



Dave Freudenthal
Governor

Kim Lee
Chairman

State of Wyoming

Public Safety Communications Commission

~ 2008 Annual Report to the Governor of the State of Wyoming ~

Mission Statement and Statutory Responsibilities

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

Wyoming Statute 9-2-1104 states the commission shall:

- (ii) **Report in writing each year in October to the governor concerning any problems related to the installation, operation and maintenance of the system and shall make any recommendations it deems appropriate as part of the report.**

Achievements for 2007 and 2008

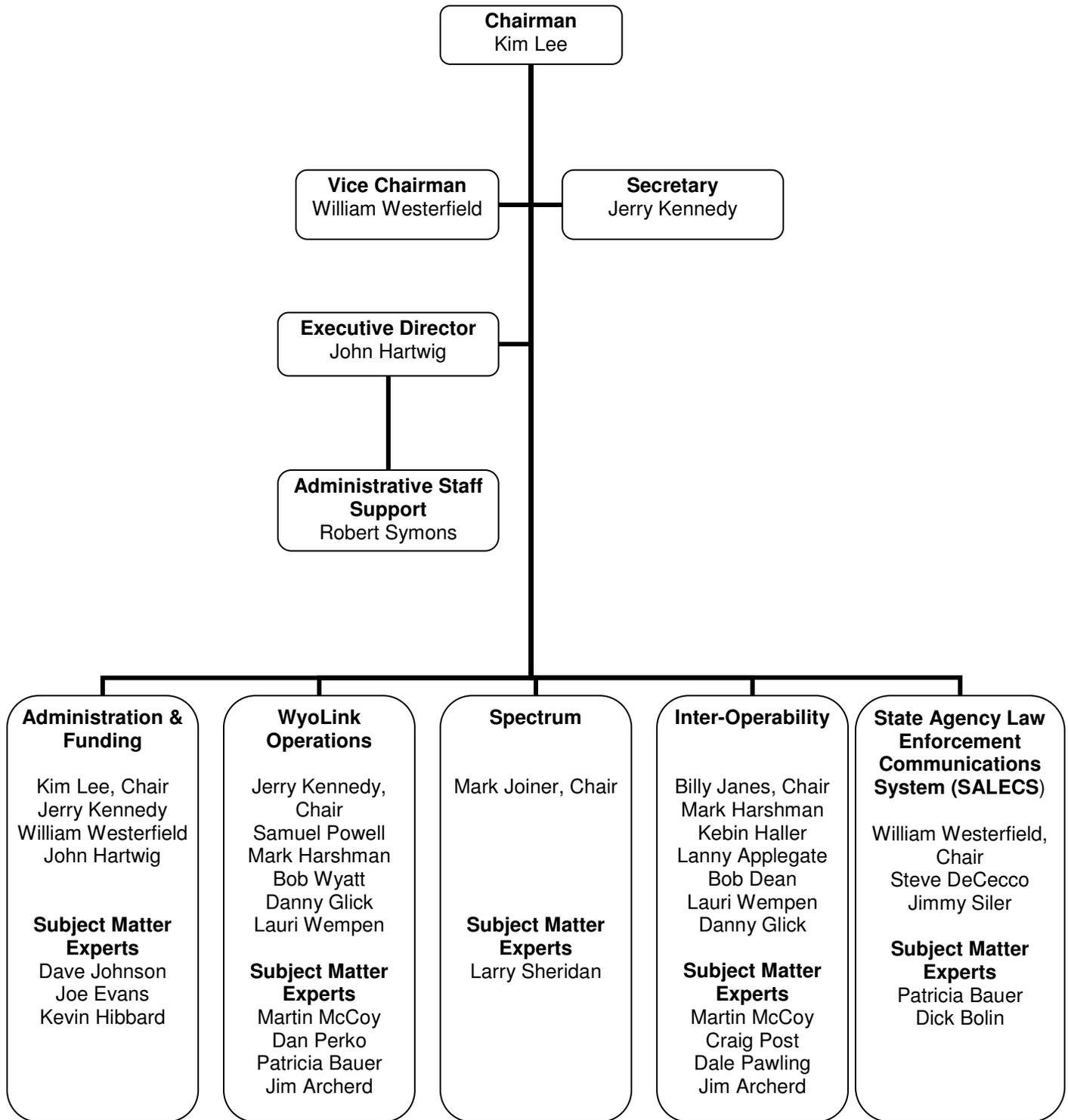
The Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) and the WyoLink program have realized many accomplishments this past year:

