieces of information from WYDOT such as roadway line work and limits of a closure, begin and end time of closure, a reason for the closure, and who is included in the closure.

WYDOT met with the counties last spring to discuss proposals for improved information sharing and to collect local needs and concerns. The department must have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in place with a county to document expectations and customizations for the program.

Ms. Roseberry reported that program participation is at no cost to the counties, but the counties must agree to share GIS data with WYDOT. The department has also requested that counties document all incidents of navigation companies misrouting drivers onto impassable county roads, especially if the incident necessitates a search and rescue operation. This will help determine if WYDOT should contact the navigation company responsible for the event about further information sharing.

Ms. Roseberry reported that 14 Wyoming counties have agreed to participate in the program to date. MOUs have been received from two counties, with an additional five counties working to complete a MOU. Following a question from Commissioner Carr, Mr. Garcia and Ms. Roseberry shared that they contacted county emergency/risk management officials and county road and bridge departments about participation in the program.

Following a question from Vice Chairman McClain, Mr. Garcia said that the preference is for counties to notify WYDOT of county road closures as soon as possible for weather or incident related closures, and well in advance of seasonal closures. For seasonal closures, Mr. Garcia prefers that counties work with WYDOT the summer before the closure goes into effect to identify what roads will be closed and discuss contingencies for closures. In response to a question from Commissioner Wetzel, Mr. Garcia said that that counties have the option to leave roads open to local traffic.

High Wind Blow Over Briefing

Mr. Garcia provided the commission with information on WYDOT's new Blow-over Safety System and the research used to develop the program. Mr. Garcia reported that WYDOT alerts drivers to wind events through pre-trip information systems such as the WYDOT website, the Commercial Vehicle Operator Portal (CVOP), the 511 phone system and mobile application, text and email alerts, YouTube video forecasts, and social media.

Drivers are also alerted to wind events on roadside information systems—dynamic message signs (DMS), highway advisory radios, and road weather information systems. In-vehicle systems such as Google, TomTom, and Sirius XM can alert drivers of high winds.

Ms. Roseberry shared 2022 statistics on the pre-trip information systems usage.

- The 511 Notify system sent 31 million messages to 118,000 subscribers.
- The Wyoming Travel Information Service (WYOROAD) website received 2.2 billion hits.
- The 511 phone system received over 250,000 calls, but that total is similar to previous years as other systems continue to grow in usage.
- The CVOP shares specialized weather forecasts—including surface visibility and wind forecasts—with 2,600 registered users.
- The 511 mobile app has over 530,000 unique users. Website usage continues to increase dramatically every year.

Ms. Roseberry shared statistics on roadside information systems for the same period.

- There were 129,188 updates to 162 dynamic message signs and 42,851 updates to 218 variable speed limit signs/devices.
- The record low temperature recorded by the road weather information system indicators was -43.6 degrees Fahrenheit in Deer Haven.
- The 224 webcams in the state captured 126 million images in 2022, which is 14 terabytes of data.
- Snowplow drivers and road maintainers submitted over 214,000 condition reports in 2022.

Mr. Garcia detailed the history of the blow over risk messaging program. In 2011, the department noted an increase of multi-vehicle blow over events. This prompted staff to perform historical reviews and analysis of similar events in specific locations. For example, staff found that every time winds reached 65 miles per hour in Bordeaux there was at least one blow over incident.

The staff began to consider strategies to decrease blow over incidents and implemented the first use of closures to light, high-profile vehicles in 2011. The early closures were limited to wind speeds of 60 miles per hour or stronger in consideration of commercial operators.

Mr. Garcia reported that despite these efforts, blow over incidents continued to increase. During the May meeting of the Joint Transportation, Highways, and Military Affairs Committee (JTC) meeting, legislators discussed this issue and asked WYDOT to more clearly define what constitutes a light, high profile vehicle. Mr. Garcia shared that it is very difficult to set a definition as a number of factors can affect blow over risk including the loading and weight of a vehicle, wind gust speeds, wind direction, roadway geometry, roadway surface condition, the shape of the vehicle, and the driver's experience level.

