



COMMILINK

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the
California Public-Safety Radio Association

August 2009 Meeting - Downey

CPRA serves the people who manage, operate, maintain and supply the communications systems used to safeguard the lives and property of citizens everywhere. Among the CPRA ranks there are over 500 professionals representing the Police, Fire, EMS, Forestry, Highway and Conservation services. CPRA provides many opportunities to grow professionally, share your ideas, upgrade your skills and network with your colleagues.

This month's meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2009 at the Rio Hondo Golf Course, 10627 Old River School Rd., Downey, (562) 806-2050
Thomas Brothers Page 705-J6

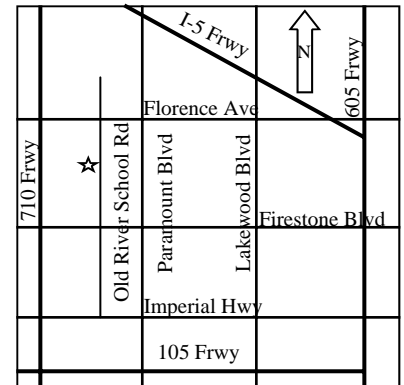
DIRECTIONS:

From 605 Freeway:

- ◆ Exit Firestone Blvd.
- ◆ Go West to Old River School Rd
- ◆ Go North to address

From I-5 Freeway:

- ◆ Exit Lakewood or Paramount Blvds
- ◆ Go South to Florence Ave
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- ◆ Go South to Address



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Podium 2

Officer Election Notice 2

Board of Officers 3

Meeting Minutes 3

Meeting Minutes Cont. 4

800 Mhz Rebanding 4-6

Ads 7

Meeting Dates 8

Insert - Table Top Flier

Meeting Host: Jim Acosta Downey Fire Communications

Early bird Sponsor: Mark Morgan EF Johnson

Agenda:

- 0830 - 0945 Executive Board Meeting
- 1000 - 1045 General Meeting
- 1045 - 1115 General Interest Presentation: "Disaster Preparedness: What We Need To Know"
Presenter: Ken Kondo, Program Manager and Public Information Officer for the Chief Executive Office of Emergency Management for Los Angeles County.
- 1115 - 1200 Presentation: "The Standards and Regulatory Landscape".
Presenter: John Oblak, Vice President, Standards and Regulatory Affairs, EF Johnson Technologies, Chair of the TIA TR-8 Private Land Mobile Radio Standards Committee and Chair of the TR-8.1 subcommittee Transceiver Measurement Methods .
- 1200 - Lunch

Frequency Coordination Meeting Following Lunch

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM
KEN MANN

The July meeting was held at the Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel in Buena Park. Thank you to our host, Robert Stoffel from the Orange County Sheriff Department, and thank you to Larry Weber from The Sales Group for sponsoring the Early Bird refreshments.

Sixty-two people attended our meeting last month. Special Agent Danny Santiago from the California Department of Justice presented a report on the Gangs Task Force. The presentation provided an insight to how gang activity is analyzed and how intervention is used to help reduce gang affiliation.

During our General Meeting, we recognized a long time member, Ray Grimes, with the Chapter Service Award. Ray was presented this award for his extensive work with the Chapter as the Chair of the 800 MHz Rebanding Special Committee. CPRA thanks Ray for his service and participation.

The APCO Western States Regional Conference is coming soon. The conference will be held January 20th through the 22nd in Denver, Colorado. The host Hotel is the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center. Early Bird registration is available through August 31st and hotel reservations are now available. For more information, check the Conference website at www.apco-co.org/WRC2010/.

Our next meeting will be held at the Rio Hondo Golf Club on August 27th. Mr. Ken Kondo, Program Manager and Public Information Officer for the Chief Executive Office of Emergency Management for Los Angeles County, will give a presentation on what we need to know for disaster preparedness.

