Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) to the First Responder Network Authority
Meeting Summary
December 10, 2013, 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM EST
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Brunswick, GA

Meeting Purpose

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) executive committee (EC) and membership met to discuss progress on PSAC activities and to receive informational updates and engage in discussions with the FirstNet staff regarding the organization's progress. Staff from the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) and the Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) program also provided technical briefings and discussions of topics of interest. FirstNet staff provided information related to preparations for FirstNet's consultations with States and network planning. This document provides a high-level summary of the meeting.

Welcoming Remarks

Chief Harlin McEwen (PSAC Chair) welcomed participants to the second in-person PSAC meeting. Chief Jeff Johnson (FirstNet Board Member) thanked participants for their work on the PSAC and thanked the PSAC EC for their efforts and steadfast commitment to the work they accomplish. Finally, Chief Johnson sent his regrets on behalf of Chairman Ginn, as he was unable to attend due to illness.

Chief Johnson expressed improved communications among the Board and with external entities. FirstNet is in the beginning stages of establishing its regional teams, which will geographically mirror the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regional structure. Chief Johnson also addressed the FirstNet Special Review Committee's review, prompted by FirstNet Board Member Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald, which found that FirstNet conducted its work in an open and transparent manner and that it continues to work on a network plan in compliance with statutory requirements. Finally, he expressed thanks to OEC and in particular to the Technical Assistance Branch for their work with the States in regards to broadband coverage workshops. Participants asked if the broadband coverage workshop would be a FirstNet requirement, to which he replied it is a recommendation that States conduct a workshop, but it is not a formal requirement.

Next, Mr. Bill D'Agostino (FirstNet General Manager) welcomed the group and shared information about FirstNet's staff. The PSCR program detailed Mr. Jeff Bratcher to serve as the Acting Deputy Chief Technology Officer (CTO). He noted that the beginning stages of outreach are underway. It is the goal and intention to create outreach plans and State plans from the bottom up so that when the consultation with each State's Governor is underway, there is support for each State plan.

Mr. D'Agostino explained FirstNet headquarters would be located in Reston, Virginia.. The FirstNet technical organization will be located in Boulder, Colorado, which will serve as a vital link with PSCR, also located in Boulder. Next, the hiring of regional outreach staff in each of the ten FEMA regions will begin. In reference to the contractors that have been working with FirstNet, the current contracts end on December 17, 2013, and there may be some turnover with the current contractors. PSAC members inquired about the loss of continuity should staff overturn, and Mr. D'Agostino shared that there are policies in place and close out procedures underway to mitigate the loss of institutional knowledge. Chief McEwen expressed thanks for the transparency and current process in place to hire FirstNet staff.

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PSAC Activity Update

Chief McEwen provided an overview of the current PSAC activities to date:

- **PSAC Fact Sheet:** The deadline for members to submit feedback is December 20, 2013.
- **State Information Template:** The PSAC is in the process of developing a template to collect information regarding official or important points of contact for each State (e.g., Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (SWIC), State Points of Contact (SPOC), State Chief Information Officer) to facilitate information sharing and understand who to contact and coordinate with in each of the States and territories. Additional information on the template will be distributed to PSAC members in the near future.
- **Use Case:** The PSAC EC developed a template, but has received minimal input from PSAC members. As a result, the deadline was extended to December 31, 2013.
- **HSIN Registration:** PSAC members should register for HSIN if they have not done so already.
- **Human Factors:** The Human Factors Report was submitted to the FirstNet Board. Chairman Ginn thanked the PSAC for their contribution and work on the assignment.
- **Identity Management:** A proposal to begin work on the issue of identity management was reviewed and approved by the PSAC EC. The PSAC EC is in the process of working with members of the FirstNet Board to have the proposal reviewed, approved, and to define a path forward.

PSAC Charter Status

The PSAC Charter is currently under review and in revision between the PSAC EC and Chief Johnson. The PSAC EC continues to have concerns about the language in the charter as proposed by the NTIA Office of Chief Counsel.