Mr. Garcia reported that there are other reasons that high wind blow over events are increasing. Blow over incidents are occurring more often because strong wind events are increasing in intensity and frequency. Newer models of light-weight tractor-trailers are designed and manufactured for greater fuel efficiency, but the trailers are more likely to

blow over and clean-up time is increased. There are also more empty trucks on Wyoming highways because of the new distribution centers in Cheyenne and Laramie. Another reason is human complacency, which is due to the nebulous definition of light, high-profile vehicles and the increased frequency of general warnings on strong wind events.

Dr. Noriaki Ohara, a professor at the University of Wyoming, recently conducted research on blow over risk on Interstate 25, south of Cheyenne. The data from his research may be extrapolated to other locations and it provides risk levels for tractor-trailer combinations—the typical 53-foot box truck. Mr. Garcia reported that WYDOT data indicates that tanker trucks and flatbed trailers are less likely to blow over during strong wind events.

Mr. Garcia shared that several new insights were gained from Dr. Ohara's research. The data showed that cross slope, or superelevation, increases blow over risk. Dr. Ohara found that a slight head-wind is more dangerous to trucks than a direct, broadside gust. The research also confirmed that lighter vehicles are more prone to blowing over regardless of wind direction.

Based upon the research, WYDOT contracted Dr. Ohara to create tables that calculate blow over risk based on superelevation and wind speed. He created several tables for vehicles of different weights, in 5,000-pound increments.

WYDOT will use Dr. Ohara's research to enhance operational systems through the department's current capabilities—pre-trip, roadside, and in-vehicle information. The department will create an operational pre-event system to provide forecasts with predicted timings of wind events, locations, and classes of vehicles (by weight) subject to closures.

Additionally, WYDOT will create an operational system to improve enforcement of closures. The department will utilize the dynamic message signs to clearly target weight limits and discontinue general warnings. WYDOT will also create a tool for drivers to self-assess blow over risk through a web application. The program is currently developing a full evaluation process.

WYDOT will initially focus on implementing weight-based closures only on interstate highways. The interstates have more dynamic message signs to alert the traveling public and adequate environmental sensors to analyze real-time wind data. The interstates also have a higher volume of truck traffic, which have a higher blow over risk.

Mr. Garcia reported that segments of highways will be closed during wind events. Major communities along the interstates—where there are adequate resources for halted traffic—will serve as decision points for the segmented closures. There is adequate electronic signage around each of the 13 chosen communities to provide up-to-date information to drivers.

The messages will be specific and targeted to different classes of vehicles, and updated hourly to avoid frequent disruptions. Messaging will eliminate the ambiguous phrase "light, high profile vehicles," but will retain "extreme blow over risk." WYDOT will post weight-based closures on pre-trip travel information systems and third party navigation companies through the SDX.

Mr. Garcia reported that current state laws do not penalize drivers who violate wind closures. The JTC is considering legislation that would enact fines up to \$2,500 for weight-based closure violators and a potential loss of the operator's commercial driver's license.

Mr. Garcia informed the commission that WYDOT has contracted Dr. Ohara to conduct a two-year study of the new program. Dr. Ohara will evaluate the efficacy of the strategies, determine if the frequency of blow over events decreased, and make recommendations for further operational improvements.

Mr. Garcia and Ms. Roseberry reported that the new strategies should be implemented during the next high wind event. The messaging will initially appear only on the dynamic message signs. The team should have the most commonly used public information systems updated to display the weight-based closures by early 2024.

Compact Rapid Deployable (CRD) and High Frequency (HF) Trailer Demonstrations

A CRD unit and the HF trailer were set up outside the WYDOT-U Training building for a live demonstration. The commission was able to inspect both units and Mr. Smolinski explained their operation and conditions for deployment. Mr. Smolinski requested that commissioners think about recommended locations for placement of the second CRD and providing guidance on public messaging for the CRD units.

Overview and Tour of WyoLink Office

Messrs. Smolinski, Gardiner, and Kelly gave the commissioners a tour of the WyoLink office in the basement of the Planning Building. Commissioners were shown the control and equipment rooms for WyoLink, and Telecomm offices and equipment.

Mr. Gardiner demoed the WyoLink control systems for the group. The live map of statewide tower sites was of particular interest as it allowed commissioners to see real-time WyoLink radio traffic and call volume.

