

Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) to the First Responder Network Authority
(FirstNet) Public Meeting
June 6, 2016 San Diego, CA

HARLIN MCEWEN: I want to start promptly because this first two hours is the public portion of the meeting and we are webcasting that for people that want to get online. So will you turn on the light in the back, whoever does that? Got it? Thank you. So good morning everyone and welcome to the face-to-face meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) of FirstNet. And we're pleased to have many, many members of the committee here and a number of members of the public in the back. So thank you for coming and showing you interest in our work.

Let' see, first, I want to do a roll call, and I think what I'm going to do is we have, my understanding is we have about 35 out of 42 members of the PSAC here, and rather than calling your names, I'm going to go around the room and have you each introduce yourself, your name, and your organization. So can we start, John Sweeney, with you down in the corner? These microphones are not like we usually do. You've got to push the button. I don't know about yours. Yours may be live, but most of them, you have to push the button and hold it when you're talking.

JOHN SWEENEY: Morning. Good morning. John Sweeney from up in Wisconsin from the National Criminal Justice Association.

JOHN OLSON: John Olson from North Carolina, representing the National EMS Management Association.

GARY McCARRAHER: Gary McCarraher representing the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

DOUG AIKEN: Doug Akin from New Hampshire representing the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council.

DON LUNDY: Don Lundy representing the National Association of EMTs.

DARRYL ACKLEY: Daryl Ackley from New Mexico representing the National Association of state chief information officers (NASCIO).

CHARLIE SASSER: Charlie Sasser from Georgia representing the National Association of State Technology Directors.

CHRIS LOMBARD: Chris Lombard, representing the Interagency Board.

BARRY FRASER: Barry Fraser representing the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisers, or NATOA.

BRENT LEE: Brent Lee representing the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International, AKA APCO International. Thank you.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Go ahead.

KENZIE CAPECE: Kenzie Capece with FirstNet.

JEFF BRATCHER: Jeff Bratcher, Chief Technology Officer with FirstNet.

AMANDA HILLIARD: Amanda Hilliard, Director of Outreach with FirstNet.

RICH REED: And Rich Reed with FirstNet, Director of State Plans.

JIMMY GIANATO: Jimmy Gianato, National Governor's Association.

NILES FORD: Niles Ford, Metro Fire Chiefs Association.

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HARLIN MCEWEN: And Jimmy and Niles are both members of the PSAC Executive Committee. Tom.

TOM SORLEY: Tom Sorley representing the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and also a member of the PASC EC.

MIKE POTH: Mike Poth, FirstNet.

TJ KENNEDY: TJ Kennedy, FirstNet.

JEFF JOHNSON: Good morning. Jeff Johnson, I'm the Vice Chair of inter-celestial board of directors at FirstNet. I wanted to take this national thing up a notch.

KEVIN MCGINNIS: Kevin McGinnis, FirstNet Board.

JIM DOUGLAS: Jim Douglas, FirstNet Board.

ED HOROWITZ: Ed Horowitz, FirstNet Board.

TONY ANDERSON: Tony Anderson representing the National League of Cities.

TODD EARLY: Todd Early from Texas representing the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators, NCSWIC.

TREY FORGETY: Trey Forgety with the National Emergency Number Association.

STEVE CORRELL: Steve Correll representing Nlets, the National Law Enforcement Telecommunication System.

SCOTT EDSON: Scott Edson representing Major Cities Police Chiefs Association.

RICHARD TAYLOR: Richard Taylor from North Carolina, representing the National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators.

REID VAUGHAN: Reed Vaughan representing National Volunteer Fire Council from Alabama.

PHIL MANN: Phil Mann, Gainesville, Florida, representing the American Public Works Association.

PAUL SZOC: Paul Szoc from New Hampshire, representing the International Municipal Signal Association.

MEL MAIER: Good morning, Mel Maier with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, Oakland County, Michigan for the major County Sheriffs' Association.

LLOYD MITCHELL: Good morning, Lloyd Mitchell from South Carolina, representing the Forestry Conservation Communications Association.

LEN HUMPHRIES: Len Humphries, Fremont County, Idaho Sheriff, representing the National Association of Counties, NACO.

LARRY AMERSON: Larry Amerson, Sheriff, Calhoun County, Alabama, representing the National Sheriff's Association.

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JOE SASTRE: Good morning. Joe Sastre representing The International Association of Emergency Managers.

VICKI LEE: Vicki Lee with FirstNet.

HARLIN MCEWEN: So I don't think we'll go through all the people in back because we're tight on time, but welcome. And I think if you paid attention to the introductions, you can see the very broad representation that the PSAC represents. I think we do a good job in representing the total public safety state and local government community and appreciate all of your volunteer work on behalf of FirstNet.

Two quick things, I have a housekeeping thing. They tell me, Mr. Fire Chief, that the emergency exit stairs are located at each end of every floor, north and south, so think I've done my legal obligation. Second thing is, I would ask for a motion to approve the minutes of the March webinar. We have a motion from Doug Aiken. Do we have a second? Phil Mann. Any discussion? All in favor of approving the minutes, say aye? Aye. Any opposed? That's approved. Thank you very much.

Next, we have the chairman of the FirstNet board, Sue Swenson is on the line. She will be joining us later today. She'll be here physically later today, but she had a conflict this morning. And Sue, I understand you're on. And we would ask for your opening welcoming remarks.

SUE SWENSON: Well, thank you, Harlin, I appreciate it. Welcome back to San Diego, for those of you attending in person, and welcome to those on the webinar. As Harlin said, I'll be joining a little bit later. I have this crazy day job now and it's kind of impeding my work here at FirstNet, but I'll be there later this morning. I look forward to seeing all of you. It's nice to recognize all the names.

I think you can see by the agenda we've got some important updates from the working groups, and we're going to hear some high-level overviews on the new test that the PSAC is undertaking. TJ's going to go over the road map, and that will take us through network deployment. You know, it's so interesting to talk about the strategic road map and network deployment as a given. I remember not too long ago there were some questions about whether or not we were going to really have this network, so it's pretty exciting for me, and I hope as much for all of you, so we're actually talking about that becoming a reality.

You know, I hope, like you, and I have a lot of confidence that we'll be accomplishing the milestones that TJ is going to go over, and I think our track record will indicate and give you the same confidence that I have that it's just a matter of just getting what's done and laid out. But I would just say that I think since we're pretty clear about what we have to do between now and then, I'd like everybody to start thinking about how we are going to operate as an organization once we have this network up and going.

You know, we have a responsibility. I think that everybody needs to recognize that we're going to be operating a network for our first responders and for our nation that has an expectation, at least I hope people have an expectation, that this has to be the best network around. And we're going to be moving from talking about things and concepts to actually operating and delivering. And that comes with a lot of responsibility. And so, Harlin, and, you know, the rest of the PSAC, I really want us to start thinking about what kind of an organization do we need to be to actually do that for our first responders across the nation.

And I know it seems like a long ways away, but it will be here before we know it and I'd like to, you know, start thinking about that, Harlin, now versus later. And we can certainly talk more about that later today. I know you have a lot on your plate, but we have to operate this network probably better than any network that exists in the world today. So, look forward to seeing you guy a little bit later and look forward to hearing the update. Thanks, Harlin.

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HARLIN MCEWEN: Thank you, Sue, and we will certainly work with you on that topic. It sounds like it's a great idea. Next is our vice chairman of the board, Jeff Johnson, and Jeff has served since the beginning of FirstNet as the liaison to the PSAC, and we appreciate all of your help.

JEFF JOHNSON: Thank you Harlin. Well first, I want to congratulate the technical team that makes this stuff work. It seems like we've spent a while with it never working. And I know by looking at the wire was along the wall here what goes into making this happen, so thank you for the small things that sometimes we take for granted.

Speaking of small things and not so small things, yesterday was Harlin's birthday. And I think Harlin intentionally scheduled this meeting today because he didn't want me to put a big conflagration picture on the screen and talk about his birthday cake and the permit process to get that thing lit and whatnot. But, Harlin, congratulations on another incredible year of your leadership here, and congratulations on another birthday. And we just, on behalf, Sue and I, and the board, we're just grateful for your work, so thank you.