OEC Broadband Mapping/Coverage Overview

Mr. Rich Reed (OEC Technical Assistance Branch) provided an overview of the services and technical assistance offerings with respect to broadband (e.g., Broadband 101 presentation, coverage workshop, mobile data survey tool, Communications Assets Survey and Mapping (CASM) tool). Mr. Reed explained that through an interagency agreement with SPAWAR Pacific, ad hoc project teams are developed to deliver support services to States. PSAC members may be familiar with some of the other technical assistance offerings and products, such as the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide and the CASM tool.

Mr. Reed explained that OEC has worked closely with FirstNet to share their approaches to the technical assistance offerings and validate their assumptions on what information FirstNet may need in the future to assist in the technical design of the envisioned network. Mr. Reed explained further that OEC is not directly linked to FirstNet, though they collaborate and work closely together to achieve the best offerings for States and Territories.

Broadband 101

OEC created a presentation to share information with the public safety community on the misconceptions and misinformation on broadband. PSAC members inquired if OEC could advise the PSAC when

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Technical Assistance offerings are scheduled in each State, and Mr. Reed agreed to share this information with the PSAC.

Coverage Workshops
Mr. Reed shared information on the broadband coverage workshops. The workshops begin with the Broadband 101 presentation, and then OEC facilitates a conversation with States on what their coverage and capacity needs will be to begin the process relative to their Radio Access Network (RAN) design. In preparation for the workshop, OEC provides a variety of nationwide GIS data from several sources (e.g., U.S. Census, National Highway System, federally recognized tribes, etc.) and utilizes data that States have entered into CASM (e.g., public safety population, critical infrastructure, etc.) to establish a baseline for a discussion on public safety broadband operational coverage needs. The goal of the workshop is to provide enough information and data to begin a conversation with stakeholders around the State regarding coverage/capacity needs. Through the delivery of the workshops, OEC has devised a baseline approach to coverage levels. *Figure 1* outlines the OEC baseline approach to coverage levels.

Type of Coverage	Description	OEC Starting Point
In-building Handheld Coverage	Coverage provided to a handheld device through minimum one structural wall	Urban Areas and Clusters (1,000 people per square mile as defined by U.S. Census)
Handheld / Partial In-Building Coverage	Coverage provided to a device outdoors or "on the street" including some in-building coverage	Outside of Urban Areas and Clusters, Census Designated Places (CDP) with more than 500 people
Vehicular Modem / Partial Handheld Coverage	Vehicle-based user equipment, as well as some handheld coverage	Interstates, major US highways and non-CDP areas with more than five people per square mile
Satellite / Deployable Coverage	Outside of fixed terrestrial coverage; deployable or satellite connectivity only	All areas with less than five people per square mile

Figure 1. OEC's Proposed Approach to Coverage Levels

OEC regularly shares the key themes and emerging questions with FirstNet to not only help FirstNet understand what is on the minds of stakeholders, but to keep track of the questions and be able to share information when it is available.

Mobile Data Survey Tool / CASM
The Mobile Data Survey Tool is available on www.publicsafetytools.info. The survey tool is provided for States to gain a better understanding of its user community as it relates to broadband (e.g., how agencies currently purchase commercial broadband services, how agencies currently pay for broadband services, etc.). To date, OEC has received more than 900 responses from ten States. OEC provides the raw data, analysis, and graphical depictions of the information. Mr. Reed agreed to share the States that have participated in the survey tool with PSAC members.

Finally, Mr. Reed shared that OEC has upgraded CASM to improve how users assess public safety communications and interoperability capabilities. CASM will now offer a single sign on capability for users, and more access control for each State.

Public Safety Communications Research (PSCR) Program Update

Mr. Dereck Orr (PSCR) advised that important news came from the Third Generation Partnership Program (3GPP) Standards Development process for Long Term Evolution (LTE). Andy Thiessen advised that the 3GPP, the LTE standards development organization (SDO), has accepted the mission critical push-to-talk voice specifications development as an official work item for LTE Release 13. He relayed that Release 12 is to include standards based specifications for direct mode (device-to-device) and group communication over LTE. While these are first steps and very good news, there is still significant work to be accomplished to bring these new standards for LTE to fruition.

Mr. Orr discussed additional work to measure in building coverage characteristics of LTE. PSCR has done some coverage testing in and around the Boulder area and placed repeaters in several buildings. One of the interesting results observed in the current measurements is that Low-E glass installed in buildings essentially stops any signal penetration at 700 MHz. He stated that they have been doing building radio frequency (RF) penetration studies at PSCR for many years and the constant continues to be that building construction with regard to RF penetration yields nothing standard. All buildings are different and provide different performance of RF penetration and propagation.

