Board of Directors
Agenda
May 22, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

	ITEM	PRESENTER
1)	**Call to Order, Roll Call, Opening Comments**	Chair Val Gale City of Chandler
2)	**Call to the Public** A member of the public may request to address the Board by submitting a request to RWC staff via phone or email. Speakers will be considered at the sole discretion of the Board Chair and will be allotted no more than three (3) minutes to speak.	Chair Val Gale City of Chandler
3)	**Approval of RWC Board Meeting Minutes from the February 27, 2025, Meeting** **This item is for information, discussion, and action.**	Chair Val Gale City of Chandler
4)	**Budget Update for Fiscal Year 2024-25** The purpose of this item is to provide the Board an update on the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. **This item is for information and discussion.**	Almira Santos RWC Accountant IV & Mark Sampson RWC Accountant I

5)	**RWC Project Update** The Radio Shop will provide the Board with a presentation regarding the Network's current projects. **This item is for information and discussion only.**	Thomas Grebner Deputy Chief Information Officer
6)	**Emergency Responder Radio Coverage Systems (ERRCS) Program Update** The Board will be provided an update on the status of the ERRCS Program. **This item is for information and discussion only.**	Thomas Grebner Deputy Chief Information Officer & Chris Arneson Senior ERRCS Specialist
7)	**SmartConnect Overview and New Policy** The purpose of this item is to provide an overview of Motorola SmartConnect and seek approval to implement a new policy regarding its use on the Network. **This item is for information, discussion and action.**	Nick Roosevelt RWC Management Assistant
8)	**RWC Board of Directors Board Vice-Chair Nomination and Appointment** The purpose of this item is to nominate and appoint a new Board Vice-Chair. **This item is for information, discussion, and action.**	John Imig RWC Executive Director

9)	**Executive Director's Report**
	  A) Motorola Trunked Users Group (MTUG)
	  B) August Board Meeting
	This item is for information and discussion.
		John Imig
		RWC Executive Director

10)	**Announcements, Public Comment, Future Agenda Items** The purpose of this item is to communicate any Board announcements, additional public comment, or future agenda items. **This item is for information only.**	Chair Val Gale City of Chandler
11)	**Adjourn**	Chair Val Gale City of Chandler

2025 RWC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Date	Location
Thursday, February 27th **10:00 – 11:30**	City of Phoenix Public Transit Building 302 N. 1st Avenue & Webex
Thursday, May 22nd **10:00 – 11:30**	Webex
Thursday, August 21st **10:00 – 11:30**	Webex
Thursday, December 4th **10:00 – 11:30**	TBD – In Person & Webex

Regional Wireless Cooperative
Board of Directors
MINUTES
May 22, 2025

City of Phoenix
Public Transit Building
302 N. 1ˢᵗ Ave, 7ᵗʰ Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Board Members Present		Board Members Absent
Shawn Holcomb~ – Arizona Fire and Medical Authority	Douglas Steele~ – Peoria	Alan Romania – Guadalupe
Jeff Scheetz~ – Avondale	Steen Hambric~ – Phoenix	Jeff McMenemy – Harquahala FD
Greg Platacz~ – Buckeye	Robert Fisher*~ – Scottsdale	Blair Barfuss – Maricopa Community College District
Val Gale~ - Chandler	Tony Van Roekel*~ – Sun City Fire and Medical	Steve Holliday* – Tolleson
Alan Zangle~ – Daisy Mountain Fire District	Tracy Montgomery~ – Surprise	Les Brown – Wickenburg
Paul Marzocca~ – El Mirage	Jared Morris*~ – Tempe	
Milton Wiener~ – FRBSF		
Rick St. John~ – Glendale		
Paul Luizzi~ – Goodyear		
Michael Grant~ – Maricopa		
Patrick Beumler~ – Paradise Valley		
*Board Alternate	^Non-Voting Alternate	~Telephone Participant

Staff and Public Present			
John Imig – RWC	Nicholas Roosevelt – RWC	Mark Sampson – RWC	Selena Barner – RWC
~Telephone Participant			

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call and Opening Comments**
   Board Chair Val Gale, representing the City of Chandler, called the meeting of the Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board of Directors (Board) to order at 10:00 AM. Chair Gale asked RWC Management Assistant, Nick Roosevelt (RWC) to take Roll Call.

