



NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL

IACP Public Safety Broadband Forum
Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO)
June 24 and June 25, 2014
Washington, D.C.

Welcome, Vincent Talucci, Executive Director, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

Chief Harlin McEwen, IACP representative to NPSTC, introduced Vincent Talucci, Executive Director of the IACP. Mr. Talucci gave an overview of the IACP and welcomed participants to the meeting.

Call to Order

Ralph Haller, Chair, National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), called the meeting to order at 8:30 am, thanked the IACP for hosting the meeting, and asked Terry Hall, NPSTC Vice Chair, to do a roll call. Following the roll call which established a quorum was present, Mr. Haller asked meeting attendees to introduce themselves.

Mr. Haller called John Powell, who was retiring as Chair of the Interoperability Committee, to the podium to recognize his services as outgoing Interoperability Chair and presented him with a plaque and gift in gratitude for his services over the years. Mr. Powell spoke to the group regarding his career and retirement plans and challenged NPSTC to become more involved in educating end users on the technology put in place during his tenure. Mr. Haller introduced John Lenihan who will serve as the incoming Interoperability Chair. Mr. Lenihan spoke briefly on the level of technology currently in place and his vision of bringing an operations perspective to his role in the Interoperability Committee.

Federal Partners Update

Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC), John Merrill, Deputy Director: Mr. Merrill reported on the OIC organizational structure and the DHS Science and Technology (S&T) mission and guiding principles. Mr. Merrill introduced three “100 Second Information Videos” demonstrating the new technologies of Wireless Vital Sign Monitoring, a new Finder device which can locate heartbeats or breath sounds to a depth of 30 feet in rubble in a disaster situation, and a new Virtual Shooter used by DHS to test weapons and ammunition. The videos are available on the OIC website and will also be loaded onto the NPSTC website for viewing at a later date. Marilyn Ward, NPSTC Executive Director, reported that a new video on FirstNet and broadband requirements is also in the works, with interviews to be filmed by staff later in the day. The 100-second videos may be used in the future for informational updates on the NPSTC website.

In the area of broadband, Mr. Merrill reported OIC is working on developing a Bluetooth, Project 25-compliant radio using a Smartphone as the base, not as a replacement for LMR, but to complement LMR in situations where it is usable.

The Hammerhead Program is a new program at OIC, which uses reverse engineering to detect the presence of jamming devices. Mr. Merrill brought two examples of Jammer devices that are currently

available, including a small device available for approximately \$30 to the general public. Mr. Merrill said OIC is currently in the testing phase with the Hammerhead prototype. OIC has a working unit which Mr. Merrill offered to the Board members for use in their agencies in exchange for reporting back with their findings. Board members discussed 1: How to determine the difference between when a circuit has been jammed and when it is simply a bad signal and, 2: The need to work with commercial service providers on a process to share the initial information quickly to determine the difference in a usable manner. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding a number of instances where jammers have been found by attendee's agencies in non-threatening situations that have caused problems for public safety agencies by interrupting radio communications as personnel approached the area. It was agreed there is a need for education on this issue in the law enforcement community.

Action Item: Mrs. Ward asked that informational tri-folds to be sent to her for distribution at the upcoming Association of Public Safety Officials – International (APCO) convention and voiced the need to create an educational article to be shared with NPSTC's member organizations regarding the growing number of jammers in the community.

Office of Emergency Communications (OEC), Admiral (ret.) Ron Hewitt, Director: Admiral Hewitt reported the new Capstone Planning Document, the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) has been completed. Admiral Hewitt informed the Board that the new NECP continues the LMR focus of the initial plan but extends the original plan to identify and meet the needs of the changing landscape and ecosystem brought about by new technology and a widening audience, including expansion into the commercial and general citizenry areas. Admiral Hewitt spoke on the many programs and steps that will be needed to make the plan a success and advised he and DHS-OEC looked forward to working closely with NPSTC on meeting those goals.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Public Safety Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB), Rear Admiral (ret.) David Simpson, Chief: Admiral Simpson spoke to the group on past efforts addressing interoperability and urged NPSTC to address the additional challenges of cyber security, including the hardware-to-hardware and software-to-software issues currently being worked on. He spoke of incidents where hackers had been able to gain access into emergency notification traffic control systems. He touched on the previous topic of jammers and the reporting of outages and operational degradation of systems and the need to have information relayed to the FCC for follow up on those incidents.