Following this presentation, Mr. John Oblak, Vice President of Standards and Regulatory Affairs, from E.F. Johnson Technologies, will present an overview of APCO Project 25 standards and the regulatory landscape. Mr. Oblak is the Chair of the TIA TR-8 Committee on Mobile and Personal Private Radio Standards and also chairs the TR-8.1 subcommittee on Transceiver Measurement Methods. John's presentation will be coming just two weeks after the TIA/P25 meetings in Las Vegas and he will provide CPRA with the most current information hot off the press.

I look forward to seeing everybody at the next meeting and check our website, www.cpra.org for any updates.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CHAPTER OFFICER?
CHAPTER ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD OCTOBER 15, 2009.

If you are interested in becoming an officer of our Chapter, or know someone you would like to nominate, please contact Bob Uribe at 562-570-4801, or send an email to Robert.Uribe@longbeach.gov.

The Executive Committee requires a letter of support from each prospective candidate's agency to become eligible for the ballot. Listed below are the offices that will appear on this year's ballot, and their respective commitments.

President-Elect: Requires a five year commitment to progress through the chairs from President-Elect, President, and three years of Directorship.

Vice-President: Requires a six year commitment to progress through the chairs from Vice-President, President-Elect, President, and three years of Directorship.

Executive Council Delegate: Requires a two year commitment.

Secretary: Requires a two year commitment.

Treasurer: Requires a two year commitment.

Sergeant at Arms: Requires a one year commitment.

**CHAPTER MEETING
JULY 16, 2009
KNOTT'S BERRY RESORT HOTEL
BUENA PARK, CA**

SUMMARY

Meeting Host: Robert Stoffel, Orange County Sheriff
Early Bird Sponsor: Larry Weber, The Sales Group
Secretary's Report: Minutes from the June 09 meeting are posted on the CPRA web site.
Treasurer's Report: See comments
Program: "Gangs Task Force Report"
Presenter: Cal DOJ Special Agent Danny Santiago
Attendance: 62

AGENDA

Greeting – Ken Mann. Ken opened the chapter meeting at 10:15 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the July 2009 meeting. Mike led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ken thanked Robert Stoffel for hosting the meeting. And he thanked The Sales Group (Larry Weber) for sponsoring the Early Bird refreshments.

Introductions - All. New members were welcomed. Everyone in attendance was asked to introduce themselves.

Membership Report – Dawn Lopez. It was noted we have a total of 493 members. There are 13 new members for this month. Dawn announced the organizations of the new members. Gary Gray commented about the Government Membership that is available for agencies that wish to use this option to establish a membership with APCO.

Meeting Program Review – Gary Poon. Gary P. reviewed the upcoming schedule for meetings including dates and locations. Details for the remainder of the 2009 schedule are on the website. He commented that the next Chapter meeting will be held on August 27th in Downey. It was noted that the date for the August meeting was a week later than normal to accommodate travel to the APCO Conference & Exposition.

APCO Conference & Exposition. Ken made announcements about the upcoming APCO Conference to be held in Las Vegas 16 – 20 August. There will be an ad hoc CPRA Chapter Meeting during the conference. It will be held on Monday, August 17th 2009 from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. The location is in the LV Convention Center, Room N252.

Treasurer's Report – John Wright. John was unable to attend. Mike provided a report of income and expenses for the previous month. He noted that total income for the month was \$2,416.45 and the total expenditures were \$2,674.18. Mike commented that the complete monthly financial report is available by contacting John directly.

Executive Council Delegate – Richard Granado. Richard provided an update on the Strategic Governance Initiative. He noted progress on getting the Bylaws and polices updated. Richard reported on upcoming teleconference meetings pertinent to the SGI.

Operations Program – Dawn Lopez. Dawn commented that she is continuing her efforts to provide general public safety presentations at the upcoming meetings.

Telecommunicator Week. Dawn reported that there is planning underway to design a 2010 Telecommunicator Button. She noted that ideas are welcome.