2. **Call to the Public**
   Chair Gale received no response when asked if there were any requests from the public to speak.

3. **Approval of RWC Board Meeting Minutes from the February 27, 2025, Meeting**
   Chair Gale asked the Board if there was any need for discussion on the draft minutes presented from the February 27, 2025, Board Meeting. There was no discussion.

   A **MOTION** was made by Rick St. John and **SECONDED** by Paul Luizzi to approve the February 27, 2025, RWC Board meeting minutes.
   MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (17-0)

4. **Budget Update for Fiscal Year 2024-25**
   Mark Sampson (RWC) gave a brief overview of the FY 2024-25 budget, including the current expenses as of March 2025. He explained the breakdown of the O&M components for the Trunked Network and the Conventional Network (VHF).

5. **RWC Project Update**
   Tom Grebner (Phoenix) provided an overview of RWC expansion projects, including new sites in Buckeye, Surprise, Avondale, Goodyear, and Phoenix. He shared brief updates on tower construction, equipment planning, and anticipated improvements in radio coverage.

6. **Emergency Responder Radio Coverage Systems (ERRCS) Program Update**
   Chris Arneson (Phoenix) shared updates related to network protection efforts, including the development of a vendor packet, updates to technical requirements, and the implementation of emergency power-off switch standards. He also emphasized recent vendor engagement, the success of the loaner radio program, and ongoing efforts to reduce interference across the growing number of BDAs throughout the Valley.

7. **SmartConnect Overview and New Policy**
   Mr. Roosevelt presented a new policy and provided an overview regarding the use of Motorola's SmartConnect feature, which enables radios to connect via LTE when traditional LMR coverage is unavailable. He noted that while access is provided through a gateway hosted by the City of Scottsdale, SmartConnect is not intended to replace LMR. All associated equipment, subscription

fees, and carrier access are the responsibility of the member agency. RWC does not manage or resolve technical issues related to SmartConnect, as those are handled by the LTE carriers or Motorola.

Alan Zangle (Daisy Mountain Fire District) asked whether the purpose of the policy was to confirm that RWC holds no responsibility for SmartConnect issues, which Mr. Imig confirmed. Mr. Steele (Peoria) asked whether increased use could impact performance, and Mr. Roosevelt stated that Motorola confirmed the system has sufficient capacity. Mr. Luizzi (Goodyear) inquired about interest from other agencies, and Mr. Roosevelt noted that any future use by non-members would require OWG approval.

A **MOTION** was made by Paul Luizzi and **SECONDED** by Alan Zangle to approve the recommendation as presented.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (17-0)

8. **RWC Board of Directors Board Vice-Chair Nomination and Appointment**
Mr. Imig briefly explained that George Burger (City of Maricopa), who was elected as Vice-Chair in February, is now an alternate and no longer eligible due to this change. He stated that the RWC Board must elect a new Vice-Chair to serve in the absence of the Chair.

Chair Gale opened the floor for nominations and nominated Michael Grant (City of Maricopa). Mr. Grant accepted the nomination, expressing appreciation for the opportunity to serve and acknowledging the confusion caused by the recent representative change. No other nominations were received.

A **MOTION** was made by Paul Luizzi and **SECONDED** by Douglas Steele to approve the recommendation as presented.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (17-0)

9. **Executive Director's Report**

    A. **Motorola Trunked Users Group (MTUG)**
    Mr. Imig provided a brief update on the Motorola Trunked Users Group (MTUG), a statewide forum of trunked system users that now meets quarterly. He shared that RWC will host the next meeting on July 24th and will keep the Board informed on future developments.

B. August Board Meeting

Mr. Imig shared that the next quarterly Board of Directors meeting will be held virtually via Webex on Thursday, August 21st at 10:00a.m. He stated that Spring/Summer meetings have traditionally been virtual, with in-person hybrid meetings resuming in the Fall/Winter.