Admiral Simpson warned that terrorist organizations are increasingly planning for a second phase targeting first responders to amplify the impact of the initial attack. First responders need to recognize the usage of cyber communications in that second phase. He encouraged NPSTC to make cyber security a priority when making recommendations and creating best practices documents. Admiral Simpson also spoke briefly on the effects of social media during emergency situations and the need to be aware of how the world communicates today. Continuing discussion on jammers followed. Although it is illegal to sell or operate a jammer, it is not illegal to own one, reiterating the need to educate the general public on jammers.

Policy and Licensing Division, PSHSB, Roberto Mussenden, Attorney Advisor: Mr. Mussenden reported on the current status of various public safety items on review. He advised that recent issues at the

PBHSB have delayed completion of several items he had previously thought would be completed by this meeting.

- Railroad Police: Has been put out for public comment and looking for comment
- Location Accuracy: Extended commentary until July 14
- NG911 Proceeding: Record is closed; starting to draft document
- 700 MHz Narrowband: Working with other agencies for clarification
- 4.9 GHz: Tentatively targeted for 8th floor in the fall
- 700 MHz Interoperability: Staff is looking at issues
- 800 MHz: Staff is working on 800 MHz and updating roaming agreements with Canada
- Working with the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) and federal partners on agreements to allow sharing frequencies both during actual events and during training

No specific dates are available on closure for any of the aforementioned items but they are working on them as quickly and efficiently as their span of control allows. NPSTC's members thanked Mr. Mussenden and the FCC for the speed with which they had moved the Railroad Police petition forward.

Pam Montanari, Vice Chair, Interoperability Committee, requested information on when a defined process would be in place for the states to make opt in/opt out decisions regarding FirstNet. Kevin McGinnis, National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO) and FirstNet Board, explained that the default was for all states to be opted in. He said as FirstNet moved forward they would be creating an opt in/opt out policy; however, he encouraged everyone to work constructively towards creating the final product before they made the decision to opt out. Chief McEwen pointed out that at the end of the process, the law is very clear that the final decision rests with the FCC and opting out is not an automatic option.

National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA), State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP), Mike Dame, Director: Mr. Dame gave an overview of the program's history and its goals. He also provided a review of several of the programs that benefit from SLIGP, as well as the goals and preferred outcomes of those programs. Through the end of the year, NTIA is working on continuing to provide support, making site visits to the grantees, and producing best practice documentation. He encouraged attendees to involve their local associations and governing bodies with FirstNet as the process continues, reminding them the SLIGP monies are only available for a few more years and it is important to proceed quickly.

Mr. Haller thanked the federal partners for making the time to present to the Board in person.

FirstNet, Kevin McGinnis, FirstNet Public Safety Board Member: Reporting for FirstNet, Chief McGinnis advised that the major steps forward since the last briefing have centered on staffing, which is being reflected in the amount of progress being made. The Board meeting in Colorado in June resulted in several budget actions that have moved FirstNet forward in various areas, including approval of the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) Charter and developing a process for identifying environmental issues. He advised the website has been activated and is operating efficiently. Documents from the June meeting are available there. FirstNet has moved into new quarters in Colorado and the Washington, D.C. area. Chief McGinnis discussed the backgrounds of several key personnel who have been hired and what their efforts will be in the immediate future. He reported there are several job openings that have been approved which are also posted on the website.

Concerning Requests for Proposals (RFPs), FirstNet staff continues to develop their acquisition approach and are conducting market research to gather vendor capabilities. Chief McGinnis gave a detailed explanation of the two main approaches being considered at this time. The next step is the public notice and comment process which they anticipate opening as early month. Regarding outreach, an initial consultation package was sent out in early April to all states and territories which included a draft check list of the information that will be needed. They have received completed checklists from 8 states and have conference calls scheduled with 35 others. Chief McGinnis encouraged all attendees to check out the numerous social media sites, blogs, and other available resources for more information.

Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC), Harlin McEwen, Chairman: Chief McEwen reported the PSAC had their third in-person meeting in Colorado on June 2, 2014. He said it was a very beneficial meeting with 8 of the 15 Board members present. He noted the most significant action was the approval of the PSAC Charter by the FirstNet Board. The Charter documents the parameters under which the PSAC operates. He said the Board has also developed a PSAC fact sheet which has been distributed to members. It contains a description of the origin and history of the PSAC, an organizational chart describing how they report to other groups and staff in the FirstNet arena, and a list of members. The fact sheet has not yet been posted on the FirstNet website but will be in the near future.

