



Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission Meeting June 9th, 2015 Tuscaloosa, AL

IN ATTENDANCE:

Murph, Chuck – ALEA SWIC
Nail, Curtis – ALEA
Dawson, Cathy - ALEA
Blair, Ernie – ALNENA
Johnston, J.T. – AAEM
Grabryan, George – AAND
Peterson, Jim – AACOP
Wood, Chauncey – AARS
Pilgreen, Scott – AL Fire Marshall's Office
McGhee, Chris – Poarch Band of Creek Indians
Lord, Jon – AAFC
Smith, Brad – AFC
Jenkins, Kevin – Calhoun County 911
Ranson, Richard – University of Alabama
Linsley, Eric – Mobile County
Hargrove, Jeb – AEMA
McKinley, Chuck – Baldwin Co. 9-1-1 (DAC-A VC)
Stevens, Wade – Orange Beach Fire Rescue (DAC-A)
Calhoun Jr, Willie – AARS
Coleman, Rod – Tuscaloosa Co. 9-1-1 (DAC-C)
Trimmier, Denise – Jefferson Co.
Grigsby, Steven – AL ARNG
Summerlin, Tim – UA PD (DAC-C Chair)
Collins, Demetree – ALEA Communications
Patterson, James – ALEA Communications
Busby, Jack – Mobile Fire Rescue (DAC-A Chair)
Ballard, Phillip – Mobile Fire Rescue
Aldridge, Randy – ALEA Communications
Silas, Greg – Director Birmingham 9-1-1 (DAC-G Chair)
Young, Steven – Limestone Co. Sheriff's Office
Johnson, Terry – Morgan Co. 9-1-1
Lewis, Chris – DCNR
Montanari, Pam – DHS/OEC
Montana, Scott – Motorola
Durrence, Susan – Motorola



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Commission Meeting
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IN ATTENDANCE:

Smith, Michael – SouthernLINC
Sadler, Don – Sharp Communications



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CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Chuck Murph, ALEA SWIC, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Mr. Allen Rice, Executive Director Alabama Fire College, provided introductory remarks welcoming everyone to the meeting and encouraged the use of the facility by public safety agencies. Mr. Murph recognized that there is a quorum present to conduct the meeting.

AGENDA ACCEPTANCE:

Mr. Murph called for acceptance of the agenda. Mr. Chauncey Wood, AARS, made a motion to accept the agenda. Mr. George Grabryan, AAND, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

APRIL 1st MINUTES ACCEPTANCE:

Mr. Murph requested the attendees to review the minutes from the April 1st, 2015 meeting to determine if any corrections are necessary. Mr. Murph called for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Grabryan, made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Ernie Blair, ALNENA, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

JUNE 9th MINUTES:

Mr. Murph called for the workgroup reports.

WORKGROUP REPORTS:

- P-25 System Administrators Workgroup. Mr. Greg Silas, Director Birmingham 9-1-1, reported that they were very successful in bringing the Birmingham/Jefferson Co. core online with Baldwin Co., Madison Co. & Tuscaloosa. Looking forward to Calhoun Co. coming online soon. Motorola has been very supportive with this effort. DEA used the radio system in Birmingham to successfully accomplish 16 coordinated drug busts.
- State Agency Workgroup. Mr. Jeb Hargrove, State Agency WG Chairman, wanted to remind everyone of the SoutherLINC meeting in Birmingham, AL on June 17th at 10:00am.



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OLD BUSINESS:

