



News Release

For Immediate Release

Aug. 15, 2014

Contact: Vicki Helfrich, WCC Executive Officer
Phone: 601-359-5333

Mississippi Wireless Information Network Welcomes Rankin County to the Statewide Interoperable System

Jackson, Miss. – The Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission unanimously voted to approve Rankin County’s application to join the Mississippi Wireless Information Network system, commonly known as MSWIN. Rankin County voted to join the MSWIN system as their primary communications partner, which will provide the county with access to state of the art public safety and first responder communication capabilities.

The Rankin County upgrade will replace its current system that has been in use since 1996. The upgrade includes connecting the county’s five tower sites to the MSWIN tower sites that are located within Rankin and adjoining counties. MSWIN users will also have access to the five sites within Rankin County.

The system will provide service to more than 3,300 users in Rankin County, increasing the total number of users on the system to more than 21,500. There are 16 federal entities, 36 state entities and 343 local entities using the system. The number of local entities will increase following Rankin County’s full migration to the system.

This partnership will enhance vehicle radio coverage, as well as improve handheld radio coverage for all users in Rankin County and on the MSWIN System.

The Miss. Legislature created the WCC in 2005, just before Hurricane Katrina. This endeavor demonstrated to both the state and the entire nation the need for survivable, secure, interoperable communications in the event of a major disaster. Hurricane Katrina provided the impetus to build out MSWIN, a P25 700 MHz Land Mobile Radio network, which now is operational statewide.

If any local agency is interested in benefiting from the MSWIN system, contact Vicki Helfrich at 601-359-5333.