

FirstNet Committee Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
April 9, 2014

The meeting of the STARRS FirstNet Committee was called to order at 1:00 PM at the Council Chambers of the City of Frontenac, 10555 Clayton Road, Frontenac, MO 63131 with attendance as follows on the sign-in sheets.

CALL TO ORDER

Bob Bloomberg, SLIGP Education and Outreach Coordinator, Department of Public Safety, State of Missouri called the meeting to order.

PRESENTATION

Bob Bloomberg introduced himself and explained the purpose of the meeting: Introduction on FirstNet, an explanation of its capabilities, and what the end game is for FirstNet. Bob acknowledged that there are a lot of unknowns with regard to FirstNet currently. This is the first of five meetings the region will hold. Bob explained the in kind matching process with regard to attendance. Bob introduced Matt Nutt, the program manager for SLIGP (State and Local Implementation Grant Program) for the state of Missouri.

Bob explained that SLIGP is the FirstNet grant program for the states. Bob explained how important participation of local agencies would be for the process and requested that those present continue to attend, or send someone from their agency in the future.

Remaining questions about FirstNet: We don't know how much it will cost. Cost will vary with what is actually implemented. Bob stated that wireless providers are welcome to continue to come to these local meetings, but that the state of Missouri will also hold meetings specific to them.

FirstNet is intended to be dedicated wireless broadband for public safety. Bob discussed the issues with attempting to use public broadband at the site of a disaster. There is currently no distinguishing between general public use and responder use on the major wireless carriers, public safety must compete against them for access. FirstNet will address this issue by providing public safety their own dedicated access apart from civilian use. FirstNet will also allow the sending and receiving of video. FirstNet is not a replacement for existing and future LAND MOBILE RADIO (LMR). LMR will continue to be the mission critical communication system. LTE is not yet capable of that level of dependability, although that may occur in the future.

Bob requested that if local Fire or EMS get together for meetings, his agency would like to provide a FirstNet presentation to them in the future.

A law passed by congress in 2012 completed the recommendation of the 9/11 commission. SLIGP is a result of that. SLIGP is now a unit of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) at the State of Missouri, FirstNet is not a MO DPS project. MO DPS is a funnel to return information about the needs of Missouri public safety back to the Feds. Local participation and contribution is what will make this network successful. With this information from locals, FirstNet will prepare a broadband plan for Missouri. This plan will be reviewed by MO DPS and compared to the input that was gathered from locals, if the plan meets the requirements MO DPS will ask them to move forward. If the FirstNet plan is missing or lacking functionality identified in the SLIGP process then MO DPS will ask them to address the issues and rework the plan.

The FirstNet/SLIGP process occurs in 2 phases. We are in phase 1 right now. Components of phase 1 include the creation of a project plan, which includes education and outreach which is what this meeting is for. Bob discussed some upcoming tools MO DPS will use to gather information from local public safety agencies, tools such as surveys. There was also an explanation that the MO State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) will provide information/guidance on a governance recommendation and a SCIP recommendation. This body is already in place and established, and will provide this guidance.

FirstNet is actually the body that was created for managing this new public safety network. They have 100% control over the broadband spectrum that will be used for this project. Born out of the 911 commission, FirstNet is 15 people that will make the ultimate decisions, and allocate the spectrum, but they also have advisory committees they work with for guidance. They will be using LTE to implement FirstNet. LTE is a worldwide standard, which should assist with pricing for equipment due to economy of scale. LTE has been around since 2009 and was originally launched in Europe. LTE connectivity can be used for things like cellphones, texts, video, mobile computers, license plate readers, and other public safety applications. FirstNet needs to know what kind of applications locals will be using on the FirstNet network. Again, FirstNet is not a replacement for LMR.

FirstNet gives control to the locals for administration so that locals do not have to go to Washington to get access. As FirstNet moves forward we will begin to see more and more public safety applications for broadband usage.

Bob showed several videos about different public safety applications available today, and discussed Police, Fire and EMS usage. The purpose of showing the videos was to stimulate the thought process so that attendees consider these options and possibilities in the information they share regarding SLIGP.

BREAK

Following the meeting break, Bob referenced the [WWW.APCOMM.ORG](http://WWW.APCOMM.ORG) website for reviewing available applications for public safety use. Additional videos were played for the gathered committee on public safety applications.

Bob discussed the modernization of public safety and the integration of computers and connectivity into daily use by responders. Bob stressed that this continued expansion of computing tools and connectivity should be kept in mind as the group responds with their FirstNet needs. Bob spoke a bit

about the coming of Next Generation 911 and its coming changes, to include texting of 911 calls and other service changes coming up. He again stressed that we need to request the best system we can get. There was a brief discussion of the death of the 19 fire fighters in Arizona and the lack of communication that may have contributed to their loss.

Systems that are viewed as “mission support” today will be viewed as “mission critical” tomorrow.

Bob briefly reviewed what was already covered in the presentation.

Bob discussed the typical overloading of the public wireless broadband systems whenever large groups gather, disaster or not, and the resulting loss of communication. Bob discussed the idea of “public safety grade” broadband equipment, coverage and service and the idea that if the coverage isn’t there when you need it, then it isn’t “public safety grade”. FirstNet knows that there are lots of challenges to the FirstNet project. Bob briefly discussed the issue of covering very rural areas with connectivity, such as in southern Missouri where there are national forests. Bob showed a drone that is can be aloft for extended amounts of time that could possibly be used to provide broadband to such rural areas. Bob stressed the issue/importance of building “public safety grade” resilience into the FirstNet system, so that the dedicated broadband system is available when it is needed, and can be brought back up quickly if the system is disrupted.