Chief McEwen reported the PSAC was directed in April to create two working groups, a Tribal Working Group and an Early Builder Working Group. The PSAC is in the process of identifying who will be the approximately 15 members of the Tribal Working Group. There has been conversation regarding who will be selected as Chair of the Early Builder Working Group, but members are awaiting legal findings before making that appointment and moving forward.

Chief McEwen outlined the views of Sue Swenson, recently appointed as the new FirstNet Chair, on how the FirstNet Board should operate and which direction it will take in the future especially as it applied to opening FirstNet Executive Board meetings to everyone in the FirstNet organization. He anticipates this open meeting approach will lead to even more involvement and a closer working relationship with FirstNet.

Topical Presentations

Integrated Justice Information Systems (IJIS) Institute, Ashwini Jarral, Director of Operations: IJIS is a non-profit organization created in 2000 to bring information to all the entities that need it. The key goals of IJIS are to create a more efficient method of information sharing through interoperability, treating information as a national asset and assuring the free flow of information to support decision making in critical situations to public service personnel without compromise or unauthorized access and improper use. Mr. Jarral reported IJIS is working with APCO to create uniform CAD specifications and methods to ensure information sharing and security in interoperability and information sharing as public safety moves towards NG911. Mr. Jarral advised the IJIS is following FirstNet closely but mainly as it pertains to the information gathered by FirstNet and how it can be used. He also spoke about the Integrated Management Information Sharing (IMIS) and the IJIS focus on standardizing the process and sharing the information in the future.

The Springboard Interoperability Program has been created to address the challenge of how to bring all of the technologies into the current community of access and how to standardize the testing process to confirm that all agencies are conforming to the standards in an operational environment, not just on paper. Mr. Jarral spoke of the impact technology has had on the amount of information now available and how to collect and disseminate the information now being gathered to other mission areas. He spoke of the numerous standards now present in areas such as cyber security and how to align all the different standards into one by working with all the agencies involved to develop a single standard for each technology. Finally, Mr. Jarral spoke on the need to engage industry in the Springboard Program as a foremost avenue in driving the adoption and use of national information sharing and interoperability standards.

Tom Sorley, Chair, Technology Committee, spoke on the APCO involvement with IJIS, stating one of the guiding incentives was the financial benefit of streamlining standards. He reported a substantial savings for his center compared to past purchases. Chief McEwen also spoke on the benefit of having a non-profit organization as a venue for private industry vendors to come together and collectively recognize public safety and interoperability needs as the driving force in product development.

NPSTC Six-Month Review, Barry Luke, Support Office: Mr. Luke provided an overview of NPSTC and how it operates as well as identifying key issues of Board focus in the coming months and years. NPSTC is a volunteer organization with over 1,500 participants in public safety, industry, commercial, and other interested parties, as well as over 3,000 individuals who benefit from information distributed by NPSTC. There are three major Committees: Interoperability, Spectrum Management, and Technology. Broadband activities fall under the Technology Committee.

Mr. Luke explained the volunteer application process and provided instructions on how to access calendar information on upcoming meetings as well as a brief explanation of support staff functions. There are as many as 40 Working Groups working simultaneously throughout the year. All Committees and Working Group activities are open to all interested parties regardless of discipline, and participants can join at any stage of the process. Work products are presented in two parts, a qualitative product, followed by a quantitative product. As a part of the documents review process, there is now a Public Safety Review Team which conducts a final review of any new documents to provide “fresh eyes” before actual distribution. After review, the final draft document is sent back to the larger group for comments and concerns. The final draft is also sent to the Emergency Communications Preparedness Center (ECPC), a group of federal agencies, which will send the document to the federal partners for review and feedback. The final document is then given to the NPSTC Governing Board for final review, edits, and approval; then posted on the NPSTC website; and sent to FirstNet Public Safety Advisory Committee.

NPSTC interacts with several federal agencies including the FCC, ECPC, the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program, and the Canada/U.S. (CANUS) partnership. Approximately 70 federal employees from a number of agencies participate in Working Group activities. Mr. Luke provided a list of agencies with which NPSTC has participated in with presentations and outreach activities. He reported that NPSTC’s venture into social media including a public safety blog, Linked In, and Facebook, has had a much larger impact than staff initially expected and appears to be a very successful tool for reaching out to the public safety space.

