

MINUTES

New England Region 700MHz Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Eighth Meeting Tuesday 10 September 2002

List of Attendees: See attachment

The eighth quarterly meeting of the New England Region 700 MHz Technical Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 10, 2002 at 10:30 AM at the Massachusetts State Police Headquarters, Framingham, MA

The meeting was convened at 10:30 AM.
The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary were present.

Order of Business:

1. Moved to **ACCEPT** the June 11, 2002 minutes as distributed. Seconded and **CARRIED** by unanimous vote.

2. **MEMBERSHIP**

The Chairman noted that the committee is awaiting documents from Rhode Island confirming Tom Crotty's appointment as Rhode Island Police Representative. The committee is awaiting documentation from the President of APCO, Atlantic Chapter naming the APCO Frequency advisors to the Committee. Angela Bean, is the new VT APCO Advisor and will be the Vermont APCO representative. States that have not responded by appointing various committee members will be contacted again.

The Chairman's position as a committee member will be as "member at large" from the State of Connecticut. The Chairman asked if there is any objection to placing member's names and which state they represent on the Committee website. **NO OBJECTION** voiced from the members present.

A binder containing official documents of the committee was provided to all current members. Updates and additions will be provided, as available.

3. STATE UPDATE

All of the States of Region 19 have chosen to handle their own assignments of the “state” frequency allocations. The Committee will perform the assignment of “interoperability channels” for Vermont, all other states will perform their own. The Region 19 Committee will review all “state” and “interoperability” frequency assignments to prevent conflicts between those various States. The structure of this review/monitoring of the state/interoperability frequency assignments is open at this time.

Mr. Sutherland suggested that the Region 19 committee Chairman visit with each state’s licensee holder and present the committees view on respective state/interoperability border assignments. **MOVED**, by Mr. Carbonell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Sutherland that: **The Chairman of the Region 19 (700 MHz) Committee be directed to visit each of the respective State Interoperability Committees with the intent of coordination of their efforts regarding avoidance of frequency assignment conflicts.**

APPROVED by all (voice vote).

4. PSWN UPDATE

The **document** from the Public Safety Wireless Network entitled Public Safety Radio Frequency Spectrum Digital Television Transition Status Update, dated, January 2002 was distributed for review and comment.

5. NCC UPDATE

The database of frequencies related to this band plan is created and maintained by the NCC. There is a request on the floor for a person from this planning committee to select and maintain the frequency assignment database. Training will be offered to the selected candidate through Regional Planning Committee funds. Training is offered in October, November, and December. It is the Chairman’s feeling that the person chosen should be experienced in frequency coordination. Mr. Carbonell suggested that there be a primary and backup person trained in operation of the database software. Mr. Kowalik offered to be the primary and Mr. Carbonell volunteered to be the backup. There will be further discussion of the roll of Database Manager at later meetings.

6. FCC UPDATE

The Chairman introduced Vincent Kajunski, Chief of the Boston FCC office. Mr. Kajunski briefly discussed the Commercial and Public Safety aspects of this band allocation. He pointed out issues within the commercial auctions and noted that several interests may be participating. He noted some on the participants on the commercial side were expected and some were totally

unexpected. He noted that the Public Safety Regional Committees have been endorsed by the FCC for frequency selections and dispute resolutions.

7. PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Application Procedure

The committee discussed the document distributed to the committee, **FCC REGION 19 NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 700 MHz CHANNEL APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

The section “**Authority of the Committee**” should be entered under Section One of the document.

The next paragraph “As of this date...” should be part of Section 4.

Mr. Kowalik explained that “**Application Windows**”, is derived from the 800 MHz plan. The Chairman questioned whether the “window” process would be valid for the 700 MHz process. He observed that other Planning Committees have evolved into a free flowing application system without specific openings as in Region 19, 821MHz practice. Mr. Carbonell noted that windows with date certain allow for more orderly flow of applications. The current schedule of quarterly Committee meetings would lend itself to a self-enforcing progress toward granting frequency allotments. Subsequent scheduled meetings would serve as deadlines for evaluation and discussion. The deadlines for applications would be one month before the next committee meeting thus making the action dates more predictable.

The number of copies of the applications would be the burden of the applicant. The quantity was temporarily set at twenty.

“Application Procedures”

Mr. Kowalik discussed the source of authority granted to the Regional Committee for evaluating various States’ Plans. During discussion several participants emphasize the oversight function of the RPC. This would be necessary along border areas where the plans of adjacent states would have to be harmonious with respect to interoperability. The interoperability with Federal entities will also have to be considered.

Mr. Kowalik noted that technical parameters are not fixed at this time because FCC requirements have not been delineated.

The **Scoring** method for applicant qualification was discussed. Various historical debates were reviewed. The rating method using **points** was generally accepted. The assignment of values and the weight of factors were discussed without a conclusion at this time. Further study of the methods will

have to be viewed with objectivity based on previous historical practice with the 800 MHz Plan.

Technical Standards

Mr. Kowalik noted that the EIA/TIA 8.8 technical methods are the general standard. He noted that other technical parameters are being considered for other radio services and these might affect the current standards.

Mr. Zarwanski offered that various models of system efficiency could be chosen as standards for acceptance. Technical parameters will have to be chosen by the committee. These methods will have to be universal to all of the coordinating agencies.

MOVED by Mr. Carbonell to purchase two copies of the TIA/EIA 8.8 for further use by the committee. The expenditure for two copies **APPROVED** by the general committee.

A primarily **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE** was formed consisting of J. Kowalik, G. Carbonell, J. Zarwanski, J. Warakois, and others as appointments are made. This sub-committee will review the EIA/TIA 8.8 standard and offer recommendations within the Region 19 application process.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Previous discussion of training for NCC database.

Mr. Carbonell requested annual funding for the website, this is an annual expenditure for website name maintenance. He also explained how anonymity would be preserved within the website using the list-server for committee work.

MOVED TO ADJOURN. SECONDED AND CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 PM

Respectfully submitted
James Warakois, secretary.