Bob discussed the use of streaming video in EMS usages, such as transmitting the scene of an auto accident and trapped occupant back to an Emergency Department (ED) for consultation with ED doctors on how to best extricate the individual.

Bob compared FirstNet to building a car. He showed a frame with wheels on the overhead screen and stated that we need to provide input to get the car that we want out of this process. If we want a robust FirstNet system then now is the time to speak up. If we want the moon then we need to request the moon.

#### NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

The goal of FirstNet/SLIGP meeting number two is to identify people that are willing to be active in the FirstNet data collection process, by using survey tools and provide information back. Please help get this message out and get these peers to participate. Bob stated he was hopeful that 90% would show up at the next meeting.

Bob adjourned the meeting at 2:30 PM.

FirstNet Committee Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
July 9, 2014

The second meeting of the STARRS FirstNet Committee was called to order at 1:08PM at the Council Chambers of the City of Frontenac, 10555 Clayton Road, Frontenac, MO 63131 with attendance as follows:

XXXXXXX XXXX XXXXX

CALL TO ORDER

Steve Devine of the Department of Public Safety, State of Missouri called the meeting to order.

PRESENTATION

Steve provided a brief review of the anticipated FirstNet process in the state of Missouri, restating basics from the previous meeting. Steve explained the meeting process the state is implementing. Steve began a power point presentation, starting where the group left off at during the previous meeting.

Steve explained the assessment process, explaining that the implementation of FirstNet will be directly proportional to what we provide them. Steve requested that one person from each discipline step forward to assist with contacting all the other members of that discipline within that county. Steve requested a police, a fire and an EMS representative from each county to assist with this process. FirstNet provided us lists of all of these agencies within each county. Steve explained that FirstNet did not provide E911 contacts in each county, only the three mentioned disciplines.

Steve explained that each agency will be asked to complete an online mobile survey. The questions can change based upon the answers you provide. The survey asks how you use mobile data TODAY... it does not ask how you want to use it tomorrow. Steve then went through the mobile survey nearly line for line, explaining the question and the requested response. Steve described a previous meeting with FirstNet regarding their overall plan and process, and that the solution implemented may include things other than 4G connectivity. Connectivity may include methods such as satellite, drone, temporary, etc.

The Mobile Data Tool cannot be saved in the middle, you must complete it to save it. Once started you must complete it. Questions asked by the survey include infrastructure, number of users/devices, monthly costs, unique circumstances of use, reliability of use, types of use, points of contact, types of devices, types of plan and volume of use, accessories, etc. MO DPS would like to see every EMS, Fire and Law Enforcement agency in the Missouri portions of the UASI to complete this form.

The link is: [HTTPS://PUBLICSAFETYTOOLS.INFO](https://PUBLICSAFETYTOOLS.INFO) ... then select the state (Missouri). Missouri DPS has access to run analytics once agencies have put information in.

Steve fielded questions about who should fill out the tool, and whether they should include personal information about their cellphone as well. Steve responded that one representative that know's the agency's systems should fill the tool out, and should include personal mobile broadband info if it is used for work purposes.

We will use this data to justify what we want/need from FirstNet. Not filling this tool out will likely negatively impact what we receive.

What asked about the Service fee, it is asking for the price PER device PER month. Do not forget personal cells used for work purposes. Does your agency provide a stipend for such usage?

Steve briefly discussed the differences and uses for both Low and High quality video being transmitted over FirstNet, and who would manage such bandwidth challenges... pointing out that it has to be done, and be done in near real time.

Steve also discussed the availability of the microwave/RF tower sites used by the new regional radio system for possible FirstNet purposes. CASM and the regional TICP were also briefly discussed. The use of MOAs was also briefly discussed.

There are some questions about LMR (Land-Mobile Radio) available and used by the responding agency. FirstNet also want to know how LMR is funded in the area, and who pays the current mobile broadband fees... Steve believes they are looking at the landscape for costs/pricing the area could bare.

Steve restated that he needs volunteer representatives from the region to help shepherd the other agencies in their filling out this online tool.

The mobile data survey should be filled out BY agency.. Duff Barney verified with Steve Devine that one St. Louis County police contact would be in charge of reaching out to the 60+ police agencies in the County to fill out the tool.

Steve Devine explained there is not a deadline for filling this tool out, but they would like to have the tool filled out by October 1<sup>st</sup> if possible. They hope to have 80% of agencies fill this survey out by that date, they (MO DPS) will then track down the stragglers afterward. The results will be shared with the group

Steve encouraged inclusion of E911 agencies mobile data use as well into the survey.

Steve explained that the group present would be broke down by discipline, and each discipline would

select/elect a representative for each County, one that could reach out to all the agencies in that county of that discipline. Steve discussed the need for a point of contact for each agency, a single individual that can speak for the agency with regard to the online tool and in dealings with MO DPS on FirstNet.

Joann Leykom asked if secondary responders such as transportation can also be involved in this data collection process, and Steve Devine confirmed that they can and encouraged such reach outs for additional disciplines.

A 10 minute break was provided to the group before the break out session was to begin.

#### BREAK

Following the 10 minute break, the breakout sessions began and the group was broken down by discipline. Fire, EMS and Police met separately. Representatives from the Illinois counties also met separately.

#### BREAK OUT SESSIONS

Following the break out session Steve Devine collected contact names from each of the groups and the meeting was adjourned.

#### NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

Steve adjourned the meeting at 2:29 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup>, same location and time.