Telecommunicator Banquet. Dawn reported that the Quiet Canon Conference Center will again be the location for the banquet to be held in April 2010. An initial team has been formed to plan the banquet. There is a need for a lot more members to serve on the committee.

[See Minutes on Page 4]

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[Minutes from page 3]

FCC Update/Frequency Coordinator Update – Gary Gray. The following comments were provided:

Cal SIEC Meeting. The most recent meeting was held on June 22nd at the Mather, CA facility.

CalSIEC Southern Planning Area (SPA). There will be an SPA meeting on Wednesday, July 22nd.

700 MHz Committee. Gary G. noted that some agencies are beginning their licensing process for 700 MHz frequencies.

800 MHz Committee. Jim Donovan, Committee Chair reported on a training session hosted by the National Regional Planning Committee (RPC). He indicated that he and Gary Poon attended.

800 MHz Rebanding. Ray Grimes provided a summary of the rebanding processes underway for Region 5. He also commented about date slippages initiated by the FCC. Ray indicated that the rebanding funding to be provided by Nextel still appears viable. Additional details are included in the attachment to these minutes.

Forward Link Only (FLO) TV. Ken Norton provided information about an agreement with Media Flo and the City of San Diego to mitigate possible interference problems. So far there have been no reported events of interference. Other agencies reported similar results although it was noted that everyone is on a “wait and see” status.

Commercial Introductions – Jack Daniel. Jack asked commercial members and guests to introduce themselves and give a brief comment about their respective products and services.

Program Presentation. Special Agent Danny Santiago, California DOJ, Task Force Commander gave a detailed and interesting report on the responsibilities of the Gang Task Force in his area of operation. He presented analysis and photos of gang activity within his region. Finally, he commented about intervention steps being used to reduce the appeal of gang affiliation. Ken thanked Agent Santiago for his excellent and informative presentation.

Meeting Adjourned. Ken thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Notes for the Record. Following the meeting, Gary Gray convened the Frequency Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting. Ongoing and new frequency requests were presented and acted upon.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Rowles
Secretary

**800 MHZ REBANDING
CPRA MEETING NOTES
By: Ray Grimes
June 18, 2009**

- ◆ **2009—THE DECISIVE YEAR?** The FCC and industry news sources have had very little to say lately regarding Rebanding progress or activity. The TA’s web site also has very little real news regarding 2009 Rebanding activity, with no press releases issued since February, 2008. There continues to be little to no reported activity as to a Mexico Treaty Agreement resolution that would affect the 800 MHz border frequency plan. The next U.S./Mexico Joint Working Committee meeting was scheduled for July, 14, 2009 in New Mexico and was expected to address numerous diplomatic issues that include an 800 MHz border frequencies agreement.
- ◆ **The FCC’s Fourth Memorandum Opinion and Order WT Docket 02-55 released February 25, 2009 sets policy for the U.S./Canada Border Rebanding Program, allowing it to proceed. In essence, Canada’s 800 MHz Rebanding NPSPAC frequency plan mirrors that of the U.S. and sets expectations that the ‘future’ U.S./Mexico Treaty Agreement NPSPAC frequency plan should be identical for international and national mutual aid frequencies (ITAC, CLEMARS, FIREMARS).**
- ◆ **FCC Public Notice Bulletin DA-09-1463 released on June 29 extends the 800 MHz Rebanding negotiation period for Wave 4 border area NPSPAC and Non-NPAPAC licensees until October 1, 2009 and extends the filing freeze on new 800 MHz license applications until 30 days after October 1, 2009 (or November 1, 2009). Border-region impacted incumbents are encouraged to continue negotiations with Sprint-Nextel but are not obligated to perform re-configuration activities, particularly if they may be viewed as cost-duplicative or frequency-specific.**

[See 800 MHz on Page 4]

[800 MHz from page 4]

