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American Radio Relay League

American Red Cross

Association of Public Safety
Communications Officials -
International

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Association

International Association of
Chiefs of Police

International Association of
Emergency Managers

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Wildlife Agencies

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Emergency Medical Services Officials

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Telecommunications Directors

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Federal Communications Commission

Federal Partnership for Interoperable
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Information Administration

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NIJ CommTech Program

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**68 Inverness Lane East, Suite 204
Englewood, CO 80112-5108**

PH: 303-649-1843

FAX: 303-649-1844

Toll free: 1-866-807-4755

www.NPSTC.org

NPSTC@highlands-group.com

National Public Safety Telecommunications Council Fourth Quarter Report, 2006

This Quarterly Report documents the activities of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), its Governing Board, Committees, and Working Groups for the Fourth Quarter, 2006.

Governing Board

NPSTC's Governing Board held its quarterly meeting on November 16, 2006, in Long Island, New York. Prior to the Governing Board meeting, all four Committees— Interoperability, Regional Planning Committees (RPCs), Spectrum Management, and Technology— held individual meetings, including presentations and discussion of current issues. NPSTC Participants received briefings from Jeff Cohen, Deputy Division Chief, Policy Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission (FCC); Andy Mudra, SAFECOM Support, Office of Interoperability and Compatibility, Department of Homeland Security (DHS); and Michael Landry, Office of Information and Technology, Wireless Technologies Center, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, DHS. Morgan O'Brien, Cyren Call, and Paul Kolodzy-M2Z Networks, Inc., also briefed meeting participants on their proposals for broadband in 700 MHz.

Prior to the meeting, the RPC Committee hosted training for RPC representatives on the Computer Assisted Pre-coordination and Resource Database System (CAPRAD) and sessions on TIA TSB-88 Based Frequency Coordination for RPCs and Managing Narrowband, Wideband, and Broadband Technologies, funded by the National Institute of Justice through the Texas Sheriffs' Association. Twenty-three representatives from 15 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico received the hands-on computer training, joined by almost 50 other interested public safety participants. This training is crucial for the coordination of the new 700 MHz band and use of the pre-coordination database CAPRAD. The wideband/broadband coordination training is not offered in any other venue and will assist all public safety users when developing their regional plans for the new 700 MHz frequencies to avoid interference on channels. The training sessions were well received and attendees would like to see more training sessions in correlation with the NPSTC Meetings.

At the November meeting, the Governing Board took action on the following items.

- Approved the creation of the National Plan Oversight Committee (NPOC) Working Group under the RPC Committee.
- Approved a draft broadband position paper with edits to be approved in final form by the Governing Board.
- Approved filing NPSTC comments with the FCC on the issue of the 30 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz band.
- Approved placing the finalized In-Building Working Group white paper on NPSTC's website.
- Approved encouraging NPSTC members to assist with input on refining the value proposition for police, fire, and EMS, part of the task list for the In-Building Wireless Alliance (IBWA).

- Approved the In-Building Working Group's request to add the examination of wireless access to building information on the incident scene to its responsibilities.
- Approved support of a NPSTC representative to the Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee, a new FCC FACA (Federal Advisory Committee Act), developed to explore using commercial provider services to transmit emergency information to the public.
- Approved action, at the request of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), to reinstate the Amateur Radio Working Group, suspended in September 2006 due to lack of activity. ARRL also asked for NPSTC's support in its court appeal, a Petition for Review that asks the FCC to review its report and order on Broadband over Power Lines (BPL), saying ARRL would welcome an amicus brief. The Governing Board held its decision on the court appeal, pending further study of the issue.