Recently staff examined emerging issues to determine gaps in the processes that need to be addressed prior to proceeding. One of the major gaps appears to be education on the NENA i3 standards and NG911 for LMR and broadband-focused personnel. Determining the best method of interconnecting NG911 Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet) and FirstNet with the local Public Safety Enterprise Network (PSEN) without creating costly duplicate networks also requires further education. Chief McGinnis requested NPSTC work on education to demystify the process so it can be better understood by the users and other lay personnel. Chief McEwen discussed the i3 standard as it relates to FirstNet, including ways to educate the population. He asked the NPSTC Board to endorse i3 as a best practice option. He reminded the Board that FirstNet does not replace the need for i3.

Motion and Vote: Chief McGinnis made a motion that NPSTC form a Working Group to develop an explanatory paper on the connection between NG911 and FirstNet/LMR. Jim Goldstein, International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), seconded the motion. There was further discussion on expanding the connection to include the 911 PSAP and first responder as needed to provide clarification. Ms. Ward said staff would develop a mission statement and send it out for review. She asked if a position paper supporting i3 would be supported. Chief McGinnis suggested delaying the position paper until the Working Group completed their work. After further dialogue on the specifics of the goals and scope of the Working Group, and the need to develop those before proceeding further, the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Haller asked for volunteers and several people expressed an interest. Mr. Sorley will set up a meeting time for an initial conference call. Mr. Luke said there is existing work being done that may be utilized by the Working Group.

In further updates on NPSTC actions over the last 6 months, Mr. Luke reported on the status of video in public safety and the potential of FirstNet to expand the use of video. He advised the Board has reached out to personnel familiar with video as the Working Group moves forward because of the specific needs and concerns it brings forth. He spoke on broadband requirements and standards on a national and international level and the need to watch those processes closely. Mr. Luke also spoke briefly regarding concerns with non-P25 solutions and the need to closely monitor services being offered that have the potential to significantly undermine interoperability gains if left unrestrained. He gave a brief review of the current situation with T-Band and said NPSTC is monitoring current legislation and still awaiting action by the FCC and Congress on this. NPSTC is also awaiting action by the FCC to extend the 6.25 kHz deadline or to cancel this rebanding requirement along with action on several other 700 MHz clean-up actions. Discussion followed on the importance of pushing for an answer on this topic due to the financial aspects of this issue.

Technology Discussion, Tom Sorley, Chair; Andrew Thiessen, Vice Chair

Public Safety Grade Report, David Buchanan, Spectrum Management Chair: Mr. Sorley introduced Mr. Buchanan, who provided an update on the Public Safety Grade Task Team. Mr. Buchanan said the report was approved and released and awaiting submission to FirstNet from the PSAC. The final report is available on the NPSTC website and has received significant media and social media attention. The team is working with APCO to develop a plan to convert the Site Hardening section into an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard. They are also examining the Applications section for further standards development work. Additional work is needed to determine how reliable LMR systems are

today. Mr. Buchanan presented several ideas on how that may be achieved. He reported APCO had invited the team to present the paper at their upcoming conference. In response to question from the Board, Mr. Buchanan clarified the intent is not that every agency meet every aspect of the report. Their expectation is that public safety will work toward those goals, not a belief that they are all in place at this time. The Public Safety Grade Report is also being used as a tool for FirstNet to gauge sites when making site decisions. A lengthy discussion followed the presentation with suggestions for possible informational sites, comments on previous reports and documents and their impact on the present day operations, and questions on current standards and how they fit or will continue to fit into the Public Safety Grade system. Mr. Sorley praised the Task Team members for their work and acknowledged the valuable input from APCO members in merging papers from the two organizations into a very usable document.

Public Safety Broadband Requirements, Andrew Thiessen, Vice Chair, Technology Committee: Mr. Thiessen provided an update on the recent PSCR Annual meeting and the FirstNet Board of Directors open meeting. He reviewed the history of the broadband project as it developed from the early 2000s through the 2012 NPSTC Broadband Working Group's (BBWG) Public Safety Broadband High-Level Launch Requirements, Statement of Requirements (SoR).