- Memorandum of Understandings for WyoLink system usage signed with the United States Marshals Service, United States Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigations, and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services
- Approved 75 membership applications.
- Awarded \$1,050,000 in Dispatch Center WyoLink Connectivity second round grants to 29 local dispatch centers.
- Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued frequency licenses. Not all WyoLink radio sites are fully licensed.
- 30 of 57 WyoLink radio sites have been activated
- Construction completed on 14 sites, will be activated in 2008
- Cheyenne Fire & Rescue 800 MHz radio site and radios converted to WyoLink and interoperable between 800 MHz and VHF. Cheyenne Fire & Rescue now operating on WyoLink.
- Developed potable radio coverage testing protocols.
- Quarterly meetings held in Casper, Cody, Laramie and Sheridan.

Commission Members and Operating Structure

The PSCC is comprised of representatives appointed by the Governor from the following public safety agencies, professional associations, and State departments:

Representing	Name	Location
Wyoming Police Chief's Association	Billy Janes, Police Chief	Torrington
Wyoming Sheriff's Association	Danny Glick, Sheriff	Laramie County
Division of Criminal Investigation, Office of the Attorney General	Kebin Haller, Assistant Director	Cheyenne
Wyoming Game and Fish Department	Steve DeCecco	Green River
Wyoming Department of Transportation	Colonel Samuel Powell	Cheyenne
Wyoming Livestock Board	Jimmy Siler	Cheyenne
Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources	William Westerfield	Cheyenne
Wyoming Fire Chief's Association	Mark Harshman, Division Chief Casper Fire Department	Casper
Wyoming State Fire Marshal	Lanny Applegate, Director	Cheyenne
Wyoming Office of Homeland Security	Kim Lee, Operations Chief	Cheyenne
The Public at Large	Robert J. Wyatt, Attorney	Sheridan
Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services Organization	Lauri Wempen, Director Fremont County Ambulance	Riverton
Municipal Government or a municipal government association	Dave Johnson, Wyoming Association of Municipalities	Cheyenne
County Government or county government association	Jerry Kennedy, Commissioner	Albany County
Wyoming Department of Health	Robert Dean	Cheyenne
Tribal Government or tribal government association	Vacant	
Federal Government or federal government association	Mark Joiner, US Bureau of Land Management	Lander



Wyoming PSCC Organization Chart
(Effective 10/31/2008)

Activities

Ongoing projects include:

- Through the guidelines of the *WyoLink Readiness Document* assist agencies to prepare for WyoLink system usage and identify the agency *Relationship Manager*
- Dispatch Center Connectivity Grants
- Agency and County-Wide Talkgroup development
- Develop cooperative agreements and Memorandum of Understandings with federal agencies for frequency sharing and WyoLink use. Request for sharing Federal frequencies on WyoLink was presented to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Spectrum Planning Sub-committee (SPS) on October 8, 2008.
- Publication of PSCC quarterly newsletters and updating PSCC and WyoLink policies and activities on the PSCC website at <http://pscc.wyoming.gov>

Priorities for 2008

- Communication and collaboration with potential user agencies on WyoLink membership
- Development and implementation of WyoLink user training
- Monitor WyoLink system construction progress and activation of radio sites
- Work with local agencies, as the core infrastructure is completed, on identifying areas of critical concern for portable radio coverage enhancements.
- Provide support to the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security in the distribution of Federal interoperability funds to local authorities toward implementation of WyoLink

Challenges

End User Training

All users of the WyoLink system must be trained in basic radio operations and interoperable communications. There could be approximately 8000 users of WyoLink including, emergency medical services, fire, law enforcement, state agencies, public works, school districts, tribal and federal agencies.

