



Board of Directors

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

May 17, 2012

Los Angeles County Fire Department Headquarters
Training Room 26, 1320 N. Eastern Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90063

Board Members Present:

William "Bill" T Fujioka Chair, CEO, County of Los Angeles
Miguel Santana, CAO, City of Los Angeles
Brian Cummings, Fire Chief, City of Los Angeles Fire Department
Gerry F. Miller, Chief Legislative Analyst, City of Los Angeles
Daryl L. Osby, Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles
Leroy "Lee" D. Baca, Sheriff, County of Los Angeles
Reginald "Reggie" Harrison, Deputy City Manager, City of Long Beach
Timothy Scranton, Fire Chief, City of Beverly Hills, representing the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager, City of Torrance, representing At Large Seat
Donald "Don" Pedersen, Police Chief, City of Culver City, representing At Large Seat
Gregory "Greg" L. Simay, Assistant General Manager, City of Burbank Water & Power, representing At Large Seat
Kim Raney, Police Chief, City of Covina, representing At Large Seat

Representatives For Board Members Present:

Cathy Chidester, representing Dr. Mitchell H. Katz, for the County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Nancy L. Ramirez, representing Steven K. "Steve" Zipperman, for the Los Angeles School Police Department

Officers Present:

Pat Mallon, LA-RICS Executive Director
Patricia Saucedo, Board Secretary

Absent:

Charles "Charlie" L. Beck, Vice Chair, Police Chief, City of Los Angeles
Scott Pickwith, Police Chief, City of La Verne, representing the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association
Mark R. Alexander, City Manager, City of La Cañada Flintridge, representing the Contract Cities Association
Wendy L. Watanabe, Auditor-Controller, County of Los Angeles
Mark J. Saladino, Treasurer and Tax Collector, County of Los Angeles



I. CALL TO ORDER
II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Chair Bill Fujioka made an acknowledgement that a quorum was present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – (None)
IV. CONSENT CALENDAR – (None)
V. REPORTS – (None)
VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS (1–2)

1. Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Voice Radio System Status

Attachment: Item 1 (Jacobs LMR Feasibility Study and PowerPoint Presentation)

Executive Director Mallon stated that at the last meeting on April 5, 2012, he had given the Board an update on the procurement and advised that on April 2, 2012, verbal notification was received from the Asst. Secretary of Commerce, Lawrence E. Strickling, regarding suspension of LTE equipment. At that time it was also advised that LA-RICS issued notice letters to both proposers suspending the negotiations. It was suggested that the suspension provided time to conduct a feasibility study for LA-RICS to move to another frequency regarding the LMR system. Executive Director Mallon stated that since there is a new Project Management (PM) firm on board, that did have a technical team as part of the overall contract, some hours be moved from the Phase 1 activity to a Phase 0 to actually conduct this study.

Executive Director Mallon updated the Board on the recent LA County DC trip that included meetings with the FCC and NTIA.

The first meeting that was held in Washington D.C. on May 8, 2012, was with the FCC in regards to possible moving to another frequency spectrum for T-Band. The discussion was well received and there was nothing forthcoming from the FCC regarding either the moving of frequency spectrum nor funding to make the move.

Executive Director Mallon stated that the House Energy and Commerce Committee which are also the authors of H.R. 3630, informed him that through negotiations the House Committee did push back on giving back any of the frequencies, the D-block assignment for Public Safety was contingent on some kind of quid pro quo and therefore allowed it to be included. Their expectation was that the voice system over the T-Band would be greatly reduced as the LTE broadband system is rolls out the voice over IP. That is contrary to what the Public Safety research laboratory concluded in March 2012, which was that the critical voice communications would not be part of a reliable LTE system.

Based on the direction that LA-RICS provided Jacobs Engineering in early April 2012, Jacobs conducted a frequency study working with specifications in the RFP as well as some alternatives.

Board Member Greg Simay stated that when they met with the FCC a few weeks ago, they were encouraged to ask questions to Congress. He would not rule out trying to get some modification of the H.R. 3630 moving forward. He's aware that some metropolitan areas have been writing letters and statements regarding some of the issues and problems very similar to those of LA-RICS.

Executive Director Mallon stated that cities, like Chicago, already started building out a system. LA-RICS is at a different point because we are barely embarking on spending a substantial amount of money on a system that may be obsolete in eleven years. The Board will need to make a decision for legislative action and whether LA-RICS want to delay the project until such time or take the gamble and move forward.



Ric Martin, Jacobs Team, reviewed the LA-RICS LMR Feasibility Study presentation (Agenda Item 1 – Attachment A).

Board Member Gerry Miller asked if the five year build-out would be in 2017 and if the re-procurement would be in 2018. Executive Director Mallon stated that the five year build-out was based on a cash flow of trying to build the system. The build-out is a flexible issue. Chair Fujioka interjected that this is just a timeline which is part of the presentation.

Board Member Simay believes that there was a letter from Larry Strickling that stated that if a current vendor is willing to take the risk of going ahead that they might have to do a do-over as the FirstNet develops standards, they can go ahead right now. The only question is how great would that risk be? Executive Director Mallon stated that would address the issue on the broadband only, but not the take back of the frequency issue in nine to eleven years.