FCC Filings and Regulatory Issues

- Prepared and submitted comments regarding the 700 MHz Guard Band. Former Nextel Communications, Inc. Upper 700 MHz Guard Band Licenses and Revision to Part 27 of the Commission's rules, WT Docket 06-169, WT Docket 96-86, FCC 06-133. Filed October 23.
- Filed Comment, In the Matter of the Request of the National Capital Region for Waiver of Part 90 Rules to Allow Establishment of 700 MHz Interoperable Broadband Data Network, DA -6-1973. Filed October 30, 2006.
- Prepared and submitted Reply Comments In the Matter of Former Nextel Communications, Inc. Upper 700 MHz Guard Band Licenses and Revisions to Part 27 of the Commission's Rules Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communications Requirements through the Year 2010. WT Docket 06-169, WT Docket 96-86, FCC 06-34. Filed November 10, 2006.
- Prepared and filed comments regarding Cyren Call Communications, Inc., In the matter of Reallocation of 30 MHz of 700 MHz Spectrum (747-762/777-792 MHz) from Commercial Use - Assignment of 30 MHz of 700 MHz Spectrum (747-762/777-792 MHz) to the Public Safety Broadband Trust for Deployment of a Shared Public Safety/ Commercial Next Generation Wireless Network, RM-11348. Filed November 29.
- Filed Reply Comments to Cyren Call Petition for Rulemaking. Docket RM-11348. Filed December 14.
- Prepared and submitted an Ex Parte Letter Addressing Technical Working Group Recommendations Relating to 700 MHz Band, WT Docket 06-169 and WT Docket 96-86, Submitted December 12.
- Prepared and released a NPSTC Position Paper regarding Spectrum Allocation for Public Safety Broadband. Issued December 12.

Executive Committee

During the Fourth Quarter, the Executive Committee (EC) and NPSTC's Executive Director met in person and via teleconference to discuss NPSTC issues, FCC filings and comments, program planning, and future meetings. The EC focused its attentions on the following issues during the Fourth Quarter:

- 700 MHz band plan, including wideband/broadband configuration and guard band issues
- Cyren Call proposal for commercial/public safety nationwide network
- 800 MHz reconfiguration in Mexico
- American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) appeal to the FCC regarding Broadband over Power Lines
- National Capital Region's (NCR) petition for a waiver on broadband
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Rulemaking for implementing digital to analog conversion boxes
- Access Spectrum and Pegasus proposal

- Standard Channel Common Nomenclature for Interoperability Channels
- State Interoperability Executive Committees (SIECs) and a national SIEC conference in conjunction with SAFECOM and the National Governors Association (NGA)

During the quarter, the EC continued to develop and review the RPC training planned for the November Governing Board meeting, developed agendas for the Governing Board meeting and for the technical Committee meetings, continued to collaborate with SAFECOM on plans for the statewide planning conference, and engaged in talks with the Red Cross regarding their Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NPSTC.

Glen Nash, Chair, Technology Committee, will resign from his position due to a change in job responsibility. A process to solicit interested participants for the position and to approve a new Chair was developed. As part of the effort to continually improve support to NPSTC, Executive Director Marilyn Ward developed job questionnaires to define and confirm Support Office job roles and relationships and identify gaps and overlaps in responsibility.

Events and Activities

Meetings, Panels, and Conferences

As part of NPSTC's goal to educate public safety practitioners, leaders, and appropriate governmental bodies regarding public safety communications issues, NPSTC representatives often speak and participate in panels to share information and the public safety perspective on complicated policy and technology issues.

Representatives of NPSTC's Governing Board and/or its Executive Director hosted or participated in a number of panels and conferences during this quarter, including the Forestry Conservation Communications Association (FCCA) Annual Meeting in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, held October 1-4, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in Boston, Massachusetts, from October 13-17.

Ms. Ward made a presentation at the Heritage Foundation on October 4, addressing NPSTC positions on rebanding, 700 MHz, and Cyren Call.

On October 5, NPSTC representatives attended a U.S. State Department meeting where Wanda McCarley, representing NPSTC and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials – International (APCO), made a well-received presentation to the State Department's Advisory Committee on International Communications and Information to direct attention to some of the pressing factors related to the 800 MHz rebanding effort. A subsequent meeting also addressed issues specific to the Canadian border.

The Public Safety Alliance requested the Executive Director's attendance at their meeting in Washington, D.C., held December 5-7, where she provided input regarding many public safety issues and reviewed future requirements and funding. A number of the issues that have been addressed over the past several years continue to be unresolved, including interoperability funding, 700 MHz proceedings at the FCC, and telecommunications reform legislation. Ms. Ward will remain involved with the Alliance.

On December 8, NPSTC representatives met with the FCC Chair, Commissioners, and staff regarding the 700 MHz submissions to the FCC. The discussions included a review of the Chair's ideas regarding guard band use and the proposed Cyren Call project.

NPSTC representatives participated in a meeting of the SAFECOM Emergency Response Council (ERC) on December 13-15.