The Public Safety Communications Commission, in conjunction with the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, Wyoming Fire Marshal's Office and the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy will be developing a state-wide training program which will provide basic level courses at the local agency level, train-the trainer sessions for program continuance and advanced level courses.

The State of Wyoming, through the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security, has received two grants which will provide the funding for the end user training. The Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant (PSIC) will provide \$329,471 and the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Communications Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant program (IECGP) will provide \$194,300 for a total of \$523,771 for training. This funding requires no matching funds.

Frequency Acquisitions

Motorola was contracted to complete the frequency planning process for the WyoLink system. A search was conducted of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Part 90, Part 80 and Part 22 frequency databases to determine available frequencies. The site list used consisted of fifty-five (55) high level sites and twenty-five (25) low level sites. The frequency plan was finalized in December 2006 and the FCC licensing process began.

The FCC granted two waivers for use of frequencies on WyoLink that are outside the public safety band. On June 19, 2008, a waiver for use of Part 22 – Paging Channels was granted and on June 20, 2008, the requested waiver for Part 90 – Marine Channels was granted. In early July the FCC issued licenses for 201 channel pairs. At full build-out, 262 channel pairs are required for the 57 core WyoLink sites. Of the 61 remaining channel pairs needed, 42 pairs are included in a federal request for frequency sharing and 19 pairs are being searched through the FCC.

The Public Safety Communications Commission and WyoLink have submitted a National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) frequency-sharing request, through the Federal Partnership for Interoperable Communications (FPIC) and the Department of the Interior to fulfill the operating capacity frequency goal. With the potential use of WyoLink by the Federal Agencies and the amount of federal land ownership in Wyoming (47%), this was a logical request for frequency use. There are continued risks associated with this request.

Any remaining frequency plan gaps will require another review of FCC frequency pools, primarily Part 80 and Railroad frequencies in the Part 90 Industrial/Business pool. Both of these pools have significant coordination and licensing challenges. A contingency option would be to purchase radio frequencies from current FCC license holders. Extended negotiations and unknown costs are potential risks associated with the purchasing of frequencies.

Radio Site Acquisitions

The largest landowner in Wyoming is the Federal Government, approximately 47% of the State. The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and National Park Service (NPS) and the Department of Agriculture, United States Forest Service (USFS) lands are the primary Federal land agencies.