HARLIN MCEWEN: That's very nice.

JEFF JOHNSON: I think I want to talk just briefly about what's going on around us right now. And I think the biggest thing on everybody's mind is the fact that bids have closed. And, you know, when we talk about the speaking points, everybody wants to know how many bids there are. Well, we don't know. We know there are bids. And that's really what matters. You know, my own analysis; right, is if there wasn't any bids, then the press release would say, "Now what are we going to do?" If there was one bid, we'd be going into negotiations. And if there's more than one bid, then we're going into the bid evaluation, and that's the phase we're going into, which is bid evaluation.

There's a lot of history and time and effort that went into attracting industry to becoming a partner for public safety and for FirstNet. And the fascinating thing is, I hope each of you find a mirror sometime this week and look in it and say "I had a part of that," because over the years, we've put together the right formula, and that right formula attracted industry that says, "Yes, I want to build a network for public safety," and it's good for our shareholders, and you folks had a big part of that.

I've been part of a lot of national-scale issues in my career, and I've got to say this PSAC has been one of the highest performing -- actually, it's been the largest and highest performing large group of people that I've ever had the pleasure of being associated with. The work you're producing is meaningful work. It goes straight into the RFP documents. It's going to determine how useful these services and devices are at the street level, and this has not been an exercise in participation. This has been an exercise in extraction, extracting information out of your heads over the years of experience, and it's actually going to show up in devices. And I think that's the best part for me, right? I'm looking at this. We are going to have a network, folks. We are going to get this done. We do have bidders. We will award before November 1st. Our chairwoman is adamant about that, and when she's adamant, I promise you it's going to happen. And we're going to have a network. And I hope you take time to kind of reflect on what you've done.

There will be change. You know, we have -- the board we have today is not the board we started with. And sometimes you see board members leave and, you know, it's a little hard for me to watch because I liked them and I appreciated their contribution. But it's kind of like the next person off the bench is every bit as impressive or more impressive than the last ones. And, you know, we've had Ed Horowitz and Neil Cox, and Governor Douglas, just to name a few people, that have stepped into the board and are very different than the people that were outbound, but wow, have they added a lot to the board. And I want to assure you commerce and NTIA is doing their job and picking board members because they've been unbelievably valuable, and we haven't lost the people that have left the board. They stay in our world. They find ways to give and contribute, because they all -- they valued it.

I think the one thing I'm going to ask you to help us with, I think if you were in the military you would agree that culturally there's a difference between the Marine Corps and the Air Force. Just culturally, there is.

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And I think if you go to Nordstrom's or Wal-Mart, you would agree, culturally there's a difference. Well culture is a byproduct of intent, and what this board and this staff intends is that this FirstNet thing never loses our intentional focus on a mission critical public safety-oriented network, and that means we have to resist becoming complacent. We have to keep our foot on the gas. We can't settle for average. We can't settle for good enough. And the fact is, each one of you are going to be part of that. We're now moving into the phase where we're going to award a contract and we're going to build and own and operate a network. And I guess we're just asking each of you, please help us be vigilant. Please help us stay focused on outcomes, not politics, and help us just make sure that this network isn't spectacular week one, but its spectacular decade one and decade two. Thank you, Harlin.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Thank you, Jeff. I guess I can't stretch it that far. But, anyway, so thank you, and our next speaker to welcome us is Mike Poth. He's the FirstNet Chief Executive Officer. Mike joined us in August of last year and he's fit right in and taken, you know, charge of a lot of the things that we're doing. We really appreciate what you're doing Mike, so.

MIKE POTH: Great. Thank you. And I just want to spend a couple minutes, first of all, thanking the PSAC, because, as Sue said, we realize this isn't your day job either, and we've asked a lot of you, and you all have stepped up, in addition to all the thousand plates that you have spinning back at your respective organizations and agencies to really, you know, put some effort and grabbing the right people that really have an impact. As you probably remember, one of the last PSAC's prior to the RFP being issued, you know, the PSAC's efforts and all the hard work, the fingerprints were in there, and it was evident in the proposal. And now we're in, as Jeff mentioned, the evaluation phase. So we really appreciate everything that you've done and that you will do in the future on behalf of public safety. It's not a trivial task and we don't take it lightly the amount of sacrifice and dedication you're doing, because I'm sure most of you will scurry out during breaks to try to keep your day job plate spinning and everything else. So we really appreciate your time and efforts.

As mentioned, we are in the evaluation phase and we are, you know, under a lot of different rules, and I like to say that we're at DEFCON 2000 and we're going to remain there, and it's in the best interest of all. You know, we have set up and been very vigilant, and with the PSAC's help, in establishing what we think is a fair request for proposals. Now we're in that phase where we want to make it fair, competitive, and balanced, and we are hyper vigilant. So, as you and your coworkers and associations are asking, "Well how is it looking, what's going on," we can't and nor do we really want to share because it's an exciting time. As Jeff mentioned, we do have a line of sight, we believe, to stay on task, and TJ will cover that a little more in the road map for November award, and then sequencing on to all the things that we've talked about quite a bit.

The other significant time and effort that I and the team are doing also mentioned is flipping the operational paradigm. Because FirstNet wasn't just born to launch this RFP, make an award, and then fold up our tents. We are going to be and have been the public safety advocate, and we're going to continue that way for years, and with the PSAC's help over the years, as we think about what's the right role to support our partner in this effort. We certainly are going to be hyper-vigilant in a lot of different areas, in priority, preemption, cyber, those types of things, but we also are going to be a true partner to the winning partner so that they are hugely successful but still keeping public safety in the forefront and the reason we are all here.

A lot of efforts you will see, migrations with our chief customer group, the outreach, the consultation, is going to take a different shift because we're at a different point in our maturity, both organizationally, operationally, both, you know, it's a lot different pre-acquisition than post-acquisition. And so some of the tasking that may be envisioned for the PSAC are definitely going to have a post-acquisition as we talk about innovation and the next steps and pushing the public safety marketplace, not just our partner. The PSAC, with some of your expertise and your backgrounds, may become key players in that.

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You all have done an incredible amount of heavy lifting and we truly, truly appreciate it. Now, as we get into the interesting portion of the program, you know, FirstNet and the staff, and certainly the board, as evidenced by large representation of our board members, they're very interested in this with Ed Horowitz, Governor Douglas, Kevin, Jeff, and Sue, that we make sure that you're getting all the information you can to really give us some insights and observations and suggestions for years to come. So thank you very much. I look forward to a very fruitful, successful day.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Thanks, Mike, we appreciate your support and your leadership. Just a minute ago, one of our vice chairs, Paul Patrick, arrived. So if you want to introduce yourself, everybody else had to introduce themselves.

PAUL PATRICK: Oh, thank you, sorry I got stuck by a train out here. Drove in this morning from L.A., so been there for a while, so I thought I had it timed right, but obviously not, but I'm happy to be here representing EMS on the advisory committee.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Good. We're glad that you were just stuck by a train and not struck by a train.

PAUL PATRICK: It was, like, ten minutes out there, this train stop, and I couldn't turn to get into here. It was frustrating. Struck by a train.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Anyway, thank you, Mike, again. And so next, I call upon TJ Kennedy. Most of you, I think, all know TJ, who is the president of FirstNet. And TJ will give us the traditional update on the road map so that both the PSAC members and those from the public in the back have the latest information on the progress that we've been making, so TJ.

TJ KENNEDY: Thank you, Harlin. It's great to continue to come in here every six months as we have our face-to-face meeting and update where we're going, where we've been, and we're going to have a little bit of a trip down memory lane here today as well. I think we've come a long way. I was talking to Joe this morning, and I think it's very interesting when we look back over the last couple of years and what's happened. I think back to when we rolled out the road map in March of 2014 in New York at the board meeting, and all the things that we've put on that road map that we said we would go accomplish. And I want to kind of walk through a few of those and just kind of make sure that we're looking at what we said we were going to do, what we have done, and what's going to be on this road map as we go forward.