Mr. Orr discussed another testing project involving a "boomer" cell to measure the RF coverage of an LTE base station (eNodeB) antenna mounted at 300 feet on a tower. Typically, through drive testing a cell will provide coverage and sufficient capacity for 5 to 6 miles. The boomer cell, with manipulation of the settings, is now producing coverage for 50 to 60 miles. Mr. Orr acknowledged that this project is just underway, but capacity at 50 to 60 miles from the cell site is markedly diminished and the connection to the site from the device is challenging.

Mr. Orr discussed the recent Boulder workshop that focused upon the long-term vision of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) and what it may look like 10 to 15 years from now. The intent was to begin this conversation of the future and thinking out of the box about needs and requirements and how services delivery may change and evolve. Mr. Orr relayed that the expected outcomes of the meeting:

- Enhanced collaboration among public safety and vendor community
- Identified research and development (R&D) areas for future broadband needs and goals
- Obtained inputs from stakeholders community for prioritization of R&D efforts
- Developed common understanding of current efforts as they relate to future broadband goals

Mr. Orr acknowledged that the public safety community will have many complex wants and desires for the NPSBN as it evolves and while some of the items discussed at the meeting were substantially complex, they may actually be attainable in the 10 to 15 year time frame with the progression of technology overall. The intent of this workshop was to also take the future R&D efforts that most people view as overly simplistic, add the required complexity, and graphically/pictorially illustrate the issue and make it consumable and manageable (e.g., interoperability continuum) to broaden the discussion.

The initial undertaking of the group was to break out into discipline specific (e.g., fire, police, EMS) groups and breakdown scenarios to the fundamental technological events required to achieve the response

or service delivery and to also identify the underlying technologies needed for that event. Mr. Orr stated that while many of the scenarios were discipline specific in requirements, they yielded much of the same underlying technology requirements.

Mr. Orr relayed information about another breakout session where Mr. TJ Kennedy (FirstNet Deputy General Manager) discussed some thoughts regarding how FirstNet might prioritize limited R&D dollars. The criteria shared included:

- Leverage – how much can be leveraged across multiple disciplines?
- Effect on public safety process – What kind of effect or impact will an investment have on a given process?
- Reward/result – What is expected reward or size of the result?
- Feasibility – What is the associated risk and how does this affect other criteria such as reward/result?
- Cost of ownership – What is the cost of ownership and is it ultimately affordable?
- Cost of investment – What is the investment cost to accomplish the R&D processes?
- Uniqueness to public safety – Is the investment driving a product or services that are indeed unique to the public safety environment?

Mr. Orr acknowledged that one of the final breakout sessions took the above criteria and rated the results of the technology discussions and applied them to categories of software/applications, network and devices. The highest priority issues were focused on the user interfaces and experiences for software/applications, operations and support resources management, data analytics, and patient services. One of the most interesting results was that participants began to realize that the present day execution of tasks in a serial manner would effectively change to a more concurrent execution with the deployment of advanced smart networks that can make more effective and parallel decisions.

He indicated that there might be another workshop prior to the June PSCR meeting in Boulder, Colorado, that will again examine the future R&D efforts. Mr. Orr offered that the June meeting would be open to the entire PSAC membership. The dates will be June 3 – 6, 2014, for the PSCR conference and FirstNet will be having a Board meeting that week as well. Tentatively, SAFECOM, NCSWIC, and PSAC may also meet which would take the full week. If approved, there would be a full day PSAC meeting held on June 2. Mr. Chris Essid (OEC) stated that they are working closely with Mr. Orr and PSCR to get this approved to capture the economies of having all of the meetings during this week.

FirstNet General Manager Update

Mr. D'Agostino provided the FirstNet General Manager's update on the status of where FirstNet is as an organization and some of the ongoing work. He explained FirstNet's single focus to "ensure the building, deployment and operation of the nationwide public safety broadband network" and made an important distinction between the envisioned NPSBN and the existing commercial carrier networks. He stated the NPSBN would not be another carrier network as it has a specific critical purpose and customer base.