10. Announcements and Future Agenda Items

Mr. Zangle inquired about how Board members could receive invitations to the MTUG. Mr. Imig responded that a notification will be sent to the Board once the meeting details are finalized. He noted that Motorola and the MTUG Chair, a representative from the Arizona Department of Public Safety, are still working on the July meeting agenda. Chair Gale thanked Mr. Imig and the RWC Staff for agreeing to host the meeting.

Chair Gale asked that Tony Van Roekel (Sun City Fire and Medical), who was present at the beginning of the meeting, be marked as in attendance for the minutes. Selena Barner (RWC) acknowledged that Mr. Van Roekel had already been added to the Roll Call.

11. Adjournment

Chair Gale adjourned the meeting at 10:42 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Selena Barner – Administrative Aide

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

TO:	Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board Members	Agenda Date:	May 22, 2025
FROM:	John Imig, RWC Executive Director		Item 4
STAFF:	Almira Santos, RWC Accountant IV Mark Sampson, RWC Accountant I		
SUBJECT:	**BUDGET UPDATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25**		

BACKGROUND

Budgetary components evaluated consisted of both Operations & Maintenance (O&M)[1] and Special Projects[2]. O&M expenses are generally fixed and include the following: 1) Contractual obligations with our vendors (e.g. Motorola Solutions, Inc.), 2) Expenses related to system operations which are paid to the City of Phoenix as the RWC Administrative Manager and, 3) Administrative and personnel costs for RWC staff and operations.

RWC Trunked Network O&M components:
- **Personnel Services**
  - FY25 Budget: $690,369
  - FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $506,113 (73%)
- **Contractual Services** (Tower Leases, Motorola Service Agreement, Auditing Services, Electricity, Property Insurance, etc.)
  - FY25 Budget: $2,423,525
  - FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $1,782,656 (74%)
- **Commodities** (Supplies, Facilities Maintenance, Contingency, etc.)
  - FY25 Budget: $6,000
  - FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $166 (3%)
- **Capital Outlay** (SUA II, Logging Recorders, Other projects)
  - FY25 Budget: $2,633,637
  - FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $2,143,297 (81%)

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[1] O&M is calculated by dividing the Total O&M Estimated Expenses by the number of billable Radios that are currently in the system at the time of calculation (typically using the October radio count).

[2] Special (Capital) Projects are billed to members on an annual basis, at the beginning of the Fiscal Year. These funds are then used to pay for the full project cost.

- **Expenditure Transfers** (IT Expenses)
    - o FY25 Budget: $4,138,250
    - o FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $3,220,172 (78%)

RWC Conventional Network (VHF) O&M components:
- **Contractual Services** (Tower Leases, Electricity, Telecom, etc.)
    - o FY25 Budget: $188,214
    - o FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $75,748.31 (40%)
- **Commodities** (Contingency)
    - o FY25 Budget: $50,000
    - o FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $0.00 (0%)
- **Capital Outlay** (Special projects)
    - o FY25 Budget: $351,180
    - o FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $16,184.93 (5%)
- **Expenditure Transfers** (IT Expenses)
    - o FY25 Budget: $254,250
    - o FY25 Actuals as of March 2025: $198,522 (78%)

RECOMMENDATION
This item is for information and discussion only.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

TO:	Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board Members	Agenda Date:	May 22, 2025
FROM:	John Imig, RWC Executive Director		Item 5
STAFF:	Thomas Grebner, Deputy Chief Information Officer		
SUBJECT:	**RWC Project Update**		

BACKGROUND

The City of Phoenix Radio Shop will provide a presentation on the current projects.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information and discussion.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

TO:	Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board Members	Agenda Date:	May 22, 2025	
FROM:	John Imig, RWC Executive Director			Item 6
STAFF:	Thomas Grebner, Deputy Chief Information Officer Chris Arneson, Senior ERRCS Specialist			
SUBJECT:	**Emergency Responder Radio Coverage Systems (ERRCS) Program Update**			

BACKGROUND

The City of Phoenix Radio Shop will provide a presentation on the status of the ERRCS Program.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information and discussion.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