When we look at all the things that occurred in 2014 and 2015 to get us to where we are, it was really about consultation, getting feedback, getting inputs to develop the best possible request for proposal that we could, to make sure that we were listening to public safety, to make sure that we were reaching out through those consultation efforts, and to really make sure that we looked at all the different possible things that could happen with different elements; the PSAC findings, early builders, all the different projects that were going on that fed the body of knowledge that really drove what became the statement of objectives. And, you know, a very different public/private partnership, a very different kind of an RFP than many probably would have envisioned, you know, three years ago, or even five years ago as FirstNet was a twinkle in the eye of many. Certainly, Chief McEwen and the hard work that he's done over the past 20 years to make sure that this reality of one set of spectrum, one capability, and having broadband for public safety, and putting the tools in the hands of the police officers, firefighters, paramedics, EMTs that they need to do their job.

So, as we walk through that, I think that we would have never gotten to where we are today without a very detailed road map, some key milestones, the strong eye of the board and the very important background and knowledge both from the private sector and the public safety side of the board to make sure that we were doing everything possible to get to that best RFP that we could release. The amount of feedback we received from across the country, from states, from public safety agencies, from industry to make sure that we were crafting the best draft RFP and then final RFP that we could, I think, resulted in a very good set of documents that drove the successful responses that we received just last week.

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I also think it was so important that all the data collection that was done throughout the states and the information that was received and put into the reading room to allow proposers to have access to probably the largest amount of modern data that we could think of on what states were looking for related to coverage objectives, or looking at for public safety users and where are they at in a state and how do they leverage technology, and how can that best be utilized for somebody who is contemplating making sure that a network will meet their needs. And all of that drove into that RFP release in January, and I think that the results of that, the results that we now see here in June of 2016 are really years' worth of work, very much focused on public safety, focused on the objectives that public safety needs met, and really making sure that we weren't overly focused on how they were met but that they are met regardless of the ways that we get to that final solution. And I think that that is absolutely critical.

It's great to see a number of the early builders in the room. I was talking to Scott and to Todd this morning, Tom, and others, and they're just hearing the ongoing efforts that are being done, the lessons that are being learned on the fly. All the things that we can continue to build into what we're doing with the final deployment of the network I think will be absolutely critical.

As we move through the next phase of the strategic road map for FirstNet, there are a number of things that are not as much 100% in our control, but at the same point, we want to make sure that we put some key milestones on that road map, the stuff we control and the stuff that we don't, because we have a lot of key partners we have to work with to make this successful. There are a number of other agencies that have key roles when it comes into opt-in and opt-out and what has to occur to make sure that we get to final state plans and key state decisions.

We've been working closely with NTIA and the SEC to make sure that we're both informed in what needs to be done. And then really driving with Rich, Amanda, Dave, and the team on consultation with all the states and public safety, both last year and into this year, but really driving to a much more detailed set of interactions. And you've seen a lot of these, probably on social media and what's been going out to the states. A number of states have been willing to step forward and be a part of the consultation task teams and drive into detail efforts that are digging into meaty subject that, actually, most states, most public safety operational folks want to get their arms around before we get into network deployment. And I'm just, one, glad that there's so much participation. I get a lot of those feedback elements that come out of those discussions get sent to me, Dave, Amanda, Rich, and the team. And I think it's so critical that we're having those ongoing discussions.

Also, I've been involved in a lot of the governance board meetings or in meetings with governors and key executive staff and states. Mike and I have been trying to make sure that we make ourselves available for those key meetings. To me, they're extremely beneficial. It gives a lot of feedback to state leadership about the great work that's being done in their states. Some states, they're completely aware and they're very much involved in that on a regular basis, updated weekly, or even more in some cases. In other cases, they're not involved day-to-day but are very glad to hear about the dedication and the hard work and what their state's doing to make sure that they're preparing first responders for the future, that they're going to have a network that will meet the needs of first responders in their state. And it gives us a great chance to really give that feedback to those key leaders, and I've seen nothing but positive feedback come from those sessions. So we'll continue to do those throughout 2016. We really appreciate all of your help in making that happen for all of you that are involved in those sessions and getting key leaders there.

This year we've also kicked off another effort, really looking at metro engagement. This is going to really rely on a lot of you around the table here. Many of your associations are key to these metro engagements, and having the right fire chiefs, the right police chiefs, the right sheriffs, the right emergency managers, the right leader that are going to be sitting at that table. And that comes from probably each and every one of the associations as I look around the room. I've seen CIOs, I've seen county leaders, I've seen city leaders, I've seen department of transportation. I've seen other key leaders at those discussions. And it's really important when we look at how different issues are affected around a

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state. And the major metropolitan areas of this country have a lot of influence on that, and we want to make sure that their questions are being answered, that they're a part of that process, as well as the state, and really make sure we have that crossing of ideas and good sharing of information that occurs as part of those metro engagements.

Continuing to have an amazing amount of work done by the PSAC. As Mike mentioned, I think there will be even additional assignments coming in the future and the kinds of great work that's happening with the early builders working group, as well as the tribal working group. That kind of input is critical to FirstNet as we move forward, and the advice that we get from the PSAC is extremely valuable. As I go out and talk to folks, a lot of times people aren't aware of all the great things that the PSAC is doing, and I'm very lucky I get the opportunity to share the work that's been done to date and the ongoing work that's going to continue to happen. And I think it's extremely valuable when you look at the tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands and bigger that many of your associations, many of your national groups represent. And really looking forward to what needs to happen over the next couple of years, especially the next 18 months. It's going to be an exciting time for all of us.

I had a rare opportunity to reflect this weekend. I went up and visited my mother who was downsizing into a smaller home, and she lives about five hours from where I live in the D.C. area, and it's a very long drive and some very quiet roads. And so I had ten hours of uninterrupted driving by myself this weekend, which is probably the quietest time I've had in a very long time. It was nice to leave the radio off, not always in coverage but actually amazingly so today, which goes to show that coverage has greatly changed from just not that many years ago. But I had a chance to just reflect on all that's happened in this past couple of years and what's going to happen over the next 18 months.

As we continue to talk through the key milestones here, you'll see there's probably twice as many milestones just in the next 18 months as we've had over the past two-and-a-half years, and that's very telling. It's also very important that we're at a different time. The momentum of where we're going, the fact that when I finish just the very next slide that we're talking about here, the last milestone is network deployment, goes to show that times are changing, that things are happening, and they're happening fairly darn quickly.

But it's also important for all of us to realize, you represent millions of public safety, first responders and all of the key associations and key agencies and others that help make them successful. You have this rare opportunity, I think, to share a tremendous amount of information and a tremendous amount of input back to FirstNet over this next 18 months as we move quickly. And all of you have communication staff, all of you have newsletters, all of you have ways to gather, receive, and share information, and we're really going to count on you, as we have in the past, but really at a much higher level.

We have Kyle and some of our communications team here with us in the room. I know he is going to get a chance to talk to a number of you over the next couple of days. I know he's convinced a few of you to wear uniforms here to make sure that we can get some good video time with all of you. But it's now a time to really step up and talk about what's happened over the last couple of years, where we've been and where we're going, and that we're going there together. You know, public safety asked for this network. Public safety said let's go ahead and get this spectrum. Let's go ahead and make sure that we have the appropriate amount of funding, and let's go ahead and work together as one nationwide entity together to make it work and to make sure that we have interoperability, or what Jeff Johnson and I now commonly refer to as operability on this network going forward. And that we can operate together each and every day.

And I think it's really up to all of you and your key associations to really ramp up what's going to need to happen in communication, what's going to need to happen in feedback, and really be pretty direct and honest about where we're going. I think it's a unique time for us, and I think we need to tell people what we believe in, and that we believe that this is the network that we need to have, that this network is happening, it's happening on a pretty short schedule when we look at what's going to happen over the

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next 18 months. And it's happening because of the amazing work, as Jeff Johnson noted earlier, that each and every one of you have done over the past couple of years. None of us got here because of any one person in this room, except for probably Harlin. But in addition to him, I think we really needed each and every one of you around this table, and most of you have been here from long before the true beginning of the PSAC, when we look at SAFECOM and look at the many other committees that you all sit on. And we need to count on you to push things to that next level.

