

# Idaho District II Interoperability Governance Board Minutes

Thursday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (9:00 a.m. Pacific)

Brammer Building (1225 Idaho St.); Lewiston, Idaho

**(\*Possible Action Items\*)**

**Attendees:** Jerry Zumalt, Bill Reynolds, Dave Taylor, Jason Lee, Victoria Brown, Brian Birdsell, Don Gardner, Scott Corbitt, Mike Neelon, Bryan Davis, Mark Hurd, John Wheaton, Angel Barnett, Ryan Bender, Meagan McCoy, Terry Cochrane, Melissa King, Chris St. Germaine, Jason Holmes, Steven Berry, Ali Scott, Chris Schau, Bob West, Nicholas Lindsey

**9:00 a.m.** Introductions, prior meeting minutes; quorum and proxies; agenda changes, virtual connection information/assistance

**Approved Minutes** – 1. Don Gardner, 2. Mike Nealon – passed unanimously

## Open session

**9:10 a.m.** **\*IPSCC and Committee Updates\***: Dave Taylor: [DaveTaylor@co.nezperce.id.us](mailto:DaveTaylor@co.nezperce.id.us);

- Initiative to Merge IPSCC Tech Committees- Status & Rationale
- Funding Support for Idaho NG-911
- State Funding for Broadband Fiber
- DIGB2 Projects and Grant / Funding efforts

Formed the new IPSCC Technology subcommittee – Dave is chairing this committee. Forming letters to send to state reps about need for NG911 funding, Rick Youngblood and Garrett Nancolas are working on the legislative committee. Funding for Idaho – but first need to rewrite Idaho code for new FCC guidelines, joint powers ideas, technology, and need to determine how much should the EC fee be increased due to upcoming statewide needs. Including employing a statewide NG911 GIS Coordinator and other EC coordinators. Looked at pricing for NG911 core services – initial estimates for cost is 30 – 40 cents – but recommend 75 cents to accommodate for staff and tech and emerging technologies that come down the road. These recommendations are from last year – didn't consider inflation and COLA. Going to look at how do we sustain the funding for future needs. One of the FCC changes that probably wont change is funding of dispatcher salaries. The 25-cent grant fee will continue. The counties wouldn't need to pay for current E911 services if and when the state would start paying the core NG911 services. Discussion on the fees.

Discussion on LMR on how to fund options for the locals to pay for radios and equipment. Thoughts are a hotel and motel tax to fund LMR? Will funds be tied to mandates we might not be able to accomplish in our region, such as trunking? Today's tech can't meet the needs for regional communication needs – Discussion on 700 mhz and issues for trunking, VHF, UHF, and FM limitations in our region.

What can we do with LMR for DIGB2 – is there a solution for our region. With more fiber in our region – can we look for a 'coordination' channels for our region. Gateways and IT tech can help us to use Radio over IP and LTE in future solutions – but could be pricey. First Net and other vendors are expanding slowly in our region – public safety needs vs vendor usage for low population areas was talked about.

With new guidelines from FCC we could see funding for CAD and dispatch radio systems. Clearwater – ARPA money is being used to replace repeaters, console radio system in dispatch

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Nez Perce – Benewah reached out to NPC to connect to the backroom equipment. Be similar connection that Lewis and Latah Counties.

Discussion on connections of 911 systems and sharing services between multiple counties.

**9:35 a.m.**      **SWIC Information:** Brian Shields: [bshields@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:bshields@imd.idaho.gov) (208-258-6566)

- Idaho TICP & FOG
- IPSCC Initiatives and Other State & Idaho DIGB Projects

Chasm database meeting – to be held in March

O-RAP flyer was distributed

AuxCOMM, COMML and other courses coming to the state of Idaho, more info

Information Technology Leader course is coming as well

Revising state interoperability plan this year, probably want to look at local plans

Beth English – new State 911 Coordinator – looking forward working with her, lots of PSAP and 911 experience. She is developing – 101 Intro to 911 course for new commissioners and leaders. She will be on the tech subcommittee as well. Discussion on having other members and input from subject matter experts and users in the technology subcommittee.

RF propagation study – contact Brian if county is interested in being a part of this as well.

TICP and FOG – didn't get much input – our DIGB was very responsive. Aaron Blake left the state – ran radio program at state – not sure if he will be replaced.