More than 300 responses to the various Requests for Information (RFI) that FirstNet released have been received (i.e., more than 25,000 pages of information). He acknowledged that the core and partnering RFIs are the ones that are garnering the most attention at present as these are two priorities for 2014.

Mr. D'Agostino added that FirstNet continues to hire employees and that the senior management team only has three positions not currently filled – Chief Technology Officer (CTO), Chief Information Officer (CIO), and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Mr. D'Agostino explained the federal hiring process is through USAJOBs (www.usajobs.gov) and that all FirstNet job postings can be found through that site.

Mr. D'Agostino discussed the three mandates of the enabling law – building a core, conducting State outreach and consultation and developing and presenting State plans to Governors. He added there might be additional news regarding successful negotiations with additional BTOP sites forthcoming. In parallel, FirstNet must align with NTIA, Commerce and legal counsels to create all the steps that will be required for a State to "opt-in."

Mr. D'Agostino moved to a discussion of the mobile network concepts. He explained that a terrestrial only network will not be the answer to the overall services puzzle as the rural and non-population areas will still require services. He stated that this is one of the most significant elements of the overall FirstNet strategy. FirstNet may need to develop a concept to allow all potential paths (e.g., terrestrial network, Wi-Fi, commercial carrier roaming, satellite, bring your own self-organizing network, etc.) to provide coverage and connections to public safety apps and services. Mr. D'Agostino added that the concept of potentially multiple paths to reach the network would spill over to device requirements as well. He acknowledged that FirstNet would be spending time with PSCR and the vendor/manufacturers to develop and test various devices to meet the stringent and unique requirements posed by the public safety community.

Network Architecture & Planning
Network Build Considerations
Mr. D'Agostino initiated his discussion of the network build consideration by outlining the major challenges that face FirstNet. He stated that there must be coverage for public safety in every state and territory, the network must be designed to a Public Safety Grade (PSG) standard for robustness and resiliency, and FirstNet must build and operate a core that possesses the highest security and reliability. He acknowledged that in addition to the aforementioned elements there are also conflicts that will inevitably arise with providing services to 3250 Counties, 566 Tribes, and 60,000 unique public safety agencies across 3.8 million square miles.

Therefore, the intent is to develop a one at a time State-by- State strategy that assesses and crafts solution sets that meet the unique priorities, needs, and requirements of each State or Territory. The strategy in each State must build momentum from the bottom up, to work with all individual needs and contingencies. Mr. D'Agostino stated that for the States and FirstNet to be successful, the overall efforts must be broken down into manageable and achievable pieces of work.

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Mr. D'Agostino discussed the approach FirstNet has taken regarding the provision of coverage across five unique coverage categories of wilderness, rural, suburban, urban, and dense urban. FirstNet must take an approach that is mindful of these geographic categories and their unique constraints while collaborating with each State to develop a workable and affordable plan.

Mr. D'Agostino discussed the geographically based coverage priorities and the network elements and deployment strategies for each type of geography. This strategy focuses on open solutions and different network infrastructures (e.g., satellite, boomer sites, greater site separation, dense sites, partner sites, micro/pico sites, etc.) to each of the geographic categories that provide a solution to meet needs in all areas. He continued with a discussion of the advantages of LTE technology and the abilities that it provides to create a core in the manner and with the features necessary for the unique support of public safety. He reiterated that LTE provides flexibility and scalability of the technology and as equipment becomes smaller and less expensive it allows for harmonious integration of new elements with legacy components.

Mr. D'Agostino discussed how LTE would create a value proposition for the various vendors who choose to engage with FirstNet as well as drive additional innovation. He added that the open, commercial standards should provide economies of scale and lessen time to market for the network deployment. The use of a standardized technology also provides benefits for more rapid technology development, increased device capabilities, improvements to infrastructure deployment, and lower device costs.

Chief Johnson stated that FirstNet must deliver better quality and better service than what is available commercially today. Mr. Kennedy added additional support to the discussion regarding the progress of the cost modeling and the inability to get a commercial carrier to provide or even estimate cellular costs for the next year. He continued that FirstNet is keenly aware that the services must cost less than commercial services for public safety to afford to become and remain subscribers.

