



## Alabama First Responder Wireless Commission Meeting November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Montgomery, AL

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Roberts, Shirrell – ALEA  
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  
Presley, Tommy – ALM  
Lord, Jon – AAFC  
Mullins, Ben – AGI  
Fields, Willie – ADOC  
Ranson, Richard – University of Alabama  
Linsley, Eric – Mobile County  
Hargrove, Jeb – AEMA  
McKinley, Chuck – Baldwin Co. 9-1-1 (DAC-A VC)  
Stokes, Michael – ALDOT  
Patterson, James – ALEA Communications  
Lewis, Chris – DCNR  
Barton, Michael – ASA  
Fisher, Larry – Montgomery ECD  
Lee, Michael – P25 WG Chairman  
Trimmier, Denise – Jefferson Co.  
Wright, Jamey – Morgan Co. 9-1-1  
Johnson, Terry – Morgan Co. 9-1-1  
Jenkins, Kevin – Calhoun Co. 9-1-1  
Britain, Holly – Dothan/Houston Co. Communications  
Silas, Greg – Birmingham 9-1-1  
Newman, Terry – Lake Martin S&R  
Neighbors, Scott – Lake Martin S&R  
Summerlin, Tim – University of Alabama  
Cook, Ashley – ALEA  
Boley, Ken – Televate  
Abley, Brandon – Televate



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**IN ATTENDANCE (Cont.):**

Burke, Rick – Televate  
Butts, David – Sharp Communications  
Reynolds, Rex – Sharp Communications  
Hester, Danny – Sharp Communications  
Rowland, Yogi – Motorola Solutions  
Ventura, Dominic – Motorola Solutions  
Johnson, Randy – Motorola Solutions  
Durrence, Susan – Motorola Solutions  
Cockrell, Mark – Harris Corp.  
Holt, Jordan – Harris Corp.  
Smith, Michael – SouthernLINC Wireless  
Butts, Rob – SouthernLINC Wireless  
Farrell, Mike – Hurricane Electronics  
Lupton, Lee – The Genesis Group



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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Shirrell Roberts, ALEA Deputy Director, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Mr. Murph recognized that there is a quorum present to conduct the meeting.

**AGENDA ACCEPTANCE:**

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

**JULY 14<sup>th</sup> MINUTES ACCEPTANCE:**

Mr. Murph requested the attendees to review the minutes from the July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting to determine if any corrections are necessary. Mr. Murph called for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. J.T. Johnston, AAEM, made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Wood, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**NOVEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> MINUTES:**

Mr. Murph called for the workgroup reports.

**WORKGROUP REPORTS:**

- P-25 System Administrators Workgroup. Mr. Michael Lee, P25 WG Chairman. No official meeting was held this quarter. Members attended the 700/800 MHz & ALNENA conference in Orange Beach last month.
- State Agency Workgroup. Mr. Jeb Hargrove, State Agency WG Chairman. Last WG meeting was held August 13<sup>th</sup>. Discussed better ways for our state agencies to collaborate and share knowledge and resources related to communications. Also discussed standardization of equipment, systems and processes within state agencies. SouthernLINC briefed the WG on LTE mission critical wireless data system. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup>. December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will discuss objectives for the WG for 2016.



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- Policy & Procedures Workgroup. Mr. James Patterson, Policy & Procedures WG Chairman. No new policies developed since last AFRWC meeting. Policy 06-2015, First Responder definition, was presented for adoption at the previous AFRWC meeting and the addition of “tribal” was requested by the AFRWC. The amended 06-2015 policy is presented today for a vote of approval by the AFRWC. Motion to accept by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Grabryan. Motion passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Curtis Nail, ALEA, provided an update on the status of the Divisional Advisory Committees (DAC) and FirstNet. DAC initial meetings have been completed. Total Public Safety in attendance for all DAC meetings = 60 personnel. FirstNet and Alabama held their initial consultation July 15<sup>th</sup> in Huntsville Alabama. We had 85 in attendance. ALEA has received approval for Phase 2 SLIGP funds to support FirstNet data collection efforts. FirstNet anticipates the release of its RFP in Q1 of 2016 and State Plans in Q2 of 2017.
- Ms. Cathy Dawson, ALEA, provided an update on the AFRWC’s website & social media presence and encouraged everyone’s feedback. Ms. Dawson also provided a review of the agenda’s for the Alabama Interoperable Communications Summit & Southeastern U.S. Public Safety Broadband Summit to be held at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach, AL January 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.