TO:	Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board Members	Agenda Date:	May 22, 2025	
FROM:	John Imig, RWC Executive Director			Item 7
STAFF:	Nick Roosevelt, RWC Management Assistant			
SUBJECT:	**SmartConnect Overview and New Policy**			

BACKGROUND

RWC now has Members taking advantage of the Motorola Solutions Inc. (MSI) product SmartConnect (Attachment A). SmartConnect is a technology offering that enables certain MSI products to utilize broadband LTE (e.g. cellular data - commonly referred to as "4G" or "5G") when LMR (i.e. radio system) coverage is insufficient.

THE ISSUE

The use of SmartConnect on the RWC Network has prompted the need for a new policy. The proposed policy (Attachment B) was approved by the Policy Working Group, the Operations Working Group, and the Executive Committee. Key highlights of the policy are as follows:

- SmartConnect is not a replacement for traditional LMR
- The RWC does not endorse, nor discourage its use
- The RWC provides the ability to use SmartConnect via a secure gateway (LMP Multicast Proxy Server) located in Zone 3, but all subscriptions, fees, and equipment associated with its use is the Member responsibility
- Even though the RWC provides the gateway, the RWC has no ability to address outages or issues faced while using SmartConnect
- The RWC may consider allowing Interoperability Participants to access the RWC's SmartConnect but only with the approval of the Operations Working Group

RECOMMENDATION

The RWC Executive Director, after review and concurrence of the Executive Committee, recommends the Board approve the newly created SmartConnect Policy.

SMARTCONNECT

STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR LIFELINE

YOUR RADIO WILL AUTOMATICALLY SWITCH P25 COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BROADBAND LTE SYSTEM WHEN LMR IS UNAVAILABLE.

DETAILS

Your LMR radio system is designed for excellent coverage, but there are times when you need to go beyond the boundaries of the network, without losing your vital connection.

That's why we designed SmartConnect. The feature automatically switches your voice channel to an LTE broadband network whenever LMR is unavailable or falls below RSSI, then back again when you return coverage on your APX NEXT® family of radios.

The switchover is fast (typically less than 3 secs), and requires no user intervention. P25 is sent over LTE unchanged, so radio functionality and voice quality are maintained.

Switchover RSSI threshold can be configured through RadioCentral™, but LMR is always prioritized. Talkgroups are configured individually to enable or disable SmartConnect. The system supports a maximum of 200 simultaneous calls.

The radio indicates that SmartConnect is active by showing blue bars on the top and front displays, and by using a different talk-permit tone.

BENEFITS

- First responders can stay connected to the radio network even when they are outside radio coverage.

- No special behavior or commands are required: switchover is automatic.

- There is no requirement to manage a separate set of talkgroups and configurations.

COMPATIBLE PRODUCTS

APX NEXT family radios.

SmartConnect for other APX radios described on separate Fact Sheet.

DEPENDENCIES

- ASTRO® 25 trunked system, system release: 7.17 or later.
- Radio Firmware: R01.00.00 or later.

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPACT

Core expansion including LMR Multicast Proxy Server (LMP), firewall and internet access must be installed. Please speak with your account executive for details.

