

Wireless Telecommunications Committee
Meeting Minutes for Thursday May 15, 2014
Location: **Telecommunications Conference Room**
Time 8:30 AM

Attendees:

Dan Reinhart
Doug Madsen
Bret DeYoung
Dave Kelser
Tobin Roop

Proposals:

- **SF299 from AT&T cellular co-location at Elk Plaza site:** Walked the site with representatives from AT&T on Monday 5/12/2014. They left Yellowstone with an SF299 package for consideration. Yellowstone could issue a permit pending consideration of several factors including propagation surveys and consideration of all/any environmental and cultural impacts.
- **SF299 AT&T COLT at (Old Faithful) Fresh Water Plant:** Walked the site with representatives from AT&T on Monday 5/12/2014. Received revised SF299 for the Old Faithful Water Treatment Plant COLT (temporary site) and possible New Cingular Wireless LLC proposed future permanent site today that represent the new coordinates and pictures. AT&T desires to place the temporary COLT at the water treatment plant and propose a permanent site at a later date. Yellowstone could issue a permit for the temporary (COLT) service pending consideration of several factors including propagation surveys, visual analysis, and consideration of all/any environmental and cultural impacts.
- **Union Wireless cellular co-location at WY3 Fishing Bridge cell site (Lake):** Approved by the Superintendent as consistent with the Wireless Plan and for Yellowstone to continue consideration of the permit. Yellowstone is waiting for the Office of Land Valuation to return the lease appraisal so that the draft permit can be completed.
- **Verizon Wireless ROW renewal on Mount Washburn:** Approved by the Superintendent as consistent with the Wireless Plan and for Yellowstone to continue processing the permit. Yellowstone is waiting for the Office of Land Valuation lease appraisal so that the draft permit can be completed.

Project updates:

- **Verizon Wireless antenna replacement/upgrade on Mount Washburn:** Verizon's contractor intends to begin this project as soon as the Chittenden road is cleared. We expect this to happen early to mid-June.

Initial Discussions:

- **Verizon Microwave Transport West Yellowstone to Washburn to Lake/Grant/Old Faithful:** Yellowstone's Telecommunications Branch Chief had a conference call with Verizon's; Mountain Region Real Estate Manager and Transportation Manager on Tuesday May 12. Verizon is aggressively assembling an SF299 proposal for a microwave radio transport system originating outside the park in West Yellowstone, to the Mount Washburn fire lookout, and then to destinations at Lake, Grant, and Old Faithful. The links to Old Faithful and Lake would require an agreement to use CenturyLink infrastructure to reach existing Verizon towers. New microwave dishes on Mount Washburn would likely requires building a new structure at the site. Verizon has expressed interest in completing Yellowstone's conceptual design as a part of this project. The proposed Verizon transport would provide the bandwidth necessary to turn up 4G LTE service at their sites. Yellowstone has several concerns about this proprietary transport system proposal.
- **Century Link communications upgrade:** CenturyLink on a phone call with Yellowstone referred to a design for a 30 million dollar fiber project that would link South entrance to Grant to Old Faithful to Madison, over to West Yellowstone and back to Madison, to Norris, and then to Mammoth. The cost is

beyond CenturyLink's capabilities. CenturyLink's next step could be assessing the interest of stakeholders prior to pursuing approval with the NPS.

Informational:

- **AT&T sites visit:** AT&T arranged an escorted visit to existing and proposed sites at Elk Plaza, the Old Faithful fresh water plant, Grant, and Lake (Fishing Bridge) to collect information for a proposal for several new sites or colocation. Present were representatives from AT&T specializing in field design, project management, and RF engineering. Also present were representatives from NSA Wireless consultants, BV Construction, and Powder River Development A&E on behalf of AT&T.

Roundtable – Non Agenda items

- No regular June meeting will be scheduled; the July meeting is scheduled for 8:30 am Thursday the 17th.

Adjourn @ 9:25 am.

Wireless Telecommunications Committee

Meeting Minutes for Tuesday July 22, 2014

Location: **Telecommunications Conference Room**

Time **8:30 AM**

Items on the agenda may be rearranged for the convenience of attendees or the Committee

WTC Members in attendance:

Bret De Young – Telecomm Chief (Chair)
Dave Kelser – Telecomm Assistant
Dustin Sene – Radio Shop
Doug Madsen – YCR Compliance/EQ
Dan Reinhart - YCR Resource Management
Tobin Roop – YCR Cultural Resources

Proposals:

- AT&T cellular co-location at Elk Plaza site. (Bret). The park received an SF299 application and application fee. AT&T submitted plans that call for collocation on existing Verizon tower, 1,000 sf fence line expansion to contain a new 11'5" x 20' ground shelter, and 12 LTE antennas at 80' on the Verizon tower. Dustin noted that there was room in the existing Verizon and Union Wireless equipment rooms (ground shelters) and that their existing ROW required collocation. Bret will contact AT&T to recommend that they consider collocation in existing facilities, and remove plans to build additional fence and ground shelters. The appraisal process is ongoing.
- Wireless Lake Level Gauge UNAVCO/YVCO (Madsen). Using existing location, UNAVCO/YVCO wish to add one new site on the lake shore. Wireless links will be satellite GPS for location and movement and cell and/or YAGI to communicate with the researchers. The Committee will recommend approval to the Superintendent while the applicant waits for the Wilderness Committee to consider. This proposal is consistent with the Wireless Communications Plan.
- Roosevelt WIFI for employees (Bret). The Committee recommended that the Superintendent reject the proposal to install wi-fi in Xanterra Parks & Resorts employee quarters because of the proximity of the quarters to the Roosevelt Lodge (wi-fi will not be approved where most visitors are likely to expect a historic or rustic setting or experience). The Superintendent rejected the proposal for wi-fi and asked the Committee to look for alternatives for Xanterra employees through cell service in the Roosevelt/Tower area as permitted by the Plan.

Project updates:

- Union Wireless cellular co-location at WY3 Fishing Bridge cell site (Lake) (Bret). Waiting on land value appraisal to determine lease fee.
- AT&T COLT at (Old Faithful) Fresh Water Plant (Bret). Waiting on land value appraisal to determine lease fee.
- Verizon Wireless antenna replacement/upgrade on Mount Washburn (Bret). Verizon completed their sectorization work at the end of June. Two trends were noticeable on the post sector analysis. The Z sector facing Canyon Village now does more traffic post SMR than the Omni did prior due to better signal coverage at Canyon. Unfortunately Z is now blocking pretty heavily resulting in denial of (call) service and slow or nonexistent data download and texting capabilities during high visitation. CenturyLink is out of spans so adding additional carriers is not possible.

Initial Discussions:

- Verizon Microwave Transport West Yellowstone to Washburn to Lake/Grant/Old Faithful (Bret). Verizon's Mountain Region Transport Manager discussed with the Committee chair a potential desire to install an 8' (VZW) microwave antenna on the west side of the fire lookout and adjacent to and identical to the CenturyLink microwave antenna. The Committee felt that it was reasonable for Verizon to submit the proposal for consideration.