



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Thursday, July 8, 2021 • 9:00 a.m.
Conducted via Microsoft Teams Meeting*

Board Members Present:

Cathy Chidester , Dir., EMS Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Mark Alexander , City Manager, CA Contract Cities Association
Chris Nunley , Chief of Police, City of Signal Hill Police Department
David Povero , Chief, City of Covina Police Department

Alternates For Board Members Present:

John Geiger , General Manager, County of Los Angeles
Elani Pappas , Alternate Vice-Chair, Deputy Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Dept.
Eli Vera , Alternate Chair, Chief, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Ed Ridens , Deputy Chief, City of Inglewood Police Department

Officers Present:

Scott Edson , LA-RICS Executive Director
Susy Orellana-Curtiss , Administrative Deputy
Vacant , LA-RICS Board Secretary

Absent:

Brian Solinsky , Interim Police Chief, City of South Pasadena Police Department
Vacant Seat , The Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association



NOTE: ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM IDENTIFIED ON THE AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Alternate Chair, Eli Vera, called the Board meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Administrative Deputy Susy Orellana-Curtiss took the roll and acknowledged a quorum was present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. June 3, 2021 – Minutes

Alternate Chair Vera asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board.

Board Member David Povero motioned first, seconded by Board Member Mark Alexander.

Ayes 8: Alexander, Povero, Geiger, Pappas, Chidester, Ridens, Nunley, and Vera.

MOTION APPROVED.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE

V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE

VI. REPORTS (B-E)

B. Director's Report – Scott Edson

Long Term Evolution Round 2 (LTE2) Update

Executive Director Scott Edson stated that LTE2 sites 1-20 have been completed since the Summer of 2020 and staff continue to assist AT&T as they take possession of the LTE2 equipment. Project Director Chris Odenthal will provide additional details relating to the wrap up of these activities for LTE1 and LTE2.



LMR Frequency Update

Executive Director Edson stated the Authority continues to work closely with County of Los Angeles (County) partners including the Internal Services Department (ISD) on frequency interference and licensing issues affecting the Authority's Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System. The Authority is exploring creative ways to mitigate certain issues with Channel 15 and 16 interference, which in certain instances is caused by weather. In parallel, the Authority is working with Motorola Solutions, Inc. (Motorola) team to ensure the best coverage for the Public Safety users, as well as working closely with operations groups to ensure timely migration of users onto the system.

Executive Director Edson indicated that Technical Lead Ted Pao will provide additional details under Agenda Item G.

Coastal Sites Update

Executive Director Edson said that progress has been made on the coastal sites. On June 6, 2021, Motorola submitted the final Coastal Development permit application for the TOP-RELAY site, as well as its processing fees payment. This prompted the County of Los Angeles Regional Planning staff's commencement review of the packet. The Authority is working closely with Regional Planning in an effort to make-up some of the time lost during the development of the application, with the hopes of potentially expediting the Regional Planning's review prior to commencement of the Public Hearing process.

Executive Director Edson went on to say the MCI site is an existing 70' lattice tower adjacent to the originally proposed Saddle Peak site. He stated that on July 2, 2021, he signed a letter of intent, which was the first step to formalizing an agreement with owners at that MCI location.

- The Authority is working with the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) and the County of Los Angeles Real Estate to ensure the site provides beneficial use to all parties while maintaining the critical path of the schedule.
- Executive Director Edson was happy to report the start of construction at Fire Station 72 (LACFS072) in the coastal area near Malibu, on June 14, 2021. This is a huge accomplishment for the region and public safety, especially since this site will address a decade's old communications gap in the area.
- Despite some road access issues impacting Motorola's ability to bring certain equipment to the island, construction began on all three (3) sites on July 1, 2021.
- The Authority is working closely with Motorola, the City of Avalon, and the Catalina Conservancy to ensure no time is lost due to the second amendment needed for the road access permit.



Executive Director Edson stated Deputy Program Manager Tanya Roth will provide the Board with additional details relating to Catalina and other coastal sites under Agenda Item H.

