

BREAKOUT SESSION REPORT-OUT COMMENTS
KEARNEY BROADBAND PUBLIC SAFETY WORKSHOP DECEMBER 19TH

The notes below were taken during the report-out portion of the workshop following the breakout sessions by disciplines. The groups were asked to address Nebraska's challenges, coverage needs, usage and priorities for a public safety broadband system.

Sheriffs:

- Rural le needs in NE dept roads and RR and NSP part of discussion.
- The priority should be vehicle mounted modem access across the State – Then we can create our own hotspots across the State using this technology and get in-building coverage for work we do in the metro areas.
- Who should be involved in this system – anyone with some involvement in public safety – bring in as many users as possible to support this network financially. Partners - power, railroad , government
- NRIN will be an important asset – counties need to make sure that their county leadership is aware of NRIN and participate in and support it.
- Bring NACO in to keep them informed of what is happening. . Make sure you are talking with your county boards. Not a lot of state assets for backbones so need counties on board for support and maintenance.
- On the spectrum that is leased – any agreement that is cut must also have an agreement that those that use commercial networks get priority on these systems.
- Partner w carriers
- Hope spectrum to be leased out to carriers, agreements to carriers, PS gets priority
- Unlimited data now at \$40 per mo
- Business model potential to lease spectrum band 14 have agreements giving priority to PS
- State does not have a lot of infr assets

Fire:

- Feel that they should have two representatives on the governance committee – municipal and volunteer. Potentially an EMS person.
- System has to be reliable and have priority on the system.
- Major events difficult to get cell service
- Volunteer and limited budgets
- \$20 per mo
- Control private users can join system, vol can purchase
- Hot spots for engine to join network
- Can't cover every sq meter, every hwy needs covg
- Rural LE dictates covg as heaviest users
- Carrier agreements, major event throttle others off network
- System has to be affordable. Allow (through controls) private users on the system that are volunteers to use it.
- Hotspots – we need to have the equipment to hotspot into the network as a user.
- Every major highway needs to be covered.
- 2 to 4 users per department need to be the minimum amount of users on the network
- Leadership of the 2 statewide fire organizations should make the recommendations/appointments to the governing board.

- Limited budgets so needs to be affordable. \$20/month. Most of NE Is covered by volunteers so there are no budgets.

Tribal:

- There are many technology projects going on and Tribes need to be involved.
- Tribal interactions – all about relationship building
- There is a need to build relationship with all the players
- Operation and ownership of the infrastructure was discussed – do we build our own and joint or do we lease?
- Training and education will be essential – take into account what is happening within the Tribes.
- Equipment – acquisition and sustainability will be key. The Tribes need to be on the same page as the other agencies in the State.
- Interoperability has less to do with equipment than it does with relationships
- Representation – Tribes believe they need to have FirstNet talk directly to the Tribal leadership.
- NIMS govt to govt not happening
- Ground up start having the conversations
- Operational ownership – does infr get built And rent or ownership
- What's best for their ops
- Training model not working
- Not able to get 20 people at a time
- Model lets agencies use model that works for their buy in
- Equipment acq and sustain, land model being worked on
- Get everyone on same page to move fwd
- Don't get out and vocalize, deal with current radio issues
- Interop is the big buzzword, less equip more conversation, start there
- Get conversations going
- Users less than 200
- Need that govt to govt meet with tribal council first

Emergency Managers:

- Their jobs require them to think about everyone else when they discuss resources.
- State is diversified and that is problematic – issues encompass things such as vehicle modem versus handhelds
- Vehicle modem to handheld to start with.
- Needs to be reliable
- Needs to be financially competitive with commercial devices
- Comm issues a big thing, state is big, terrain and distance
- Every county should have the veh modem
- Some of the same issues were discussed as the Sherriff and Tribal groups.
- Want to consider the financial implications – all comes down to costs.
- Can get more assets off device maybe pay a little more
- Who should be the users: Each of the ESF's needs to be a user.
- NRIN is an asset that needs to be considered
- The use of the system: storm damages, storm spotters, page to cell, social media

- Representation: One emergency manager should be on the governing board – however, discussed getting a group of EM’s behind the rep to make sure we are covered. Selection should be through their statewide organization.
- Each county is different how they run their EMA.