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### NEW BUSINESS:

- Alabama Interoperable Radio System, AIRS. Mr. Kevin Jenkins, Calhoun County 9-1-1. AIRS is a cooperation of P25 system owners to connect individual P25 systems/Cores across the state. AIRS has developed core owners participation agreements to insure manageability and stability of a multi-core communications system. This effort will improve interoperability, joint operations, safety and response of first responders. With adequate funding appropriations, other jurisdictions and the State of Alabama can choose to participate in the cooperative governance of AIRS. Mr. Greg Silas, Birmingham 9-1-1. Good fences make good neighbors, i.e. we must have a set of guidelines/rules everyone follows that utilizes the system. The core owner's agreement includes provisions to keep everyone on the same software revision etc. This effort is about sharing resources and improving communications. Mr. Ernie Blair, Huntsville/Madison 9-1-1. April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 tornados we had an EF5 come through Madison County and we did not have our new radio system. We were on different systems and could not talk to each other. In January of 2012 we were operational on the new P25 radio system. We have 7+ agencies on the same system and on a day to day basis they do not know they are sharing a system and have their own channels/talk groups. During an event that requires interoperability between responder agencies they can switch to interoperable communication channels on their radios and talk to each other on the same system. Emphasis was placed on the necessity for the State to contribute funding to this effort to ensure poorer areas in the state are covered with mission critical public safety communications. Mr. Roberts acknowledged that interoperable communications is needed and the problem recognized during 9-11, Katrina and other events. How can we work together, AFRWC/AIRS, so that we have unity of effort and not duplication of effort because when we go to the legislature we are only going to get one opportunity to do this and do it correctly? We have the P25 WG within the AFRWC, which includes many members of AIRS, and we need one voice and a consistent message, so how do we work together and unify our efforts? Mr. Blair responded that this is something we must work on. Mr. Murph inviting AIRS to present was a great first step so that we can share what we are doing. The next step is to figure out how we, AIRS/AFRWC, can work together to prevent a duplication of efforts. Mr. J.T. Johnson suggested that we need to establish goals, objectives, coverage and/or strategic plan needed to build the system and put the associated costs together to support this effort next year.



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- **Televate Introduction.** Mr. Rick Burke, Mr. Brandon Abley, Mr. Ken Boley. Televate is a nationwide public safety telecommunications and information technology consulting firm based in northern Virginia. We have many years of experience building and operating LTE and radio networks and providing planning, governance, and IT consulting support for public safety organizations in the United States and Canada. We have been retained by ALEA to provide technical consulting services for this project and to support the FirstNet Consultation Process. The Interoperability Group (IOG) is a Legal and consulting practice with emphasis on interoperability projects, esp. legal and governance issues. IOG has partnered with Televate to provide governance and legal consulting to ALEA for this project.
- **Alabama Public Safety Broadband (APSB) Project.** Mr. Burke and Mr. Abley. This a project commissioned by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) to develop/collect Alabama public safety's requirements for the nationwide public safety broadband network (NPSBN) in the state of Alabama and to prepare the state to consult with FirstNet to integrate the network. This effort will consist of Outreach & Education, Data Collection and Projections, FirstNet Consultation Support, Alabama Coverage requirements and Governance Assessment. In Q4 we will start to issue surveys to AL public safety to define requirements. In Q1 2016 we will perform county and city agency coverage interviews to define coverage requirements. Also we will start to perform CAD data analysis to identify statistical trends to support data collected from interviews.
- **Initial Coverage Maps.** 5 FirstNet/NPSBN coverage maps were presented to the AFRWC for comment and approval. Once approved by the AFRWC these coverage maps will be submitted to FirstNet as the AFRWC's requested coverage requirements over a 5 phase/5 year buildout of the NPSBN. These coverage maps are being requested by FirstNet for incorporation into the FirstNet RFP due to be released in Q1 2016. Mr. Murph called for a motion to accept the 5 coverage maps as presented. Motion to accept made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Grabryan. Motion passed unanimously.



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**PROPOSED DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- January 12th 2016. 1:00 – 3:00 pm  
Perdido Beach Resort  
27200 Perdido Beach Blvd.  
Orange Beach, AL.

**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 1:00 pm.