When I hear the excitement from Scott Edson and what's happening in L.A. right now. I can hear it in his voice. I talked to Scott a couple weeks ago on another issue, and he's been able to see what's happened over the last couple of years and just how exciting it's going to be. And when you see that excitement, it's probably the best reward of all. When you see that folks can have a network that's in their hands, that's doing the kinds of things that we believe that police officers, firefighters, paramedics, and EMTs deserve. To me, that's the exciting part, and that's what makes me want to drive so hard each day to make this happen. And I know from talking to all of you, it's what drives you.

It's our job now to get the 10,000, the 100,000, the couple hundred-thousand members of our associations, members of our teams together and make sure that we continue to push twice as hard over the next 18 months, because we're now at that important time in the typical fly-wheel process that you would see that is starting to gain momentum, and it actually gets easier, but we've all got to keep pushing together and keep pushing in that same direction. And I think that we see that momentum happening and I see that in our consultation efforts here in 2016. The engagement is just incredibly increasing. It's going to really increase over the next year. And I think we're going to get through this award here this fall, and the momentum will continue to grow.

A couple of other key steps as we move forward to that award. Jeff and Mike both noted some of the key things we have to do to keep that award on track. A lot of work will happen over the next few months. Many of us are even cutting out early, probably tomorrow, just to go back because of key things that need to happen over the next couple of days and couple of weeks, as you can imagine. There will be no mushrooms or no shade or nobody standing still for the next couple of months as we try to get all of this good work done. And once again, there's an amazing team that you don't get to see every day. Most of you know the key members of the FirstNet team that really are working every day to make sure this happens.

A lot of work that's going to happen over the next year, Rich Reed and the team, with what's been going on with state plans is really going to turn into the key details that most people want to know. When I talk to chiefs or you talk to assistant chiefs or others, you know, they're really looking for key information on coverage and key information on costs and what's going to happen, and that's really going to be coming in these draft state plans. Really important, as we continue to move forward, that that material is the absolute best that it can be before it gets into the hands of states so that it can answer the questions that public safety has so that they can move forward into thinking about implementation and what needs to happen to make the network a success.

Also, a lot of work will be going onto make sure that we meet our statutory needs on opt-in and opt-out. A lot of the conversations that are occurring this year are very focused on making sure the right information is in the hands of everyone that needs it. And then a lot of work by Jeff Bratcher's team, working closely across the entire organization, is going to go into network policies. One of the things that we have to do is ensure that operability that I talked about earlier. And to do that, we need to have a core network that allows for operability across all the states, all the agencies, all the different issues that are coming up.

And we need to make sure that we're dealing with not just the network of today but the network as it continues to evolve, and as the network continues to grow and we move into 5G and other key technologies that will be added on to this network into the future; and that these happen in a systematic way across the country, and that they happen based upon international 3GPP standards. A lot of work and time has been spent by the technical team to make sure that we're keeping up with the new

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standards, all of the things that are going on. And you're going to hear a lot about that from Tracy and Dereck and the team this week.

The partnership that we have with PSCR, focused on research and development, the great efforts that they've already done for FirstNet and this effort of public safety broadband has just been absolutely tremendous over many years, but I think it really starts to get exciting now when it starts getting into an operational network and ensuring priority and preemption and interoperability the way that it needs to be to make every one of us be able to meet our mission critical needs. It's going to really get exciting. I think you're going to see that in the great conversations that will come later this week. And I think you're going to see that in the conversations that are happening with the international members of the public safety community that are here to continue to learn from the great work that's being done by our teams altogether and the sharing that's happening, because others are deploying on the same international standards that we are. We're going to share and benefit from the great work being done both here in the United States and abroad.

Well, the culmination of the end of this year and into next year focused on those draft state plans. I think that's really about getting the effort out of it that we put in together so that the key questions are being answered, the communication is happening across the states. I'm looking at Todd and I've been down to Texas a couple times this year. And the amount of work it's going to take to get out to 254 counties and share that information and make sure folks are informed is monumental. I think for all of you who have smaller states, just be happy that you do. Todd has a tremendous job ahead of him. There are many states big and large represented here in the room, but really important that we have that communication so that he can move things forward.

We're going to focus now on phase four, and this is where things get quite exciting. I think it's the phase we've all been waiting for. And when we look at discussing the draft state plans, really getting the feedback that needs to occur and finalizing the state plans, I think a tremendous amount of work will be done in a short period of time. A lot of coordination, this -- you know, we could say we have two years or two months to do this exercise. It will probably be difficult to happen without amazing coordination between the FirstNet team and each of the teams across the states to make sure that these efforts, these discussions happen in person, they happen on the phone, they happen via webinars. They happen in any way possible to make sure that key discussions occur.

Also, there's a number of efforts, as I mentioned earlier, that will continue to rely on other agencies. Once again, another NTIA milestone for the federal funding opportunity related to grants for taking on the risk, responsibilities and the opt-out scenario that need to occur. Each of these key timelines have to continue to interact with FirstNet as we move forward so that we can all meet our objectives of getting to network deployment.

We've been saying for a while now that we're going to have synchronous delivery of the 56 state plans. We've talked how these will be done in an electronic fashion so that states will have access to that information that can be key sharing where folks want to do that, and that we can have an ability to update any changes or other things that may occur over time. And really try to drive to a governor's decision that is an informed decision, a decision that everyone has had a chance to get the right input that they need, and that's why those executive meetings this year are so important. We want to make sure that folks know what's coming. For most cases, a lot of states have the same team in place today that will likely be in place next year, there are a few exceptions to that. But really trying to make sure that we think forward and have enough time to get the right information, not just to the executive leaders but also to the key influencers and decision-makers that support them.

We believe that we will continue to update network policies. This is something I think it's important to note that Jeff and the FirstNet team will be continuously updating network policies and how we operate going forward to have a network that is modern, that is upgraded on a regular basis, and also deals with the differences and the issues that occur over time with any network that is not static and is dynamically

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changing on a regular basis. We're looking forward to getting task orders in place and having the initial markets start to deploy after those key decisions and working through any of the opt-out state plans that may come in and make sure that those are worked effectively with the FCC, NTIA, and FirstNet, and that we really drive towards what Sue mentioned at the very beginning of the discussion today, is that national launch of key markets and getting states up and running and getting the network deployed.

This is going to be a very exciting 18 months, two years that are going to go by probably much quicker than any of us can imagine. Back to that fly-wheel example, I just keep feeling like the wheel is turning faster and faster and faster. We have an amazing amount of synergy across the FirstNet team, and the FirstNet team includes all of you. It's not just staff. It includes the board. It includes each and every one of the public safety stakeholders, and certainly your associations. We're going to continue to reach out and leverage you. I think the part of going operational also means that these things are going to start to occur faster and faster. Decisions will be made quicker and quicker, and things will be done to make sure that we get to an operational network that meets the needs of police officers, firefighters, paramedics and EMTs in the ways that we know they need to be.

So with that, I just want to end with, really, an ask. And we've asked a lot of the PSAC when it comes to task teams and taking on certain issues, or if it comes to working groups. But the bigger ask that I have is what I mentioned earlier. I really want you to work with the FirstNet team and what we need to do to be engaging of each and every one of your associations over this critical period in the next 18 months and making sure that we're pushing out honest, direct, detailed information, answering key questions, and getting feedback from your associations in a much more rapid fashion. I think it's going to be absolutely critical as things continue to happen, as we move forward and get that information out, that the information is coming from each and every one of you.

You are all leaders in public safety across this country. Most of you are quite recognizable, whether you like it or not, probably in public safety in your communities across this country. And I'm counting on each and every one of you to help make this a success. We are all responsible for making this public safety network successful. We all believe that it will make a difference, or you would not have dedicated the countless hours that you have to make this happen. So I want to thank you for that amazing amount of dedication.

