

Minutes

New England Region 700MHz Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

List of Attendees:

George Pohorilak	DPS-OSET, State of Connecticut, Chairman
Jerry Zarwanski	DPS-OSET, State of Connecticut, Vice-Chairman
James Warakois	Boston, MA, Police Communications, Secretary
Stephan Brown	CT State Aviation and Port
George Carbonell	CT DOT
Stephen Verbil	Verbil Communications, Inc.
Robert DiBella	Town of Glastonbury, CT
Mark Cady	Worcester, MA, Fire
Terry Lavalley	VT State Police
Elliot Derdak	Boston, MA, EMS
Bob Cruikshank	Motorola
Ralph R. Thomson	Worcester, MA
Thomas Crotty	RI State Police
Gary Gutowski	MA State Police
Mike Stemmler	CT State Police
Blair Sutherland	MA State Police
John Pinkham	MA State Police

The third quarterly meeting of the New England Region 700MHz Technical Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, June 20, 2001 at the Vermont State Police Barracks, Chester, VT. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM.

First Order of Business:

Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Moved by G. Carbonell to **ACCEPT** the minutes as written. .

There was no discussion or changes. The minutes were approved as presented.

Grant Application:

An **application** for a **grant** for operational expenses was submitted in May to the National Law Enforcement and Technology Center. There has been no response.

A **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** has been created between this Committee and the Atlantic Chapter of APCO. The funding obtained through the grant will be held and disbursed by the Atlantic Chapter APCO with Committee's approval, **voted** authorization.

700MHz FCC Planning Process:

The Chairman discussed the historical development of the 800MHz Plan. He emphasized the need to examine the successful and unsuccessful processes used in that plan. The Chairman indicated the need for creativity/improvements for the forthcoming 700MHz plan development and not to necessarily copy the existing 800MHz plan.

The Chairman announced the intent of the Committee meetings to be held at various venues around Region 19 to allow wider attendance

The Chairman discussed the need for creating an **equitable representation from the community of Public Safety users**. The Chairman noted the need to take a proactive approach to gaining membership and interest. By moving the meeting sites among the states of Region 19 it is hoped that all committee members would be able to participate actively in the meetings. There are members of the **NCC** from within the Region who could serve as a link with the Committee for the exchange of ideas.

Mr. Carbonell noted that the Governor of each state has to designate some Public Safety group within the state to administer the "State License", state defined radio channels.

General discussion: The governor of Vermont has appointed the Vermont State Police as administrator within that state. New Hampshire and Maine have designated the State Police to administer. The Massachusetts State Police have filed application with the Governor for designation as administrator. Official designation has not been received. Connecticut has also moved to name an administrator with several possible choices. Mr. Derdak observed that in all cases the license is always held by the highest political entity, which **is the State**. The department chosen to administer the license serves as "the mailing address." Mr. Crotty confirmed that the Rhode Island State Police would be the administrator in that state. The Chairman noted that the deadline for such appointments is the end of 2001. It seems certain that all administrators within Region 19 will be officially established by then.

The Chairman placed some ideas on the **composition of the Committee**. The eligibility for membership could be determined/defined by state and category. The number of members must be decided as well as those who would be "members-at-large."

General discussion: The **updated** list of those that are eligible must be confirmed. Public Safety entities such as Fire, Police, EMS, DOT and others must be identified as officially eligible.

The Chairman noted that the identified groups must be notified of their eligibility to participate. A list of such groups will be prepared by the Chairman and circulated among the participants for comments.

General discussion: Better effort must be made to notify all with potential interest in the Committee. Meeting notices and committee information must be more widely distributed. Email lists can be also be used for dissemination.

Mr. Carbonell will investigate the development of a list server.

POINT SCORING PROCESS:

The Chairman introduced the subject of scoring the applications for Regional Planning Committee (RPC) approval. He mentioned several of the shortcomings of the present system, the lack of completeness, or misunderstanding of instructions. There is a need for close examination of the process with the intent of streamlining or simplifying it. There is a current practice in the 800 MHz planning process of returning applications numerous times for data or contacting the applicants for clarification.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Chairman reports that Connecticut has submitted to the FCC an “opt out” of Region 8 statement for the 700MHz planning process. All of Connecticut is now in the New England Regional Planning Process – Region 19.

NEW BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 26, 2001 at 10:30 AM at a location in Maine**. Mr. Carbonell **moved to adjourn. Carried.** Meeting adjourned 11:20 AM.

Respectfully Submitted
James Warakois, Secretary

Documents distributed to attendees:

GUIDELINES FOR 764-776/794-806 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEES, NCC
Implementation Subcommittee Guidelines, May 10, 2001

OUTLINE FOR 764-776/794-806 NATIONAL / REGIONAL PLANS, NCC
Implementation Subcommittee, May 10, 2001

Minutes **New England Region 700 MHz Planning Meeting**, Massachusetts State Police Headquarters, Framingham, Massachusetts, Thursday, March 29, 2001

