



# Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission

Commission Meeting

July 14th, 2015





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# Quorum Call from Chair





# AGENDA



- Welcome - Chairman
  - Introductions (as needed)
- Acceptance of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from the June Meeting
- Reports from Workgroups
  - P-25 System Administrators Workgroup
  - State Agency Workgroup
  - Broadband Users Workgroup
  - Policy & Procedures Workgroup
- Old Business
  - Divisional Advisory Committees – Curtis Nail
- New Business
  - FirstNet Initial Consultation Meeting
    - Preparation Discussion – All
  - Fill out in-state travel form for the AFRWC meeting.
- Proposed Date for Next Meeting:
  - TBD
- Adjourn





# Minutes

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## June Meeting

(each member should have received a draft copy prior to the meeting via email)





# Commission Workgroups Reports

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- Project 25 System Administrators WG.
  - Chair Michael G. Lee, Deputy Director, Jefferson County 9-1-1
- State Agencies WG.
  - Chair Jeb Hargrove, Director, Communications Section, Alabama EMA
- Broadband Users WG.





# Commission Workgroups Reports

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- Policy & Procedures WG.



## ALABAMA FIRST RESPONDER WIRELESS COMMISSION POLICY ACTION



### Policy Action 06-2015 "First Responder"

The Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission adopts the following definition for use in carrying out the purposes and objectives of the Commission:

"First Responder" -Federal, state and local law-enforcement officers, fire, and emergency medical services personnel, hazardous materials response team members, public safety dispatchers and emergency communications personnel, or any individual who is responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, and evidence, and has been sent or directed to respond to a request for assistance as a result of a critical incident.

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# Old Business

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- Divisional Advisory Committees – Curtis Nail





# Divisional Advisory Committees

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- DAC Initial Meeting(s) completed: 57%;
  - DAC-A, DAC-B, DAC-C & DAC-G.
- Currently working to schedule locations & dates for the remaining DACs.
  - DAC-D, DAC-E & DAC-F.





# Broadband User Workgroup Welcome!

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- DAC-A
  - Chairman: Mr. Jack Busby, Cpt. Mobile Fire.
  - Vice Chairman: Mr. Chuck McKinley, Baldwin County 911.
- DAC-B
  - Chairman: Mr. Jim Smith, Col. Cottonwood Public Safety.
  - Vice Chairman: Mr. Mark Blankenship, Chairman Dale County Commission.
- DAC-C
  - Chairman: Mr. Tim Summerlin, Chief UA Police Dept.
  - Vice Chairman: Mr. Reid Vaughan, Chief Cuba Fire Dept.
- DAC-G
  - Chairman: Mr. Greg Silas, Director Birmingham 9-1-1
  - Vice Chairman: Mr. Hub Harvey, Shelby Co. EMA





# New Business

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- FirstNet Initial Consultation Meeting
  - Preparation Discussion – All





# FirstNet Initial Consultation Latest Timeline



- Responses to the draft RFP are due to FirstNet on July 27;
- Early-builder public-safety LTE projects in Harris County and Adams County are operational. Other early-builder projects in New Jersey, New Mexico and Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS) are supposed to be completed in September;
- Initial state consultations have been completed with 34 of the 56 states and territories, and that figure should increase to 49 by the end of September. An initial consultation meeting with all 56 states and territories should be conducted by the end of the year;
- FirstNet officials hope to issue a final RFP by the end of the year; if not, it will be released in early 2016;
- Most of 2016 will be spent receiving RFP responses and evaluating them;
- FirstNet expects to provide governors with state plans in late 2016 or early 2017, at which time the governors will decide whether they want to pursue the opt-out alternative;
- FirstNet plans to begin making RFP deployment awards in 2017, with operations probably beginning in 2018; and
- Rural buildout milestones are included in each of the five deployment phases, in 20% increments. At the end of the five-year plan, coverage should be provided to rural areas.





# FirstNet Initial Consultation

## FirstNet Process

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1. What is the anticipated timeline (roadmap) of events for the consultation process between the state of Alabama and FirstNet?
2. Is the Opt-In/Opt-Out option a contractual agreement between FirstNet and the state of Alabama? If not then the consultation process is rendered meaningless.
3. When FirstNet partners with a wireless provider, what is the requirement/timeline for the provider to harden/improve its infrastructure to public safety grade?
4. Will FirstNet negotiate directly with the Tribal Nations, verses through the state?
5. Should FirstNet be treated as any other wireless vendor competing for state business?
6. To which degree do states have the ability to broker novel partnerships and explore innovative business models without completely opting out of FirstNet's proposal and building its own RAN? Will the state or local jurisdictions be able to procure additional RAN sites to improve coverage in addition to FirstNet's efforts? (A blended solution of Opt-in/Opt-out)
7. The state needs to know, if it opt-out, what federal agencies will need access/coverage to the statewide RAN.





