



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

Thursday, September 2, 2021 • 9:00 a.m.
Conducted via Microsoft Teams Meeting*

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Daryl Osby , Vice-Chair, Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Cathy Chidester , Director, EMS Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Brian Solinsky , Chief of Police, City of Inglewood Police Department
Chris Nunley , Chief of Police, City of Signal Hill Police Department

ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Geiger , General Manager, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
Eli Vera , Alternate Chair, Chief, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Marcel Rodarte , Executive Director, CA Contract Cities Association
Ric Walczak , Captain, City of Covina Police Department
Ed Ridins , Deputy Chief, City of Inglewood Police Department

OFFICERS PRESENT:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT:

Fesia Davenport , CEO, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
Alex Villanueva , Chair, Sheriff, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Vacant Seat , The Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Mark Alexander , City Manager, CA Contract Cities Association
David Povero , Chief of Police, City of Covina Police Department
Mark Fronterotta , Chief of Police, City of Inglewood Police Department



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 9:00 a.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Board Secretary Beatriz Cojulun took the roll and acknowledged a quorum was present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. August 5, 2021 – Minutes

Alternate Chair Vera asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. There were no questions or comments.

Board Member Chris Nunely motioned first, seconded by Board Vice-Chair Daryl Osby.

Ayes 9: Geiger, Osby, Vera, Chidester, Solinsky, Rodarte, Walczak, Ridens, and Nunley.

MOTION APPROVED.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE

VI. REPORTS (B-E)

B. Director's Report – Scott Edson

Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Frequency Update

Executive Director Scott Edson reported that out of the 58 LMR sites, all sites but two (2) have started construction. Good progress has been made at the sites currently under construction.



Executive Director Edson stated that with the start of construction at San Pedro Hill (SPH), that leaves two (2) sites pending the start of construction: Topanga Peak RELAY (TOP-RELAY) and Saddle Peak (SPN)/MCI. The Authority received comments from the Department of Regional Planning (DRP) regarding TOP-RELAY and are working to address them. Deputy Program Manager Tanya Roth will be addressing the comments received under Agenda Item H, in particular a request regarding fence replacement and the timeframe for moving on to the public hearing process.

Executive Director Edson stated that SPN is the other site pending start of construction, which the Authority has planned to replace with the MCI site. The Authority concluded certain site investigations at the MCI site, and estimations confirmed the cost to move forward with the more effective MCI site would result in an overall cost-savings to the program vs. moving forward with the SPN Site. Thus moving forward with the MCI site would be an overall win for the program. Executive Director Edson stated that under Agenda Item J, he recommends the Board's approval to enter into an Agreement for LMR engineering and design related services, which if approved, would be utilized to design the MCI site. Following design, the Authority would return to the Board seeking approval for construction services relating to the MCI site. The Authority's schedule for deploying the MCI site, while aggressive, ensures there will be no delay to the overall schedule comparable to building and deploying the original SPN site. The work estimated at the MCI site falls within the funds earmarked for the SPN site.

Executive Director Edson shared that SPH site began construction in August and is a unique site which contains active Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) equipment. Executive Director Edson thanked the County Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) for assisting with FAA requirements in providing "supervision" at the SPH site during certain hours of construction. A LASD Deputy has been present at SPH on Fridays to satisfy the FAA's requirement and also to ensure the schedule moved forward uninterrupted. The sole duty of this LASD Deputy has been to immediately notify the FAA should any accidental damage occur to FAA equipment, as this would save the FAA time troubleshooting and help maintain air traffic safety. The site is now approximately 15% complete.

Executive Director Edson stated the Authority encountered an unfortunate surprise at the Rancho Palos Verdes TEE (RPVT) golf course site. Agenda item K, presents a change order to address new utility power work needed at the RPVT site, including certain underground electrical work. The team will provide additional detail supporting this change order under Agenda Item K.



Executive Director Edson stated Program Manager Delfino would provide additional details on construction activities at the various LMR sites following his report.