The education session adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

**WYOLINK and WYOMING MUTUAL AID
APPLICATION FOR SYSTEM ACCESS OR NEW TALKGROUP**

Date: 11-15-23

Requesting Agency: Dubois Police Department

Type of Request New Talkgroup Request
 New Member
 Other _____

Type of Agency **First Responder**
 Law Enforcement
 Fire Department
 Emergency Medical Service
 Homeland Security
 Communications Center
 Other _____

Emergency Response Support
 Transportation
 Support – Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc.
 Weather Service
 Public Works
 Court Services
 Regulatory
 Other _____

Radio System WyoLink
 Mutual Aid
 SALECS

Reason for Request: A non-governmental entity shall apply for WyoLink Membership with the sponsorship of a public safety agency, attach letter from sponsoring public safety agency.

Law Enforcement Related Communication

(Attach Supporting Documentation)


Name of individual completing application: Sean Hampton

Title: Chief of Police

Address: 712 Meckem St. Dubois, WY 82513

Phone: 307-455-2345

E-Mail Address: dubois.wy.pd@gmail.com

Signature:  _____

Send Completed Application to:

WyoLink
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009
E-Mail Address: wyolink@wyo.gov

Mutual Aid Channel Approval: _____
(If Requested) Wyoming Highway Patrol

Please complete the following for Mutual Aid Request:

Number of Mobile Radios: 5

Number of Portable Radios: 4

Number of Dispatch Centers: 1 (Fremont County Sheriff dispatches DPD)
(Control Stations)

8-31-2017

**WYOLINK and WYOMING MUTUAL AID
APPLICATION FOR SYSTEM ACCESS OR NEW TALKGROUP**

Date: 1-8-24

Requesting Agency: South Lincoln EMS

Type of Request New Talkgroup Request
 New Member
 Other _____

Type of Agency **First Responder**
 Law Enforcement
 Fire Department
 Emergency Medical Service
 Homeland Security
 Communications Center
 Other _____

Emergency Response Support
 Transportation
 Support – Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc.
 Weather Service
 Public Works
 Court Services
 Regulatory
 Other _____

Radio System WyoLink
 Mutual Aid
 SALECS

Reason for Request: A non-governmental entity shall apply for WyoLink Membership with the sponsorship of a public safety agency, attach letter from sponsoring public safety agency.

New member. Have received via grant
WyoLink compat.ble Radios

(Attach Supporting Documentation)

Name of individual completing application: Scott Meyers

Title: EMS Supervisor

Address: 711 Onyx Kemmerer WY 83101

Phone: 307-800-8686

E-Mail Address: SMeyers@SLAd.org

Signature: 

Send Completed Application to:
WyoLink
Wyoming Department of Transportation
5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, WY 82009
E-Mail Address: wyoink@wyo.gov

