

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY GROUP

April 24, 2003
MAG Office
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Greg Binder, Phoenix, Chair
**Kevin Hinderleider¹, Avondale
**Jim Keen for Betsy Wise¹, Carefree
Pat McDermott, Chandler
*Mike Ciccarone¹, Fountain Hills
** Kevin Dancoff for Shawn Woolley, Gilbert
Ajay Joshi, Glendale
**John Imig¹, Goodyear
Cary Parker², Maricopa County

Shirl Butler, Mesa
**Duncan Miller¹, Paradise Valley
**Ralph Spencer, Peoria
**Kazi Haque, Queen Creek
**Kevin Sonoda, Scottsdale
Randy Jackson, Surprise
*John Laue¹, Tempe
Bruce Johnson, Tolleson
*Karen Strickland, ADOT
Randi Alcott¹, RPTA

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Travis Mallen, GITA
Mark Goldstein, IRC
Audrey Skidmore, MAG

Debbie Kohn, MAG Telecommunications Assoc.
Heidi Pahl, MAG
**Linda Bauerle, Norstan

**Participated via telephone conference call.

¹ = RVS Site Coordinator

² = RVS Backup Site Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Acting Chair, Randy Jackson. Voting members Kevin Hinderleider, John Imig, Duncan Miller, Ralph Spencer, Kazi Haque, Kevin Sonoda and proxies Kevin Dancoff and Jim Keen attended via telephone conference call. All members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of March 27, 2003 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Cary Parker seconded by Bruce Johnson and unanimously recommended to approve the March 27, 2003 meeting minutes.

3. Regional Community Network (RCN) Study

Debbie Kohn said that the RCN Study is in the final stages of review and approval. Ms. Kohn noted that the deadline for comments from the MAGTAG is April 25 and any input can be given to either her or Audrey Skidmore. She asked for any comments from the committee. None were received.

4. Review of MAGTAG Working Group Sessions

Cary Parker gave a presentation on the draft recommendations of the Regional Telecommunications Strategic Planning Working Group. He covered the background, final recommendation, wired buildings definition, purpose, key components of the Wired Buildings Study, benefits and next steps. Mr. Parker stated that the working group recommends hiring a consultant to complete a Wired Buildings Inventory, Certification Process, Promotion and Development Study for \$150,000.

Pat McDermott asked if the working group discussed how to keep the wired buildings data current and how to pay for it. Cary Parker responded that MAG is planning to house the web site of wired buildings information and the consultant will develop the web site and a maintenance plan to keep the information current. Randy Jackson added that the working group discussed identifying potential ways to make the Wired Buildings project self-funding in order to defray on-going costs to keep the information current and materials current as well as to support on-going integrated communication and coordination among stakeholders related to the project.

Randi Alcott asked where the consultant would obtain the wired buildings information. Cary Parker said that some of the information would come from city building permits and other information would come from the telecommunications providers. Debbie Kohn added that in the San Diego Bandwidth Bay study the information came from one of the project champions who had influence in the San Diego business community and was integral in the information gathering for Bandwidth Bay. Ms. Kohn added that it is important to form public-private partnerships to make this project a success. She added that one of the tasks in the Wired Buildings Study is to create specific strategies and action plans to enable member agencies with few or no wired buildings to develop and market these facilities as part of an integrated regional approach.

Pat McDermott asked if the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) was involved in creating the draft recommendation and if they are interested in a wired buildings project. Heidi Pahl responded that Jack Tomasik, the MAG Economic Development Manager, was e-mailed the RTSP working group recommendation. She added that Mr. Tomasik has contacts at GPEC that may be involved.

Mark Goldstein stated that the ArizonaTele.com directory is an Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council (ATIC) project that received support from GPEC, some cities, Department of Commerce and others. He noted that the ArizonaTele.com directory is an online portal for locating telecommunication service providers delivering services throughout Arizona. He added that residential and business users can search for the availability of a wide range of telecom services by

location and link to profiles of individual telecom providers, their contact information, and related resources. Mr. Goldstein stated that the zip code seems to be the appropriate level of granularity for looking up information. He said that some of the lessons learned from this project are: it is difficult to obtain information from the telecom providers, building owners may be one of the best avenues for gathering the wired buildings information, and that Salt River Project (SRP) maintains a database of buildings in their electric service area. Mark Goldstein added that the State of Pennsylvania developed a portal for fiber and telecommunications interconnections. The map and information had to be taken off of the website after the events of 9-11. Mark Goldstein asked the group if they had explored the concepts of hot spots or hot zones of publicly accessible wireless local area networks (LAN)s. Randy Jackson said that the RTSP working group considered the rise of hot spots but due to limited funds the scope was limited to wired buildings.