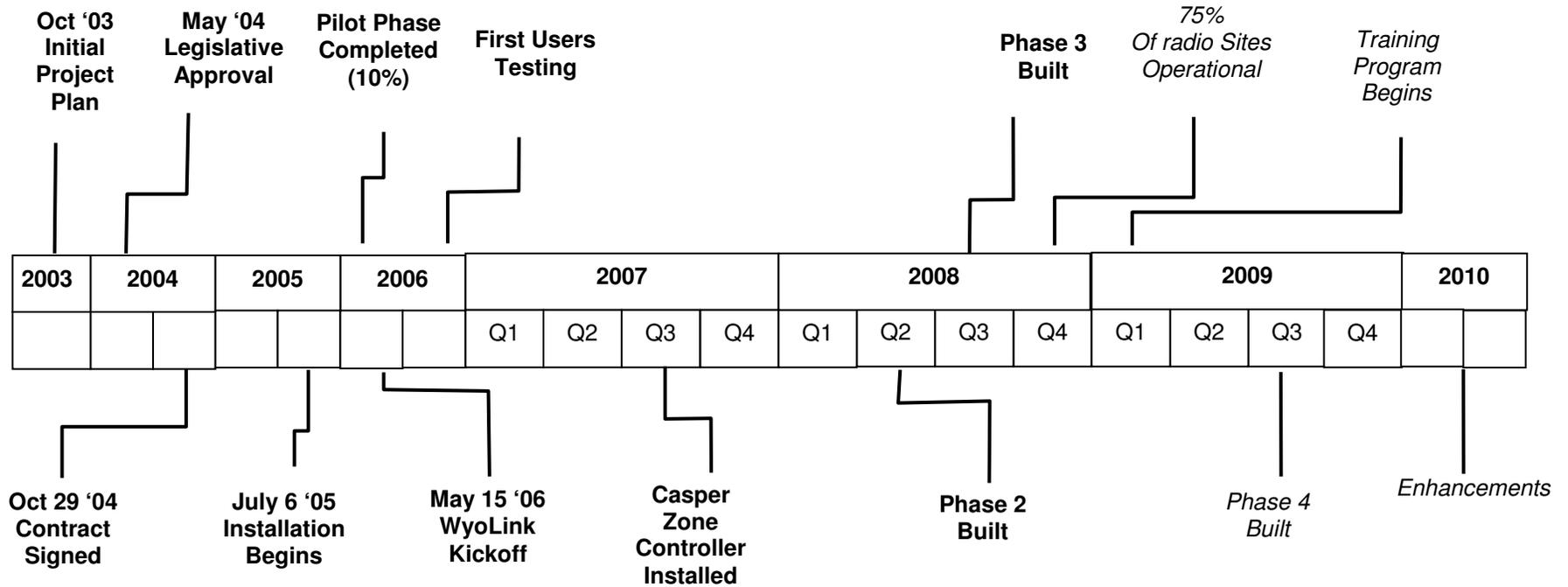
Building a statewide trunked radio system in Wyoming requires the leasing of federal lands for radio sites. Many challenges and requirements exist when leasing Federal lands. WyoLink is currently working with the Bridger/Teton National Forest on four radio site leases, the BLM on one radio site lease and the Big Horn National Forest on one radio site lease. These radio sites are part of the core 57 radio-site plan for WyoLink. Four additional sites in the leasing process are microwave only sites which provide the backbone connectivity to the radio sites.

The WyoLink Project Team is working with the State of Idaho on a site sharing agreement for a radio site in Idaho and with a private property owner in Colorado for the development of a radio site along the Colorado/Wyoming border.

The leasing process is moving forward on all of the lease applications. The WyoLink Project Team has been addressing all concerns as they have been brought forth by the Federal Agencies. Upon the receipt of the signed leases, construction can begin in 2009.

As part of the portable radio coverage enhancement, additional radio sites will be required. The “Coverage Enhancement Goal” states an expectation of local participation and this participation includes the sharing of local radio sites and/or assistance with the development of new radio sites. Local public safety agencies know the landowners in their jurisdictions and are better prepared to work with those landowners in acquiring leases for radio sites that will enhance the local public safety radio system. The WyoLink Project Team will work the local agencies on the site requirements and the development of the radio sites.

Revised Estimated WyoLink Timeline



WyoLink Phases

- Pilot Phase – Master Controller, Laramie County, Platte County, Goshen County and Albany County – 5 Radio Sites
- *Phase 2 – Platte County, Goshen County, Niobrara County, Converse County, Natrona County, Albany County, Carbon County, Sweetwater County, Uinta County and Casper Zone Controller – 18 Radio Sites
- *Phase 3 – Weston County, Crook County, Campbell County, Johnson County, Sheridan County – 10 Radio Sites
- *Phase 4 – Fremont County, Washakie County, Hot Springs County, Big Horn County, Park County, Sublette County, Lincoln County, Teton County – 18 Radio Sites
- *Enhancements – Additional sites for coverage improvements – 5 Radio Sites

* This timeline reflects an accelerated schedule and provides an estimated timeline for completion. The PSMC Plan estimated a completion by 2010. The PSCC and WyoLink are committed to complete the build-out within the current budget, adjusting the timeline as needed.