

# Public Safety Communications Commission



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We would like to thank you for your interest in Wyoming's PSCC. We welcome any questions, comments, or suggestions you may have to this publication. You may direct them to Bob Symons at 307.777.5065 or by email at [bsymon@state.wy.us](mailto:bsymon@state.wy.us)

## Chief Billy Janes

Billy Janes has served as a Torrington Peace Officer for over 34 years. For the past 20 years Billy has served as the City of Torrington Chief of Police. Chief Janes supervises both officers and communications specialists. The Torrington Police Department is the communication center for all Goshen County emergency services.



Chief Janes became associated with the state communication system in the 1990's as a member of the SALECS Commission representing the Wyoming Chief's Association. Chief Janes was selected by the Wyoming Sheriff's and Chief's Association to be their representative on the PSMC Steering Committee and then again as the Wyoming Sheriff's and Chief's Association as their recommened appointment to the PSCC. Currently Chief Janes serves as the Chairman of the Inter-Operability Executive Committee.

From the beginning of my involvement with the State Communication System I have remained the voice of the radio user and Communication Supervisor. Sitting through all the studies and meetings it's easy to get lost in all the radio technician jargon. I found it very fitting that I would be on the Inter-Operability Committee, "In other words PLAIN TALK!". One of my goals is to help emergence services transition from a world of codes and acronyms to radio communication transmissions that we will all be able to understand and assist each other.

WyoLink came at the right time for law enforcement communications. Most of the smaller departments were or are using equipment which was purchased during the 70's law enforcement grant period. The radio experts were able to make the connections between homeland security and the need for WyoLink. This connection helped departments purchase needed new equipment.

Anytime you have change you are going to have resistance and a learning curve. WyoLink will be a major learning curve for most of us. The PSCC has the challenge of providing the information and training to help users meet the needs of a new system. Financial challenges will also be an area the PSCC will need to keep its thumb on. Coming from an area who's tax base relies on farming I understand the need to keep the cost within a workable budget.

Over the years Wyoming Law Enforcement communications was the envy of many other states. Wyoming emergency communications users have always kept an open mind when it came to allowing all necessary users to talk to each other sharing equipment etc... WyoLink will provide the users the ability to continue our cooperative history and build for the future.

<http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

**Tom Mahon**

Tom Mahon is president of Wireless Consulting, a firm offering planning and project management services for two-way radio systems. He has supported public safety communications for more than 30 years, doing everything from installing mobile radios and tower climbing to surface mount technology repair and system planning. For the last 10 years, he has been involved in planning and project management.

Tom Mahon started with the WyoLink Project as the Project Manager on May 1, 2004. Tom's first priority was to develop and publish a Request for Proposals for the construction of WyoLink. By the end of September 2004, proposals had been received from two vendors for the construction of WyoLink. On October 29, 2004, a contract was signed between the State of Wyoming and Motorola for the construction of WyoLink.

Tom has brought to life the WyoLink Radio System through the management of the development process. This process involved working with WYDOT leasing on site acquisitions to site development to phase design to procurement to optimization of completed radio sites and planning for future enhancements. With Tom's assistance and knowledge, WyoLink will be state-wide by the end of 2007. On June 18, 2007, Tom Mahon and WYDOT ended the project manager contract with Wireless Consulting and moved toward a radio site acquisition and coverage needs assessment. With this new contract, Tom will continue to be a part of the WyoLink project.

The PSCC at its June 22, 2007 meeting presented Tom Mahon with the following resolution to honor and thank him for the services that he provided the WyoLink Project.

**WYOMING PUBLIC SAFETY  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS MR. TOM MAHON HAS SERVED DILIGENTLY AS WYOLINK PROJECT MANAGER SINCE PROJECT INCEPTION, AND**

**WHEREAS MANY CHALLENGES AND COMPLEX CHOICES RELATING TO THE DESIGN, COST AND COMPLETION OF THE WYOLINK NETWORK HAVE BEEN MET AND OVERCOME THROUGH TOM MAHON'S EFFORTS, AND**

**WHEREAS THE FINAL STAGES OF WYOLINK IMPLEMENTATION ARE NOW WELL UNDERWAY WITH GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS,**

**BE IT NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT WE, THE WYOMING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION HEREBY EXPRESS OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION TO MR. TOM MAHON FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS IN MANAGING THE WYOLINK PROJECT AND HIS HELP GUIDING THE WYOMING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY INTO THE FUTURE.**

**SIGNED THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2007.**

**STEVEN DECECCO, CHAIRMAN**

**EARL ATWOOD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

## Upcoming Events

Calendar posted @ <http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

8/27/07 \* 9/24/07 \* 10/29/07 Project Team Meetings 10 am—12 pm

@ WyDOT Planning Building, 2nd Floor Training Room

This is a monthly meeting held by the WyoLink Project Manager and Motorola. The meeting gives an overview of the progress over the past month, what is taking place in the near future, and any problems or concerns that need to be addressed with WyoLink.

9/11/07—PSCC Informational Meeting—Cheyenne

9/12/07 - PSCC Meeting— Cheyenne

This is the quarterly general business meeting of the PSCC. Each committee gives a standing report; any concerns or problems are discussed and action taken, if needed. A progress report on the WyoLink project is also presented.