Pat McDermott moved to recommend approval of the Wired Buildings Inventory, Certification Process, Promotion and Development Study. Shirl Butler seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Debbie Kohn thanked all members of the RTSP working group for their participation and leadership.

Pat McDermott gave a presentation on the draft recommendations from the Additional Sites and Outreach Working Group. He covered the background, tasks, recommendation and next steps. Mr. McDermott stated that the Working Group recommends the following:

- 1) speaker phones for conference rooms (est. \$40,000)
- 2) web-based scheduling package for RVS (est. \$20,000)
- 3) latitude server for RVS (est. \$10,000)
- 4) develop and implement coordinated, integrated RVS marketing plan (use current funding)
- 5) carry forward remaining additional sites funding to FY 2004-05 (\$171,000)
- 6) return Outreach to Underserved funding (\$250,000)

Greg Binder asked if member agencies could choose to take the speaker phone. Mr. McDermott responded yes, each member agency can choose whether or not they want or need a speaker phone.

Jim Keen asked for an explanation of why the group did not choose to implement H.323 and desktop videoconferencing. Heidi Pahl said that the group explored H.323 video protocol and desktop videoconferencing and determined that both were not feasible options at this time. Ms. Pahl explained that Brent Kelly, Phd, an employee of Wainhouse Research, gave a web conferencing presentation on H.323 video protocol. She noted that H.323 migration for the MAG RVS is too expensive for MAG to explore at this time, and the current ISDN network costs less than implementing a H.323 network. Greg Binder added that H.323 over the public Internet gives a poor quality of service, noting that the technology and the infrastructure are not ready yet. Heidi Pahl explained that City of Scottsdale deployed several desktop videoconference systems without success, it slowed their network and it added little collaborative benefit to see someone from a desktop PC. She noted that the working group decided not to move forward with desktop videoconferencing once

they heard Scottsdale's story. Jim Keen thanked the group for the update and said this was of interest to him because Cox is bringing broadband into Carefree.

Pat McDermott stated that the working group recommendations do not exclude technological advancements.

Cary Parker moved to recommend approval of the Additional Sites and Outreach recommendation. Greg Binder seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Debbie Kohn thanked the members of the Additional Sites and Outreach Working Group for their participation and leadership over the past nine months.

5. Announcements and Public Input

Mark Goldstein announced that the Annual Government Technology Forum is May 20-21 at the Phoenix Civic Plaza and more information can be obtained at govtech.net. Mr. Goldstein added that the Community Information and Telecommunications Alliance (CITA) has formed a new Arizona Cyber Security Alliance to help small and medium businesses and non-profits address rising information security threats. Mr. Goldstein announced that at the end of April the Cyber Security committee will host a Technology Forum and Showcase in Tucson called, "Plain Talk About Information Assurance For Small Business Executives and Leaders Of Non Profit Organizations." On-line registration, details about the program and security threats can be found at www.tucsonlink.org/April03_SecurityForum/.

Greg Binder suggested that MAGTAG could focus on cyber security next, since the RTSP and Additional Sites working groups have completed their tasks.

Mark Goldstein announced that the Department of Commerce (DOC) and the Government Information Technology Agency (GITA) were removed from the Arizona State budget. Mr. Goldstein added that ATIC has been extremely active in working with the Government Information Technology Agency (GITA) and Director Chris Cumiskey to support GITA's efforts. He noted that ATIC is currently active in working the Department of Commerce (DOC) and said that DOC may merge with Department of Tourism.

Mark Goldstein said that the ATIC has been successful in getting some high-level legislative buy-in on broadband deployment issues. He noted that an adhoc legislative committee will have six meetings between legislative sessions to discuss issues such as right-of-way, cyber security, homeland security, public/private partnership, etc.

Cary Parker asked Heidi Pahl to forward MAGTAG the contact information from Maricopa County Sheriffs Office (MCSO) regarding videoconferencing in the courts.

6. Date of Future Meetings

Randy Jackson said that the next meeting is April 24, 2003 from 10 AM to noon.

The MAGTAG meeting was adjourned at 11:03 AM.