- Mr. Curtis Nail, ALEA, provided an update on the status of the Divisional Advisory Committees (DAC). He provided a chart showing which associations have responded and selected members for each DAC. Association membership is at 81%. Initial meetings with DAC-A, DAC-B & DAC-C have been completed. DAC-G is scheduled for June 18th at 10:00am in the Public Safety Facility in Hoover, AL. Remaining DACs are yet to be scheduled. Mr. Nail recognized the DAC chairs and vice chairs in attendance at today's meeting.
- Ms. Cathy Dawson, ALEA, asked everyone to please visit the AFRWC website and social media sites for updates, videos and information. Mr. Murph stressed the importance of getting public safety throughout the state engaged with the social media presence of the AFRWC. The forums on the AFRWC website are a great way to get feedback from the entire state. This is also a great tool for the DACs to be able to stay informed and engaged with the AFRWC.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Nail briefed the group on the logistics of the AFRWC and FirstNet meetings. Both meetings will be held at the Von Braun Center, North Hall 1, in Huntsville, AL. The AFRWC quarterly meeting will be held on July 14th from 2-4pm. The AFRWC & FirstNet meeting will be held on July 15th from 8:00am – 5pm. The hotel co-located with the center is the Embassy suites. This meeting will be open to the public. During the meeting on July 15th we will have a working lunch only for invitees/RSVPs.
- Mr. Murph reviewed the development of FirstNet since its beginning. He presented a preparatory slide pack for the Alabama FirstNet Initial Consultation meeting. He offered to provide a digital copy so that members may distribute to their associations/agencies in order to educate/inform them on FirstNet. Mr. Murph also shared a video produced by Texas public safety broadband program demonstrating the uses and advantages of a dedicated LTE network. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTUbShvQFdQ>
Several questions/statements were raised by the members regarding FirstNet. The following is a summary;
 - Will FirstNet allow use of SLIGP funds to do wireless coverage analysis to evaluate the data provided by FirstNet/Partners or to inform the states RFP in an Opt-out scenario?



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- If we opt-out, do we lease the spectrum from NTIA? Are we then operating the system and charging the users? This would influence our decision to Opt-in or Opt-out. Or if we do not opt-out and FirstNet builds the system will FirstNet be the vendor?
- Didn't Mississippi already have a system and they were denied the use of FirstNet spectrum?
- What would prevent FirstNet from denying us the use of the spectrum if we decide to Opt-out and build our own RAN?
- How will body cam video get back to dispatch and or local fusion center?
- How will the FirstNet network deal with Hurricanes, Tornadoes/damage to infrastructure?
- Who will address coverage issues/priorities during the buildout of the RAN by FirstNet? Once the RAN buildout is underway, how will changes be made/controlled/decided to the plan to accommodate unforeseen hurdles? How will RAN upgrades and maintenance be handled?
- If we use deployable to provide additional coverage, who will provide this equipment, who will maintain and upgrade? Who will coordinate the access of these deployables to the FirstNet network?
- Will the local COM-L or someone at the state EOC have access to the network to establish priorities & preemption during a disaster/event?
- The majority of Alabama is rural/wilderness. Will the state have input in the timeline for the buildout of coverage in these areas?
- Is public works a public safety entity?
- Would it be in the best interest of our group/AFRWC to define "First Responder"?
- Who will lease the spectrum, FirstNet or NTIA?
- Why have the Governor opt-in/opt-out if FirstNet intends to build the network regardless?
- Is FirstNet conducting outreach to federal agencies? Will federal agencies be included in the state RAN plan?
- What if the state & state public safety entities do not sign on to FirstNet and develop a state or region specific public private partnership LTE network?
- The state needs to know, if it opt-out, what federal agencies will need access/coverage to the statewide RAN.



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- Mr. Murph also discussed the upcoming FirstNet meeting. He suggested that the AFRWC have a teleconference/video conference prior to the July 14th meeting to assist in the preparation of discussion topics & questions for the FirstNet meeting. He also discussed static displays for the meetings in Huntsville. Chris Reed, Huntsville EMA, providing STR vehicle for static display. Mobile Fire Rescue bringing truck for static display. Mr. Ernie Blair & Mr. Jim Peterson to coordinate Huntsville Police Department vehicle displaying Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) for static display.
- Mr. James Patterson, ALEA Communications Director, suggested that the AFRWC should define "First Responder". Mr. Murph called for a motion for the Policies & Procedures WG to undertake the effort to define the term "First Responder". Mr. Wood, made a motion to initiate this effort. Mr. Jon Lord, AAFC, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PROPOSED DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:

- July 14th, 2015 in Huntsville, AL. 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM (AFRWC)
- July 15th, 2015 in Huntsville, AL. 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM (AFRWC & FirstNet)

ADJOURN:

- Mr. Murph called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wood made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Grabryan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.