Grants Update

Regarding Grants, Executive Director Edson said that while awaiting reimbursement on the final package submitted for UASI 18', the Authority continues to work under the UASI 19' grant. The Authority continues weekly communications with the Grantor, the State, and the City Grant Administrator as they are tracking the Authority's progress. In May 2021, Motorola requested placement of retention and holdback funds into an escrow account. The Authority checked with the Federal Grantor via the State Administrator, and on July 1, 2021, the Governor's office Emergency Services sent a letter to Executive Director Edson stating that they will only approve funds under certain conditions:

- Funds are only released once project completion and system acceptance is achieved;
- Funds be kept separate and apart from the intended beneficiary;
- Maintain funds in a federally insured interest bearing account with interest earned beyond \$500 a year to be remitted to the federal government;
- Prior to the release of funds into the escrow the Authority is to provide the Grantor a copy of the Integrated Master Schedule (IMS) reflecting the completion date of the project; and
- Reminder that performance period end-date for the UASI 19' grant continues to be May 2022, and that its liquidation of all obligations occur within the closeout period.

Executive Director Edson said the Federal Grantor reminded the Authority they would not entertain any extension requests until the IMS was received as along with the Project Team assurance the terms of the contract are adhered and meeting the schedule completion date is confirmed.

Executive Director Edson said that on June 15, 2021, Motorola submitted an IMS. The Authority prepared an in-depth analysis of the IMS and provided Motorola with a list of items that required clarification and additional information in an attempt to achieve consensus on the IMS. Director Edson went on to say that on July 1, 2021, the Authority met with Motorola to go over the Authority's comments. Following the comment review, Motorola's schedule was to incorporate certain comments, provide comparison dates and analysis, and reconvene the schedule discussion this week. On July 6, 2021, Executive Director Edson and the Authority were surprised to learn that Motorola Project Director was on a two (2) week personal time off, with the Construction Manager being off this week as well. Understanding the IMS is an integral



component to ensure timely completion project milestones, management of resources and effective planning are required to achieve system acceptance. The Authority has again required the Program Director make decisions and work towards progress on the consensus IMS, despite the Project Director time off.

Executive Director Edson continued stating as everyone works to achieve consensus on the IMS, the Authority is looking at other options in order to cross the finish line, reminding the Board of previously approved delegated authority to issue procurements for the design and build certain LMR sites. On June 22, 2021, the Request for Proposal (RFP) for LMR engineering design and certain services was issued. The Pre Proposer's Conference took place on July 6, 2021, with several interested contractors in attendance. On July 19, 2021, the proposals are due. He stated that he hopes to provide the Board with an update at the next Board meeting on August 5, 2021.

Outreach

Executive Director Edson stated during the Authority's discussions regarding the onboarding of users, the Outreach team has been asked about the project completion date, which is another reason a consensus IMS is so important. As the Authority works towards that goal, a realistic completion date is pointing to August of 2023, although, the date is not yet confirmed. Executive Director Edson stated Lieutenant Crongeyer would provide the outreach activities of the previous month under Agenda Item I.

In-Person Meetings

Executive Director Edson stated the Authority continues to review the opportunity for in-person meetings. The Authority has adapted the County mode in procurement and fiscal policies, and by staffing the administrative support team with County employees assigned via a Memorandum of Understanding. Executive Director Edson went on to say that while exploring protocols for resumption of in-person meetings County Counsel has informed the Authority that protocols are still a work in progress. In an effort to allow for open discussion, the Board has before them Agenda Item J to consider appropriate resumption of the in-person Board and Committee meetings.

Director Edson concluded by addressing the two (2) Administrative Matters before the Board, one being the election of the Board's Chair and Vice-Chair under Agenda Item K, and the other item being the appointment of the Board Secretary under Agenda Item L, respectively.

Executive Director Edson thanked the Chair and Board members and concluded his report.

There was no further discussion.



