EMS Communications Committee

July 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Communications Committee (EMSCC) met in Orlando, Florida on July 13, 2016, at the Double Tree by Hilton, Universal Center D3 room. The agenda was as follows:

1. Welcome and Sign-in Sheet
2. FirstNet/FloridaNet (Greg Rubin)
3. Public Safety Telecommunicators (Wendy Parkinson)
4. Old Items
   1. 700 MHz Interoperable Use Channel Plan
      1. Standard Channel Nomenclature – in process
5. New Items
   1. Core Representation
   2. Future Goals for EMS Communications
   3. Interoperable Communications Survey
   4. EMS Triangle of Communications
6. Open Mic

Regarding FirstNet/FloridaNet in Greg Rubin’ absence, Carlton briefed the EMSCC on the [Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)](http://www.firstnet.gov/about/public-safety-advisory-committee) consisting of 42 members representing organization from all public safety disciplines (state, territorial, tribal, local governments, and also at large members and a federal member). The mission of PSAC is to assist FirstNet “…in matters involving shared intergovernmental responsibilities or administration.”

Public Safety Telecommunicators agenda item is a placeholder in the event Wendy Parkinson has a briefing for the EMSCC. Wendy conducts a separate 911 Public Safety Telecommunicators meeting.

The 700 MHz Interoperable Use Channel Plan has been undergoing a revision. In addition to a general update, the public safety air-ground (A-G) channels recently allocated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is being incorporated in the draft revision. The finite number of A-G channels require coordination with adjacent states, which goes beyond the contiguous states, Georgia and Alabama. This revision is awaiting approval of the revised national standard on channel naming convention from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

The EMSCC discussed a list of roles for core representation of its committee. Constituency groups and associations will be consulted for candidates to serve one or more roles in order to achieve 8-10 representatives.

The EMSCC was made aware of two goals in the current draft of the EMS State Plan related to the Project 25 ID Number Plan and percent of agencies using FirstNet/FloridaNet.

The EMSCC was briefed interoperable communications survey distributed on Monday, July 11, 2016, by the Division of Telcommunications (DivTel) with a deadline for responses by July 31, 2016. This survey was emailed to law enforcement, fire, and EMS agencies statewide. The EMSCC was encouraged to ensure their agency received the survey or request DivTel provide the agency contact it was sent to. They can contact [carlton.Wells@dms.myflorida.com](mailto:carlton.Wells@dms.myflorida.com) or [kurt.eckel@dms.myflorida.com](mailto:kurt.eckel@dms.myflorida.com) to follow-up.

The EMS triangle of communications concept was revisited to ensure ongoing awareness of it. This concept has been in Volume 1 of the EMS Communications Plan for a few years now and opens the opportunity to avoid having two radios in permitted EMS vehicles – one being a MED-channel radio.

Wrapping up the meeting with “open mic” (topics committee members have in general), two specific items were brought up. First, clarification on the interoperable communications assessment conducted two to three years ago is not associated with the interoperable communications survey addressed earlier. Second, the State Working Group, Interoperable Communications Committee met on June 2, 2016. Their meeting included discussion on restructuring their committee and the Santa Rosa County site of the statewide 700 MHz Overly project. General discussion touched on the mutual aid build-out channels being decommission and repurposed per the reuse guidelines and ISSI (Inter RF SubSystem Interface) as a new solution for interoperable communications.