- ◆ **FCC Order WT Docket No. 02-55 released June 24, 2009 postpones the 800 MHz Rebanding financial reconciliation ‘true-up’ period from July 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, with a mandatory requirement for the TA to file a report on November 2, 2009 with a recommendation for possible further postponement of the ‘true-up’ date.**
- ◆ **Sprint-Nextel continues to guarantee the funding of remaining 800 MHz Rebanding activities though their corporate health is fragile. When the FCC approved the Rebanding order in 2004, it required the carrier—then Nextel Communications—to establish a \$2.5 billion letter of credit to ensure that Rebanding funds would be available, even if the carrier went bankrupt. As the Rebanding has progressed, the FCC has allowed Sprint Nextel to reduce the debt obligation in the letter of credit to around \$1.91 Billion while ensuring that money will be available to finish the reconfiguration effort. Even if one of the banks supporting the letter of credit were to fail—a hypothetical scenario mentioned by Allan Tilles—800 MHz public-safety licensees will be covered for their approved Rebanding costs though completion---whenever that may be.**
- ◆ **FCC Bulletin WT Docket No. 02-55, Adopted: May 20, 2009 Released: May 20, 2009 approved the transfer of control of the 800 MHz Transition Administrator LLC (TA LLC) from BearingPoint, Inc., debtor-in-possession (BE), to Baseline Wireless Services LLC (BWS). The transfer is occurring in conjunction with the acquisition in bankruptcy of certain of BE’s assets by Deloitte LLP (Deloitte), and will facilitate Deloitte’s replacement of BE within the structure the 800 MHz Transition Administrator (TA) in a smooth transition that will further the Commission’s goal of ‘timely’ reconfiguration of the 800 MHz band. The TA now consists of a team of personnel from Deloitte LLP; Squire, Sanders, & Dempsey, LLP; and Baseline Telecom, Inc.**
- ◆ **Per an article in Radio Resource Online Exclusive dated April 29, 2009, TA Deputy Program Administrator Brett Haan stated that the TA cost review seeks to ensure that Rebanding costs are reasonable, prudent, and minimally necessary to provide comparable facilities. These TA metrics are a guideline and not fixed thresholds. The incumbent must assure that great detail and adequate documentation is provided in requesting Rebanding labor and costs recovery. The TA’s cost metrics reflect the most recent public safety agency agreements along with any applicable approved amendments. The TA considers the licensee system size, the number of subscribers, and implementation cost category.**
- ◆ **For perspective, the FCC ruled in favor of Sprint-Nextel in a case referred for de novo review for Flagler County, Florida, a Wave 3, Stage 2 incumbent. Flagler County submitted costs for a ‘third touch’ of its subscriber fleet. The problem lies in that Flagler County and Sprint-Nextel agreed per their Implementation FRA to support two touches of the County’s fleet to program new Rebanding frequencies in the first session, then to remove pre-Rebanding frequencies in the second session. The FRA also provided that during the second touch, all pre-Rebanding NPSPAC mutual-aid channels as well as Flagler’s individually assigned pre-Rebanding channels would be removed from its subscriber fleet. At the time of the second touch, Flagler only removed the individually assigned pre-Rebanding channels but did not remove the old mutual-aid channels as provided for in their FRA. Flagler failed to notify Sprint-Nextel or sought a change to the FRA prior to taking action. After the second touch was completed, Flagler submitted a change notice to Sprint-Nextel seeking an additional \$82,317 to touch the radios a third time to remove the old mutual aid channels. Flagler stated that it had decided to retain the old mutual aid channels to temporarily preserve State interoperability. Sprint-Nextel correctly contended that Flagler failed to uphold its FRA Agreement conditions and by its lack of careful coordination, was not entitled to Rebanding funding for a third touch. The TA mediator recommended that the FCC find that Sprint is not responsible for these additional proposed costs, as Flagler county violated the terms of its Rebanding agreement and deviated from the procedures for Change Orders set forth in the Commissions Rules.**
- ◆ **Also for perspective, the State of Washington is frustrated at their Rebanding program where the State must Reband its statewide EF Johnson MultiNet 2 trunked system which supports 5,000 subscribers, along with numerous other trunked radio systems that must be Rebanded and remain interoperable. The State’s Rebanding Proposed Resolution Memorandum (PRM) as negotiated with Sprint-Nextel failed and TA negotiations failed as well. This lack of resolution is for the State’s PFA, reporting that a good working relationship turned into an adversarial standoff, where Sprint-Nextel used *delay* as their tactic. The State must replace all 5,000 EF Johnson subscriber radios and S-N agreed at that point. The disagreement involves the State’s proposed *level of necessary planning*. The**