# FirstNet Initial Consultation

## FirstNet Process

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8. Is the state at a disadvantage when presenting its alternate RAN plan given that FirstNet is the deciding authority on each step in the process and also the default solution should any step in the process be deemed inadequate by FirstNet?
9. Didn't Mississippi already have a system and they were denied the use of FirstNet spectrum? Since FirstNet is essentially a wireless services provider, should we not consider Mississippi as an example of FirstNet's past performance?
10. Should FirstNet allow the governor/state wireless governing body or PSAC to define public-safety entity prior to issuing the final RFP?
11. 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?
12. If we opt-out, do we lease the spectrum from NTIA? Are we then operating the system and charging the users? What control over the revenue would the state have? This would influence our decision to Opt-in or Opt-out.
13. What would prevent FirstNet from denying us the use of the spectrum if we decide to Opt-out and build our own RAN?
14. Is public works a public safety entity?





# FirstNet Initial Consultation

## FirstNet Process

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15. Would it be in the best interest of our group/AFRWC to define “First Responder”?
16. Who will lease the spectrum, FirstNet or NTIA?
17. Why have the Governor opt-in/opt-out if FirstNet intends to build the network regardless?
18. Is FirstNet conducting outreach to federal agencies? Will federal agencies be included in the state RAN plan?
19. 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?
20. Public Safety must be included in the device development process to insure their requirements are met and to foster buy-in from public safety agencies.
21. 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?





# FirstNet Initial Consultation

## FirstNet Cost

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22. Can FirstNet provide an overview of how users/public safety entities will be billed? Will FirstNet bill directly or through the contracted wireless provider? Will this be a flat rate for unlimited data, or based on data usage?
23. Does FirstNet have a cost estimate for service? How does FirstNet envision a complaint or appeals process for service and billing issues?
24. Solution must be comprehensive. Public Safety does not need an additional device to carry, nor can they afford to pay a separate/additional bill.
25. Devices must be Public Safety grade i.e. rugged, glove compatible & breather compatible and must be available for all situations i.e. fixed, mobile & portable. Device cost will be an inhibitor to adoption of FirstNet.
26. Cost will be a large hurdle to all agencies adopting this technology and resulting in nationwide interoperability. Larger agencies can afford expanded services but smaller agencies, such as volunteer fire, cannot. There must be a financial incentive for both the service and device cost. The cost must be extremely reasonable. If not then the results will be a have and have not situation again. This will result in the failure of FirstNet in its primary mission to build a nationwide interoperable network used by all public safety. It could also create a wedge between federal partners who can afford the service and state agencies who cannot.



# FirstNet Initial Consultation

## FirstNet Coverage

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27. Will FirstNet provide our state with guaranteed assurance that the FirstNet commercial carrier system will be better than our current mission critical, public safety grade system at no cost greater to our public safety users than they are paying per month today with complete coverage of our state?
28. The majority of Alabama is rural/wilderness. Will the state have input in the timeline for the buildout of coverage in these areas?
29. Coverage via satellite being considered for rural areas will likely be unacceptable due to latency issues, cost and reliability during weather.
30. Who will address coverage issues/priorities during the buildout of the RAN by FirstNet?
31. If we use deployables 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?





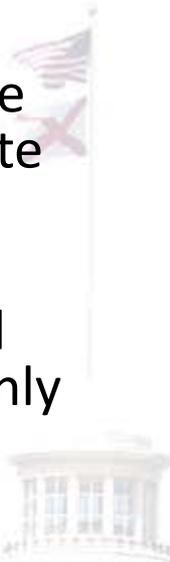
# FirstNet Initial Consultation

## FirstNet Operation

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32. Will FirstNet integrate with next-generation 911?
33. Will the network backhaul established by FirstNet for the in-state RAN have additional capacity that could be used for other in-state public safety connectivity?
34. What plans does FirstNet have for securing the data on its network and addressing concerns about the state having control over what data can be shared and how it is used? (Official use only or classified as not for public dissemination)
35. What is FirstNet's vision for how local control will function/be coordinated?
36. What is FirstNet's vision on how "priority and preemption" will work at the federal, state and local levels?
37. What specific system performance data/access/control will FirstNet share with local stakeholders?