A number of NPSTC Governing Board members and NPSTC Participants attended the Radio Club of America (RCA) Dinner in New York City, on November 17, where Harlin McEwen, NPSTC's Vice Chair, was awarded the first annual Richard DeMello award.

Conference Calls and Publications

During the Fourth Quarter, the Executive Committee drafted and completed filings and correspondence for the Governing Board's approval and other communications with the FCC, detailed above. The EC met via teleconference on the third Tuesdays of the month. The EC reviewed and approved a number of documents and publications of NPSTC, the monthly

e-spectrum and quarterly *npstc spectrum* newsletters, Governing Board minutes, correspondence, NPSTC Handbook additions, and website materials.

The EC developed a position paper and press release stating its position on broadband in 700 MHz, and a press release announcing the Standard Channel Common Nomenclature for Interoperability Channels meeting to be held before the quarterly NPSTC Governing Board meeting in Orlando, Florida, on February 5, 2007.

Interoperability Committee

The NPSTC Interoperability Committee currently oversees the activities of the following Working Groups: Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee, Project MESA, Software Defined Radio, and Broadband Interoperability.

New Items for Governing Board Review

During the Fourth Quarter of 2006, the Interoperability Committee submitted no items requiring Governing Board approval.

SIEC Working Group

The State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) Working Group met on November 17 to plan a public forum prior to the next NPSTC meetings in February. The public forum will allow the public and public safety community the opportunity to provide alternate recommendations to the FCC Public Safety National Coordination Committee (NCC) recommended common nomenclature structure for the interoperability channels. Common nomenclature (channel naming on the radios) is critical to the first responders providing mutual aid to other jurisdictions. NPSTC believes that the lack of a common nomenclature and the lack of immediate communications capability is a significant impediment to public safety's ability to respond to multi-agency incidents, and that a common nomenclature will make a tangible difference in public safety interoperability. NPSTC recognizes that there is some confusion and dissent on the proposed NCC common nomenclature and encourages open discussion and alternate recommendations from public safety entities to develop understanding and a national consensus.

NPSTC is reaching out to all disciplines, through its website and member associations, to request such input. The recommendations will be received prior to the meeting and posted to the NPSTC website for review; attendees and those communicating by teleconference will have 5 minutes to explain the changes they are requesting.

Software Defined Radio (SDR) Working Group

During the Fourth Quarter, the SDR Working Group participated in meetings of the Software Defined Radio (SDR) Forum. In addition to its earlier *Public Safety Special Interest Group (PS SIG) Report*, SDR Forum issued the *Public Safety Market Report*, an in-depth look at the public safety market in the United States, which indicates that this is a much larger economic market than might have been expected. SDRF held two meetings, one in Munich and one in Orlando, Florida; the next meeting will be held on January 15-18, 2007, in Southern California.

Project MESA Working Group

The Project MESA Public Safety Partnership Project, which had languished for a time due to a lack of industry action, has been revitalized by a new industry commitment. The original scope of Project MESA was to develop a process through a cooperative effort between public safety communities in North America and Europe to create broadband, high-speed, wireless, digital data standards. While public safety and public protection communities in North America and Europe have been extremely successful in addressing the known issues relating to the Statement of Requirements (SoR) and system attributes, industry had been less than successful in meeting their end of the Project MESA partnership.

During the November 2006 Project MESA meeting, the Service Specifications Group (SSG) made the decision that they would not encourage another Project MESA meeting until it could be shown that significant progress was being made within the Technical Specifications Group (TSG) in specific areas they collectively targeted. In response to that

recommendation, the TSG has proposed an aggressive schedule of conference calls and one face-to-face meeting between now and March 2007.

Broadband Interoperability Working Group

The Broadband Interoperability Working Group took steps during the quarter to continue its investigation of a 700 MHz broadband standard, planning to accomplish the following in the next three quarters of 2007.

- Document broadband user requirements by the next NPSTC meeting.
- Rank and weight user requirements, and collect information from vendors and standards organizations on their ability to meet the requirements (including verification of claimed performance and capabilities) by the second NPSTC meeting.
- Rank the technologies/vendor solutions and weight the user requirements and provide a detailed report to NPSTC's Governing Board for decisionmaking by the third NPSTC meeting of 2007.