And to Jeff's point, it's such an honor to be a part of something that is this important. And to be able to look back -- I was talking, again, with Joe this morning. He was saying, "Wouldn't it be great a few years from now to be able to say, 'I was a part of that amazing effort that made this happen for all of our nation's first responders?'" And that comes from the success and the feedback of hard work and the amount of dedication and actions that you took to make that happen. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It's hard to see sometimes when our heads are down and we're slogging through all the work that needs to be done. But, really, this next 18 months, we need all of you and your associations to be fully engaged, as I know they are. And the amount of work and communication is just going to be off the charts.

So, with that, I will continue to come out and reach out to you. I will continue to leverage Harlin and this team to make this happen, and we look forward to doing this together. Any questions on the road map? Okay.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Thank you, TJ, and I think it's always good to get a snapshot of where we are, and TJ does a good job of that. And I think the most important thing that TJ said is that a lot of us have been patient. It's been kind of slow in the beginning. A lot of things have had to happen to get to where we are today. But I think the most important thing is that now things are starting to move pretty rapidly, and what we have to do is to make sure that we're ready to be of assistance to Mike and TJ and the board wherever we can as they move this into the next stage of implementing a contract and implementing the network. So thank you, TJ.

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I wanted to follow up on one thing and just also make recognition of the Public Safety Communications Research Program. Dereck and Tracy and John, and maybe other members of the PSCR in the back, and they have been extremely helpful. They've been giving us help with research and other support. We are getting ready, some of the PSAC members, to participate in some of their working groups and efforts as a team effort, and most of you will be staying here for the next three days to participate in the PSCR event that they put on every year. And as those of you that have been here before know, it's probably one of the best collections of what's happening in public safety communications at the time that you'll get. You'll get a lot of information that you wouldn't get any other place. So I encourage you, if you are planning to stay, to stay, and I think it will be good. And thank you Dereck and Tracy and John.

Our next presentations are from our working groups. The PSAC, as you know, I keep repeating this because I think it's important, the Public Safety Advisory Committee is -- yeah, if you would -- is a statutorily required committee. Under the law, the only committee that was called out in the law that the board of directors had to create was the PSAC. And there was nothing in the law that said how to do that. So the board, working with me and several others, after the appointment of the executive committee, came up with the way that this is structured, and those of you that are seated around the table. And we felt, I think the board felt, the staff felt that we wanted it to be widely representative of all of the various people at the public safety state and local government level. So all of this was created with a great deal of thought.

And then secondly, we began to think about, because the board made the decision that they were not going to have any other committees other than their own internal committees within the board. They have their own internal committees. This is the only committee that has been created by the board external, and the decision was made that we would organize this in a way that would be as inclusive of the work that needed to be accomplished. So the first thing we did was to, in addition to the board establishing the executive committee, we established two working groups.

The first working group was the Early Builder Working Group; and Todd Early, who was the chair of that, in a minute, will make a report on that. The second one is the Tribal Working Group. We felt it was very important. There's a lot of reference in the law to how the tribes will be recognized and how they will interact with this network. And we felt that it was important to have a specific group representing the tribal community and established a Tribal Working Group.

And today we have two new leaders in that working group, Dennis Dyer from Oklahoma is the new chair. Unfortunately, Dennis had a conflict of schedule that was scheduled before this meeting and couldn't be here today. And we have the vice chair, who is a new vice chair, Randy Harris, today, who will give you the update on the Tribal Working Group. And then third, we're in the process of setting up a Federal Working Group, and I'll discuss that a little bit after we have these two reports. So, Todd. No, he said I could do it.

TODD EARLY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. There's been a lot of great work that's happened by the early builders over the last several months since the last in-person meeting. And ultimately, all the lessons learned that are coming from these early builders, in my opinion, are going to help drive the deployment of the nationwide network. It's really exciting to see this network, these early builder locations being utilized, not only for planned events but for real-life public safety disasters and incidents, and I'll talk a little more about that here in a minute.

I think it also helps us as the PSAC -- in partnership with the PSAC, to really take these lessons learned and message those out to our millions of public safety first responders, and not only the lessons learned but really help set expectations of what this network will do, and then what it won't do and how we get to that point. But setting those expectations, I think, are extremely important and that's something that I think the PSAC can help us do and drive.

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As you see on the slide there, I want to take a minute to thank Darryl Ackley, who was the chair of this Early Builder Working Group since the inception. Darryl put a lot of time and effort into that, and did a lot of great work on that. And Darryl, I appreciate that very much. I wanted to say thank you for that as well.

I think what you'll see from all these lessons learned helped drive a lot of the decision processes on the deployment of this network and how it's going to be utilized. So I want to give some quick project updates and then talk about some of the lessons learned and how the network has been utilized over the past several months. On March the 30th, FirstNet issued a letter to the PSAC chair, to Harlin, extending the early builder working group for an additional year, because of all the lessons learned, all the great information that's coming out of that, helping drive that process. And so the Early Builder Working Group has been extended until March 31st of 2017.

I'm going to go into some of the project updates and really kind of give you a quick project status on those and then I'll go into some of the lessons learned. The first one I want to talk about is the New Jersey early builder project. All three of the regions, which is Route 21 corridor, Camden, and Atlantic City, are on the air and undergoing final network acceptance. The deployable assets, all the SOWs, COWs, et cetera, are commissioned and supporting statewide events currently.

The primary project focus today is operational readiness with priority on application integration, knock monitoring and escalation and device installation and user education and training. A lot of effort going on by the team up there, and Fred and his team are doing a great job in a lot of the education and training that has come out of that.

The LA-RICS project, all 62 permanent phase-one public safety broadband network sites are construction complete. They're currently undergoing final network acceptance testing. They have 14 deployable COWs. They're in the process of being completed and all will be on the air by the end of July of this year. The project continues to push towards our phase-one network acceptance sometime later this summer. They've also proposed and submitted a phase-two network expansion plan, which will include 25 to 30 additional permanent network sites, and that plan is currently under review by the NTIA.

Their primary project focus is on operational readiness, network operations planning, and processes devised provision in a public safety agency onboarding. Having some discussions with Chief Edson this morning, I know the Sheriff's Office is currently doing a lot of installations in their units, plan on having all their units installed for the Sheriff's Office in L.A. County, and they're excited about that project and what it's going to bring for the safety of their folks as well.

The Adam's County early builder project currently has 16 sites on the air. The remaining three sites are installed and they're awaiting permanent power to those three sites. Their primary user base consists of in-vehicle routers supporting various public safety agencies within Adam's County. They're currently focused on completing installation and the development of a redundant core, which is going to serve both Adams County and the State of New Mexico on their project.

New Mexico early builder site, they have all seven sites on the air. They've been working with FirstNet to automate the delivery of performance and alarm logs, and they have dashboards that are in progress of being built for the reporting of that, as well as some work on solar winds, and integration of the dashboards and LT alarm management for their network. They are working on, currently, one of their key learning conditions, which is they're going to have a test at the White Sands Missile Range, I believe in the summertime, to look at one of their border interference testing and some of the interference testing of VAN 14.

The Harris County project currently has 19 sites on the air. The remaining 18 sites are currently under planning and construction phases for the build out of the remaining phase-one deployment. A few things that have happened there on that project, week before last we hosted a meeting in Houston for a couple

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things. One of those was to take and formalize some of the after actual report and things learned from the Houston livestock rodeo that I'll talk about here in a few minutes.

But one of the other things that we've been working on in partnership with PSAC and partnership with the CTO team, I'd have to say the partnership between Jeff and his team, between the PSAC, between PSCR and Dereck and Tracy and that team has been tremendous, and that partnership's really, I think, going to help drive and save a lot of time in the nationwide deployment of this network and a lot of the lessons learned that are coming out of these early builder projects now are really feeding the CTO team and feeding the researchers a lot of information in real-life public safety data and analytics that are coming out of these projects to help drive this deployment nationwide.