[See 800 MHz on Page 6]

[800 MHz from page 5]

State contends that S-N and the TA are relying on cost metrics data that does not fit the State's unique situation. the State of Washington is mandated to complete Rebanding prior to April, 2011.

- ◆ The TA's December 31, 2008 Quarterly Progress Report, released March 16, 2009 is available online at the 800 MHz Transition Administrator web site. The First Quarter 2009 Report is due very soon.
- ◆ Per the June 18 OC Fire Chief's Association (OCFCA) monthly meeting, OCFCA agreed to NOT include *legacy* FIREMARS, ICALL, AND ITAC programming in new Rebanding radio programming. This will minimize the need to touch these radios two or more times, though that still may be necessary to manage Rebanding of Orange County 800 MHz radios with State-specific 800 MHz programmings such as State Parks and Universities. This does create some risk regarding interim availability of mutual aid Fire communications capability in a disaster though agencies can always exchange packsets on-scene or employ local cross-patches. OCFCA also agreed that Huntington Beach Fire, Laguna Beach Fire, Newport Beach Fire, and OCFA WILL retain 'legacy' California State Parks programming and WILL require a second reprogramming at some future date. Additionally, OCFCA agreed that the Fullerton Fire Dept. shall retain 'legacy' CSU Fullerton Police Dept. programming and will thus require a future second Rebanding reprogramming. Similar mutual aid programming considerations must also be made for OCCOPSA and OC Lifeguard Association members.
- ◆ The County of Orange acting in behalf of 800 MHz CCCS partner agencies had formally requested of Sprint-Nextel immediate early Rebanding replacement of aging legacy SIMS (SmartNet© Interface Management System) ancillary infrastructure equipment that was previously identified by Motorola in their Suitability Assessment (SA) as necessary. Sprint-Nextel greatly reduced the number of County SIMS requests that qualified for replacement and redefined SIMS Rebanding justification as *only* being the case where the SIMS RF modem includes a *NPSPAC control channel* that would require downbanding. The County also envisions a justifiable case for SIMS replacement where an agency might have Rebandable *NPSPAC trunked voice channels* that would require new trunked voice channel assignment display screen tags, where software development on legacy products is unsupported ('comparable facilities' requirement).
- ◆ The County of Orange had recently (though unsuccessfully) requested Sprint-Nextel's permission to proceed with limited non-cost-duplicative or frequency-specific Rebanding activities as a Wave 4 incumbent at a cost of \$1.06 million (about 13% of the \$8.06 million previously requested for the County's initial Implementation FRA). This proposal included non-cost-duplicative or frequency-specific tasks such as replacement of 2 SIMS terminals, replacement of 32 base station antennas, Rebanding upgrades of 28 Motorola Service Monitors, replacement or reconfiguration of 55 BDA's, replacement of 16 mobile radio scanners, and reimbursement of 33% of the County's initial cost for MCM labor and projects tracking software now being used in support of Rebanding. Sprint-Nextel stated that the County could only Rebanding 'negotiate' with Sprint-Nextel but could not proceed with any Rebanding actions. The County expected to file an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) form leading to mandatory arbitration, which would seem to fit the need, though the TA recommended that the County of Orange file a Change Notice to seek a formal TA and FCC decision. The Change Notice filing would start the clock, giving Sprint-Nextel ten (10) days to acknowledge the filing, twenty (20) days to negotiate. Either party may also file a mediation request within this 20 day period. If an agreement with Sprint-Nextel is not achieved within the 20 day period, the TA would then assign a mediator. The mediation period would last 15 days and any remaining dispute issues would then be referred to the FCC for de novo review.