Regional Planning Committee (RPC) Committee

The NPSTC RPC Committee currently oversees the activities of the following Working Groups: RPC Plan Assist Funding, 800 MHz Rebanding Support, Common Nomenclature, National Planning Oversight Committee (NPOC), and Software, Tools, and Training.

Representatives of the RPC Committee attended the Mid-Eastern APCO Chapter Fall Conference on October 12-14, 2006.

New Items for Governing Board Review

During the Fourth Quarter of 2006, the Governing Board took the following actions:

- Approved the creation of the National Plan Oversight Committee (NPOC) Working Group.
- Approved the development of a letter to the FCC requesting an accounting for the FCC delay in processing regional plans for Region 3, Arizona, and Region 41, Utah. [After the November Governing Board meeting, and before the Governing Board could take the official initiative, Jeff Cohen, FCC, who attended the meetings and heard the RPC Committee request to the Board, located the plans, which were granted FCC approval.]

Common Nomenclature Working Group

The Common Nomenclature Working Group worked closely with the SIEC Working Group during the Fourth Quarter to poll the 55 Regions on what nomenclature they used and to educate the regions on the NCC Common Nomenclature Scheme. Additionally, the Working Group wrote to the 800 MHz Rebanding Transition Administrator, requesting their assistance in promoting and educating public safety on common nomenclature or channel naming. As a result of the combined work of the two Working Groups, the focus meeting to be held in Orlando, Florida, and survey for alternate naming recommendations was developed.

Rebanding Support Working Group

The Rebanding Support Working Group continued its mission to educate and assist public safety agencies during the 800 MHz rebanding. At the Governing Board meeting, it was reported that Sprint Nextel is complying strictly with the letter of the rules and regulations, but perhaps not the intent and that any agency which is working on a Special Temporary Authority (STA) is in danger of not getting any reimbursement in the process. Anyone who has frequencies in the expansion band will lose their rights to do any modifications in that band. It was clearly not the intent of the FCC but it is the way the rules are written. The 800 MHz newsletter updates have been effective with another newsletter from the TA due to go out soon.

NPOC Working Group

The National Plan Oversight Committee (NPOC) Working Group was created to resolve disputes between the regions regarding 700 MHz plans. Committee membership will include the four FCC coordination bodies, RPC Committee leadership, RPC regional chairs, and Gary David Gray, Region 5, who has hosted many meetings in this regard in the past at APCO. The group will follow the recommendations specified in the NCC Report, which included a process for inter-regional dispute resolution, that is currently not available in any other forum. The lack of assistance for plan approval between states that have not begun the development of their 700 MHz plan has had a negative impact on coordination between adjacent states and slowed the submission and approval process. This availability of a dispute resolution forum and procedure will expedite the adjacent state concurrence and FCC approval process.

The NPOC will have an Inter-Regional Dispute Resolution Panel (IDRP) who will be selected on a case-by-case basis and chosen from regions not involved in the dispute, and who will review the dispute and recommend solutions. Other suggested roles for the NPOC beyond the forum for dispute resolution, include an informal dispute process, border dispute template, review and support of waivers, facilitation between a requesting and non-requesting region, forum for discussion of common views, and assistance to “vacant /dormant” regions seeking to establish a governance structure.

Software Tools & Training Working Group

The Software Tools and Training Working Group facilitated the unique training on CAPRAD and the sessions on TIA TSB-88 Based Frequency Coordination for RPCs and Managing Narrowband, Wideband, and Broadband Technologies that was made available at the November Governing Board meeting. With the exception of the First Quarter meeting in Florida, that training will be made available at other Governing Board meetings. The Working Group had discussed developing a template for 700 MHz plans by providing a downloadable tool for regions without a lot of expertise to give them a plug and play tool to begin planning. NPSTC’s website now hosts the 800 and 700 MHz plans and amendments. In the near future, the website will develop another 700 MHz tool that comprises the NCC guidance with brief examples from actual RPC plans that illustrate how to create a plan for a region beginning to develop its plan.

Spectrum Management Committee

The NPSTC Spectrum Management Committee currently oversees the activities of the following Working Groups: Broadband/Wideband, Border Issues, 700 MHz Advocacy, and Spectrum Below 512.