Mutual Aid Channel Approval: _____
(If Requested) Wyoming Highway Patrol

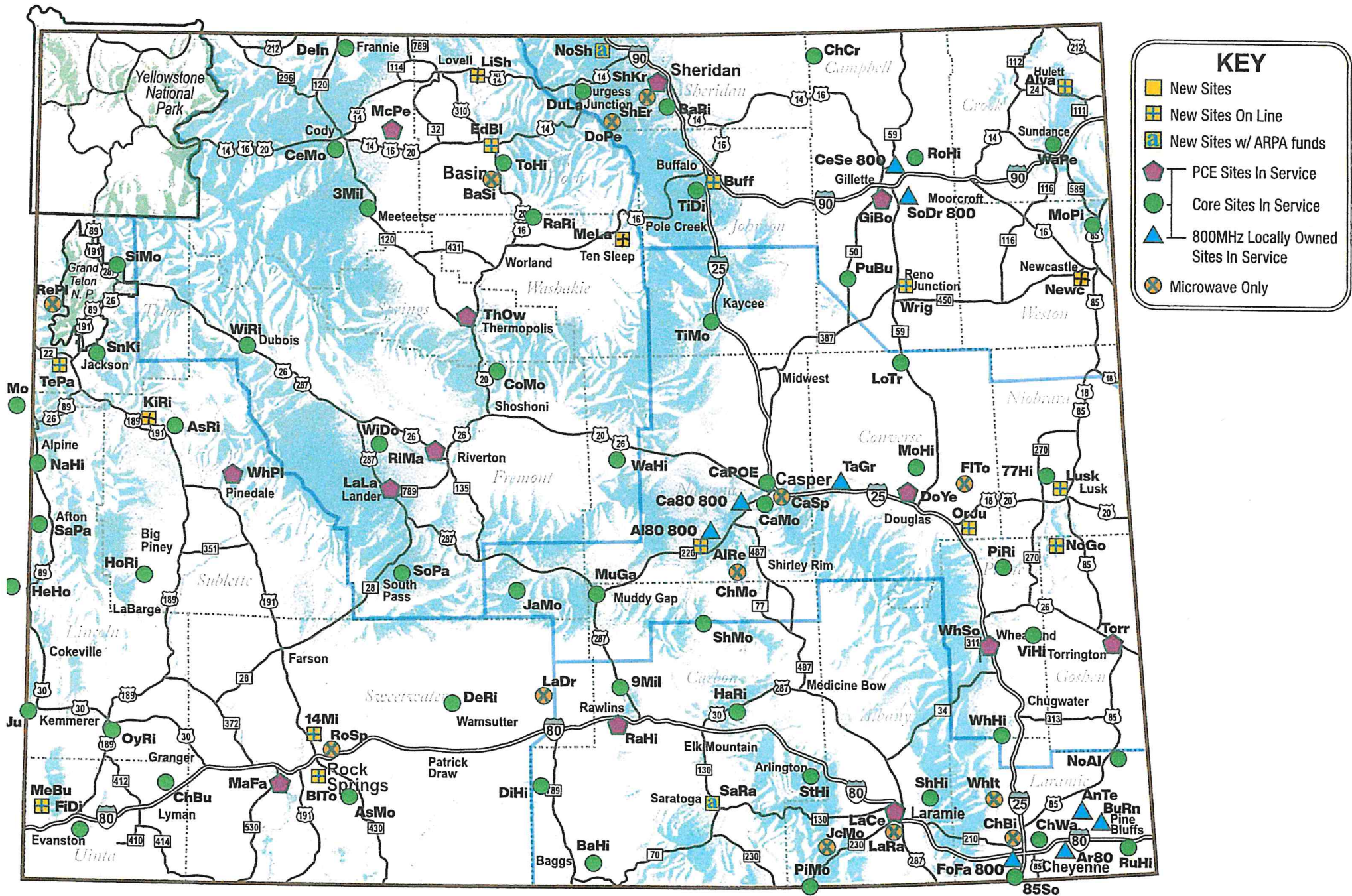
Please complete the following for Mutual Aid Request:

Number of Mobile Radios:

Number of Portable Radios:

Number of Dispatch Centers:
(Control Stations)

WyoLink Local Towers and Locations Site Map



KEY

- New Sites
- New Sites On Line
- New Sites w/ ARPA funds
- PCE Sites In Service
- Core Sites In Service
- 800MHz Locally Owned Sites In Service
- Microwave Only