The other thing that they had at this meeting was discussions -- beginning discussions of a proof of concept for ICAM in a deployment in one of these operational networks, and that ICAM proof of concept, as I said, Chief McEwen was there. Tom Sorley from the executive committee was there, folks from Jeff's team, Harris County in Texas. And those discussions began around really scoping what this would look like, and being able to take and deploy ICAM into this network and really see the lessons learned so that we can take that in parallel with the work the task team is doing today to really kind of see what works and what doesn't work and help drive that process. I think that's going to be a tremendous asset.

The other thing that I would say (inaudible). Can you hear me now? All right. So the other thing that we did over the last couple weeks is we had a statewide communications exercise. And some of the work that you're going to be hearing about is the PSAC and some of the out briefings of the task team is how does broadband really fit into the communications unit. Does it fit in within that unit and the total ICS structure? What kind of skill set is the person that's really going to take the operational requirements and drive that into what has to be done across this network?

We've had a lot of discussions on that, and so we had a statewide communications exercise, and we invited FirstNet to come down, and they committed resources to come down and just really shadow all of our communications unit folks, the COMLs, the COMTs, and really have that discussion of the broadband deployment and where is it really going to fit within the communications unit, if that's the place for it. What's the difference in what's done today in some of these deployments? What are the right questions to ask? What's the skill set going to need? And I think some of those lessons learned from that is really going to help drive some of the decisions and recommendations of the PSAC task team that's actually going to come out. So that was great time and I think some great lessons learned out of that.

Just a few more things about some of the special events that have been supported and deployed by the early builders was the LA-RICS Rose Parade, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and I'll talk about that here in just a minute; the New Mexico Balloon Festival; the Pope visit to New Jersey; and the ADCOM Experience LTE event. Those are a lot of planned events that have happened. We've gained a lot of insight out of those. But it's really exciting also to see the real-life use cases that are coming to these, just most recently in Texas, Brazos County Sheriff's Office is completely deployed with this network. Several weeks ago, they had a six-hour standoff and were able to use it in a real live standoff use case, stream video, have a 360-degree view of that residence, and stream that video across to the commanders and folks that were in there.

Just last week, the Brazos County Sheriff's Office were able to use this network when they had three tornadoes that touched down and hit in College Station, and the flooding that happened there. They were able to take four of those units and actually stream the video from those flooding locations across the network and back to their operation center where their commanders and others were making decisions. And I think when you look at that and you see the inundation of the commercial networks during those times, I think it proves the value and validity of this network and how it's going to be able to be utilized during these real-life disasters, and that's exciting to really get to see the real-life use cases in this network in these disasters.

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I'll talk real quickly about the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, one of the key learning conditions for the Texas project. And when you look at that project, you may think, well, why a livestock show and rodeo? But in actuality, that event is 20 days long, over 2.6 million visitors, over a thousand public safety professionals that volunteer and work this Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. And so they took this network and deployed it out there to get some lessons learned, to meet one of the key learning conditions. And I was able to go up there and visit with some of the first responders on the ground, and took a lot of lessons learned out of that.

And there was great things that they loved about the network. They loved situational awareness. They loved the one-on-one voice communication with each other. And then there was things that didn't work, that they wouldn't be able to take and capture and figure out, you know, how to make those things happen. But I would say a couple of things that really, in my opinion, we were able to take out of there, one of those is device functionality. When you put it into a public safety mission critical environment -- we've talked a lot about mission critical and secondary use. The fact of the matter is, is even though that device may be deployed in a non-mission critical environment, when something happens at that location, with that person, it suddenly changes from that secondary non-mission critical use to a mission critical use. And so it's very important that no matter what it is, we consider it a mission critical device, because they're going to utilize it for that if it's deployed with them.

I think the other thing that we can take out of that is the message that we distribute in setting the expectations of mission critical voice on this network. I think all of us know that it's not going to be used for a mission critical voice, and so the expectation setting that we have to make known is that when it's used for voice, that it's not mission critical. And really set those expectations when it's deployed in the convergence of that that's going to happen. So a lot of great lessons learned have come out of these early builder projects, Mr. Chairman, and appreciate the partnership between, and all the hard work of these five early builders, the CTO team, the PSAC, and PSCR, and look forward to what's in store for the next few months.

JEFF JOHNSON: Thank you, Harlin. Todd, I'm glad that you brought up the mission critical voice. I want to just touch on the near impossibility of trying to message around this. The fact is that in the near term future, FirstNet's voice capabilities is not going to replace LMR, and we have to continue to tell people you need to invest in your LMR systems. We do not want these systems degraded, under-maintained, or mal-performing while we're getting on our feet. And that kind of flies in the face sometimes -- that message flies in the face of what we know will be a mission critical network, FirstNet, and we obviously know it has voice.

I want to just focus in on what I think is going to be the nexus of where we can begin to consider mission critical voice on FirstNet. It won't happen when it's technically capability because technical capability will happen much earlier. It will happen the day the cops, firefighters, paramedics and other responders on the street grab their FirstNet device first and wonder why they have the other one. It will happen when that's a human decision and an operational decision, not when the technical capability is there. So it helps us as a unit if you're able to message that. It isn't a question of technical capability, it's a use issue. Todd, thank you for raising it.

HARLIN MCEWEN: So, yeah, thanks, Jeff, and thanks, Todd. I want to just echo what Jeff is saying and what Todd has reported, and that is that the work that's going on with these early builders is really very critical to Jeff's work at the technical side and to TJ and Mike's work, you know, at the staff side, because we're learning things that we thought were going to work a certain way, that don't work that way, and that's, of course, very important, because then we know better than to monkey around and spend our time and waste our time on things that won't work. So it's really been very valuable. And Todd, you and Darryl, I appreciate all of your efforts for leading this effort.

Next is -- I guess I should go back and say does anybody have any comments or questions of Todd? Okay, good. Next, you'll love this picture. So, our new chairman of the tribal working group is Dennis

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Dyer. And as I said, unfortunately, Dennis isn't able to be here this morning. I hope he's able to join us by webcast for this portion of the meeting. He represents the National Congress of American Indians, and he's taken right hold of being the chair of the group. We're trying to rejuvenate the group, get some very active members on the working group, and I appointed Randy Harris, who is here with us today, in place of Dennis to be the vice chair. And Randy comes from up in the Northwest. He's from Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians. As you can see in the picture, Randy is a very technical savvy guy, and he's got a camera on his helmet. He's a pretty sharp guy. We love Randy. So Randy, you're going to give us an update on the Tribal Working Group.

RANDY HARRIS: Thank you. I got to hold the button? Okay. Thank you, Harlin. Real quick, I want to apologize to the board for my tardiness. I was in the hallway. My SPOC had seen me -- I mean, they notice me every time I wear my tribal vest anywhere -- and so they wanted to do a Vulcan mind meld on me, and I just said, "I'm late, I got to go." Anyways, thank you everybody. And thank you again, Harlin, for appointing me Vice Chair.

I just want to point out that there are 567 tribes. That's a lot of tribes. There's 260-plus in Alaska alone. I, myself, with Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, represent 57 tribes. I've been to almost every one of those reservations, and I can tell you exactly what communications is like -- emergency communications; you know? Sometimes it's nothing. It doesn't exist. So I feel very passionate about FirstNet and about this.

I just want to say that when I was first asked and they told me what this was about, I said, "Hell, yes, I want to do this. I want to help. I want to help my people. I want to help all people," because that's how important it was to me to find out what you guys are planning on doing, what we plan on doing now. So, with that said, so the Tribal Working Group members continue to work towards connecting tribal communities with FirstNet staff, the SPOCs, as well as sharing information, gathering and draft the state plan and the NPSBN implementation process.