Mr. D'Agostino continued with a discussion of how LTE will complement the current land mobile radio (LMR) environments. He said that public safety must continue to invest in LMR systems. FirstNet will not have mission critical voice (MCV) services for quite a long time. FirstNet hopes to offer a non MVC voice component at launch but has not confirmed service offerings at this time. He stressed that until public safety MCV is ready, tested, proven and accepted by public safety for use on broadband networks there will be no move to MCV from LMR.

He suggested as LMR systems are upgraded/replaced that operators consider the impending deployment of the NPSBN and make provisions for the potential to share infrastructure and facilities where appropriate. Mr. D'Agostino also suggested that operations of the NPSBN might seek to use local, State, Federal, or Tribal radio and technical personnel for network support.

Mr. D'Agostino closed his presentation with a discussion of how non-public safety entities could support FirstNet going forward. He emphasized there must be:
- A deep understanding of the public safety community
- Leverage of LTE to deliver cost efficiency

- Development of rapidly deployable products
- Continued participation in the PSCR testing
- Compliance with public safety quality standards
- Monitoring and provision of complete responses to FirstNet RFIs and RFPs

<u>Applications Update for PSAC</u>

Mr. D'Agostino introduced Mr. Bratcher to discuss applications development for FirstNet. Mr. Bratcher stated that he would be presenting information regarding applications and identity management concepts. Mr. Bratcher acknowledged that many of the concepts presented and considered have a basis in the SAFECOM statement of requirements document that expressed core requirements for the public safety community.

Mr. Bratcher added that FirstNet would not be able to impose a single network security and identity management solution for the envisioned network due to the variety of different solutions that are in place or currently under development. Therefore, it will be necessary for FirstNet to embrace a federated identity and access management (IdAM) solution. He described the primary attributes of an identity and access management solution as:

1. Something you know – a password or passphrase
2. Something you have – a token, PIV card, CAC card
3. Something you are – a fingerprint, iris scan, facial recognition or other biometric sample

Mr. Bratcher discussed and illustrated an application of IdAM with a Verizon dongle device and explained that in the LTE environment, the device and the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) card within the device are the attributes that are recognized and permit access to the network. The desire is to take the solution further and transfer the security and access attributes to the actual user of the device instead of just the device itself. He stated further that it is important to understand that the authentication that occurs with the transfer of the attributes starts a complicated process to delineate one's ability to access the network overall and to be able to access various applications and information resources held at the local, State, Federal, Tribal, or territorial levels.

Mr. Bratcher discussed the different processes that are in use in various levels of government to provide IdAM solutions. He remarked that the federal side is substantially more complex in many cases than what is found at the local or State levels and stressed a single solution will not be feasible for FirstNet. Mr. Bratcher stated that the complex issue for IdAM solutions is not a unique problem to just FirstNet, it is a problem to anyone using technology systems to access information resources.

Mr. Bratcher discussed the FirstNet RFI that was released the week of Thanksgiving with responses due back to FirstNet on January 17, 2014 on the following topics:

1. IdAM: Experience/Solutions with Identity Management
2. API & Cloud: APIs for hosted Cloud solution
3. Big Data: Features of solutions - search, security, analytics
4. Data Security: Maintaining a secure data store
5. Mobile App Solutions: Experience building solutions
6. Publisher Interface: Experience building interfaces to legacy

7. Testing & Certification: Test suite to verify interface/mobile
8. App store: Solutions for user oriented mobile app stores

Public Safety Grade

Mr. Andrew Seybold (FirstNet Consultant) provided a presentation on the ongoing work to define public safety grade as it applies to communications infrastructure and equipment. Mr. Seybold discussed the variety of terms that are generally applied to public safety communications: mission critical, robustness, survivability, and resiliency and the new term of PSG. For context, Mr. Seybold discussed the four building blocks of the envisioned LTE network as the Core Network, Transport/Backhaul, RAN, and the public safety devices. He stated that the definition of PSG applies to all of the aforementioned network components.

Mr. Seybold continued that the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) established a working group to define PSG. In addition, APCO's broadband committee is working of specifications of PSG site requirements that include recommendations for site hardening. NPSTC will incorporate the APCO report findings and then will send it to the PSAC for review, and ultimate presentation to FirstNet. The document will also be a reference tool for public safety agencies operating LMR systems.