SECURITY

Voice information is sent over the broadband network as P25 packets, complete with end-to-end encryption. Control signals between the radio and gateway are encrypted using TLS.
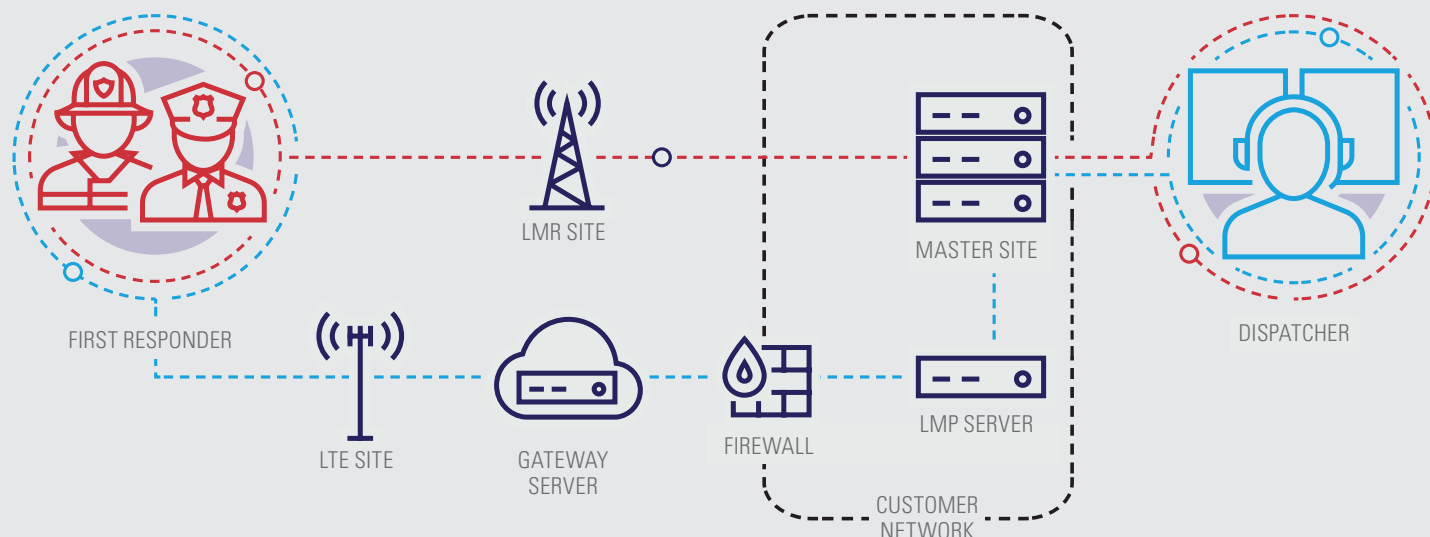
DELIVERY

SmartConnect is purchased as an application service and is charged per radio per month. Please speak with your account executive to learn about payment options.

FIRST RESPONDERS CAN STAY CONNECTED TO THE RADIO NETWORK EVEN WHEN THEY ARE OUTSIDE RADIO COVERAGE.

FACT SHEET | APX NEXT - SmartConnect

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS

NETWORK ARCHITECTURE

FIRST RESPONDER   LMR SITE   MASTER SITE   DISPATCHER

LTE SITE   GATEWAY SERVER   FIREWALL   LMP SERVER

CUSTOMER NETWORK

USE CASES

INDOOR COVERAGE
Radio coverage can become spotty deep inside large buildings — including office buildings, schools, and hospitals. With SmartConnect, first responders can leverage broadband LTE to maintain coverage when responding to incidents — keeping them safe and connected.

DEADSPOT MITIGATION
While LMR systems are designed to provide the best coverage possible, there is always a possibility of a "dead spot." SmartConnect enables first responders to seamlessly transition to broadband LTE — bridging coverage and maintaining connectivity.

NATIONWIDE COVERAGE
Sometimes first responders are called to assist with a mutual aid incident or travel beyond their agency borders. Using LTE, SmartConnect allows them to connect back to their home dispatcher. First responders are now able to react faster and use network resources more efficiently.

*APX NEXT radio family does not currently support SmartConnect on WiFi networks.

P25 FEATURES SUPPORTED*

- Agency Talkgroups
- Call Alert
- Dynamic Regrouping (Reprogramming Request)
- Emergency Call and Alarm
- FDMA/TDMA to/from LMR Systems
- Group Call (Clear/Encrypted)
- Group Regrouping
- Multigroup
- Priority Monitor Scan
- PTT ID
- Radio Authentication
- Radio Check
- Radio Inhibit/Uninhibit
- Radio Interrupt/Console Takeover
- Status Update
- ViQi Virtual Partner

For more information, please visit
www.motorolasolutions.com/smartconnect

APX NEXT

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS

REGIONAL WIRELESS COOPERATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
	No.　　**O-14.25**
Subject: **SmartConnect© Policy**	**Created: 05/2025** **Prior Rev:**

1.0　Purpose

1.1. The purpose of this policy is to define the roles and responsibilities for the Motorola Solutions Inc. (MSI) product called SmartConnect©. This is a technology offering that enables RWC subscribers to utilize broadband LTE (e.g. cellular data - commonly referred to as "4G" or "5G") when LMR (i.e. radio system) coverage is insufficient.