There's lots of concerns with tribes, because some tribes don't work well with their state point of contact, or the state, period. I can give you an example. I went and I had to save a particular state. I was asked to go and talk, and, I mean literally, I thought they were going to be scalped by the tribe. It's a true story. It is a true story. Only I can say that? Nice. Yeah. Yeah. Oh, I'm very okay. So trust me, I don't have any kind of weapon that I can scalp anybody. So, anyways, it was a good thing that I was invited. That relationship between the SPOC and the tribes now are much better. I mean, granted, that state only has 11 federally-recognized tribes there. Seven of them only showed up. But, I mean, they were literally absolutely cross-eyed over what the law or how the law was written, because it says that the states will work with the tribes. It's government to government. They're federally-recognized tribes, they're sovereign nations, and so that's what the tribes were absolutely cross-eyed about. But, anyways, I diffused the situation, and I think they're working well together now.

Also, we're looking at opportunities to better share information about the importance of tribal participation and draft the state plan process with the tribes and the SPOCs. In addition to outreach and information sharing, members working with FirstNet's tribal government outreach team to recommend strategies and provide input to outreach materials associated with enhancing and building tribal engagement efforts contributing to successful outreach efforts in New York, Maine, and Navajo Nation, for example. The TWG will also support FirstNet in executing a National Tribal Broadband Summit, which is tentatively slated to occur in Arizona on Sunday, October 9th, which is also Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend, just prior to NCAI's annual convention and marketplace. More information will be coming shortly.

So the last thing I want to say is, you know, encourage your SPOCs to definitely work with the tribes. And I can't say that more than enough. I mean, I found out in my state, which is Washington State, at how little the information was there, and I pledged to our SPOC that I'm going to do more outreach with them, because there's 29 tribes in my state of Washington, and there's only about ten that have shared their data. Traditionally, tribes don't like to share their data, period. But as long as we're out there advocating

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and telling them how important this is and what it's going to do, and it's all about life safety, and if we could just save one tribal member's life with this network, then I think it's worth building. Thank you.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Very good. Thank you. Any comments or questions of Randy? Very good. So the last discussion on the working groups is -- I was going to bring you up to date. We're in the process of establishing a new Federal Working Group. Let me get this to work here. There we go. There. We're going to establish a new Federal Working Group. It was very clear, we have a staff person, Chris Algieri, who has been focusing on federal efforts and working with Dave Buchanan and Chris and Amanda. We are in the process of working through the necessary requirements to set up this working group. The board, Sue Swenson and Jeff and the board have approved the creation of a working group, and it is important.

Let me give you a little background. So this network, from those of us that have been engaged from, you know, way back before FirstNet, has always been considered a state and local network. It's really the spectrum is administered by the Federal Communications Commission, not by the federal government, and it's -- the license is issued to FirstNet under the law by the FCC. And the reason that we have all of you around the table is that you represent the state and local community. But, at the same time, we have always envisioned the need for the participation and inclusion of the federal sector in this network. We've always believed that there are many times when the federal sector is important to our success at the local level, and also, there are a number of times when the federal government is very important to our national security and other efforts.

So we've been working. We worked first with the ECPC, the Emergency Communications Preparedness Committee, over at the Department of Homeland Security to get the involvement of the federal community. Now we have moved that involvement over, really, basically focused at FirstNet, which is important to us as it relates to this network. And so the establishment of this new Federal Working Group is intended to get the involvement of the practitioners, you know, at the federal sector. And let me give you, you know, my perspective.

So the two largest groups, not the only groups -- I want to make sure I'm not excluding anybody -- come from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice. So in the Department of Homeland Security, you have the Secret Service, the Coast Guard, you have Customs and Border Protection, you have ICE, you have the Federal Protective Service. These are all operational federal organizations that we interact with. Over at the Department of Justice, you have the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Marshals, ATF, Bureau of Prisons, and so on.

And, again, the two departments hold the biggest number of federal users that we will interact with, so we will be focusing on getting two new members of the PSAC from the federal sector from those two departments, representing those large groups of members, and I'll talk about that when we talk about the charter change. So that is what we're doing. We have just finalized. Sue Swenson has just approved the final letters that will go out inviting participation for this working group. We're going to first start out by asking for the nominations of the two PSAC members, and those two PSAC members, we hope, will serve as the chair and the vice chair of the federal working group. And then from there, we will build upon that to invite all the other federal agencies to participate. So that's the plan that we have. I know Chris is in the back and we're working that out. We're very close now, probably in the next week or so, to sending those letters out. And I think at the end of the day we have to have that participation and inclusion to make this network really fulfill the kind of expectations and goals that we've always had in mind.

And I would say to you that we've had one representative from the FBI, the Department of Justice, on our two recent task teams, and he's proved to be invaluable to the discussions to make sure -- I mean, not only does he bring the federal perspective, but he also brings, you know, a world of experience to us that brings to the table a lot of good ideas and things to keep us from, you know, doing something foolish. So that's what we're doing. You'll be seeing that announcement in the near future as to who those two new members will be.

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Vicki, who has been our loyal federal member and supporter and staff person, is stepping off onto a different responsibility. This will be Vicki's last meeting as a PSAC member. And so Vicki, I want to thank you for your support. Not only did Vicki --

[APPLAUSE].

HARLIN MCEWEN: Not only did Vicki participate as a member of the PSAC, but she also served as our principal staff person and really did a wonderful job. Vicki, and again, I thank you for that. And we will look forward to your continuing support and participation.

So, next, I want to go into our task teams. So, as you know, we have, from time to time -- so the way we're organized, the working groups are something that is charged by the FirstNet staff as authorized by the board. We get our assignment or we get the authorization for the working groups from TJ to the chair of the PSAC. And as Todd said, we just got a letter of extension for the Federal Working Group -- or for the Early Builder Working Group. Excuse me.

So we also have another effort, and that's what we call short-term task teams. And so TJ charges the PSAC with establishing specific topical task teams from time to time. Last year we had three, which we completed and submitted reports to the FirstNet staff and the board. This year we have had two that started in January. They are the ICAM task team, which most of you know what ICAM means, but I know maybe some people don't, and so that's Identity Credential and Access Management, and that's what ICAM stands for. And it's a very important part of this because it's the way we will identify how we're going to treat the users of this network. And there's still a lot of questions to be answered, but we're working our way through that. You'll hear a little bit about that this morning. Chris Lombard is the team chair for that. He'll make a report on that.

Secondly, we have a local control task team, chaired by Barry Fraser, who will report on a little bit about what we're doing there. And both of these teams, we found out there's a lot of synergy between the two. There are things that each of them are comparing with each other. We have some of the staff in the back of the room from Jeff's team that's been -- Jeff Posner and Jeff Vettraino, and others that are in the back, that have been supporting this. And I have to tell you, it's been an educational experience on both sides. We've been learning from Jeff's staff and Jeff's staff, I think, has been learning from us. So it's been a mutual educational experience, one that has been very beneficial to all concerned. So without further ado, Chris, if you would give us a brief update on the ICAM task team.

CHRIS LOMBARD: Chief McEwen, thank you very much for the opportunity to share with the group. Members of the board, members of the executive committee, and fellow members of the PSAC, it's been an exciting several months as we have tried to work through the ICAM components and try to get a better understanding for ourselves and then provide input back. The ICAM is something that's very near and dear to us.

The FirstNet network, as you all know, is going to be so much more than just simply a pipe. It's an opportunity. And with that opportunity, it's important for us to understand how are we going to identify our counterparts, who are we trying to share information to, who are we trying to send it from. And so we've been trying to do that through a lot of the ICAM task group. First, I've got to thank the members of the committee that are listed up there. This has definitely been a team effort. Like so much of what we do within PSAC, no one person can do it all, and there's some great input, great feedback from all of these members listed. So a big thank you to all of the members of the team.

Our main issues that we were trying to work on, we're really trying to understand the issues that public safety agencies experience due to lack of any kind of nationwide or consistent ICAM solution. There's components, law enforcement tends to lead fire and EMS a little bit in this with some of their issues on how they access various federal or national databases, so we were looking at lessons to be learned from

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there. And a lot of good local efforts as well on trying to find out or determine, you know, what exists out there and can it be spun up to a national level. We tried to find out and identify documents and document guidance for recommendations on ICAM use and public safety, again, just what is out there, how well does it work, what are the good things, the bad things to be learned from those?

