

EXECUTIVE ORDER 48

WHEREAS: The daily use of two-way communications equipment and allied electronics equipment is increasing in the State of Alabama and throughout the civilized world at an astronomical rate; and

WHEREAS: The magnitude of this increased use here in Alabama is evidenced by a one-half million dollar federal grant to the Health Department to fund a state wide Emergency Medical Service Communications Network and a two million dollar grant to the Alabama Law Enforcement Planning Agency to fund police radio systems throughout the state; and

WHEREAS: The technical complexity of communications and electronics equipment of present day design and of that predicted for the future requires highly skilled technicians in ever increasing number; and

WHEREAS: The non-availability of adequately trained and qualified technicians in sufficient numbers to properly maintain the State's equipment necessitates maximum utilization of this limited staff of technicians; and

WHEREAS: Each State Department Communications Center now operates independently of each other, and each Department has a limited number of highly qualified engineers and technicians; and

WHEREAS: Maximum utilization of this highly trained staff can best be brought about by the creation of a Department of Telecommunications wherein all chiefs of Departmental Communications centers will be available as a regulatory control agency for all communications requirements for use by all State Departments.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That there be created a new division to be designated the Division of Telecommunications for the purpose of providing management for all mobile two-way and allied communications facilities within State Government.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That there be appointed a Director of Telecommunications and a Board of Communications and Electronics Chiefs from the established departments of communications: Conservation-Forestry, Highway Department, and Public Safety, and that the duties and functions of this board will include, but not necessarily be limited to,

- (1) To plan, control and co-ordinate the communications activities of all State Departments in such a manner as to insure the most efficient and economic use of state resources.
- (2) To develop and maintain a state wide plan to utilize present facilities to the best advantage.
- (3) To develop and maintain a state wide plan for improving and expanding, as the need arises, all communications facilities of all departments.
- (4) To design all communications systems as well as major additions to existing systems.
- (5) To prepare and/or review and approve all specifications for all communications equipment and associated equipment for all departments of the State.
- (6) To conduct communications studies as deemed necessary and to enter

contracts with other agencies, organizations, corporations, or individuals to make such studies as are deemed to be necessary.

(7) To prepare contract specifications for equipment and services.

(8) To adopt such rules and regulations deemed necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities imposed by the order.

(9) To serve as a clearinghouse for all Federal Funds for Telecommunications in the State.

(10) Co-ordinate all frequency allocations within State Government, and to approve all license applications for new, renewal or modification of all radio stations licensed by the Federal Communications Commission to the State of Alabama.

(11) To approve all requests for frequency coordination.

(12) To consolidate or combine communications systems where such action would benefit all concerned.

(13) To provide maintenance and repair as well as furnish all other services to those departments of State that do not now have their own communications facility. This service will be on a contract basis between departments of State.

(14) To assist all government entities in the State with their communications problems.

(15) To petition the Federal Communications Commission to recognize this Communications Board as the Frequency Coordinating Body for all Public Safety Radio Services within the State.

Within 30 days after this Order becomes effective, all Communications Technicians employed by the State will be transferred to the Communications Centers of either the Forestry-Conservation, Highway, or Public Safety Departments. All Communications Technicians will work in one of these departments.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Alabama to be affixed at Montgomery this 5th day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four.

George C. Wallace
GEORGE C. WALLACE
Governor of Alabama

approved: Ray D. Bass
1-24-74

E. C. Dathard

approved *1-25-74*

ATTEST:

Robert S. Means
Secretary of State

