



**San Diego County – Imperial County  
Regional Communications System**  
5595 Overland Avenue, Suite 101, MS-O56, San Diego, California 92123  
Phone (858) 694-3663 <http://www.rcs800mhz.org>

## **NEXTGEN RCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

SAN DIEGO COUNTY – IMPERIAL COUNTY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Wednesday, July 9, 2025 1:00 p.m.**

5500 OVERLAND AVE., ROOM 120  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92123

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Directors Graham Mitchell; Karen Mullins; Julie Jeakle; Jeremiah Larson;  
Brian Boggeln; Mike Sims; Joseph Bernal; Deepak Kumar

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum - The following Directors were in attendance and a quorum was established:

Mr. Graham Mitchell, San Diego City/County Managers Association (Chair)  
Commander Karen Mullins, San Diego County Sheriff's Office  
Chief Mike Sims, San Diego Fire Chief's Association  
Chief Brian Boggeln, San Diego Fire Chief's Association  
Chief Jeremiah Larson, San Diego Police Chiefs' and Sheriff's Association  
Deepak Kumar, Caltrans  
Chief Joseph Bernal, IVECA  
Julie Jeakle, County of San Diego

2. Welcome and Introduction – Mr. Graham Mitchell welcomed the group.
3. Purpose of the meeting is to conduct the business of the NextGen RCS Board of Directors.
4. Approval of the Nextgen RCS Board of Directors' Minutes for the Meeting of May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

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*NextGen RCS Board of Directors*

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY - IMPERIAL COUNTY**  
*Graham Mitchell, City Manager, City of El Cajon (Chair) - Chief Brian Boggeln, Alpine Fire Protection District (Vice Chair)  
Commander Karen Mullins, San Diego County Sheriff's Office - Julie Jeakle, Interim Director, San Diego County Office of Emergency Services  
Chief Jeremiah Larson, El Cajon Police Department - Chief Dan Barron, San Marcos Fire Department - Deepak Kumar, Caltrans  
Chief Mike York, Brawley Fire Department, IVECA - Chief Jimmy Duran, Brawley Police Department, IVECA*

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Chief Sims, seconded by Chief Larson, the Board of Directors approved the Minutes for the Meeting of May 14, 2025.

AYES: Directors Graham Mitchell; Karen Mullins; Jeremiah Larson; Mike Sims; Brian Boggeln; Deepak Kumar; Joseph Bernal; Julie Jeakle

5. Public Comments – There were no public comments.
6. Revenue/ Billing Update (May 2025 – June 2025) – Ms. Alvaro reported the following updates.
  - 6.1 Network Operating Cost (NOC) Billing and Revenue – See attachment.
  - 6.2 Trust Fund Balance – See attachment.

*Discussion: Mr. Mitchell inquired how revenue and projections are compared to last fiscal year. Ms. Alvaro responded that RCS exceeded last year's projection due to additions on new agencies and increased radio counts.*

7. Network Operations Update
  - 7.1 Monthly Report (May 2025 – June 2025) – Mr. Dalton reported the following updates – See attachment.

*Discussion:*

*Mr. Dalton reported for the month of June, the Transportable Radio Facility (TRF) was deployed to the Monte Fire in Lakeside. Chief Sims inquired on response time for TRF deployment. Mr. Dalton responded specifically for the Monte Fire, it took about 1 hour from deployment and arrival at location.*

*Mr. Mitchell inquired who deploys the TRF, Mr. Dalton responded that the RCS Technicians who are on call will deploy the TRF.*

*Mr. Kumar inquired what type of backhaul the TRF uses, Mr. Dalton responded that the TRF do not have backhaul and goes through a control station radio.*

*Mr. Mitchell inquired on what is the lifespan of a radio. Mr. Brooks responded that currently, radios have a 15-year lifecycle. Newer radios have a current lifespan of 7 years.*

- 7.2 Critical Connect WAVE Update – Mr. Dalton reported the following updates – See attachment.

