

Region 49
 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee
 Minutes of the June 28, 2006, meeting
 (Revised 10-18-06)

Waco McLennan County Public Health District Preparedness Training Room
 225 W. Waco Drive, Waco, TX 76707

Chairman Ron Mayworm called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The following members and guests were present:

Pat Worsham, Alexander Util. Eng.
Bill Blowers, Bell County
James Benton, Texas DPS
Larry Blare, City of Waco
Tim Driscoll, RCC Consultants
Gilbert Paez, City of Austin
Mike Simpson, City of Austin
Bill Davis, City of Austin
Aaron Slaughter, City of Lockhart

Maureen Ganner, City of Round Rock
Ray Ganner, Ganner Associates
Brice Shelton, Motorola
Wayne Canady, McLennan County
Harold Ferguson, Waco Fire
Bette Rinehart, Motorola
Dalton Cross, Bell County
Ron Mayworm, Chair, City of Bryan

- Item 1: Introductions, quorum determination, review and approve agenda.**

- Item 2: Election of a new secretary:** Chuck Brotherton of Travis County (not in attendance) was re-elected to the combined post of Secretary/Treasurer. Moved by Mike Simpson, seconded by (inaudible). Unanimous approval.

- Item 3: Review and approve minutes of 12/30, 2003, meeting.** The minutes were approved. Motion: Larry Blare; Second: Aaron Slaughter. Unanimous approval.

- Item 4: Treasurer's report:** The current treasurer (Ron Mayworm) reported a current balance of \$465.86 as of 6/28/2006. Bank charges of \$15/month are the most significant draw on this account. Motion by Mike Simpson to reimburse Ron his out-of-pocket expenses for tapes, batteries; seconded by Harold Ferguson. Unanimous approval. New balance after reimbursement to Ron will be **\$271.82**.

- Item 5: Election of a new treasurer:** Discussion of legality, under RPC rules, of combining offices of Secretary and Treasurer. Discussion of access to RPC grant funds by Chuck Brotherton, Travis County (if elected).

- Item 6: Plan Writing Subcommittee report:** Ron Mayworm chairs this committee. Last meeting was 2001 in College Station. Due to retirements and other attrition, plan-writing is now a one-man show.

- Item 7: Appointment of a new chair for the Outreach Subcommittee:** FCC more concerned with process and documentation of the planning process than with content of the plan itself. So, need to get all local,

regional, state and in-state feds involved in regional planning process. Need a comprehensive direct-mail list. Previous list had 700+ addresses but this was lost. Needs to be rebuilt. Mike Simpson volunteers to commit his available resources to compiling a new list and doing the mail-out.

- Item 8:** **Update on CAPRAD 700 MHz database at** <http://wireless.fcc.gov/publicsafety/700MHz/plans.html> : Check for status of regional plans. Still a viable planning tool.
- Item 9:** **Update on the Region 49 web site and list server:** <http://www.region49.org> has links to 700 and 800 planning information pages. Draft 700 MHz plan is posted there. Need someone to keep it current. Volunteers? Mike Simpson and City of Austin CTM.
- Item 10:** **4.9 GHz planning:** Rules say that if RPC chooses not to coordinate this spectrum, then the field is open to others. Licenses are easily available. (Ron introduces Bette Rinehart of Motorola as a valuable planning resource for 700 and 4.9 planning.) Motion from Mike Simpson to combine 4.9 GHz planning under the duties of the 700 MHz RPC. Seconded by (inaudible). Motion approved.
- Item 11:** **Overview of recent activities re. use of broadband technologies in the 700 MHz band:** Concern expressed over FCC "fast tracking" the initiative to add broadband channels to 700 MHz, before public safety agencies have had time to assess their needs and plan accordingly. Ron says the likely goal is to set broadband guidelines in place before frequencies are assigned nationwide. Narrow- and wide-band channeling cannot easily be undone once it's loaded.
- Does this committee wish to file comments to the FCC recommending building flexibility into the channelization of 700 MHz, for a mix of narrow-, wide-, and broad-band? Not an action item but Ron will see that it's done.
- Item 12:** **Review and discuss the draft Region 49 700 MHz Plan dated 5-30-06:**
- Ron goes through the draft plan page by page, section by section.
 - Question about the CAPRAD database and how it is accessed. Ron states that it is freely accessible. Signing on as "guest" allows general public to review published plans.
 - CAPRAD URL is <http://caprad.nlectc.du.edu/cp/index.jsp>.
 - Section 3.2, "'Limited Area' Operations," borrowed from State of Missouri plan. Properly licensed limited area channels under the Region 49 plan would not count against a licensee's allotment of other general use channels.
 - Ron asks if he's going too fast. No objections to review thus far. Ron states he does not want this to be a "one man show."

-- Section 3.4, Low Power Channels: Discussion of whether to modify language in this section. Ron notes that language here is common to other plans but he will consider modifying this section.

-- Section 4: Priority Matrix: Discussion of points assignment for channel loading: Should a bullet be added to address this as a scoring criterion?

-- Section 7.2: Brief discussion about the narrow-band deadline of 12/31/2016.

-- Section 8, Interoperability Channels: Ron states that this section defers to the TSIEC guidelines.

-- By-laws already approved. Attachments included in separate package.

-- Ron states that we must now give others the opportunity to critique what's been generated so far by this committee. We need to have several more meetings to finalize this plan.

Item 13: **Old Business:** None.

Item 14: **New Business:** Discussion about next meetings, locations and schedule.
-- Offer from Bell County to host an upcoming meeting -- around the new year?

-- October meeting set for City of Austin.

-- End of August meeting? Meeting set for August 17 in Austin.

Item 15: **Receive public comment:**

Item 16: **Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.