The Console LTE Report is nearing completion and slated for publication in July of this year. The Launch SoR Quantitative report process is also moving forward. The Task Group had compiled a list of requirements that were flagged for metrics. In conversation with FirstNet, it was decided to prioritize the list as opposed to doing work that might not be used. That rating method is still in process at this time.

In the area of Local Control, the BBWG has a better understanding of operational needs and LTE capability and is currently reviewing past documents on the subject. The BBWG plans to recreate the Local Control Task Group to refresh that 2012 document. There were similar issues with the 2012 report on Priority and Quality of Service and the BBWG is also recreating that Task Group to re-examine how technical options best fit public safety operational needs.

Mr. Thiessen said new work has begun in the area of deployable LTE systems. Canada's Centre for Security Science (CSS) has requested DHS participation with their proposed working group to examine LTE deployable systems, including the impact of deployable technologies along the border. FirstNet is also interested in deployables to provide coverage in rural areas. Mr. Thiessen noted some longer term public safety broadband projects have been paused for a variety of reasons and are awaiting feedback before continuing. The list of these projects include the SoR, Year 2-3 Qualitative Assessment, Public Safety Telephony requirements review, Public Safety Messaging requirements review and the SoR, Year 2-3 Quantitative Assessment. There was discussion regarding the anticipated process that will be used as requests for further feedback come from FirstNet.

Mr. Thiessen reported on discussion at the 3GPP meeting held earlier in the month. He said the Mission Critical Voice requirements for architecture have been approved. There has been discussion on how to move forward with the body of work that will be required and how to divide that work between other interested parties that already have work in place. There is a probability the work will be done within

3GPP but that final decision has not been made. Chief McEwen encouraged NPSTC to support 3GPP as the standards group moving forward because of its relationship to LTE. Further conversation followed on what work other groups such as the Open Mobile Alliance (OMA) have in place and the need to examine that work item by item before finalizing the split of work. It was noted that it is important that the work done by other groups could be utilized in areas where 3GPP does not have current work being done. Mr. Thiessen said that there was discussion at the 3GPP meeting regarding the expected path of standards development and a general consensus globally that 3GPP would develop standards and other groups would move in that direction. He also noted that all of the other countries represented were unanimously aligned to use Mission Critical PTT as the goal for what needs to be standardized in LTE barring errors and stressed the view that it is important for public safety to push the market.

Monitoring Projects: Mr. Sorley reported on the Technology Committee's monitoring topics. The P25 Compliance documents are in final review. There is an expectation that the P25 Compliance Assessment Program (CAP) will recommence in about 90 days with the original stakeholders present to complete the Compliance Report review and send the document out for approval and publication. Mr. Thiessen said there are still two pieces of major work that DHS has requested regarding release of compliance documentation to vendors. This is important documentation as it relates to agencies requesting grant monies.

Action Item: Mr. Sorley and Mr. Thiessen were tasked to produce a report for the Board within the next couple of weeks regarding a formal NPSTC recommendation to move forward with 3GPP as the standard.

Radio Programming Compatibility Requirements (PCR) Update, Pam Montanari, Co-Chair. Ms. Montanari reported on the status of the Programming and Maintenance (PAM) Tool. She said the BETA release version has been available since March for feedback from users. Version A2 is complete and will be available on the website following the meeting. She said they are continuing to add vendors to the tool and a multi-vendor cross reference of terms for programming fields. Version A2 is set to be demonstrated at the upcoming APCO convention. The next steps include the incorporation of the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG) as a separate tab, integration of IC205 and IC217 [Incident Command] as well as integration into the National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) and All Hazards COML/COMT [Communications Unit Leader/Communications Unit Training] curriculum and training, and into the Communications Assets and Mapping (CASM) tool.

The information available on the PAM Tool is based on information gathered from vendors. Ms. Montanari encouraged manufacturer representatives present to provide a single POC for providing updated material as it changes. As a long-term goal, she would like to see integration into OEC programs and offerings also. Prior to the next release, the group is looking for user volunteers to regularly use the tool and respond with feedback. She encouraged vendors to move forward with development and implementation of export/import to the tool from vendor software. Following the presentation, Ms. Montanari demonstrated the functions of the PAM tool and pointed out changes from the BETA version. Audience members suggested a webinar be posted on the website as an educational tool. Version A2 is still a BETA version and is scheduled to be posted in a final version after the APCO convention. An audience member requested the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

NTIA interoperability channels also be added to the final version.