*Discussion:*

*Mr. Mitchell inquired if Critical Connect WAVE can replace a radio. Mr. Dalton responded that connection cannot be guaranteed due to Critical Connect WAVE using broadband and with limited coverage and users cannot rely only on broadband coverage for radio usage.*

*Ms. Jeakle inquired on if there is any information on when user agencies would need to upgrade their radios based on their current inventory due to potential upgrades to the system. Mr. Brooks responded that the current radios on the system are compatible and there is no projection yet on when users will need to upgrade.*

## 8. Administrative Update

### 8.1 Training Update – Ms. Farr reported the following training updates:

Classes: May - June 2025 RCS ended with 8 classes and with 152 attendees total completed.

In-work: RCS staff created a standard, fillable PDF invoice form to help with uniformity and consistency with how trainers bill RCS. Form is pending RTC approval. RTC Contract will end at the end of the year, new contract will be reviewed and renewed beginning 2026.

*Discussion: Mr. Brooks added that for anyone interested in training, RCS customer may contact Ms. Farr. There is no upfront cost to end user for classes are funded through RCS.*

## 9. Major Projects Update

### 9.1 RCS Site Projects Status – Mr. Santiesteban reported the following updates:

- Milestones & Accomplishments: Generator replacement for Ocotillo Site completed
- Weed abatement for 20 radio sites completed
- In-work:
  - Generator Replacement
    - North Peak Site, shipped July 2, 2025, Woodson Site, shipped July 7, 2025, and Palomar Site, scheduled for shipment August 4, 2025.
  - Air Conditioner Unit Replacement awarded for San Miguel Site and Sierra Rojo Site.
  - Air Conditioner Unit Replacement pending for Pala Site.

### 9.2 NextGen RCS Projects Status – Mr. Santiesteban reported the following updates:

- In-work:
  - Black Mountain (San Diego) – Final Lease agreement pending approval from County Board of Supervisors, scheduled for 8/25.

Budget: Current Balance for Phase 3 project is \$1.41 Million. Contingency balance is \$512,200, for an overall project balance total of \$1.93 million.

### 9.3 IVECA Projects – Mr. Schmidt reported the following updates:

- June 22, 2025 – Microwave path for ICSO site to Holtville Communication Site lost connection. IVECA requested AZTECS to assess issue for both sites. AZTECS found Holtville Communication Site dish alignment was out

of specification. Dish was realigned and communication between both site went back in operation June 24, 2025.

- June 27, 2025 – Calexico Communication Site HVAC failure on both units due to freon leak on the East unit and bad circuit board on the West unit. Temporary repairs were done to both units to resort operation for both units. July 3, 2025, full repairs were completed to fix the freon leak and installed replacement circuit board for HVAC units.
- Site trunking for Palo Verde site issues continues due to unreliability for the T1 circuit. Discussion with RCS San Diego continue for solution for the issue.
- Preventative maintenance for all 20 IVECA Sites has been completed to prepare for summer weather.

*Discussion: Mr. Mitchell inquired how far out of alignment can a microwave dish be to lose connection. Mr. Schmidt responded microwave signals are sensitive; a small amount of misalignment can cause signal to be affected. Chief Sims inquired on what caused the misalignment. Mr. Schmidt responded the cause for the misalignment was a bad mount.*

#### 10. Consent Agenda

10.1 Request the RCS Board to approve Brougham Ambulance to increase their radio limit from 10 to 30 radios.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Chief Boggeln, seconded by Chief Sims, the Board of Directors approved Brougham Ambulance to increase their radio limit from 10 to 30 radios.