C. Project Manager's Report – Justin Delfino

LMR PROGRAM CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

Program Manager Delfino provided an update on the construction overview and shared some recent successes on the LMR Program.

Mr. Delfino shared an LMR Network diagram (map) which reflected the tangible progress made to the 700 MHz DTVRS system.

- The I-5 North Desert, majority of the Angeles National Forest (ANF), and Downtown Los Angeles cell are on the air. The hydra coverage map significantly matches the predictive maps that were initially issued during the design phase of the network. There is a gap on the west side, since we have a site not online in that region, in addition the East Cell is not et online, however, this is good progress at this time.

Open and Active Sites:

Program Manager Delfino read off a list of active construction sites:

- Burnt Peak 1 (BUR1), Pine Mountain (PMT), Rancho Palos Verdes TEE (RPVT), Green Mountain (GRM), Mount Lukens-2 (MTL2), Universal Studios (UNIV), Black Jack Peak (BJM), and Frost Peak (FRP).
- Two (2) sites started construction Tower and DPK, leaving only three (3) sites to start construction, San Pedro Hill (SPH), TOP-RELAY (Topanga Peak RELAY), and Saddle Peak (SPN).
- The Phase 2 build-out of the network is approximately 91% complete, since 55 sited have started out of the total of 58 sites and the majority of the 55 are completed.
- The June 3, 2021, report indicated that ISSI connection to ICI system had successfully been tested at Mirador (MIR). This month the focus is getting Long Beach connection made vial ISSI as well.
- Two (2) recently started sites, ESR and LACF072 are making good headway given they each require demolition before the install of the LA-RICS equipment can commence.
- Zero recordable injuries to-date.

SAA's:

All site access agreements are complete.



Open Issues Unresolved:

Program Manager Delfino stated the IMS is the key item at this time. Motorola submitted a June 8, 2021 data-date IMS that should have been submitted with a Work Acceptance Certificate (WAC), but was not. Motorola then submitted a June 15, 2021, "Information Only" IMS, and later emailed a Work Acceptance Certificate (WAC) containing several caveats. At this point, the Authority is looking for and working towards a submission for acceptance.

Program Manager Delfino referenced what Executive Director Edson stated in regards to the comments to the schedule, right now the focus is on Phase 4a and Phase 4b, because the majority of the work in Phase 2 is complete or rapidly completing. The Surety does remain involved in reviewing all claims against the contractor, as well as the Authority working to supply them with all of the information in an effort to comply with their research.

Program Manager Delfino featured site Rancho Palos Verde TEE (RPVT), as it plays an important role to backhaul in connection to Catalina Island sites, which are now under construction. RPVT is the Golf Course site (slide shown) which depicts a very complicated formwork for a slab on grade foundation and the site is roughly 35-40% completed at this time. The Authority is discontent with the 231-days that Motorola plans to build the site, but does consider that this site was impacted by unforeseen buried concrete, perhaps old golf cart path/debris removal work under the site.

This concludes the Project Manager's Report.

There was no further discussion.

D. Joint Operations and Technical Committee Chairs Report – No Report

E. Finance Committee Chair Report – No Report

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (F-J)

F. PSBN Round 2 Implementation and Construction Update – Chris Odenthal

Program Director Chris Odenthal provided an overview of the PSBN Round 2 transition to AT&T, stating the only site still under construction is Pomona Court House (POM2), nearing completion, roughly the third or fourth week of July 2021. POM2 has power and only a bit of electrical work needed, as well as wrap up of power work.

Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN/LTE) Round 2 is completed. Sites 1-20 have been transferred to AT&T and notified the Grantor, National Telecommunications and



Information Administration (NTIA) of the same. AT&T is currently updating the Unified Communications and Collaboration (UCC) filings projected to be done by August 1, 2021.

There was no further discussion.