The Broadband Working Group recommended that the Governing Board support the Broadband Optimization Plan (BOP), a plan developed by the Broadband Technical Working Group. The joint Technical Working Group includes representatives from Access Spectrum/Pegasus, NPSTC, and input from M/A-COM and Motorola to examine the technical issues and the cost issues. According to the Technical Working Group’s report, the BOP would enable a broader array of broadband technologies by increasing the amount of contiguous usable spectrum, increase the broadband/wideband capacity of public safety systems while maintaining the narrowband voice allocation, facilitate the possibility of public safety/commercial broadband partnerships, and give public safety greater control over the required guard bands.

New Items for Governing Board Review

During the Fourth Quarter of 2006, the Governing Board took the following actions on the recommendations of the Spectrum Management Committee.

- Approved a draft broadband position paper with edits to be approved in final form by the Governing Board.
- Approved filing NPSTC comments with the FCC on the issue of the 30 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz band.

700 MHz Advocacy Working Group

The 700 MHz Working Group continued its focus on low power TV coordination during the Fourth Quarter, but the primary focus has been on the 700 broadband plan. A waiver was recently granted to Quaalcom, which has one of the channels in the lower 700, to do some shortspacing with TV, creating a useful precedent that will be used for some of the

other waivers. The Working Group notes at the Governing Board meeting in November that as the date certain for TV clearing approaches, public safety as a group needs to be aware of possible delaying or uncooperative actions from the broadcasters, and needs to keep the pressure on Congress to fulfill the date certain as approved.

Border Issues Working Group

The Border Issues Working Group met at the U.S. State Department during the quarter to direct attention to some of the pressing factors related to the 800 MHz rebanding effort. A subsequent meeting also addressed issues specific to the Canadian border. Since that time the protocol with Mexico on 700 MHz has been signed, with promising feedback on forthcoming 800 protocols.

Broadband Working Group

In addition to the active FCC docket and the number of possibilities for broadband in 700 discussed and researched during this quarter, the Broadband Working Group, has tracked 4.9 GHz demonstration events—one in Riverside, California, and the other, completed in Colorado. The Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS) is doing some independent propagation testing indoors to indoors to complement the Parker Fire Department's testbed on outdoor to outdoor results. The information will be presented at the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) meeting in January 2007 and will be presented to NPSTC at the February Governing Board meeting.

The APCO Project 25 Interface Committee (APIC) Broadband Task Group (formerly TIA TR-8.8) has continued its work over the last 6 to 8 months to complete a selection matrix to compare and contrast two candidate protocols from Motorola and M/A-COM against the user needs developed in the P34 User Needs Committee. APIC has consensus on this matrix and the task group is working to populate the matrix.

But the energies of the Broadband Working Group have been focused on broadband in 700 during the quarter. The group has continued to research the conditions associated with Access Spectrum/Pegasus proposal—how to coexist with Canada's plans, how to handle those who have already bought equipment, and how to ensure there are adequate interference protections. Potential problems have included the radios that are already in use; if the firmware needs to be changed to accommodate a rearrangement of the band, public safety should not have to pay for these changes. Additionally Canada and the U.S. already have protocols and plans in place and changes would impact television use in Canada.

The issue of cost for radios in the field seems to have been resolved. The Technical Working Group looked at the field, which includes 5,500 to 6,000 mobiles, almost all dual band 700/800 MHz. There are approximately 10 customers who have 700 systems in Idaho, New York State, and Florida. To move the blocks, no firmware or hardware change is required, just software changes. Additionally, Motorola radios are programmed in the field in any case; Motorola doesn't send the radios out already programmed because some areas still have TV operating on those channels. Regarding the infrastructure, there will be some labor costs required to retune the cavities. M/A-COM representatives say if this issue is addressed with dispatch, products can be configured to meet this band plan. Repeaters and base stations will have to be touched. DataRadio has radios that are configured for wideband. It will also be important to also research the costs that will be incurred by states, many of these under statewide licenses, that have already deployed.

Additionally, the Working Group will examine the regional deployment of broadband in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. The TV interference picture is an issue for the National Capital Region (NCR). The NCR will deploy in channel 64 and a low power TV station has agreed to move off, but in channel 63, there are more television stations where the broadband deployment could cause interference, and, consequently, they will be operating secondary to them. The NCR would prefer to wait to take action on the 700 band proposal until after the TV broadcasters vacate. The Commonwealth of Virginia is using their state licenses for repeaters and has expressed significant concerns about rebanding their equipment.