Interoperability Discussion, John Lenihan, Chair; Pam Montanari, Vice Chair

Common Channel Naming, Don Root, Chair: Mr. Root reported the Working Group is updating the common channel naming standards from 2010. He presented updates to the 700 MHz nationwide interoperability channels with discussion on renaming some channels and establishing common names for a few channels in Maryland, used for search and rescue nationwide that are currently awaiting FCC approval. He said there is work in progress on determining best practices for statewide channels. He anticipates being able to close several items by the November meeting. Mr. Powell spoke briefly on the statewide best practice issue saying subsequent reports need to include a caveat stating agencies should not include additional characters in their naming, but follow the recommendations exactly as written.

Emergency Medical Services, Barry Luke: Mr. Luke, reporting for Paul Patrick, Working Group Chair, said since the last meeting the EMS Working Group has completed its review of the EMS Broadband Applications list, approved by NPSTC in November, and since transmitted to the FirstNet PSAC. They have also reviewed and eliminated duplicate applications between EMS and Police at the request of DHS. The EMS Working Group is currently discussing local control following a presentation covering which local control technical solutions have the best operational fit. They are sending out a survey to their users for input. Results will be presented at the August Working Group meeting.

Border Issues Working Group, Barry Luke: Mr. Luke, presented for Terry LaValley, Chair, Border Issues Working Group, said there has been quite a lot of progress in this area. As a result of the efforts with Canada, Industry Canada (IC) has posted information on their licensing and interference analysis process and now provides the call sign of the entity which triggered the denial of the U.S. license request. The FCC granted the State of Montana a waiver to expand use of VLaw 31 (Blue Channel) to include fire/rescue and EMS. This is important as other states have expressed an interest in adopting the Blue Channel format as well. The FCC also granted the State of Washington a waiver to use a U.S. designated paging frequency to interconnect with a Canadian cross border system. Mr. Luke reported the FCC and IC have harmonized the 700 MHz narrowband frequencies and the 800 MHz band, and are actively working on harmonization of the 700 MHz broadband spectrum.

Pending issues for the Border Issues Working Group include a resolution of the 1952 Treaty by the FCC and IC at a staff level stating the agencies are ready to have an exchange of letters changing current language from “installed in a vehicle” to include use of hand held radios. The agreement is now in the attorney’s offices and there is a push to have the agreement signed in time to make a formal announcement in October. IC and the FCC have also had a lot of dialogue on a set of best practices to license systems, allowing both countries to place equipment on the ground in the other’s country. They have identified a “manual coordination” path for this to happen and are working to document the report that will provide guidance to licensees on how to file. The FCC is waiting for IC to create a companion report to file.

Mr. Luke said there has been a request for NPSTC and the Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) Border Group to formally work with DHS-OEC and Public Safety Canada (PSC) on cross border interoperability issues on a statewide level. Most of the previous work has been handled on a federal to federal basis. New language has been added to make that a more formal goal. The Bi-National Working Group will establish monthly calls and both countries will invite local, state, and

provincial public safety personnel to join the discussion with a goal to having a geographically and discipline diverse group that includes technical and operational personnel. DHS-OEC Regional Coordinators who work with border states will also contribute to the project.

The Working Group has also pledged to complete a White Paper Border Issues Report by the October meeting. The report will contain an Executive Summary, Introduction, Statement of Problem, Current Regulatory Environment, Cross Border Work Efforts, Barriers and Opportunities, Initial Recommendations, Best Practices Model, and Resource Links. The project will begin in July and the group hopes for a finalized draft report in September for the NPSTC Governing Board to review, with the goal of presenting at the CITIG Bi-National Cross Border Conference in October. Report recommendations are scheduled to be finalized and presented to NPSTC and CITIG Boards for approval at that time.

2014 Awards to NPSTC Volunteers, Ralph Haller

Following the presentations, Chair Ralph Haller presented awards to this year's recipients with Mr. Luke presiding over the emcee duties. Mr. Luke thanked the sponsors for funding the awards and allowing NPSTC to recognize the hard work done by the recipients.

The Richard DeMello Award, presented to one individual in public safety communications who has demonstrated the highest levels of personal and professional conduct and performance in the local, state, and national public safety communications arena. DeMello Award —Dr. David Boyd

The Hertz Award, named for Heinrich Hertz whose name denotes the scientific unit of frequencies, cycles per second, is awarded for extraordinary leadership in public safety communications. Hertz Award – David Buchanan.