G. Frequency and Licensing Issues Impacting Land Mobile Radio Deployment – Ted Pao

The Authority's Lead Engineer Ted Pao stated as reported last month the Authority received Spectrum Fingerprinting and Noise Floor Monitoring Report as part of Amendment 40 scope of work with Motorola. The reports show some sites have external interference that has affected the Authority's predicted in-bound coverage. These reports and coverage maps were shared with the County on April 28, 2021, in an effort for the County/ISD to make its independent determination on the interference issue.

Lead Engineer Pao stated a technical working group was formed with personnel from ISD and the Authority to validate the spectrum fingerprinting reports. Since forming the technical workgroup, the group gathered data from three (3) sites, Compton Court Building (CCB), Rolling Hill Transmit (RHT), and San Pedro Hill (SPH). The preliminary data indicates there is still interference coming from San Diego's television station KDTF potentially attributed to the seasonal ducting atmospheric condition. He went on to say that data also indicated there has been a reduction of the interference signal from non-ducting conditions. The Authority believes the relocation of the KDTF to Soledad Mountain has helped to reduce the interference. ISD has advised the regulatory process to further mitigate the KDTF issue is not possible. The Authority will now look for a technical solution to minimize the interference impact to the Authority's UHF subsystems.

Lead Engineer Pao expressed that there is good news on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) UHF licensing front. He said that of the 93 applications for our UHF subsystems, FCC has granted 79 licenses. There is a batch of Channel 15 applications that were modified with technical parameters that are still going through the FCC administrative review process. He also said the remaining three (3) applications are associated with the Tejon Peak (TPK) site. TPK is situated in the very northwest corner of the County. Due to the distance limitation of license parameters and the close proximity to other broadcast stations in the north, this site will need to go through an extended review process by the FCC. Overall this is very good news, the Authority is now able to turn on sites for those licensed locations.

There was no further discussion.



**(DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES CHAIR VERA RECOMMENDED
DISCUSSION ITEM H BE TAKEN OUT-OF-ORDER AND PROCEEDED WITH
DISCUSSION ITEM I)**

I. Outreach Update – Executive Director Edson

Executive Director Edson provided the outreach update. The Authority has met with Contract Cities that County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) polices. The Authority met in regards to them wanting to subscribe to the radio system, because they are working closely with code enforcement and other traffic enforcement alongside the LASD. The Authority also checked the coverage route of the Rose Parade, having deputies walk coverage route making sure frequencies were available for them.

Executive Director Edson stated the Authority continues to work with the City of Inglewood for their policing events and communications at the SoFi Stadium.

Executive Director Edson said the Authority is also working with the local radio association testing, evaluation and to address licensing issues.

Executive Director Edson attended a super user group meeting with AT&T FirstNet Services, which allowed an opportunity voice need for enhancements to FirstNet Services.

Executive Director Edson also participated in the International Association of Police, Communications and Technology committee. A lot was learned regarding the future of technology and having a better use of technology to benefit radio systems throughout this region.

This concluded the update.

Board Member Mark Alexander stated City Managers group of the Contract Cities are starting to meet up again and believes it would be worthwhile to schedule a presentation from the LA-RICS for Contract Cities/City Managers, since it has been a while since the last discussion.

Executive Director Edson concurred with Board Member Alexander stating the Authority needed to have the IMS for system completion date confirmation. He further added that it seems as though the Authority is getting close to that and would start working with Board Member Alexander and Alternate Board Member Marcel Rodarte to get on calendar.

There was no further discussion.



H. Update on Coastal Commission Sites in the Land Mobile Radio System – Chris Odenthal

The purpose of this discussion item is to provide an update on key milestones for the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System sites within the Coastal Zone. Program Director Odenthal stated TOP-RELAY site is currently under review with the Department of Regional Planning (DRP). Mapping this out from a timeline perspective, without a substantial appeal process, the Coastal permit is expected sometime in Q1 2022. The scope of this site is smaller than other sites, as this is adding infrastructure to a previously permitted site

This concludes the update.

There was no further discussion.