Technology Committee

The NPSTC Technology Committee oversees the activities of the following Working Groups: Amateur Radio, In-Building Coverage, Security, Public Safety Interface to Emergency Alert Systems, Surveying Equipment, Voice over Internet Protocol, and Wireless Alerting.

The Technology Committee formally accepted the responsibility for the In-Building Working Group from Spectrum Management, a move approved by the Governing Board at the September planning meeting. Representatives of the Committee made a presentation to the TA describing public safety agencies, operations, and the importance of an orderly transition of the 800 MHz band.

New Items for Governing Board Review

During the Fourth Quarter of 2006, the Governing Board approved the following items recommended to the Board by the Technology Committee.

- Approved placing the finalized In-Building Working Group white paper on NPSTC's website.
- Approved encouraging NPSTC members to assist with input on refining the value proposition for police, fire, and EMS, part of the task list for the In-Building Wireless Alliance (IBWA).
- Approved the In-Building Working Group's request to add the examination of wireless access to building information on the incident scene to its responsibilities.
- Approved support of a NPSTC representative to the Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee, a new FCC FACA (Federal Advisory Committee Act), developed to explore using commercial provider services to transmit emergency information to the public.

Security Working Group

The Working Group resumed coordination with the GLOBAL Security Working Group during the Fourth Quarter. Security guidelines for 4.9 GHz have been approved and will be distributed.

VoIP Working Group

The VoIP Working Group has tracked DHS's work to develop standards profiles for Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) to alleviate the confusion regarding the many different definitions of what VoIP actually is.

In-Building Working Group

The In-Building Working Group development a white paper during the quarter and asked for Governing Board approval of the new work items detailed above. Representatives of the Working Group met with representatives of the In Building Wireless Alliance (IBWA) and the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) to determine synergies in the work effort.

Wireless Alerting Working Group

The Wireless Alerting Working Group expanded its focus to include alerting technologies in the Fourth Quarter. The Working Group petitioned P25 to add the capability of alerting the radios built into the SoR. The Working Group continues to advocate setting aside a pair of 900 MHz channels for paging, and has supported a waiver request in Virginia to do so, which was subsequently granted. NPSTC comments were cited several times by the FCC in their order granting the state's waiver.

Surveying Equipment Working Group

The Surveying Equipment Working Group submitted a petition to the Commission in August 2006, described fully in the Second Quarter report, that is still pending.

Public Safety Interface to Emergency Alert Systems Working Group

During the Fourth Quarter, Don Root, Chair, Working Group, asked to serve on the above-mentioned FCC FACA with the Governing Board's approval. Although Mr. Root was not chosen to serve on the FACA, Kevin McGinnis, Governing Board member representing the National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO), will serve, providing public safety a voice in this important effort.

Future NPSTC Activities

NPSTC's next meeting will be held in February 5-7, 2007, Orlando, Florida, preceded by the Standard Channel Common Nomenclature for Interoperability Channels Open Forum. Following meetings will be held on June 11-13, Denver, Colorado; September 24-26, Washington, D.C.; and November 14-16, Atlanta, Georgia.

Formed on May 1, 1997, NPSTC is a federation of organizations representing public safety telecommunications. NPSTC was originally formed to encourage and facilitate implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC), established in 1994 by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to evaluate the wireless communications needs of local, tribal, state, and federal public safety agencies through the year 2010, identify problems, and recommend possible solutions.

NPSTC has since taken on additional responsibilities including implementing the recommendations of the FCC Public Safety National Coordination Committee (NCC) and the support and development of the Computer Assisted Pre-coordination and Resource Database System (CAPRAD) for 700 MHz spectrum to assist the Regional Planning Committees (RPCs). NPSTC develops and makes recommendations to appropriate governmental bodies regarding public safety communications issues and policies that promote greater interoperability and cooperation between local, tribal, state, and federal agencies. Issues include: 4.9 GHz, Software Defined Radio (SDR), US/Canadian/DTV Transition, Project MESA, Spectrum Resources, Amateur Radio, 800 MHz rebanding, State Interoperability Executive Committees (SIECs), Broadband, and Radio Interference in Border States.