Joint Board of Directors
Agenda
October 9, 2013

	ITEM	PRESENTER
1)	**TRWC Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions** **and** **RWC Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions**	TRWC Chair Kross – Queen Creek and RWC Chair Campbell – El Mirage
2)	**Opening Comments** • Attendee Introductions (present and on phone) • Speaker Cards • Meeting is being recorded, please use your microphones	TRWC Chair Kross – Queen Creek Est. 5 min.
3)	**Call to the Public** A member of the public may request to address the Board(s) by submitting a blue card that is available at the entry of the room. Speakers will be considered at the sole discretion of the Board(s) Chairman(s), and will be allotted no more than three (3) minutes to speak.	TRWC Chair Kross – Queen Creek and RWC Chair Campbell – El Mirage
4)	**Presentation, Discussion, and Possible Action on Governance Working Group Recommendations**	RWC Vice-Chair Hartig – Scottsdale and TRWC Vice-Chair Bradbury – Rio Verde Fire Dept. Est. 60 min.
5)	**Announcements** The purpose of this item is to communicate any joint Board announcements. • 2014 TRWC & RWC Board of Directors meetings have been aligned for possible joint meetings as needed.	TRWC Chair Kross – Queen Creek and RWC Chair Campbell – El Mirage
6)	**Adjourn TRWC Board of Directors Joint Meeting** **and** **Adjourn RWC Board of Directors Joint Meeting**	TRWC Chair Kross – Queen Creek and RWC Chair Campbell – El Mirage

TO: Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board of Directors and Topaz Regional Wireless Cooperative (TRWC) Board of Directors

Agenda Date: October 9, 2013

FROM: Brad Hartig, RWC Vice-chairman

Gary Bradbury, TRWC Vice-chairman

Item 4

SUBJECT: **Regional Communications Authority Concept**

RECOMMENDATION

On behalf of the RWC and TRWC Governance Working Group, we recommend that that RWC & TRWC Board of Directors (Boards) direct and authorize the GWG to develop a governance framework, that is consistent with the attached Regional Communication Authority Concept and proposed approach, for later review and consideration by the Boards - to include legal materials, financial models, and necessary implementation plans.

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

As reported at previous RWC and TRWC Board meetings, the RWC and TRWC Governance Working Group has evaluated possible options for improving continuity and maintaining compatibility between the systems in the interest of providing more effective communications for the public safety and municipal end users. Our work has resulted in the development of the attached draft Regional Communication Authority high level concept that we believe delivers the following:

- User driven communications system performance and accountability
- Structured and active user participation codified in governance
- Moves us closer toward "seamless" communications for the region
- Single vision, mission, goals, guiding principles and strategic plan
- Maintains consistent system technical standards and compatibility
- Standardizes policies and procedures for system management
- Consistent financial management, cost recovery and CIP funding
- Potential cost savings through economies of scale

- Larger influence with vendors, the State, and Federal Government
- Cost efficiencies for tax payers by eliminating duplication
- Models other successful regional efforts

Therefore, we suggest that the Regional Communication Authority concept should be a basis for discussion between the Boards and considered the general framework for any future detailed governance document and contract work.

The Governance working group is now prepared to begin the above referenced detailed work, with focused participation on legal, operational, technical, and financial areas by stakeholders. The GWG intends to produce output that will be presented to the Joint Board roughly every 3-4 months until complete and ready for final consideration and processing through member agencies approval process sometime around mid-2015.

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impacts have been identified as part of the process to date as financial estimates will be dependent upon the level of autonomy of the Authority and reliance upon current Administrative Managing Member models. After receiving direction from the TRWC and RWC Boards, the Governance Working Group is prepared to establish related financial models and identify costs associated with any governance changes.

Regional Communication Authority
A Case for Merged Governance

➢ Single vision, mission, goals, guiding principles and strategic plan

➢ Maintain consistent system technical standards and compatibility

➢ Standard policies and procedures for system management and usage (such as interoperability participants--IGA versus Operations Working Group approval)

➢ Consistent financial management, cost recovery and CIP funding models:
  o Specialized for other regional systems
  o Single point of contact for regional participation

➢ Cost savings through shared infrastructure

➢ Larger influence to keep vendor costs low

➢ Economies of scale and cost savings on software, hardware and subscriber units.

➢ Mutual Aid – one ubiquitous system is more efficient and effective and ensures the safety for end users

➢ Enhanced roaming capabilities

➢ Cost efficiencies for tax payers

➢ Models other successful regional efforts