

**Region 14 Public Safety Regional Planning Committee
700MHz Regional Public Safety Planning Meeting
Indiana State Police Communications Division Training Room,
8500 East 21st Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. – August 22nd, 2007
Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present:

Anthony Stantz, Chairman
Alex Whitaker, Vice-Chairman
Jason Schneidt, Secretary

Others Present:

Don West, IDHS	David Smith, IPSC Project Safe-T
David Kish, Purdue University	Chip Kalen, Terre Haute Fire Department
Sandra L. Black, EMR Consulting	Charles Capobianco, Terre Haute Fire Dept.
Don Kottowski, ISP Communications	Amanda Capobianco, EMR Consulting
Dan Mulford, Greensburg Police Department	

Others on Teleconference:

Keith Holbert, Vigo County Emergency Management

Proceedings:

- *Meeting called to order at 1:15pm by Chair, Anthony Stantz.*

- *Vice-Chair, Alex Whitaker, opens with a discussion about the FCC 9th Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (9th NPRM). Mr. Whitaker provides a general explanation of the major changes that this recently adopted ruling will have on public safety 700 MHz planning. Mr. Whitaker discusses the following points:*
 - *A need for better interoperability during multi-agency events (Katrina) is addressed in the 9th NPRM scope.*
 - *An idea introduced by Cyren Call to use a national broadband licensee has been adopted to an extent in the 9th NPRM.*
 - *12 MHz of data spectrum will now be administered by a national broadband licensee, consisting of a group of public safety entities. This spectrum will no longer be governed by the Regional Planning Committee (RPC).*
 - *The leading contenders for this group will be entities such as APCO, National Association of Sheriffs, and so on.*
 - *Expectation is that the new 700 MHz infrastructure may be built-out in 10 years, and space on the data spectrum will be sold to public safety entities.*
 - *TV stations still using the 700 spectrum will be required to transition to digital by February 17th, 2009.*
 - *Public safety spectrum will be immediately adjacent to commercial spectrum. (C and D block) The commercial entities will be required to vacate their spectrum in the event of an emergency, as dictated by public safety need at that time.*
 - *The Region 14 plan will need to be revised to reflect changes in the 700 MHz frequency allocations, and the loss of RPC control over the data channels.*

- *Sandra Black continues the discussion about the changes that the 9th NPRM will introduce. The following points are discussed:*
 - *Narrow band will shift to the upper portion of Channel 63.*
 - *Wideband licenses will be discouraged, but allowed with waiver to the FCC.*
 - *FCC is gearing public safety and commercial entities to both operate broadband for the sake of compatibility.*
 - *Power limitations have already been dictated, and need to be recognized as the Region 14 plan is continuing to develop.*
 - *A 1 MHz paired guard band has been included as a buffer between broadband and narrow band spectrum.*
 - *Canada is 2 years behind the United States 700 MHz schedule, however, this should not impact Region 14.*
 - *Sprint Nextel, Cingular, Frontline, and Cyren Call are potential players in the spectrum auction.*
 - *Dave Smith and Sandra Black briefly discuss options of including federal assistance with licensing fees in the Region 14 plan to assist the public safety entities.*

- *Mr. Whitaker continues to elaborate:*
 - *The FCC's goal with the 9th NPRM is to eliminate another "Katrina" event by aligning data standards, procedures, and nomenclature so that nationwide interoperability is better achieved.*
 - *At this point, the order has likely generated more questions than answers, and that the committee will need to address these questions as the order and plan both evolve.*
 - *A meeting of 700 MHz region-chairs in Austin, Texas on September 18th will address the future of CAPRAD. CAPRAD has traditionally been administered by the University of Denver, but a new administrator is expected soon.*
 - *CAPRAD is referenced in the Region 14 plan in regards to frequency coordination, and will be important to follow its future as changes occur.*

- *An open discussion begins with Dave Smith regarding flexibility of frequency allocation, and what ways more flexibility can be incorporated.*
 - *Don Kottowski points out the frequency separation idea from 800 MHz that has never materialized.*
 - *Tony Stantz points out the statewide frequencies used in 800 MHz as a source of flexibility.*

- *Mr. Whitaker moves on to discuss the status of the Region 14 700 MHz plan:*
 - *The Region 14 plan was born from the Region 54 plan.*
 - *Open discussion about maintaining sections 5.4 thru 5.5 regarding TV station interference in the plan. Even though the timing of plan acceptance would likely avoid issues with TV station interference prior to the February 17th deadline, it is discussed that it would be best to include a "sundown clause" that would render these sections void after the FCC deadline for TV stations to transition to digital.*
 - *Open discussion regarding NIMS compliance, and how it should be addressed by the region 14 plan. Charles Capobianco points out that entities that are not NIMS compliant may have issues with obtaining federal grant money.*
 - *Mr. Whitaker requests that Dave Smith take a look at the interoperability section of the plan with Don West.*
 - *Mr. Whitaker offers to make section assignments of the plan to volunteers, and reminds the group about the importance of the planning process to the FCC.*

- *Mr. Capobianco opens a discussion regarding concerns over frequency crowding, especially during multi-agency events.*
 - *Dave Smith adds that it is not channels that are limiting, but rather the talkgroups.*
 - *Alex Whitaker adds that 700 MHz will likely have up to 33 channels available to contribute to the "site on wheels" solution.*

- *Mr. Whitaker closes with a few additional points:*
 - *Next meeting will be October 24th, 2007 at 1:00pm. Meeting location to be finalized at a later date.*
 - *Mr. Whitaker suggests a Southern location, such as Greensburg or Evansville.*

- *MOTION to adjourn seconded by Don West and Sandra Black, and passed at 3:05pm.*

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Jason Schneidt