And then from that, we've been working to establish a framework for onboarding agencies into the use of the federated identity. How do you get people from day one to sign up, how do you get them access, and then how do you get them to increasing levels of being able to pass information or share information on the system? We've been working on examining the potential working, the identity credential and access management solutions. So, again, just a big thanks to the group on the efforts. As things continue to mature, as we proceed with the development of the network, it will be exciting to see how some of these solutions come to fruition. So, Chief, that's the report that we have for the ICAM work group.

HARLIN MCEWEN: So thanks, Chris. So for those of you on the PSAC, we're going to have a further discussion in the closed portion of the meeting later this morning to give you a chance to learn. We're not done with these two task teams. We're just almost to the conclusion. But there are a couple of things that we will discuss with you in more detail to get any input or feedback that you might have, so you'll have an opportunity to do that a little later this morning.

So Barry, Barry is the task team leader for the local control task team, and I would say that, first of all, to go back to Chris's efforts on the ICAM, these have been challenging. We started out, you know, with the need to gather a lot of information that we all would share together, we would all understand. And I think Chris would agree that it was challenging in the beginning, but eventually we settled down to the fact that we had common nomenclature and common understanding to the point where we've progressed quite well. And the same thing with local control. I think Barry would agree that these are not simple tasks. These are not simple topics. So, Barry.

BARRY FRASER: Thank you, Chair McEwen, and thank you all for listening to my brief report today. Barry Fraser. I am the chair of the local control task team, and if you could move the slides, there. I really want to start off by, like Chris, acknowledging the team members. And I've got to say, local control was just a huge, huge topic, and critically important to success of FirstNet, in my opinion. But we put together a team here that -- well, consisted of two sheriffs, two fire chiefs, a police chief, a representative of city managers, the mayors, we had emergency, EMS representatives, dispatchers, 9-1-1, someone -- NACO, who was also a sheriff. And I got to mention Mike Gilmore with the FBI, who was actually very instrumental.

The federal users will be local users and will need local control just like all the rest of us. But this group was, I think, the right group of people to pull together to get the information to develop recommendations on these issues. We had a great group. I got to say, it was a challenge trying to not lead but coordinate the sheriffs and the chiefs and folks who were used to being the leaders. But we ended up with a great group and an incredible amount of feedback and input and participation, and I really appreciate that. And I think that's what it takes to make something like this work. So I really appreciate what you've all contributed to this.

Our goals were to provide recommendations, to define and refine basically the local control application that FirstNet will provide to local agency users. And then also, to kind of define the process that supports operations which may not be directly controlled by that local control application but still is actually a very important part of the local control function and responsibility of local agencies. Can we move to the next slide?

We have had about ten conference calls and a full-day session of the group, and we are working on the final report, which will be available later this summer -- or final recommendations. I'm sorry. We spent a large amount of time on the first box up at the top left, which is quality of service priority preemption, the QPP, which we did the task team on last year. We spent a lot of time trying to figure out the local control

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needs and requirements of that one box. But I just wanted to stress here that local control actually goes well beyond just the QPP functions. And we've talked about devices. We spent a lot of time on planned and unplanned events and how local control -- how local agencies will coordinate with FirstNet on planning large planned events, as well as large unplanned incidents and emergencies. We've talked about deployable and other reusable assets because there will be a local control function in how those are deployed and used.

And then, finally, onboarding and support, this is important because, for the quality of service to work, you have to define attributes, the roles and responsibilities of the folks using the network. And unless you get it right at the beginning and you get those assignments and roles correct and plugged into the system, it won't work the way we envision. So the initial onboarding and support for agencies when they initially get onto the network becomes important as well. And that's really all I'm going to say today. But this is, again, immensely rewarding and challenging work, and I want to thank Chief McEwen and the executive board for allowing me to take on this. It's been very rewarding. I've learned a lot from our team, and I hope we'll provide some great recommendations back to the board.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Thanks, Barry, and to both you and to Chris for your leadership. I called upon them to lead this effort. They did a good job last year, so I tapped a known entity, and they've done a great job. And, you know, it's like everything else, you get somebody that does a good job, you keep them doing it, so thank you.

CHRIS LOMBARD: Barry and I were just saying the same thing. We've got to duck out for this next year.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Yeah, well watch out. So I'd just like to, before we close the public portion of the meeting, I want to just comment a little bit about these two projects. As I said, we're not quite done with the task. We're almost done. We'll be having further internal discussions about those later this morning. But I think it's important for people to realize how critical those two topics are to the success of this network. Without the network addressing identify management and how we register users or how we recognize users or how we allow people on the network from public safety is absolutely critical to the success of this network, because that is the foundation for how we will manage the resources of the network. So I'm going to just explain that a little bit for those that may not understand that.

So once we know and we have in the database some way the users and what their attributes are, what their training and experience is and so on, that will serve as the basis for how we eventually figure out to manage the people in an incident, and for communications leaders and others to be able to actually input into the system the people that are engaged in the network in that incident, and be able to make sure that they get the highest level of priority during that incident. So, you know, this is a critical element.

The local control part of it is how do we actually manage that? In other words, there were a lot of people. I reported this a little bit, and Jeff Posner and Mark G did, at the SPOC meeting. But a lot of people thought that there was going to be some magical box that people were going to be issued that allowed them to control this network when we needed to control it. And what we've done is we've gone through and sorted this all out to understand the reality of what we mean by that. There will be no magical box. There will be some kind of a portal -- we don't exactly how this will exhibit itself -- where you will input, the fire chief or whoever has people in the event, will input who is involved in this incident, and that will allow the network to dynamically, without anybody touching anything, in some ways adjust who has more priority than others during that incident. And manual control means something quite different than that magic box. It means that people will have the ability to input at the very highest level. When the network becomes stressed, it will know with input from the com leader, the incident commander and his staff, whatever, the ability to know who needs to have unfettered access to the network. So I think I just wanted to explain that so that people understand the basic principles that we're talking about. They're not complicated, but they may be slightly different than people remember we talked about in the very beginning.

JEFF JOHNSON: So, Harlin, I think you raise an excellent point, which is there's a lot we don't know.

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HARLIN MCEWEN: Yes.

MALE SPEAKER: For example, you know, when you talk about the people on the incident will be input, well there's a lot of ways that could happen. That could happen automatically with dispatch. They could be permissioned in. It could be geographic. You know, you can draw a box, and when you're in, you're in. And it can be any combination or algorithm associated with it. I think it's an important opportunity to say this is like a great example of what we don't know. But what we do know is with this group we will figure out the best way to make that happen, and that's the important part of this process.

MIKE POTH: The other thing I'd like to add is, you know, that's what's also exciting about the public/private partnership, because we don't know what industry, after we lay out what we think our parameters are and how things should be, they'll say "Great," or they'll say, "How about this, why would you do that and not this," right? And so that will part of that partnership process that we'll do that will constantly evolve. We're pushing hard on our partners to be innovative, creative and have a lot of ingenuity in the approach. So I think the foundation that everyone's laid here is going to be great table stakes for our partner to consider.

HARLIN MCEWEN: I think, Mike, that's a very important point because of the fact that we don't know what the potential partners already know and what they might bring to the table that might give us an opportunity to do it differently than we currently envision it. So we have, as I said, I wanted to make it clear that no decisions have been made. All we're doing is we're going through the necessary steps to get to the point where we have the best information available that we can have.

So, anyway, that's the conclusion of the open public portion of the meeting. I want to thank everybody that's on the webinar, and I want to thank those of you that are in the back of the room that came here this morning. Hopefully this gave you a snapshot of where we are at the PSAC level, and also some of the current situations with the FirstNet staff and the board. And we will be continuing our meeting the rest of the day on some of the things that are uncompleted that we need to work out internally, and we look forward to seeing most of you at the PSCR event for the next couple of days. So thank you very much. Oh, excuse me.

HARLIN MCEWEN: Oh, yeah, so we're a little early, so we will reconvene in the closed meeting, not at 10:15 but at 10:00; okay? Thank you very much.