## WyoLink Project Report

The WyoLink Project is continuing to move forward and it is expected that Phases 2 and 3 and part of Phase 4 will be on-the-air by December 31, 2007. Motorola and the WyoLink team are in contact with the FCC on the status of the frequency licenses and resolving problems as they arise.

In Phase 2, most of the Radio Frequency equipment has been installed along with the antennas and combiners. Upon the receipt of the FCC licenses, the phase 2 radio sites should be ready for optimization, testing and then ready for use. In Phase 3 the radio site civil work is progressing with the construction of the towers, buildings and site work. The Radio Frequency equipment has been delivered to the sub-contractor and the installation of this equipment has begun.

Construction has started on three sites and will soon start on another five sites in Phase 4. Easement and leasing agreements are slowing down some of the site development work in Phase 4. The map of the WyoLink phases can be viewed at <http://wyolink.state.wy.us/coverageArea.asp>

## Portable Radio Enhancement Goal

At the June 2007 PSCC meeting the following Portable Radio Enhancement goal was adopted by the Commission.

There is no local responder link in “WyoLink” until the goal of mobile and portable radio communications interoperability is achieved.

Therefore, the goal of WyoLink coverage enhancement is to achieve interoperable public safety communications comparable with existing portable radio coverage and in areas of critical concern, identified through testing and cooperative efforts with local public safety providers, determined after statewide deployment in an area. There is an expectation of local participation within the jurisdictional area of influence.

## PSCC Members

### Chairman

Steve DeCecco  
Game and Fish

### Vice-Chairman

Bill Westerfield  
State Parks and Cultural Resources

### Secretary

Jerry Kennedy  
County Government

Lanny Applegate  
State Fire Marshal

Lauri Wempen  
Emergency Medical Services

Bob Dean  
Dept. of Health

Kebin Haller  
DCI

Mark Harshman  
Fire Chief's

Billy Janes  
Police Chief's

Mark Joiner  
Federal

Vacant  
Municipalities

Kim Lee  
Homeland Security

Danny Glick  
Sheriff's

Doug Noseep  
Tribal

Col. Sam Powell  
Wyoming Department of Transportation

Jimmy Siler  
Livestock

Bob Wyatt  
Public at Large

### Executive Director

Earl Atwood

### Staff Support

Bob Symons

## WyoLink Membership

WyoLink membership information is now available for potential agencies to apply for membership on the WyoLink Public Safety Communications System. The WyoLink Membership Agreement was finalized at the June 22, 2007 PSCC meeting and the WyoLink Handbook was revised.

The WyoLink membership package includes the following documents; WyoLink Application, WyoLink Membership Agreement, WyoLink Agreement Attachment A and WyoLink Handbook. All of these documents are available on the PSCC and WyoLink web sites at: <http://wyolink.wyoming.gov> or <http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

The WyoLink Handbook provides a section on Applying for System Access. For further information contact: Bob Symons, PSCC Administrative Support at 307-777-5065 or [bsymon@state.wy.us](mailto:bsymon@state.wy.us)

## Statewide Interoperable Communication Plan

The Office for Interoperability and Compatibility's (OIC) SAFECOM and Disaster Management (DM) programs published a set of criteria for statewide interoperability plans in the *Recommended Federal Grant Guidance for Emergency Response Communications and Interoperability Grants for Fiscal Year 2007*. These criteria were developed in support of Section I.C.5 of the 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), which states that "by the end of 2007, each state must develop and adopt a statewide communications interoperability plan." To assist this process and to ensure all states include the essential components of a statewide plan, the criteria addressing what should be included in these plans have been developed with input from local and state elected and appointed officials and emergency responders. The Statewide Interoperable Communication Plan is due on November 1, 2007.

Statewide communications interoperability plans are a critical step in achieving communications interoperability not only within each state, but also across the country. A well-defined statewide plan identifies key long-term and short-term strategic initiatives for the state to improve communications interoperability. In addition, the statewide plan is a mechanism to align emergency responders at all levels in the state on a future vision for communications interoperability. Further, it serves as a roadmap for all agencies and jurisdictions in terms of the direction for moving forward and addressing communications interoperability issues at the local and regional level.

Wyoming has asked for and received technical assistance from the Interoperable Communication Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP) through the Office of Homeland Security. A kickoff meeting is scheduled for July 31, 2007 with the Public Safety Communications Commission, Office of Homeland Security, WyoLink and ICTAP. After this kickoff meeting more information will become available and local jurisdictions will be asked to provide information on the development of the plan.

### PSCC Newsletter

The goal of the PSCC Newsletter is to disseminate information to all agencies and individuals interested in the PSCC. To reduce printing and postage costs all issues will be in electronic format. If you would like to continue receiving the PSCC newsletter please visit <http://pscc.wyoming.gov> and click on E-mail/Newsletter sign up. This will be a quarterly, electronic publication distributed after every Commission meeting.

#### PSCC Mission:

The mission of the Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission is to develop recommendations for policy and guidelines, identify technology and standards, and coordinate intergovernmental resources to facilitate statewide interoperability with emphasis on public safety.