4th Qtr 2023



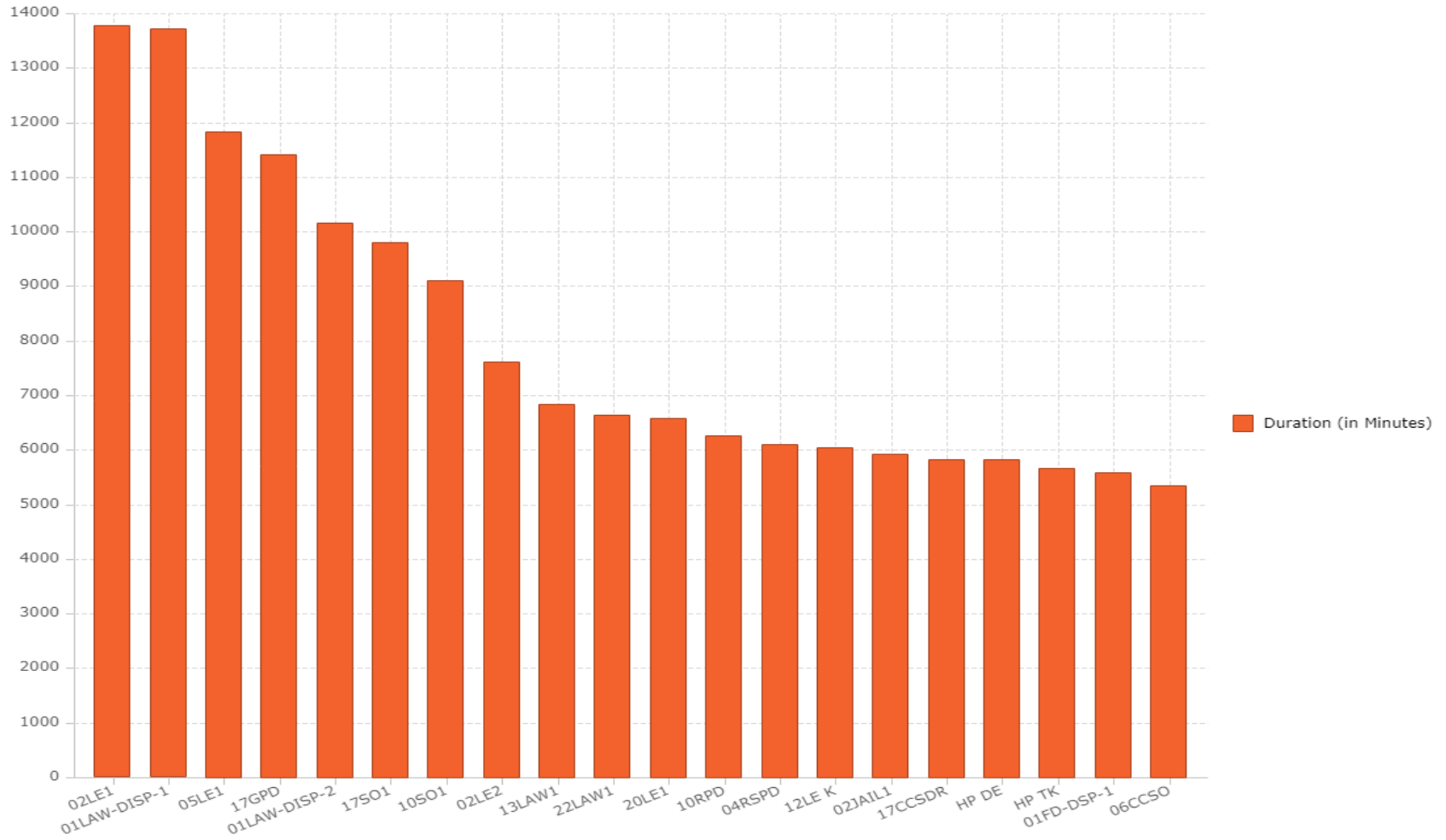
SYSTEM STATISTICS 2024

MONTH	PTTs	AIRTIME (minutes)
October '23	1,577,645	133,413.86
November '23	1,531,045	129,257.57
December '23	1,550,019	131,316.53

SYSTEM STATISTICS 2023

MONTH	PTTs	AIRTIME (minutes)
October '22	1,572,372	131,898.8
November '22	1,440,346	123,555.0
December '22	1,603,303	138,221.4

TOP 20 TALKGROUPS





Mark Gordon
Governor

Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission

5300 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3340
Mark Harshman, Chairman | Telephone: 307-777-4015



Darin J. Westby, P.E.
Director

Terms & Acronyms Reference

AAR/IP	After Action Report/Improvement Plan
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials
ANSI/TIA	American National Standards Institute
APCO	Association of Public Safety Communication Officials
APIC	Association Project 25 Interface Committee
APWA	American Public Works Association
ARRL	American Radio Relay League
ASK	Advance System Key
BIDP	Border Interoperability Demonstration Project
CDP	Center for Domestic Preparedness
CIO	Chief Information Officer
COML	Communications Unit Leader
COMU	Communications Unit
CTO	Chief Technical Officer
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DUNS	Data Universal Numbering System
E911	Enhanced 911
EHP	Environmental & Historic Preservation
EMI	Emergency Management Institute
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FCCA	Forestry Conservation Communications Association
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency

FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FIRSTNET	The National Public Safety Broadband Network
FPIC	Federal Partnership for Interoperable Communications
FRG	First Responders Group
GAA	Grant Award Agreement
GETS	Government Emergency Telecommunications Service
GHSAC	Governors Homeland Security Advisors Council
GPD	Grant Programs Directorate
HSGP	Homeland Security Grant Program
HSIN	Homeland Security Information Network
IAB	Interagency Board
IACP	International Association of Chiefs of Police
IAEM	International Association of Emergency Managers
IAFC	International Association of Fire Chiefs
ICMA	International City/County Management Association
KMF	Key Management Facility
LETPA	Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities
LMR	Land Mobile Radio
LTE	Long Term Evolution
MCC	Major Cities Chiefs Association (Police)
MCSA	Major County Sheriffs' Association
NACO	National Association of Counties
NASF	National Association of State Foresters
NASCIO	National Association of State Chief Information Officers
NASEMSO	National Association of State EMS Officials
NASNA	National Association of State 911 Administrators

NASPO	National Association of State Procurement Officers (replaced WISCA)
NASTD	National Association of State Technology Directors
NATOA	National Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors
NCAI	National Congress of American Indians
NCHRP	National Cooperative Highway Research Program
NCJA	National Criminal Justice Association
NCSL	National Conference of State Legislatures
NCSWIC	National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators
NDPC	National Domestic Preparedness Consortium
NECP	National Emergency Communications Plan
NEMA	National Emergency Management Association
NEMSMA	National EMS Management Association
NENA	National Emergency Number Association
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NG911	Next Generation 911
NGA	National Governors Association
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NLC	National League of Cities
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
NPSTC	National Public Safety Telecommunication Council
NSA	National Sheriffs' Association
NTED	National Training & Education Division's
OCTO	Office of the Chief Tech Officer
OEC	Office of Emergency Communications (Dept. of Homeland Security)
OPM	Office of Personnel Management
OTAR	Over The Air Rekeying

P25	Project 25 Radio network
P25 SOR	Project 25 Statement of Requirements
PEIS	Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
POC	Point of Contact
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
PSCC	Public Safety Communications Commission
RDPC	Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium
RECCWG	Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Work Group
RIC	Regional Interoperability Committees (subcomponent of NCSWIC)
S&T	Science & Technology
SAA	State Administrative Agency
SAC	Senior Advisory Committee
SAFECOM	Safety Communiqué (works in conjunction with NCSWIC)
SAT Phones	Satellite Phones
SCIP	Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan
SEARCH	National Consortium of Justice Information Statistics
SHSP	State Homeland Security Program
SIGB	Statewide Interoperability Governing Body
SLIGP	State & Local Implementation Grant Program
SOR	Statement of Requirements
SPOC	State Point of Contact
SPR	State Preparedness Report
STA	Science & Technology Agency
STO	State Training Officer
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
TA	Technical Assistance

TIA	Telecommunications Industry Association
THIRA	Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
TSBs	Telecommunications Systems Bulletins
TSP	Telecommunications Service Priority
UCM	U.S. Conference of Mayors
UNS	User needs Subcommittee
WOHS	Wyoming Office of Homeland Security
WPS	Wireless Priority Service



Mark Gordon
Governor

Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission

5300 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3340
Mark Harshman, Chairman | Telephone: 307-777-4015



Darin J. Westby, P.E.
Director

Wyoming State Statute, Title 09 Article 11 Public Safety Communications Commission

9-2-1101 – Commission; created; definitions.

- (a) The public safety communications commission is created.
- (b) As used in W.S. 9-2-1101 through 9-2-1104:
 - (i) "Public safety agency" means any federal, state or political subdivision entity that provides emergency and public safety services, including state agencies employing peace officers enumerated in W.S. 6-1-104(a)(vi)(C) through (F) and approved for participation by the communications commission, fire management services, correctional services, emergency management, emergency and disaster relief services and if desired, county, municipal and federal law enforcement agencies;
 - (ii) "System" means the wireless communications network providing regional and statewide radio communications capabilities to public safety agencies.

9-2-1102 – Commission; composition; appointment of members; removal; terms; officers; vacancies; meetings.