**9:50 a.m.**      **\*DIGB2 & Regional Fiber Task Force Project Reports\*:**

- Grangeville – New Meadows Fiber Feasibility Final Report
- Other Sharable Project Information

Discussion on information from the Broadband projects. Idaho Broadband Board – asked for plans for across the state – Fiber Task force submitted a plan, at December meeting they did accept middle mile applications – had 33 applications for projects. Our region is in the mix, have a reasonable chance at funding. 35 million pot of money for this round. Hoping to have more funds from legislature of 125 million in the next round. Looking at how quickly a project could be started. Other projects in region are also going forward – POL and Zippy and other projects.

Discussion on the pieces of the concepts needed to decide on how to fund projects. Concern that there is not local voice on the board, however, they have been responsive to local needs and questions.

More questions may be asked about funding and middle mile for other regional projects.

**10:15 a.m.**      **Break**

**10:30 a.m.**      **\*DIGB2, Regional & State GIS/NG911 Update\*:** Bill Reynolds;

[BillReynolds@co.nezperce.id.us](mailto:BillReynolds@co.nezperce.id.us)

Update on regional GIS and NG911 projects for the region. Continue to reach out to city clerks. Workflows for updating addressing and response areas. Updates for Vesta Mapping and Flex Mapping projects. State has adopted GIS standards for NG911. From Wilma: Datamark was awarded statewide consulting and services. Completed visits to all PSAPS, collected data from most PSAPS, working closely with numerous counties for update and assistance.

Working on workflows to capture and keep data up to date.

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Discussion on how mapping and dispatch is so vital and vital for broadband. GIS and addressing critical for elections, taxes, assessment, emergency management, roads, and other disciplines along with 911 – building partnerships are important.

**10:45 a.m.**      **\*Win Link Exercise, AAR & Improvement Plan\*:** Don Gardner:  
[dgardner@clearwatercounty.org](mailto:dgardner@clearwatercounty.org) (208-476-4064)

DIGB2 FOG – needs to keep updates going – frequencies have been updated and not being updated to FOG timely this will cause problems for our FOG users – if we don't share this data we use interoperability during emergency response – especially with mutual aid – FOG has update date on it. Just get the info to Don Gardner.

WINLINK – communications that can use radio to send emails – no IP network. Every Wednesday there is Winlink exercise – October held a statewide exercise – 175 participated – 147 HAM radio operators. Gathered information and used a built-in map – markers connect the reports. Working with state to incorporate into WEBEOC. After Action Report is completed and working with Winlink and weather service.

Communications and interoperability – this is a strong link for EOCs to provide services. Can use in damage assessment – getting the info to the EOC to get to others.

**11:00 a.m.**      **\*Inland Northwest LECC Em. Alert Syst. Plan\*:** J. Zumalt  
[jzumalt@idahocounty.org](mailto:jzumalt@idahocounty.org) (208-983-3074)

Emergency alert system plan document is out – signature line for each of the Counties. Not sure if the Tribe has a signature line for each. Final draft is available.

**11:15 a.m.**      **\*DIGB2 Member Business & Information (considerations and decisions\*):**

- D2 PSAP and LMR Updates & Initiatives- all

Get FOG updates as new LMR get programmed

- D2 Public / Private Sector Information-

Chris St Germaine – Zply has also submitted for project grants as well. Projects broken into phases for Riggins to New Meadows and Riggins to Grangeville. Also, a phase from Riggins to Pinehurst. Working on 42 projects in 14 counties – want to continue to work with our region as best they can.

- Other DIGB & Region 2 Participant New Business / Information-

NPT – Melissa King (Director of ITS) no new projects – working on building out network from Lapwai to Kamiah. Melissa will be an alternate if Leotis or John are not available.

The question was brought up with PSAP consolidation going on in our state. Need be aware and prepared for requests. Discussion on who our representatives can be for the IPSCC.

Wildland Interagency Forest Center in Grangeville have signed an extension to stay at that Grangeville airport. They are a player in communications. Idaho County – RFP for a new jail, sheriff, PSAP.

**11:15 a.m.**      **Adjourn-Next Meeting:** Location/Date: Lewiston- **Thursday 9 March 2023**

Voting members: Clearwater County: Don Gardner; Mitch Jared. Idaho County: Jerry Zumalt; Terry Cochran. Latah County: Tim Besst; Roger Lanier; Mike Neelon. Lewis County: Jason Davis; Bob West. Nez Perce County: Bill Reynolds; Brian Birdsell and Mark Hurd. Nez Perce Tribe: Leotis McCormack; John Wheaton.

Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce Counties; Nez Perce Tribe; Cities of Lewiston and Moscow; District II Local, State, and Federal Planning Partners