The Atkinson Technical Award was created as a memorial award in 2012 to honor PSCR employee, D.J. Atkinson, who was instrumental in improving public safety communications. It is awarded for exceptional technical vision and support. Atkinson Technical Award - Tom Sorley, Pam Montanari, Scott Glazer, Ken Link, Paul Roberts, and Dan Robinson.

The Chairman's Award was created to recognize one individual who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership. Steve Devine

The Leadership Award was created to recognize individuals and and/or organizations for their exceptional work in advancing the causes of public safety communications. Leadership Award – Terry Hall.

The Participants Award was created to recognize individuals who have supported NPSTC and the public safety community on critical objectives. Participants Award – Jason Matthews.

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Mr. Haller reconvened the meeting at 8:30 am on Wednesday June 25, 2014. A roll call was held to determine a quorum was present and meeting attendees introduced themselves.

Interoperability Discussion

Radio Interoperability Best Practices, Mark Schroeder, Chair: Mr. Lenihan discussed the circumstances that led to the creation of the group and introduced the Chair, Mark Schroeder. Mr. Schroeder said the newly created group has a significant interest in public safety. It is not the intention of the group to recreate work that has already been done by other agencies or to establish technical standards. The Working Group had approximately 100 volunteer members shortly after formation. The first conference call was held on June 12, 2014, when members were asked to bring back incident reports, training practices, planning guidelines, etc. that can help determine what areas need to be brought forward as best practice examples to include in the final recommendations to NPSTC. Mr. Schroeder gave a briefing on the setup of the group and an outline of what the final document will contain. The Work group is asking for direction or support from the Board.

Mr. Sorley asked when to anticipate work product as public safety goes through rebanding. Mr. Schroeder said they are working on a timeline to push the process along as quickly as possible but it is not available yet. He believes this will be an ongoing process that will require review on a regular basis but also expects most of the recommendations should be a continuing standard. Mr. Schroeder said the group is gathering the current best practices available but are also asking for input on the more unusual situations that are not initially obvious. It is expected the group's results will not focus on just technology, but on operational practices because that area is not addressed as extensively in other documents. Ms. Ward suggested that the group not wait until the final report, but instead bring pieces forward for publication as they become available.

NFPA Chapter 9 Task Group, Doug Aiken, NPSTC 1st Vice Chair: Reporting for Chief Aiken, Mr. Lenihan gave a brief description of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Chapter 9 Task Group. There was a general discussion from Board members on the importance of having law enforcement as well as fire representation in the group. Ms. Ward asked that Chief Aiken be invited to give his presentation at the conference call in September.

NFPA 1802, John Lenihan: Mr. Lenihan led a discussion on the needs for radio standards in the fire community because of the environment they operate in. The standard will be applied to LMR and LTE. Mr. Lenihan asked that anyone with access to the Final Executive Summary that was reportedly published on April 14, 2014, provide him with a copy. There was also discussion on Intrinsically Safe Radio and the differences between that project and NFPA 1802. Mr. Sorley expressed concerns regarding the effects Intrinsically Safe and other standards will ultimately have on the cost of the equipment will make the, unaffordable for most departments. He encouraged NSTC to monitor this issue closely.

Action Item: Following discussion, the Governing Board asked Mr. Lenihan to contact representatives with NFPA to voice the questions and concerns of NPSTC and to ask that they be included in the NFPA Standard 1802 discussions.

Spectrum Management Discussion, David Buchanan, Chair; Stu Overby, Vice Chair

4.9 GHz National Plan, David Buchanan: Mr. Buchanan reported the 4.9 GHz National plan was originally filed on October 24, 2013. In answer to concerns that arose during the comments phase,

NPSTC filed Ex Parte Comments with the FCC on April 28, 2014, to address the comments and clarify the intent of the Plan Recommendation. The 4.9 GHz National Plan is still awaiting a FCC decision.

GAO Request for NPSTC Input, Stu Overby: Mr. Overby presented a report on the Government Accounting Office (GAO) request for NPSTC input on various public safety communications issues. In response to the GAO request, NPSTC directed the GAO to previously published reports. Some of the questions they wanted answered do not have answers available yet and NPSTC indicated it was premature to answer at this time. The Governing Board concurred with those actions.