J. Resumption of In Person Board Meetings – Executive Director Edson

Executive Director Edson said this item provides the Board an opportunity to discuss the resumption of in person Board meetings. As presented in his Director's report, the Authority is following the County's protocols, which at this point are being developed. Director Edson stated staff would continue to monitor the item and report back as developments are made.

Board Member Alexander suggested that Executive Director Edson continue to monitor the situation and that when the County issues protocols for meeting in person again, if the Authority could explore the possibility of a hybrid option for those who want to meet in person and those who find it extremely convenient to participate in the meetings virtually. Director Edson stated we will be sure to consider the hybrid option.

There was no further discussion.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (K-L)

K. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Executive Director Edson stated that in accordance with the JPA Agreement, the Board should consider whether to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair of the LA-RICS Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Board of Directors. The Board may continue to elect the current Chair and Vice-Chair for another one-year term, or consider other Board members.

He went on to say that any new Chair and Vice-Chair that would be elected would assume this role effective July 9, 2021.



Executive Director Edson continued by saying that as required in the JPA Agreement under Article 3, Section 1.01, the Board shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among the Directors. The Chairperson shall sign all contracts on behalf of the Authority (unless delegated to the Executive Director), and shall perform such other duties as may be imposed by the Board. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson can sign contracts (unless delegated to the Executive Director) and perform all of the Chairperson's duties. Executive Director Edson handed the item over to the Board to consider and vote on nominations for a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

Alternate Chair Eli Vera stated on behalf of Sheriff Alex Villanueva, the Sheriff is very committed to the LA-RICS project and its completion. He continues to have a strong desire to remain as the Chair.

Board Member Alexander stated he supports keeping both Chair and Vice-Chair positions the same, provided the Fire Chief is also willing to continue to serve in role of Vice-Chair.

Alternate Board Member Eleni Pappas stated on behalf of Fire Chief Daryl Osby, he still is committed to the program and would like to see it through to completion and is still interested in maintaining the Vice-Chair position.

Board Member Alexander motioned first, for both Chair Alex Villanueva and Vice-Chair Osby remain in their positions. The motion was seconded by Board Member Chris Nunley.

Ayes 8: Alexander, Nunley, Chidester, Geiger, Povero, Ridens, Pappas, and Vera.

MOTION APPROVED.

L. APPOINTMENT OF BOARD SECRETARY

Executive Director Edson presented Agenda Item K.

Appointment of a Board Secretary is required based on the Joint Powers Agreement for the Authority, Article III, 3.01.

Executive Director Edson stated that Beatriz Cojulun has been employed with the County of Los Angeles for twenty-six (26) years. She has worked as LA-RICS staff assistant since 2011 providing analytical and administrative support to the Contracts, Grants, Budget and Fiscal sections of the program as well as administrative support to the Executive Director. Ms. Cojulun also serves as the LA-RICS Finance Committee Secretary since 2015. Prior to her assignment to LA-RICS, Ms. Cojulun worked at the



County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector, within the administrative/secretarial support section reporting directly to the Administrative Chief providing administrative support to Human Resources, Budget, Fiscal, Contracts and Grants sections of the Department.

We request your Board to appoint Beatriz Cojulun as the Board Secretary. Executive Director Edson went on to say that this was in replacement of Priscilla Lara who previously served as Board Secretary and recently promoted to a new position. Director Edson asked for motion to approve the staff recommendation.

Board Member Alexander motioned first, seconded by Board Member David Povero.

Ayes 8: Alexander, Chidester, Geiger, Pappas, Povero, Ridens, Nunley, and Vera.

MOTION APPROVED.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD – NONE

XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

The Board entered into Closed Session at 9:38 a.m.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –Anticipated Litigation (subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9) (1 case).

The Board returned from Closed Session at 9:54 a.m., Counsel Truc Moore stated the Board is now back in open session and the Brown Act does not require a report.

XII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

Alternate Board Member Vera called for a motion to adjourn.

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m., and the next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 5, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., via Microsoft Teams / Teleconference Meeting.