Mr. Seybold discussed LMR systems and the inherent fallback capabilities provided by different systems types (e.g., trunking, conventional) and deployment characteristics. He emphasized that today's commercial broadband systems offer no inherent fallback capabilities and that one-to-one and one-to-many communications are not yet a broadband option. He continued that if cellular sites were out of service, devices would not function in the sites coverage area, thus FirstNet's deployment of LTE must meet or exceed the PSG threshold. He added that during and after Hurricane Sandy more than 20% of the cellular sites were impacted, but none were out of service due to a fallen tower.

Mr. Seybold stated that the APCO committee continues its work on the site hardening requirements document. He acknowledged that not all public safety sites today will meet these requirements or recommendations and even a smaller number of commercial sites would comply. The document covers both broadband and LMR sites as they deploy differently. The primary elements of the report focus upon: existing hardening standards, economics of site hardening, environmental events, requirements (e.g., physical security, enclosures, power), and carrier standards.

State Outreach & Consultation

Chief McEwen introduced Mr. TJ Kennedy (FirstNet Deputy General Manager) to discuss FirstNet's outreach and consultation program. Mr. Kennedy remarked that he receives many questions regarding how FirstNet intends to undertake the State consultation effort and how it will inform the State plan. He discussed the FirstNet staffing for the consultation process is presently at three with Director of State Consultation, Mr. Dave Buchannan, Ms. Vicki Lee, and Ms. Kristi Wilde onboard, and should be increasing to six within the next few weeks. See *Figure 2* for a more detailed illustration of partners involved in the consultation process.
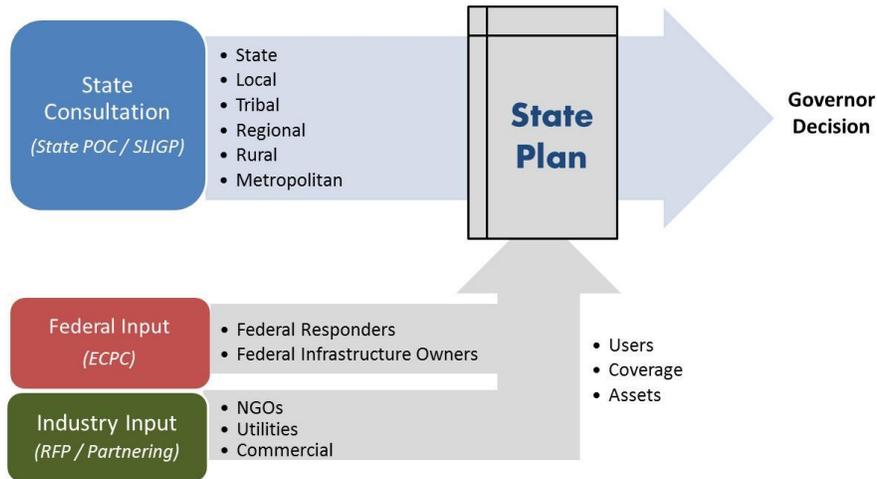
Figure 2. Consultation Stakeholders and Partnerships

Mr. Kennedy said that the law is very clear regarding interactions with the SPOC for State consultation, but there are many other elements to consider. The overall goal is to encourage information gathering and to gain Federal and industry input to incorporate comprehensive information and produce a State plan that communicates a valid and achievable solution for the State and the Governor's acceptance. The consultation process is expected to occur concurrently in multiple states. *Figure 3* describes an example of the information that will be included in the checklist that will be given to the SPOCs prior to consultation which covers governance, assessment and validation and outreach and education.

Category	Consultation Checklist Item
Governance	• Functioning State/Territory Governance Body in place • Date and time of next Governance Body meeting • Formal relationships documented with Tribes in their state
Assessment and Validation	• User agencies identified • Secondary users identified • Key stakeholders with assets that could assist with network build out identified
Outreach and Education	• Statewide outreach plan created • Large metropolitan area contact list built • Tribe contact list built • Rural contact list built • Established email list for all public safety leadership in State • Calendar of existing public safety association events in State

Figure 3. FirstNet Consultation Checklist

FirstNet has begun monthly calls with SPOCs and will begin quarterly webinars with them in 2014. Additionally, FirstNet is providing various materials and content for the States to use in their outreach efforts. Mr. Kennedy requested the PSAC review and comment on the outreach materials and then once produced for SPOCs, the PSAC may use the materials as well.