Petition for Rulemaking re: Railroad Police Eligibility, Stu Overby: On May 16, 2014, NPSTC filed the Railroad Police Eligibility Petition requesting that the FCC modify rules so bona fide Railroad Police are eligible to license/use public safety interoperability frequencies with the FCC. The FCC released a Public Notice on May 30, 2014, requesting input. Comments are due on July 15. NPSTC will assess the Comments filed and decide if Reply Comments are needed at that time. The Petition is moving forward quickly but there are still several steps in the process before a final ruling.

911 Indoor Location Accuracy, Stu Overby: NPSTC filed Comments May 12, 2014, supporting the FCC's 911 Indoor Location Accuracy proposal, noting the benefits of technology that can also be used to locate first responders. Some commenters have recommended delaying requirements on indoor location and the FCC extended the Reply Comments deadline to July 14. The Committee recommends NPSTC file Reply Comments reaffirming their support. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the minimum requirements in the proposal and the level of technology available today. Mr. Overby said the FCC intention is to roll out the standard 2 years after the rule is finalized which is still a year at least away.

Action Item: Following more conversation, Mr. Haller reaffirmed the Board's original decision and directed Mr. Overby to file Reply Comments supporting the proposal.

700 MHz State Channel Buildout Showings, Bette Rinehart, Regulatory Task Group Member: Ms. Rinehart reported on the status of the 700 MHz State Channel Substantial Service Showing. This topic applies to 700 MHz narrowband spectrum designated state channels and the FCC mandate that the states must demonstrate they are providing or prepared to provide "substantial service" to one-third of their population or territory by the June 13, 2014, deadline.

An overview of responses to the June 13, 2014, deadline shows 36 states filed responses with 3 states cancelling their licenses. Two states have asked for an extension and one requested a waiver. Of the returned responses, 8 have been accepted and 28 remain pending. 14 states made no filing at all. The FCC had expected more cancelled licenses than were returned. The cancelled or returned frequencies will revert to the Regional Planning Committees (RPCs) for administration.

IP Notice for Proposed Rulemaking, Kevin McGinnis: Chief McGinnis, NASEMSO representative, related the origins of the Proposed Rulemaking. The group is asking for input from the Governing Board regarding whether they want NPSTC to become involved in this issue. At the present time, phone companies are required to provide circuit switched telephone service. The proposal would allow them to provide service via Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). Chief McGinnis said this may or may not

affect the wireline lifeline connections. The concern is that policies may be used to try to hasten elimination of wireline phone service in rural areas. Chief McGinnis asked for direction from the Board, recommending they investigate the issue further and do some more research. He also asked that the Board make a motion to create a Working Group if it was deemed necessary.

Motion and Vote: Jim Goldstein, IAFC, moved that NPSTC investigate the issue and the possible negative outcomes of the Proposed Rulemaking, and that a Working Group be created, if it was deemed necessary, following the required research into the matter. Chief McGinnis Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) Petition for Conditional Licensing, Stu Overby: Mr. Overby explained conditional licensing, noting it has only been applied to UHF and VHF frequencies. Conditional licensing is increasingly important as the FCC processing times have increased to as long as 4 to 6 months. On May 15, 2014, LMCC filed a Petition for Rulemaking to extend conditional licensing to the 470-512, 800, and 900 MHz bands. The Committee is recommending the Governing Board file comments on the Petition. The FCC issued Public Notice on June 24, 2014, and Comments close on July 24, 2014. Mr. Haller discussed the background and past practice of the process and recommended the Board file Comments.

Action Item: John Wright, APCO, moved that NPSTC file Comments on the Petition. Paul Szoc, International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Part 90 Certified Frequency Coordinator, Stu Overby: The National Frequency Coordination, LLC (NFC) has requested to be certified by the FCC as a Part 90 PLMR frequency coordinator. Several of the agencies that are a part of NPSTC have filed to oppose this action as there is no evidence that NFC is a representative group of users and that they are, at minimum, a licensee that would create a conflict. The Committee is recommending the Governing Board file Comments to support NPSTC's member organizations in their opposition of the measure. Mr. Overby said he Comments were due by June 30, 2014, but said draft work had been done in anticipation of need.

Motion and Vote: Chief McEwen moved that NPSTC file Comments in opposition to the FCC approving the certification of NFC as a frequency coordinator. John McIntosh, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion and Vote: Lloyd Mitchell, National Association of State Foresters (NASF), made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wright seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1030 am.