

**MINUTES OF THE  
GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE**  
Thursday, August 14, 2014 – 9:00 a.m. – Room 30 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Wayne A. Harper, Cochair  
Rep. Brad L. Dee, Cochair  
Sen. Ralph Okerlund  
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers  
Chief Terry Keefe  
Chief Mike Mathieu  
Deputy Warden Jerry Pope  
Mr. Doug Chandler on behalf of Ken Peterson  
Mr. Steven H. Proctor  
Ms. Tina Scarlet  
Captain Alan Workman

**Members Absent:**

Rep. Mark A. Wheatley  
Chief Chris Burbank  
Sherriff David Edmunds  
Chief Michael H. Jensen  
Chief Mike Navarre  
Sheriff James M. Winder

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Joseph T. Wade, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Victoria Ashby, Associate General Counsel  
Mr. Tim Barber, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Welcome and Task Force Business**

Chair Dee called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Sagers moved to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2014 and July 10, 2014 meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Utah Communications Authority**

Mr. Proctor, Executive Director, Utah Communications Authority (UCA), briefed the task force on the inaugural meeting of the UCA and expressed his satisfaction in the high attendance of board members at the meeting and the work that has taken place thus far. He distributed “Packet One” containing the proposed meeting schedule of the UCA, priorities through December 2014, a presentation given at that meeting, and draft minutes of that meeting.

Captain Workman reported that Utah 911 Commission met the same day as the UCA at the same location and will seek to coordinate meeting days in a similar way going forward.

Mr. Proctor responded to several questions from the task force regarding dispatch center consolidation, addressing concerns of UCA board members, and ongoing individual conversations he is having with individual board members.

**3. Status of Consultant Report**

Mr. Joe Blaschka, owner, ADCOMM Engineering Company, presented “Utah Communication Authority 800 MHz Upgrade” and updated the task force on his work in preparing a cost estimate and implementation plan for upgrading and expanding the government radio communication system in Utah.

Chief Keefe recommended choosing a geographically challenging area early on to begin the upgrade and use that successful system as a model to other rural counties to alleviate their skepticism.

Mr. Blaschka responded to questions from the task force regarding how upgrades in urban and rural Utah will work, the obsolescence of older equipment, and the equipment and technology construction plans.

#### **4. Radio Tower Sites**

Mr. Proctor gave a presentation titled, "Discussion on Radio Tower Sites" and outlined the construction and maintenance of radio tower sites in Utah and the costs and challenges associated with the process. He also addressed the functionality of those sites and their capabilities in different weather conditions.

Mr. Proctor answered questions from the task force regarding repair and maintenance of remote sites and the average costs of maintenance and network infrastructure.

#### **5. Potential Funding Sources**

Chair Dee briefed the task force on the process that had taken place thus far regarding cost projections and funding sources for the proposed statewide communications technology upgrade. He expressed his reluctance to recommend a specific dollar amount at this point in the process and acknowledged the process will not be inexpensive. He also expressed his skepticism that the project can be undertaken with existing funds and speculated that either bonding or a funding partnership with several entities will be necessary.

Sen. Harper recommended reaching out to potential private sector telecommunication partners.

Mr. Proctor volunteered to assemble a report of neighboring states' funding sources for undergoing similar upgrades.

#### **6. Other items/adjourn**

**MOTION:** Chief Mathieu moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Dee adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.