AYES: Directors Graham Mitchell; Karen Mullins; Jeremiah Larson; Mike Sims; Brian Boggeln; Deepak Kumar; Joseph Bernal; Julie Jeakle

#### 11. Main Agenda - *None*

#### 12. Roundtable

- Mr. Mitchell added that on the last board meeting, RCS Staff did a presentation on the overview and history of RCS. If anyone from the Board has any specific items, they need to discuss about the system that can be included in future agenda to notify Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Brooks.
- Chief Sims recommended RCS Site Tour through RCS Staff for New Board of Directors Members.

13. End of Meeting – The meeting ended at 1:34 p.m.

**Next Board of Directors Meeting is on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.  
County Operations Center  
5500 Overland Avenue, Room 120, San Diego, CA 92123**



# Regional Communications System

## NETWORK OPERATION COST (NOC) BILLING AND REVENUE UPDATE

### MAY 2025 - JUNE 2025

	Invoice	Revenue Received	Receivables	
			Balance	%
May	523,309	412,263	111,046	21.22%
June	591,137	10,257	580,880	98.26%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,114,446</b>	<b>\$ 422,521</b>	<b>\$ 691,926</b>	<b>62.1%</b>

### RCS TRUST FUND BALANCE

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>10,082,262</b>
LESS:	
OBLIGATED EXPENDITURES:	
Prior Years' Replacement Infrastructure/Improvement Projects	820,000
FY 24/25 Replacement Infrastructure/Improvement Projects	277,209
RCS BOD Minimum Reserve	3,000,000
	<u>4,097,209</u>
<b>PROJECTED AVAILABLE BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2025</b>	<b>5,985,053</b>

# RCS Network Operations Update

July 9th 2025

## TRF Deployment To Support Monte Fire in Lakeside

On June 17th, RCS Technicians received a request from the San Diego County Sheriff Communications Center for the deployment of the Transportable Radio Facility (TRF) to the Monte Fire in Lakeside. First Responders were conducting mandatory evacuations in canyon areas of low radio coverage and experiencing digital/missed communications. Technicians deployed the TRF to the incident command post and brought the vehicle to "Operational Status" within 60 minutes of the request. In coordination with the Sheriff's Communication center, RCS technicians utilized the on-board Astro 25 Stand-alone Repeater (ASR) radio site in conjunction with mobile resource radios to initiate a cross system communications patch. This



allowed first responders to have a direct line of communication with the incident dispatcher as well as other end users on site. The TRF operated as intended for the duration of the incident and was released from the incident operations on Friday June 20th.



## Motorola "Critical Connect" Installed on RCS

On May 8th 2025, Motorola completed the installation of Critical Connect on the Regional Communications System. This feature allows RCS users the ability to utilize the Motorola WAVE PTX application on their mobile phones to Transmit, Receive, and monitor specific talkgroups on the radio system. By utilizing the WAVE PTX application, end users will have the ability to perform the above actions from any location there is mobile broadband service (Including outside the regional boundaries of the RCS).

RCS staff is currently testing the operation of this feature, and is working with Motorola to understand the end users financial cost of utilizing. We have set an internal goal of having all testing completed and billing structure in place by Jan 2026.



## Monthly Statistics

### May 2025

Total Call Count: 4,042,196

Avg. FDMA Calls: 83.53%

Avg. TDMA Calls: 16.47%

Total Buses: 16

Busy Detail: (10) Calexico ASR  
(6) South Simulcast

### June 2025

Total Call Count: 4,106,247

Avg. FDMA Calls: 82.77%

Avg. TDMA Calls: 17.23%

Total Buses: 5

Busy Detail: (4) Calexico ASR  
(1) West Simulcast

### Buses Percentages

May 25: 0.000198%

June 25: 0.000097%

**\*\* Buses are within system tolerances and the system is operating as designed.**

### Historical Total Call Data

May 24: 4,320,000

May 23: 4,250,000

May 22: 4,000,000

May 2025 % Difference: -2.67%

June 24: 4,210,000

June 23: 4,180,000

June 22: 4,100,000

June 2025 % Difference: -1.03%