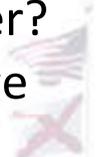
# FirstNet Initial Consultation

## FirstNet Operation

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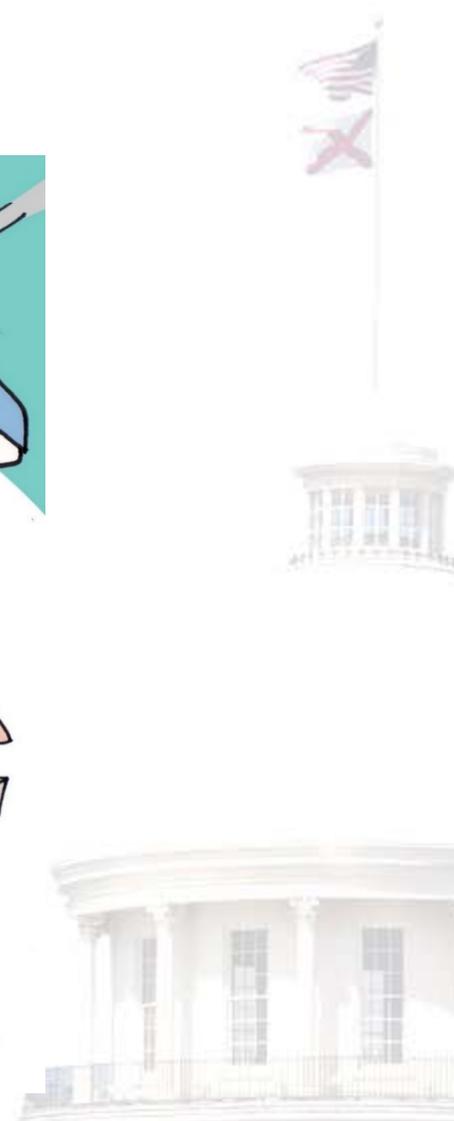
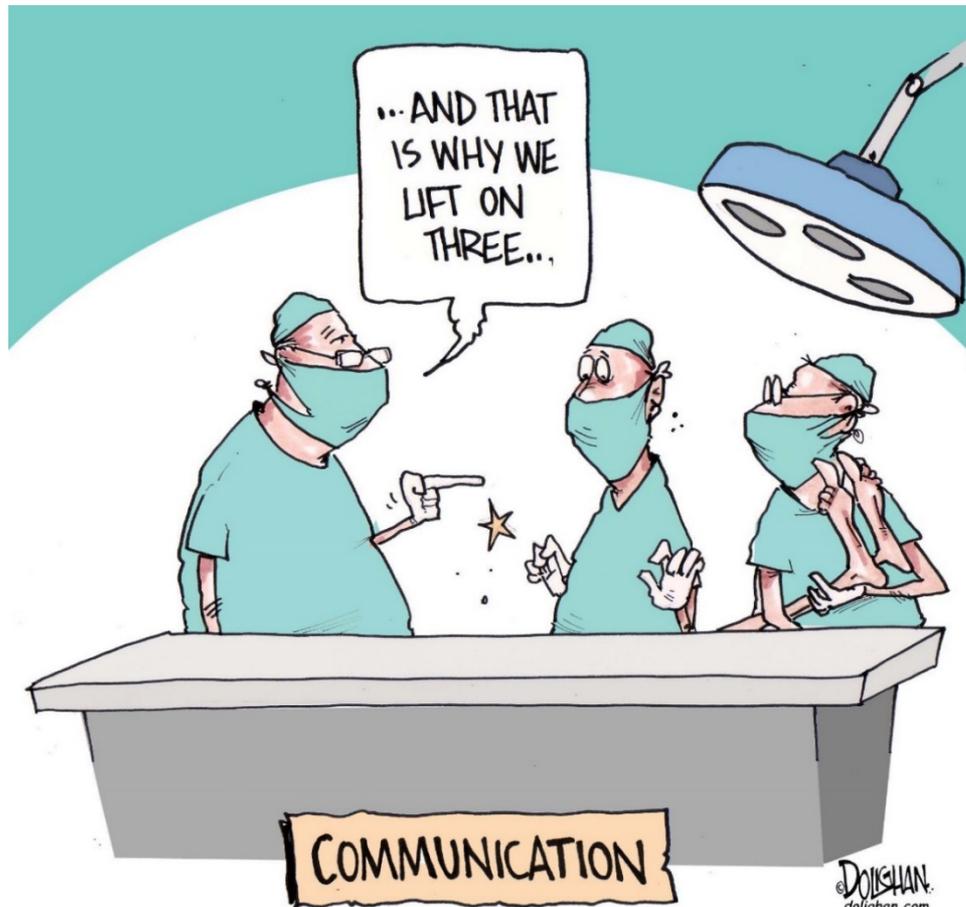
38. How will body cam video get back to dispatch and or local fusion center?
39. How will the FirstNet network deal with Hurricanes, Tornadoes/damage to infrastructure?
40. Will the local COM-L or someone at the state EOC have access to the network to establish priorities & preemption during a disaster/event?
41. Devices should be dual band capable enabling the ability to seamlessly switch between FirstNet Band 14 coverage and commercial cellular network coverage.
42. Some applications (Netmotion) require a static IP address for the device. Dual band devices must be able to transition from one carrier to another while maintaining a static IP address.
43. EMS will be a large user of data services. For example transmitting EKG data from the scene or ambulance to the trauma system and hospitals.





# New Business

- Please Fill Out In-State Travel Form.



DOLIGHAN  
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# Next Meeting Date

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- TBD





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- Adjourn

