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NAPCO *news*

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION
OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION OFFICIALS

*Bringing you the latest news from the NAPCO membership,
APCO International, and the Public Safety Industry.*

Message From The President Of NAPCO

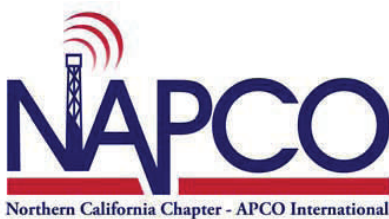
Lee Hollingsworth — County of Monterey IT

In the June meeting, we listened to the Director of NIST, Derrick Orr, speak about the advanced tool they are developing to assist local groups in their planning and developing new digital systems for Radio Communications. In particular, I was struck by one thing---when he laid out his map of sites, each site was labeled "Router" and the audio quality was a parameter of "packets", determined by "bandwidth".

In July, we have the pleasure of hearing from the California Highway Patrol about their Enhanced Radio System project.

Convergence and Change are here! I continue to encourage my group to look at the training that is coming to the RF world because it is quite clear the communications world will not look the same three to five years from now. I recommend "CWNA" (Certified Wireless Network Administrator) training and IEEE's "Wireless Engineering's Book of Knowledge" (WEBOK). These organizations give some background into RF and network administration/security which is going to be critical for future systems.

Now is the time to begin retooling our skills in this rapidly evolving field — another year is going to come fast and the march is definitely on.



MEETING NOTICE

FRIDAY, July 10th

Log Cabin — Presidio San Francisco
1299 Storey Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94129

Keynote Subject: California Highway Patrol CHPERS Interoperability Project
Corporate Sponsor: EADS Secure Networks — www.eads-ps.com



Genachowski Finally Sworn In!

Julius Genachowski, a telecommunications industry executive, was sworn in as the new chairman of the Federal Communications Commission on Monday, an agency spokesman said.

The FCC's broad mandate includes regulation of telephone and cable companies, oversight of ownership of radio and television outlets and management of public airwaves.

Genachowski, who was approved by the U.S. Senate last week, will chair the five-member panel, which will be dominated by Democrats seeking to bring more power to consumers and extend high-speed Internet access to rural parts of the United States.

He was sworn in at the Supreme Court by Justice David Souter, an FCC spokesman said.

Expanding broadband Internet access to rural parts of the United States is among the top priorities that the Obama administration wants the FCC to tackle.

The FCC will help oversee billions of dollars in economic stimulus money that Congress approved in incentives for states and private companies to expand high-speed Internet in rural and underserved areas.

The FCC is required to submit a broadband plan to Congress by February.

Other issues the commission is expected to tackle include so-called "net neutrality" to prevent Internet services providers from giving preference to certain content, and whether consumers are getting short-changed by the exclusive deals between mobile phone makers and service providers.

California Highway Patrol Interoperability Solution

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) has begun a statewide initiative to upgrade communications capability for their officers. The California Highway Patrol Enhanced Radio System, the "CHPERS" project for short, is a multi phased project that will add 7/800MHz Project 25 mobile radios to all patrol vehicles and portable radios to all field officers beginning in late 2009, with estimated completion in late 2012.

The new equipment will complement the CHP's system wide radio enhancement effort, which will also include installation of local 700 MHz base-station equipment at all field offices and commercial vehicle inspection facilities. The addition of the new equipment will greatly improve the CHP's ability to communicate during critical incidents and responses with agencies operating on these bands throughout the state. Additionally, the CHP will begin using the 700 MHz channels acquired as the primary band for the vehicle repeater system used to connect officers to the low band mobile radio when out of the vehicle.

Patrol vehicles will field a new package of mobile radios covering VHF low band, VHF high band, UHF and 700/800 MHz, which will all be accessible through the vehicle repeater system.

The first rollout has begun in Sacramento County. The CHP entered into a Secondary User Agreement with the Sacramento Regional Radio Communications System (SRRCS) allowing the new CHP portables to communicate directly with the law enforcement and fire agencies in Sacramento County and the City of West Sacramento without a manual patch. Through an agreement with the City of Roseville, SRRCS also added Roseville's police talk groups to the new portables.

As part of the COPS 2007 grant, SRRCS, with the cooperation of the CHP, is adding a low band transceiver at their head in and connecting it to an 800 MHz talk group; furthering SRRCS's interoperability with the CHP.

At this month's NAPCO meeting, representatives from CHP will be available to discuss their program in detail, and answer questions that NAPCO members may have with the deployment.

Questions? Contact Lt. Evan Robinson at ERobinson@chp.ca.gov

Executive Council Update

Questions, Comments? email desi.calzada@hayward-ca.gov

I wanted to take a moment to update you on Executive Council issues. First, an update on the Strategic Governance Initiative (SGI). The Executive Council is being asked to vote on two revisions related to the election of Regional Representatives and the Commercial Advisory Committee Commercial Representative Policy 6.8 is being further amended to provide additional refinement and the addition of an employer's concurrence of candidacy. Policy 7.4 is an entirely new policy which reflects the input of the C&B committee, as well as the commercial advisory committee (CAC). This policy underscores the change is that had been made to the CAC and establishes a nomination process for the selection of members to serve on CAC. Furthermore, this policy will allow for the use of a proxy for the purposes of voting on board issues.

While on most occasions I would feel comfortable voting on behalf of the chapter, this initiative is far too important for me to cast my vote in a vacuum. Therefore, I will be asking the membership to vote and provide me direction in the July 2009 meeting.

July will be critical to voicing any concerns. I have asked President Hollingsworth to provide me time for a roundtable discussion again. I will say again, that the Executive Council has spent a lot of time covering these issues and I believe that the Council is prepared to support the initiative again in August.

On another note membership assets may 2009 is a little down. Here's the breakdown of the membership numbers:

As of: May 1. 2009	This Year	Last Year	% of Tot	Ann % chg
Commercial	1,230	1,337	9.5	-8.0
Active	7,832	8,038	61	-2.6
Member	3,785	3,948	29	-4.1
TOTAL	12,847	13,323		-3.5

The Executive Council voted to not increase membership dues in 2009.

Attendance for the conference in Las Vegas appears to be headed to be about 10% more than last year's conference. Almost 80% of the tradeshow floor is booked. The keynote speaker for the event will be Retired Navy Commander Kirk Lippold. Commander Lippold was the commander of the USS Cole during the attack.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting. Please feel free to email me or call if you have any questions or concerns.

-Desi

2009 Board of Directors



President

Lee Hollingsworth

County of Monterey IT

hollingsworthle@co.monterey.ca.us

Immediate Past President

DESI CALZADA

City of Hayward Police/Fire

desi.calzada@hayward-ca.gov

Executive Council Representative

DESI CALZADA

City of Hayward Police/Fire

desi.calzada@hayward-ca.gov

President-Elect

JIM LENCIONI

County of Placer Telecomm

jlencioni@placer.ca.gov

Vice President

ANGELA AZEVEDO

State of CA CDCR

angela.azevedo@cdcr.ca.gov

Directors

SCOTT ANDREWS

City of Sacramento IT Dept

sandrews@cityofsacramento.org

CHRIS BAKER

Roseville Fire Department

cbaker@roseville.ca.us

JEFF BLAU

Bay Area UASI

jeff.blau@sfgov.org

MICHELLE GEDDES

City & County of San Francisco

michelle.geddes@sfgov.org

STEVE OVERAKER

Yolo County Emer Comm Agency

soveraker@yeca911.org