

MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION
May 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Place: Woolfolk Building – DFA, Room 145, 501 North West Street Jackson, MS

Commission Members Present:	
MS Department of Emergency Management Agency	Smithson, Lee (Vice-Chairman)
MS Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks	Bolden, Michael
MS Municipal League	Brown, Johnathan
MS National Guard	Causey, LTC Ray
MS Association of Supervisors	Gray, Steve
MS Department of Transportation	Huff, Willie
MS Department of Information Technology Services	Johnson, David
MS Association of Fire Chiefs	Lariviere, Tom
MS Highway Safety Patrol	Loper, Don
MS Department of Corrections	McAfee, Audrey
MS Office of Homeland Security	McKee, Mark
MS Department of Environmental Quality	Sanders, Chris
MS Department of Health	Vaughn, Wayne
MS Police Chiefs	Waggener, Perry
Advisory Members Present:	
Senate Appropriation Committee	Burton, Senator Terry
Senate Finance Committee	Doty, Senator Sally

Vice-Chairman Lee Smithson called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM and welcomed everyone. Vice-Chairman Smithson recognized Senator Terry Burton and Senator Sally Doty, as well as Representatives from First Net, AT&T, and University of Mississippi Medical Center. Vice-Chairman Smithson then called for the review of the April 6, 2017 meeting minutes. Mr. Donald Loper noted a correction to the minutes changing 250 bit key encryption to 256 bit key encryption on page 3. Vice-Chairman Smithson asked for any further comments or corrections, after which he entertained a motion to approve the April 6, 2017 minutes, as they were transmitted with the noted encryption correction. Mr. Tom Lariviere made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Donald Loper, and the motion carried with none opposed.

Ms. Vicki Helfrich gave the MSWIN Project Update for April 2017. She provided information on MOUs executed, radios loaned out, and activities the WCC staff participated in during the month. Ms. Helfrich also provided information on the number of current MSWIN users, the number of users projected for the 2nd Quarter, the top ten (10) state agencies by system use, and MSWIN top ten (10) local/other agencies by system use.

Mr. Bill Buffington gave an update on the MSWIN build-out status. Mr. Buffington reported that we are making progress with the Camp Shelby sites with target construction dates to begin in June 2017. The Due diligence process has begun for the Parchman site. The BTOP data expansion equipment has been delivered to approximately 40 sites. In addition, Staff will continue to work with Warren and Hinds County and other local county wide systems.

Ms. Helfrich then gave an updated contract status report. Ms. Helfrich reported the WCC has three (3) professional service agreement renewals in process. Vice-Chairman Smithson asked for any questions.

Mr. Lariviere then asked if there were any significant degradation problems to the MSWIN System after the recent storms. Mr. Buffington reported generators running over the severe weather events with wind damage to one microwave antenna. But, no degradation problems occurred. Vice-Chairman Smithson noted that storm damage have been reported in twenty-six (26) counties from twenty-eight (28) confirmed tornadoes.

Vice-Chairman Smithson called for the report of the Procurement Review Committee. Chairman Perry Waggener reported one (1) procurement request brought before the Committee, from Bolivar County, in the amount of \$379,719.50 dollars for the purchase of MSWIN-capable wireline dispatch consoles. Chairman Waggener then recognized Ms. Lisa Reagan from Bolivar County and her availability to answer any questions. Chairman Waggener noted that the Local Procurement Review Committee unanimously approved the request. The Vice-Chairman entertained a motion to approve the local procurement request from Bolivar County in the amount of \$379,719.50. Chairman Waggener made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Wayne Vaughn, and the motion carried with none opposed.

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Vice-Chairman Smithson called for the Governance/Interoperability Committee. Chief Huff reported that during and immediately after the recent weather event, the 26 affected counties were able to interoperate with the MSWIN system. Chief Huff stated that the April PTT indicates the system is an integral part of public safety communication daily and during emergencies. The city of Durant borrowed MSWIN radios to communicate with emergency responders demonstrating that events may exceed the ability of a local agency and responding units need the communication ability that MSWIN provides. Over 100 officers from 10 agencies, including federal agencies and emergency medical personnel, were able to communicate during the Meridian area law enforcement saturation. Chief Huff expressed his concern that the importance of the MSWIN system is often misunderstood and the local agencies and MSWIN Commission members must speak out in support of the system. The April PPT is indicative of the daily use and importance of the system and budget cuts could reduce the reliability or availability of this resource.

Vice-Chairman Smithson called for approval of expenditures. Mr. David Johnson reported the FY17 financial update through April 2017. The current month's expenses were \$500,324 dollars bringing the FY17 cumulative expenses to \$6.7 million dollars. With the general fund reductions of \$366,254, special fund reduction of \$59,283.36, and recent deficit appropriation of \$1,426,663.00 million dollars, the FY17 operating funds total \$10,133,416 million dollars. The current remaining balance for FY17 is \$3,384,242.23 million dollars. For grant funds, there were no MICG expenditures for the month, \$21,331.37 was received for program income, and the BTOP fund had a small grant management expense. Total grant funds available are \$189,403,248.99. Vice-Chairman Smithson asked if there were further questions. Vice-Chairman Smithson called for a motion to approve the monthly expenditures. Mr. Johnathan Brown made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures, the motion was seconded by Mr. Lariviere, and the motion carried with none opposed.

Vice-Chairman Smithson then turned the meeting over to FirstNet for an update. Mr. Mayo Flynt, AT&T's Mississippi President, introduced AT&T and FirstNet guests. Mr. Flynt provided an overview of FirstNet's recent RFP award to AT&T to build out the nationwide public safety broadband network. Mr. Chuck Murph, FirstNet Region IV Lead, provided an overview of FirstNet including their consultations with each State to understand what first responders need. Mr. Ronnie Caluda, AT&T Representative, then gave an overview of what AT&T will provide as part of the contract with FirstNet. Mr. Murph then provided an overview of the next steps and priorities regarding the Draft State Plans that should be provided to each state by mid-June 2017. FirstNet has a scheduled SPOC Meeting to be held in Dallas, Texas on June 7-8, 2017.

Vice Chairman Smithson then introduced Dr. Damon Darsey, UMMC MED-COM, to speak about the First Hands Program. Dr. Darsey provided an overview of the new First Hands Program developed by UMMC. Through a federal grant, this program is designed to improve public safety communications and emergency medical capabilities in Mississippi's most rural areas. First Hands is a training course focusing on emergency medical and communications education. The program trains first responders in administering first aid with the assistance of the MSWIN system in an effort to reduce mortality rates. Dr. Darsey then facilitated further discussion on opportunities for extensive training to promote interoperability for life-saving events. With no further discussion, Vice Chairman Smithson thanked Dr. Darsey and his team for the update.

With no other business to discuss, the Vice Chairman announced that the next meeting will be on Thursday, June 1, 2017, 1:30 PM, in Room 145 of the Woolfolk Building at 501 North West Street, Jackson, MS. The Vice Chairman entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Perry Waggener made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnathan Brown, and the motion carried with none opposed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:01 PM.