Mr. Kennedy continued that FirstNet is also working to increase outreach with the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) team to leverage contact activities with the SPOCs and State leaders. He mentioned that FirstNet is specifically targeting the Tribal communities and recently participated in a strategy meeting and is developing a Tribal communications plan. Additionally, FirstNet has assigned a team member to the PSAC and is beginning quarterly briefings with national public safety associations in the DC area. He stressed that as staffing at the regional level is on boarded, there will be an additional regional focus. Mr. Kennedy added that all the presently known FirstNet speaking engagements are listed on the current FirstNet website.

Mr. Kennedy noted the importance of identifying potential users of the envisioned network and stressed that the information about users and their data usage is of tantamount importance as it influences every facet and undertaking of the overall project. As a part of the Baseline State Analysis (BSA), FirstNet will provide (as available) information about primary responders within each State. As with the coverage objectives, a parallel effort will occur for Federal users through the Emergency Communications Preparedness Center (ECPC). He added that the OEC coverage workshop also could provide this information as a part of the delivery.

As the second step of the outreach and consultation process, Mr. Kennedy explained the intent of the asset identification and selection task. He stressed that as this process continues its objective is to filter and to identify the "best" and most capable sites in terms of access, backhaul, functionality, current maintenance that may be useable in the RAN deployment. He reiterated that FirstNet does not generally intend to buy assets and that it is looking for the best coverage and capability collectively demonstrated by the asset as there is always a limited amount of affordable infrastructure that can be purchased, maintained, and/or leased.

Mr. Kennedy moved on to a discussion of the compilation of the State RAN design process. He stated that the process would be a multi-phase design process that will refine the design to the identified priorities. He reiterated that this is a shared and collaborative process with the State and will focus on the priorities of the State.

Mr. Kennedy continued his presentation and focused upon the fourth step of the consultation and outreach process that includes State operations and business plans. He requested that the PSAC review and recommend overall approaches for local control, prioritization, training, and security for the NPSBN. He added that as a part of the consultation process, FirstNet would collectively work with the States to evaluate cost structures and business plans based upon the RAN design and user metrics.

The fifth step of the process will be the final State plan review, which will combine the State RAN design with the aforementioned operations/business plan. Mr. Kennedy added that the final plan would incorporate a projected funding level and will be the document to receive a final review by the SPOC and the governing body in the State prior to submission to the Governor.

Mr. Kennedy closed his presentation by soliciting active and continuing participation from the PSAC. He encouraged the membership to return to their agencies and associations and solicit their involvement in

the process going forward. He added that through this participation, people will take ownership and the plan will become theirs as well, leading to success for all involved. Chief McEwen thanked Mr. Kennedy for his excellent and comprehensive presentation and stated that the PSAC is committed to supporting FirstNet as this consultation process comes to fruition.

FirstNet Web Site

Mr. Kennedy said that FirstNet would be working closely with Chief McEwen and the PSAC EC to post any publicly releasable information regarding projects that the PSAC has accomplished or that are underway and would be asking for PSAC's feedback on the site. He added there would be sections dedicated to State consultation as well as other FirstNet resources (e.g., fact sheets, reports). The site would support a notification function that will allow interested persons to receive various types of updates from FirstNet.

The site will also contain information that will reflect the most current information about the network technology and topology, the deployment process, and the primary elements of the network. He stated that there would also be information about the RAN as well as devices that will be available for the network. Mr. Kennedy advised that no sensitive information about the technology, the configuration or the processes will be posted to the site. End users will be able to share photographs for FirstNet to use in presentations, and will provide a link on where to apply for FirstNet job openings. The site is expected to launch in the first quarter of 2014.

Closing PSAC Discussion

Chief McEwen asked for any additional questions or discussion and encouraged all to share additional topics or information with him, the PSAC EC, or OEC Staff. Chief Johnson stated that he appreciates the continued support and participation from the PSAC. Mr. D'Agostino expressed his thanks to the DHS partners, and reiterated that outreach activities would be the priority of the coming year.