

MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

December 1, 2016 Meeting Minutes

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

Commission Members Present:	
MS Department of Public Safety	Magee, Ken (Chairman)
MS Emergency Management Agency	Smithson, Lee (Vice-Chairman)
MS Municipal League	Brown, Johnathan
MS National Guard	Causey, Lt. Col. Ray
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 Health	Vaughn, Wayne
MS Police Chiefs	Waggener, Perry

Chairman Ken Magee called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM and welcomed everyone. Chairman Magee then provided time for the review of the minutes from the previous meeting on November 3, 2016, after which he entertained a motion to approve the minutes, as they were transmitted. Mr. Wayne Vaughn made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Tom Lariviere, and motion carried with none opposed.

Ms. Vicki Helfrich gave the MSWIN Project Update for November 2016. She provided information on MOUs executed, radios loaned out, and activities the WCC staff participated in during the month; issued special event talkgroups for multi-jurisdictional interoperability; completed access road repairs at the Carrollton MSWIN Site #30208; performed tasks to improve SOWs current interoperability and readiness capabilities; worked daily with subscriber requests for interoperability solutions; provided daily oversight for all MSWIN system/site maintenance and repairs; continued work on the Desoto, Hinds, Washington, and Warren County projects; worked with Forrest County/Lamar County on FDMA/TDMA/Encryption related issues; and worked with various entities to determine their future MSWIN related data needs. Ms. Helfrich also provided information on the number of current MSWIN users, the number of users projected for the 4th Quarter, the Top Twenty (20) MSWIN users, and MSWIN Top Ten (10) Talk Groups by airtime.

Mr. Bill Buffington gave an update on the MSWIN build-out status. Mr. Buffington reported site plans and pricing have been received on the Camp Shelby sites. Staff is also ready to move forward with the anticipated Parchman site location once the procurement approval has been received.

Ms. Helfrich then gave an update on the contract status. Ms. Helfrich reported no changes to the current contracts.

Chairman Magee called for the report of the Local Procurement Review Committee. Chairman Perry Waggener reported one procurement request that was brought before the committee from UMMC, with a lifecycle cost not-to-exceed in the amount of \$1,281,000 for the purchase of a paging system. The LPR committee did not have a quorum to approve the request. Chairman Waggener then presented the procurement request to the full commission for further board approval action needed. Mr. Kevin Yearick, CTO of UMMC, stated that this procurement being presented to the WCC is in an effort to obtain the proper procurement approval for the upgrades to UMMC's existing paging system. Chairman Waggener made a motion to accept and approve the procurement request from UMMC for a statewide paging system, the motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey McAfee. Chairman Magee asked if there were any questions. Chief Willie Huff asked what the paging system will offer. Mr. Yearick explained that the paging system will ensure that pages are delivered to medical staff in case of trauma. Ms. Pat Little, UMMC Telecom Engineer/Analyst, also responded that Critical Alert Systems will be monitoring the paging system. Chairman Magee noted that the lifecycle cost not-to-exceed in the amount of \$1,281,000 is over a 5 year period. Chairman Magee asked for further discussion. Chairman Magee concluded that a motion had been properly made by Chairman Waggener, seconded by Ms. McAfee, and motion carried with none opposed.

Chairman Magee called for the report of the Governance/Interoperability Committee. Chairman Huff acknowledged the need for volunteers on the committee to fill vacancies. Chief Huff had nothing further to report.

Chairman Magee then asked Ms. Helfrich to provide the report from the Broadband Committee. Ms.

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Helfrich reported that Staff submitted the BTOP Grant modification with NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration) on October 7, 2016. The formal grant modification was approved by NTIA on November 18, 2016. The current end date of the BTOP Grant, extended for five (5) years, is now June 30, 2020. Chairman Magee asked for further questions.

Chairman Magee called for approval of expenditures. Mr. David Johnson reported the expenditures for the month of November 2016 which included \$767,603.38 in general funds, a sum cumulative total for FY17 in the amount of \$3.4 million, subtracted from total appropriation for the WCC, leaving a remaining balance of \$5.5 million. Mr. Johnson noted that there was no grant activity for the month. Chairman Magee inquired on the projection of funds for FY17. Ms. Helfrich reported that the WCC operational expense margin is still short of \$1.3 million. The WCC deficit request for FY17 is in the amount of \$1.5 million. Chairman Magee asked if there were further questions. Chairman Magee called for a motion to approve the monthly expenditures. Mr. Lee Smithson made a motion to approve monthly expenditures, the motion was seconded by Mr. Lariviere, and the motion carried with none opposed.

Chairman Magee asked for other business. First item up for review was the approval of the use of remaining BTOP grant funds. Ms. Helfrich stated NTIA has approved the filed proposal for the BTOP Grant Modification, which was submitted by the WCC following Commission approval on August 4, 2016. Ms. Helfrich discussed the proposal in utilizing the remaining BTOP Grant funds which includes (1) expansion of the data capacity of MSWIN by adding data channels where needed, (2) adding nineteen microwave hops and loops, and (3) adding data servers at each Master Site in Zone 1 and Zone 3. A data server has already been installed at the Zone 2 Master Site. The expansion itself will allow First Responders to have access to data applications via MSWIN such as GPS location based services, radio and fleet management, automatic vehicle personnel location, and mass alerting. Video will not be included in data delivery, but this is an interim solution to allow access to mission critical data until the FirstNet network is available. The total amount of the expansion needed for data capacity to MSWIN is \$21,533,861. Chairman Magee asked for any questions. Chief Huff asked if the funding for the expansion is part of the original BTOP grant provided to the State in 2010. Ms. Helfrich confirmed that is the same grant and the same funds, the WCC is only trying to finish the project that was started over 6 years ago. Ms. Helfrich also stated that Staff is currently working with ITS to modify the current BTOP contract. Mr. Magee asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Smithson made the motion to approve the BTOP Contract Modification with Motorola Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$21,533,861 to expand the capabilities of the MSWIN System, which will allow First Responders to have access to mission critical data applications, seconded by Lt. Col. Causey, with none opposed.

