

**MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION**  
**January 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes**  
Place: 6<sup>th</sup> Floor MDOT Conference Room  
401 North West Street  
Jackson, MS

<b>Commission Members Present:</b>	
<b>MS Emergency Management</b>	<b>Chairman, Robert Latham</b>
<b>MS Office of Homeland Security</b>	<b>Rusty Barnes</b>
<b>MS Association of Supervisors</b>	<b>Steve Gray</b>
<b>MS Department of Transportation</b>	<b>Willie Huff</b>
<b>MS National Guard</b>	<b>Gary Ladd</b>
<b>MS Department of Health</b>	<b>Mike Lucius</b>
<b>MS Department of Public Safety</b>	<b>Ken Magee</b>
<b>MS Department of Corrections</b>	<b>Audrey McAfee</b>
<b>MS Department of Information Technology Services</b>	<b>David Johnson</b>
<b>MS Association of Sheriffs</b>	<b>Steve Rushing</b>
<b>MS Wildlife, Fisheries &amp; Parks</b>	<b>Curtis Thornhill</b>
<b>MS Association of Police Chiefs</b>	<b>Perry Waggener</b>
<b>Advisory Board Members Present:</b>	
<b>Chairman Senate Energy Committee</b>	<b>Senator Terry Burton</b>
<b>Also in Attendance:</b>	
<b>State House of Representatives</b>	<b>Representative Tracy Arnold</b>

Chairman Latham called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM and welcomed everyone. The Chairman asked if there were any changes to the December 5, 2013 minutes. There were no changes and the Chairman called for a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Willie Huff made the motion to approve. Mr. Steve Gray seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.

Ms. Helfrich provided the MSWIN Project update and also provided a one page MSWIN status update as requested in last month's meeting which outlined MSWIN User and Network activity and Zone usage broken down by talk groups. Ms. Helfrich indicated that in December, Genesis, a software update which provides the capability for detailed reports and statistics on MSWIN will be installed; a server will be installed at the Master Site which will allow us to provide the GPS feature that we discussed as part of our revenue generation plan; in addition, we are working on Dynamic System Resiliency (DSR) which allows for master site backup and redundancy.

Mr. Willie Huff made the report for the Procurement Review Committee noting that one procurement request was received. This request was from Panola County E-911 for the purchase of a 3-position radio console system in the amount of \$193,709.00. Mr. Huff noted that the Procurement Review Committee had been unable to meet and made a motion to allow the request to come before the full Commission for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ken Magee and passed with none opposed. Representatives from Panola County were present and were allowed to make comments. Mr. Huff made a motion to approve the Panola County E-911 procurement request, Lt. Col. Ladd seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.

Chairman Latham called for the report of the Governance/Interoperability Committee. Mr. Huff requested that he be allowed to be moved to the end of the agenda. The Chairman agreed.

The Chairman called for the report of the Revenue Committee. Mr. Gray noted there was nothing to report. Mr. Gray commented about the lack of action or movement on several possible revenue generation proposals for MSWIN that he has brought before the Commission during the past year. He went on to suggest that the Commission look into the Insurance Premium Tax; 3% is assessed to policies which generates about \$200M dollars a year. A portion of that goes to the Fire Rebate Fund. The Commission can check to see if some of the funds can be diverted to MSWIN or that a .5%

increase be added as an investment for MSWIN. Senator Burton stated that the deadline for action on appropriation bills is February 16, 2014. Ms. Helfrich said that a bill will need to be dropped and she will work with Mr. Gray on this. Senator Burton suggested that because of time criticality a dummy bill be dropped as a placeholder for the WCC. The Commissioners agreed that this was an excellent solution.

The Chairman called for the Report of Monthly Expenditures. Mr. David Johnson stated that there is \$2.7M dollars left in the Integrated Public Safety Communications Fund (3603) for FY14; the total expense for the month of December was \$819 thousand dollars. The balance for all state funds is \$2.8M dollars and the balance for Grant funds (BTOP and MICG) is \$48M dollars. The most recent analysis of funds shows the WCC having adequate operational funding through the beginning of February 2014. Mr. Steve Gray made a motion to approve monthly expenditures. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Rushing and the motion passed with none opposed.

Chairman Latham stated that in the next meeting he plans to invite current MSWIN users, potential users, local and State agencies and private entities to an open forum to discuss advantages, disadvantages, and consequences of user fees. We need something concrete to validate the pros and cons of user fees. A questionnaire will be sent out before the next meeting to assist in getting feedback and attendance.

The Chairman called for report of the Governance/Interoperability Committee. Mr. Huff noted that Game and Fish is developing an application to determine where their units are in real time on the map. They would be using MSWIN's data transport network. Staff and the Governance Committee have discussed setting a fee for that value added service to allow them to go forward. It was decided that a 30-day delay in setting the fee would not hurt the process and it will be discussed in the next meeting. Mr. Huff also stated that there is a need at Camp Shelby for MSWIN enhanced coverage, cellular telephone coverage, and data coverage. He asked Lt. Col. Ladd to discuss it further. Lt. Col. Ladd provided background information on the issue and stated that this could be a revenue generating possibility if the Commission agrees to let them go forward at least allowing them do the due diligence for the WCC to build the 2-3 towers that Camp Shelby needs with MICG funds. The Commission agreed to let Camp Shelby move forward with due diligence. Mr. Huff asked what amount of MICG funds will be left at the end of the project. That amount has not yet been determined.

Mr. Huff briefly discussed the need to re-address the By-laws before they are put on the new website. He will send out word copies for possible discussion at the next meeting. Mr. Huff also discussed the RoIP RFP. He noted that BGA is fairly close to completing the RFP portion of that document which must come back to the Commission for approval and go to ITS for approval. He asked what the procedure is to get the RFP to ITS for review. Mr. Anthony Hardaway of ITS stated that Ms. Helfrich can submit the project and ITS will assign it to a Project Manager. The next item for discussion was data usage on MSWIN. MDOT has been in discussions about using MSWIN to transport data from one part of the State back to Jackson. He asked ITS if there is some preclusion of allowing MDOT or any State Agency being able to use MSWIN Backhaul on a fee basis that will keep MDOT from going forward with this project as far as ITS rules, guidelines or regulations. Mr. D. Johnson of ITS said that he would look into it. Mr. Huff then shared that there has been some interest in establishing specific state-wide talkgroups for disciplines such as Law Enforcement and Fire groups which would allow agencies to be able to contact other agencies. The Governance Committee is in discussion about it.

At that time Mr. Huff made a motion to go into closed session to determine if it was necessary to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Lt. Colonel Ladd and passed with none opposed. All attendees that were not Commission members were asked to exit the room. After some discussion, Mr. Huff made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Rushing and all members present voted unanimously to go into executive session. Those members of the general public that had been present were notified that the Commission had voted to go into executive session to conduct a strategy session with respect to possible litigation and that an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public

body. An executive session was conducted by the Chairman on the subject announced. There were no votes or action taken during the executive session. Upon conclusion of the discussion, a motion was made to close the executive session and resume open meeting by Mr. Huff. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Gray. The Commission voted unanimously to return to open meeting. Members of the general public still waiting were notified that open session was resuming.

Chairman Latham called for other business. There was no other business for discussion.

The next meeting will be held on Feb 6, 2014 at 1:30 PM in the MDOT 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Auditorium. The website will be updated to reflect the new location. Mr. Steve Gray made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Rushing and passed with none opposed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:20 PM.