Board Member Miller asked for clarification on the schedule. Executive Director Mallon stated that when they did their study they did it based on very little information because LA-RICS wanted a totally independent study, they had no information as to what the existing bids are or what the existing timelines were. We just asked them to give LA-RICS the analysis of where the frequencies are available and to what breakage those would be.

Chair Fujioka stated that pretty much all of the radios would have to be replaced anyway. Mr. Martin stated that in regards to the user equipment, if you were to implement a new T-Band system today, you would probably follow your normal term, however, there is no requirement to replace all of the equipment; a 700 system would require you to replace a great deal of your equipment.

Board Member Miller asked if Mr. Martin was assuming that the spectrum was available now. Mr. Martin stated that they looked at what LA-RICS members are holding today, what is potentially available in the pool that the coordinators may have. They classified those with the high viability, those pieces of the spectrum that LA-RICS owns, and that are readily available. There are medium ones that other people are using and may not be available if they do not want to give them up.

Executive Director Mallon stated that the one advantage to the T-Band for the LA region is that, particularly in channel 15 for which they have exclusive use, so they do not have interference, even from surrounding public safety jurisdictions outside of LA County.

A question arose regarding the freezing of license issuing. Executive Director Mallon stated that the freeze would not impact anything on which public safety jurisdictions have current licenses.

Board Member Miguel Santana asked what other jurisdictions, like New York and Chicago, were doing? Executive Director Mallon said that Chicago has taken a strong stance and issued a letter to the FCC. Their system is already built-out. LA-RICS has reached out to New York, but they have not responded. Board Member Santana asked for a report back on that.

In conclusion, Executive Director Mallon stated that the T-Band system is feasible. There are some questions from the granting authority as to whether Federal funds can be used to build-out a system that will be obsolete. There is certainly a concern that Federal dollars and perhaps even local dollars would be wasted for something that would only be used for a short duration. The FCC position on the T-Band frequencies was "build at your own risk". On 700/800 frequencies we saw that an RFP compliant system was not feasible. However, with the relaxation of some of those requirements, 700/800 is feasible. There are some questions as to the availability of spectrum. As indicated by Mr. Martin, we have had to go into the assumptions that those are all the frequencies that are available in Los Angeles that would be dedicated to the LA-RICS system. We have contacted some agencies and it doesn't seem like there is a



tremendous interest in giving up the frequencies, until LA-RICS has shown that it can be a viable system before anyone will contribute their frequencies. There will be a required replacement of user equipment in order to go to the Phase Two of frequency band which is a cost of at least \$275 million. We are not really recommending this as an option.

Executive Director Mallon discussed the possibility of the combining some 700 spectrum, from both LA City and LA County, along with some of the T-Band frequencies to cover the entire area in a digital trunk system. This is the hybrid approach. This would also rely on the T-Band frequencies for data and it would allow for a more longer term progression from the T-Band frequencies into the 700's. It does rely on the 800 frequencies for the 800 analog talk around. Perhaps a change of approach as opposed as to providing a Countywide 800 overlay would be a more localized capability. It would allow a longer progression to look forward to a data channel via the LTE system, as well as the NTIA's vision that the LTE system broadband system will provide some kind of push talk capabilities over the broadband system. This might be a possibility, but will require some additional time. It will take at least a couple of weeks to flush out the details in preparation for a report at the JPA meeting on June 7, 2012. Chair Fujioka stated that at that time there would be three options on the table, a) T-Band; b) full migration 700/800; or c) the hybrid. Each of these decisions will decide the course of the RFP, with is on hold for now. He also addressed the issue of wanting to have all of the facts and information before having a discussion in public, there is a need to be careful study.

Board Member Jackson asked if there are grant funding implications. Executive Director Mallon stated that it will as it pertains to the LTE, and the grant funding for the LMR in kind of a year-to-year on UASI. Until the ultimate cost of the system it is difficult to project going forward.

Board Member Jackson wanted to know the risk factors of losing the grants; Chair Fujioka stated that at the next meeting they could talk about that and timelines, and maximizing them.

Board Member Osby added that in California the mutual aid system is based on the utilization of state frequencies, so he is not aware of the impact to fire services and not sure if they are going to migrate the 700/800 frequencies. He asked that to please take in consideration the forests.

2. Long Term Evolution (LTE) Broadband System Status

Executive Director Mallon stated that on May 11, 2012, LA-received a letter from NTIA asking to suspend LTE equipment and within 45 days to provide them with a modified BTOP budget showing how funds would be used for other purposes other than LTE related equipment. There is a scheduled meeting with NTIA to provide them with the first glance at the revised budget, which is due on June 25, 2012, with hopes to return on July 11, 2012, and incorporate it. Negotiations are still on hold based on the letters that were issued. Mr. Jackson asked a question about grants funds, LA-RICS will submit a status report at the June meeting.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – (None)

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS – (None)

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Bostic, Raytheon Representative, stated that in their letters to the Board on April 24, 2012, and May 4, 2012, and in speaking with their attorneys, they believe that there are some fatal flaws in the procurement process. In listening to the JPA conversations and watching the process for the last four years, the current dilemma that the Board finds itself in with the changing technology whether it be LTE or LMR. Raytheon and Motorola are in agreement in that the Board has reached a stage in which they have no other alternative, including a new RFP which is going to be forced to go through dual negotiations to get through the potential protests and problems because of fatal flaws in both processes.



X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD

3. Project Funding
4. Project Risk Controls

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Fujioka adjourned the meeting.