2.0　Owner

2.1. RWC Operations Working Group (OWG).

3.0　Applies To

3.1. All RWC Members, Participants, and entities having subscribers on the RWC Network with a SmartConnect subscription.

4.0　Background

4.1. SmartConnect is not considered a one-to-one alternative to a public safety grade radio network. However, some Members may wish to utilize these services to bolster communications in areas of poor coverage, for nationwide connectivity, and/or redundancy.

4.2. SmartConnect outages are outside of the control of the RWC.

4.3. SmartConnect is not included within the RWC subscription program.

5.0　Policy Statement

5.1. Members may utilize SmartConnect on the RWC Network.

5.2. The RWC neither promotes nor discourages the use of SmartConnect by the Membership, but merely encourages entities to understand the limitations and the potential for reduced performance vs traditional LMR.

6.0 Supporting Rules

6.1. SmartConnect may only be added to Operational Subscriber units as defined in the Subscriber Classification Policy.

6.2. SmartConnect may also be added to Interoperability Participant subscriber units as approved by the Operations Working Group.

6.3. SmartConnect integration shall adhere to the RWC Network Security Policy.

7.0 Responsibilities

7.1. Members wishing to utilize SmartConnect shall be responsible for the procurement and payment of any SmartConnect related fees, including but not limited to subscriber equipment.

7.2. SmartConnect is integrated into the RWC Network via an LMR Multicast Proxy Server (LMP).

    7.2.1. The LMP is located in Zone 3 and the required firewall and internet connection is provided by the City of Scottsdale as an RWC Maintenance Managing Member.

7.3. The Network Operations Center (NOC) is responsible for adding the RWC Radio ID and serial number into the SmartConnect gateway via Cirrus Central.

    7.3.1. Entities will utilize an RWC Subscriber Workbook when communicating these requests to the NOC.

7.4. Outages should be reported to the NOC, although the NOC is not responsible for, nor able to resolve an outage.

8.0 Conditions for Exemption or Waiver

8.1. As provided in the Waiver or Exception Policy.

9.0 Applicable Policies and/or Procedures

9.1. As listed at www.rwcaz.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

TO:	Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board Members	Agenda Date:	May 22, 2025	
FROM:	John Imig, RWC Executive Director			Item 8
STAFF:	Nicholas Roosevelt, RWC Management Assistant II			
SUBJECT:	**RWC BOARD OF DIRECTORS BOARD VICE-CHAIR NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT**			

BACKGROUND
RWC Governance in Section 2.2.2. *Chair and Vice-Chair* states, *"The Board must elect one of its Representatives as Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair must execute the duties of the Chair during the absence or disability of the Chair."*

THE ISSUE
On February 27, 2025, George Burger (Maricopa) was nominated and elected to the position of Board Vice-Chair. However, the City of Maricopa has subsequently changed their Board representation. Mr. Burger is now an Alternate Representative and as such can no longer serve as Vice-Chair.

As the Vice-Chair position no longer requires a Nomination Search Committee, the Board shall nominate and elect a new Vice-Chair at this meeting.

Any Member of the Board may nominate themselves or another Member of the Board for this position.

RECOMMENDATION
The RWC Executive Director, after review and approval by the Executive Committee, recommends that the RWC Board elect a new Vice-Chair to begin their 2-year term beginning May 2025.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

TO:	Regional Wireless Cooperative (RWC) Board Members	Agenda Date:	May 22, 2025
FROM:	John Imig, RWC Executive Director		Item 9
STAFF:	Nicholas Roosevelt, RWC Management Assistant II		
SUBJECT:	**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**		

BACKGROUND

The Executive Director will brief the Board of Directors on the following items:

A) Motorola Trunked Users Group (MTUG)
B) August Board Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information and discussion.