Chairman Magee then addressed the next item on the agenda for the review and approval of MSWIN tower installations. Ms. Helfrich then asked for approval on a contract modification with Motorola Solutions, Inc. to allow the installation work for two tower sites at Camp Shelby and one tower site located at Parchman, using MICG Grant funding. The total amount of the work to be completed by Motorola is \$1,103,963. Staff has worked with Motorola and is in agreement in pricing. Along with the modification, another item for review is the extension of Contract #3429 for four years until June 30, 2021, allowing time to finalize the project and ensure State and Local entities have access to the discounted pricing available in the contract as they are still transitioning to MSWIN. Chairman Magee then asked if the Parchman Site plans were to improve in-building coverage. Ms. McAfee stated that it applies to in-building as well as the surrounding area, in benefit to the State and locals. Chairman Magee then entertained a motion to approve the contract modification with Motorola Solutions, Inc. to perform due diligence and MSWIN tower site installation services in the amount of \$1,103,963. Lt. Col. Causey made a motion to approve, seconded by Chief Huff, with none opposed. Chairman Magee then entertained a motion to approve contract modification or extension of the Contract #3429 until June 30, 2021. Mr. Lariviere made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Vaughn, with none opposed. Chairman Magee asked for further discussion.

Chairman Magee then called for the next item on the agenda, the review and approval of the MSWIN maintenance agreement for FY18 through FY21. Ms. Helfrich noted that the current four year system maintenance agreement (RF, microwave) with Motorola for MSWIN, expires on June 30, 2017. Staff has been in negotiation with Motorola over the past year for new terms of agreement, keeping cost in mind. The original price was at or above \$5.5 million per year and in negotiations for agreement, we were able to retain the price at \$2.6 million per year, for the next four years. In addition, Motorola is going to provide one software upgrade during this time period at no additional charge. The software is currently at version 7.15 with a scheduled upgrade in April/May 2017 to version 7.17. This agreement provides the opportunity to receive one more software upgrade between July 2017 and June 2021. By the end of the proposed

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extension, the scheduled software upgrades will update the MSWIN System to the latest and greatest, and results in a cost savings of approximately \$12.6 million over a four year time period which is over a 50% percent savings. Chairman Magee entertained for a motion to approve. Mr. Vaughn asked Ms. Helfrich to read the proposed motion. Ms. Helfrich read the motion to approve the contract modification with Motorola Solutions, Inc. to provide full maintenance and inspections program and network management services for the MSWIN System for four years at \$2.6 million a year for a total cost of \$10.4 million. Chairman Magee entertained a motion as stated, Mr. Vaughn made a motion to approve as stated, seconded by Mr. Don Loper, with none opposed. Ms. Helfrich added that in the FY 2018 budget request, \$4 million was allocated for system maintenance, since negotiations were still in progress. With this approval, the FY18 Budget Request may now be reduced to \$10.4 million and that is more in line with funding needed by the WCC on an annual basis. Ms. Helfrich stated that this reduction should not be confused with the FY 17 deficit request that has been submitted in the amount of \$1.5 million, as the WCC has been underfunded for the current budget year.

Chairman Magee asked for any other business. Mr. Smithson commented that for years MEMA has used the NAWAS (Nationwide Warning System) which used to be transmitted on a copper line, then several years ago switched to an internet-protocol based nationwide alert system. The annual subscription cost is about \$1,400 a year. The money is not readily available and has affected all counties, leaving them in a real dilemma without the necessary funding for a warning system. Mr. Smithson stated that the solution is MSWIN and in early December, at the MCDEMA annual meeting, a unanimous vote was made that the counties would switch from trying to pay for the system to just monitoring the Statewide Common Channel. If there are monies left over from each county, those counties will use the left over funding to buy MSWIN radios. Mr. Smithson recently had a meeting with Mr. Buffington and Mr. Dent Guynes to make sure that we had the capacity on State Common for monitoring and agreed that it was a good idea. On Friday, December 16, 2016, MEMA will perform a statewide communications exercise on State Common on the MSWIN Network as the primary method of weather alerts and other alerts.

Chairman Magee noted that at the last WCC monthly meeting, he did not recognize Mr. Mark McKee, as the November 3, 2016 Meeting was his first to attend. Mr. McKee is the Director of the Office of Homeland Security in the State of Mississippi and will be sitting on this Commission as he welcomed him aboard and looking forward to working along.

Mr. McKee commented that he received a phone call the other day from a gentleman working the VP-Elect events in the Secret Service and not only did he appreciate the support that the WCC Office provided, he stated that the MSWIN Network was the best radio communication he had ever seen. Mr. McKee then noted that he is very proud to be a part of the MSWIN System as this is the best he has ever seen in the Country or throughout the World, nothing has worked better than what we have here. Chairman Magee thanked Mr. McKee for his comments.

With no other business to discuss, the Chairman announced that the next meeting will be on Thursday, January 5, 1:30 PM in Room 145 of the Woolfolk Building at 501 North West Street, Jackson, MS.

The Chairman entertained for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Smithson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lt. Col. Ray Causey, and the motion carried with none opposed. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:23 PM.