Upon a telephone call between County Counsel and the FCC, the County was advised to submit a letter to Michael Wilhelm, FCC Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau for staff informal review, opinion, and guidance in this matter. This process allows the FCC to engage in this request by the County but does not limit their recommendations and remedies to those narrowly defined by other formal complaint filings. The County expects to hear from the Michael Wilhelm in mid-July.



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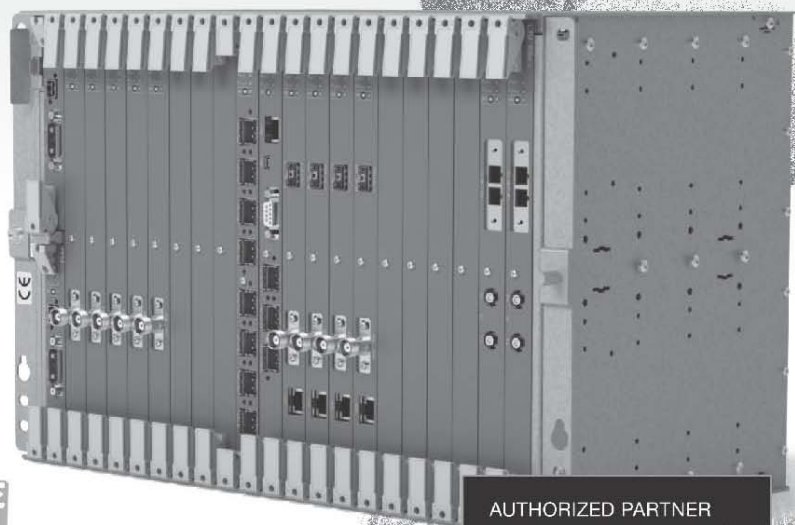
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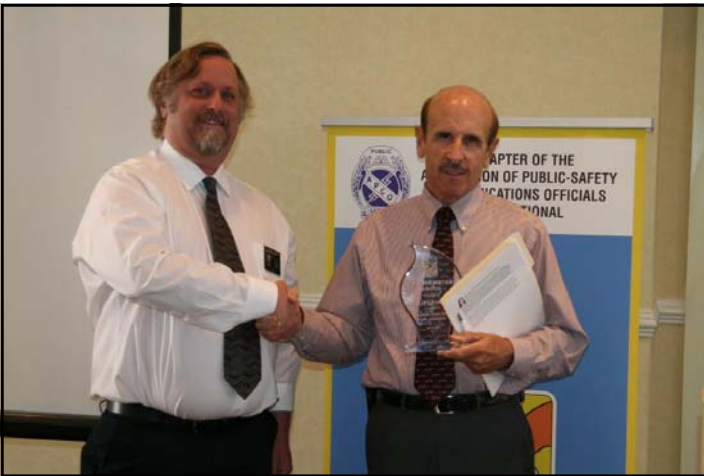
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CPRA President Ken Mann presenting Ray Grimes with "The CPRA Chapter Service Award"



CPRA Members on "Behind the Scenes Tour of the Knott's Railroad Roundhouse"

2009 Meeting Dates

September 17th
Annual "No Ties Meeting"
Thousand Oaks
CommLink Cutoff Date
Tuesday May 31, 2009

October 15th
Annual "Tabletop Meeting"
Montebello
CommLink Cutoff Date
Monday September 28, 2009

December 10th
Annual Holiday Banquet &
Officer Installation
Los Angeles Police Academy
CommLink Cutoff Date
Monday November 23, 2009

November 19th
Oak Glen
CommLink Cutoff Date
Monday November 2, 2009



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