- (a) The commission shall consist of thirteen (13) voting members to be appointed by the governor and who may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. The voting members shall be appointed from each of the following associations and agencies from their membership:
 - (i) Wyoming police chiefs association;
 - (ii) Wyoming sheriffs association;
 - (iii) Division of criminal investigation, office of the attorney general;
 - (iv) Wyoming game and fish department;
 - (v) Wyoming department of transportation;
 - (vi) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 17, § 2.
 - (vii) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 17, § 2.
 - (viii) Wyoming fire chiefs' association;
 - (ix) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 17, § 2.
 - (x) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 17, § 2.

- (xi) The public at large;
 - (xii) An ambulance and emergency medical services organization;
 - (xiii) The Wyoming association of municipalities or another municipal government association;
 - (xiv) The Wyoming county commissioners association or another county government association;
 - (xv) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 17, § 2.
 - (xvi) Tribal government or a tribal government association;
 - (xvii) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 17, § 2.
 - (xviii) A member of the Wyoming chapter of the association of public safety communications officials or the national emergency number association;
 - (xix) The Wyoming office of homeland security.
- (b) Repealed by Laws 1991, ch. 121, § 2.
- (c) The commission shall elect from its members a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary. Vacancies in these offices shall be filled by the commission from its membership. The commission shall meet at least once every three (3) months. Appointments by the governor shall be made within thirty (30) days of expiration of membership terms. Nominee lists shall be furnished within ten (10) days upon expiration of any membership term. Each member shall serve a three (3) year term. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term by the governor.
- (d) The person appointed to the commission pursuant to paragraph (a)(v) of this section shall be the chief technology officer of the Wyoming department of transportation or another employee of the Wyoming department of transportation who oversees information technology or telecommunications systems.

9-2-1103 – Commission; compensation of members.

Members of the commission shall receive mileage and per diem provided state employees.

9-2-1104 – Commission; powers and duties; advisory capacity to promote system development; public meetings; clerical and administrative support.

- (a) The commission shall:
- (i) Work with the state budget department, the department of enterprise technology services, the department of homeland security and the department of transportation in an advisory capacity to promote the development, improvement and efficiency of public safety communications systems in the state;

- (ii) Report in writing each year to the governor and the joint transportation, highways and military affairs interim committee concerning any problems related to the installation, operation and maintenance of the system and shall make any recommendations it deems appropriate as a part of the report;
 - (iii) Submit a plan for statewide system networking to the department of enterprise technology services for inclusion in the statewide telecommunications plan developed pursuant to W.S. 9-2-2906(g);
 - (iv) In cooperation with participating federal agencies, establish and assess user fees upon any federal law enforcement agency electing to use and participate in the system;
 - (v) Promulgate necessary rules and regulations governing system operation and participation and upon failure to comply with adopted rules and regulations, may suspend system use and participation by any participating and noncomplying public safety agency or private entity;
 - (vi) Determine the participation of public safety agencies and private entities in the wireless communications network;
 - (vii) On or before May 31 of each odd numbered year, submit to the governor and the joint transportation, highways and military affairs interim committee a report covering the period beginning July 1 of the following year and ending June 30 in the fourth succeeding year detailing the expected costs of implementing the statewide system networking plan. The report shall include projections of one-time and recurring costs;
 - (viii) Recommend guidelines and standards for the development, implementation and operation of next generation 911 emergency communications systems and interoperable public safety communications and data systems in the state, including strategies for improving Wyoming's current 911 system. As part of the recommendations developed under this paragraph, the commission may identify short-term and long-term technological and policy solutions that integrate existing legacy communications infrastructure into an interoperable system and may develop and submit recommendations for legislation or other state action to further develop and support next generation 911 operations in Wyoming;
 - (ix) Promulgate necessary rules and regulations governing next generation 911 system operation and participation.
- (b) The commission may hold public meetings throughout the state and may take other appropriate measures to maintain close liaison with regional, county and municipal organizations and agencies involved in the system.
- (c) Necessary clerical and administrative support for the commission shall be furnished by the Wyoming department of transportation.

9-2-1105 – Repealed By Laws 2004, Chapter 41, § 2.

9-2-1106 – Repealed By Laws 2004, Chapter 41, § 2.