City Law Enforcement:

- Rep schools as well
- Large and small cities
- Terrain issues within town: need in-building coverage, need to adjust for heavy foliage, also dealing with dense populations – depending on location within the State, city could be also be dealing with hilly terrain, etc.
- Verizon or other reliance as failover
- Service area dense but defined
- Financial, deployable systems
- Question as to whether common carriers will provide better coverage based on the FirstNet effort? May need dual service for some areas.
- Distances that this network will cover – will we have saturated coverage based on the community?
- Financial constraints were discussed. Is deployable more affordable than a fixed site?
- The Locals may have more assets and infrastructure to contribute to the effort in rooftops, etc.
- NRIN was seen as a possible asset.
- What level of redundancy?
- Hospitals, EM, utilities
- Track resources (Joplin issues)
- Who should be users: first responders are obvious – utility and public works, snowplows, etc.
- Every user having a device may be cost prohibitive
- Will personal devices be able to be connected since we use several now.
- How can we use the network – how will the “rules” work out for us?
- We see uses for GIS, CJIS, NCIC, mobile data, streaming live video
- How would FirstNET integrate with other systems in an instance like Joplin? (School)
- Representation should come out of our statewide organization – POAN or PCAN (?)

Utilities:

- We cover the entire state – rural and urban geographic challenges
- Governance rep should come from the critical infrastructure side – thinking a telecom or utility person
- Bandwidth that may be leased – there are alternative services that we would like to offer on the system.
- Utilize the system for information development – video based surveillance of our lines and equipment. Sensors for equipment/pipeline issues to deliver information. Prevention versus response.
- Put sensors on veh and transmit back, cost reduction
- Leasing opportunity to purchase BB
- FN needs conversation with NRC, privatize and lock down their equipment
- Changes to current regulations

- May be interested in using excess capacity on the data collection side of the business.
- NERC and NRC will select representatives
- They may be a secondary user.
- On the national level, FirstNET may want conversations with their national associations (NRC, etc.) There may be a need for some federal and/or regulatory changes.
- They see themselves as potential users – this may be a way to keep rates competitive to current users versus switching to this network in an emergency. They do not want to have to add this as an additional network that they need to pay an additional fee to in order to participate – that could affect rates to customers.
- 1/3 work force maintains their system, so paying another \$40-50 a no go.

Communications:

- The terrain is different by county
- There may not be a need to have full bandwidth full-time versus during an event
- This group brings many assets to support an event.
- Believe that financial restraints exist – hope that can be overcome through economies of scale and use of existing resources.
- There may be educational uses for this network – home school?
- Major theme that came up again and again was that it may not be needed 24x7 – more of an on-demand type of service
- All utilities need to be involved.
- What about financial institutions – what if we need their cameras?
- Public health needs to be involved – institutions
- Use for queries – things like facial recognition, etc.
- Weather can create major incidents and we need to remember that as we assess where the network would be needed.
- Security cameras in buildings
- LE, NCJIS, queries, Fusion centers, plate recog, face recog, on demand?
- Weather, private cameras roadways
- NDOR (Roads) and IDOT (Iowa Transportation) – we need their info and most in real time.
- The network needs to be hardened and the network we are putting in needs to be hardened.
- Another possible use is monitoring critical facilities as needed.
- Want to see where the minimum bandwidth is set.
- The governance should include a rep – coming from one of their statewide associations (NENA, APCO, NESCA with NENA and APCO being the primary associations)
- However, acknowledged that they have large representation on the NPSCC
- How do people want to be communicated with? Email and website
- Business model potential to lease spectrum band 14 have agreements giving priority to PS