Executive Director Edson said that regarding the Integrated Master Schedule (IMS), the Authority met with MSI (Motorola Solutions, Inc.) yesterday (Wednesday, September 1, 2021) and are pending execution of the Work Acceptance Certificate (WAC) for the IMS showing a system acceptance date in October 2023. The IMS shows “acceptance” of subsystems via a phased approach vs. accepting overall system at once. In discussions with MSI, the Authority believes the WAC and amendment could be executed next week, while the parties negotiate breaking out payments for subsystem acceptance in another future amendment. Unfortunately, the MSI Project Director had a family emergency, which would delay review and approval of the WAC, and ultimately the amendment.

Executive Director Edson stated that with an agreed-upon IMS, the Authority can move forward with discussions with California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding the additional time and funding needed to complete the LA-RICS Program. Executive Director Edson met with certain members within the region and they have expressed their continued support for interoperable communications in the region. The Authority is working with the County Chief Executive Office (CEO) and the City of Los Angeles Mayor’s Office to prepare the Authority’s application for the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) 22’ grants cycle.

Executive Director Edson assured the Board that any item presented for their consideration would have funding identified under existing awarded grants. Executive Director Edson stated the project grant spending plan, or as the region refers to it, grant workbook, includes a contingency line item that set aside grant funding to pay for unforeseen changes in site costs/site conditions, weather impacts, etc. Executive Director Edson said that every item presented to the Board that resulted in a cost increase to the Contract identifies a fund source within the Authority’s approved grant spending plan.

Executive Director Edson went on to say that in regards to frequency issues and licensing, as the Authority reported to the Board the last several months, the County’s analysis / final report regarding the interference experienced at various sites is in progress. Executive Director Edson stated that as soon as the Authority receives the



report, findings would be communicated to the Board. Lead Engineer Pao would address questions under Agenda Item G.

Long Term Evolution Round 2 (LTE2) Update

Executive Director Edson stated that as LTE2 comes to a close, the judicial courts have finally overcome some staffing shortages which impacted the Authority's ability to finish work at the Pomona Court House 2 (POM2) site. The Authority is projecting it will finish the POM2 site this month. Project Director Odenthal will be reporting on a few other items pending completion for sites 21-26, under Agenda Item F.

Administrative

Executive Director Edson followed up regarding the Board's question about in-person meetings. The Authority continues awaiting directive from the County regarding the resumption of in-person meetings. However, staff has been exploring venues that would facilitate hosting hybrid meetings, those held in-person while allowing participants to join via virtual connection. Executive Director Edson stated the Authority would continue to work closely with County Counsel to ensure all public meeting requirements are met and in a safe environment following any health related requirements.

Executive Director Edson concluded by sharing the Authority has negotiated the LA-RICS Headquarters' Lease Agreement (space) renewal. However, the final agreement was not achieved in time to present it to the Board for today's meeting, but anticipate presenting it at the October Board meeting.

Board Member Chief Osby commented that he recently met with Executive Director Edson, project management team and MSI. Board Member Osby expressed his concern in regards to the IMS, which he understood would be ready in a week, and is now learning it is still not completed. Board Member Osby requested Executive Director Edson provide the Board with an update regarding IMS, and Director Edson said information would be provided.

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.

Program Director Delfino shared an LMR Network diagram (map).

Open and Active Sites:

Program Manager Delfino provided a list of active construction sites:

- There are thirteen (13) active sites at this time. Some of the sites like UNIV are working on closing out punch-list items, while other sites are completing shelter work. Nearly all towers are erected at the active sites. All of the other sites listed below are substantially complete with Phase 2 infrastructure work, except those with an asterisk, such as the Catalina Sites*, which are in the process of installing the communication towers at this time. MSI has been tracking closely with the IMS for Ph.2 work at this time.
 - Burnt Peak (BUR1),
 - Pine Mountain (PMT),
 - Rancho Palos Verdes TEE (RPVT),
 - Green Mountain (GRM),
 - Mount Lukens-2 (MTL2),
 - Universal (UNIV),
 - Black Jack Peak (BJM),*
 - East Sunset Ridge (ESR),
 - Los Angeles County Fire 072 (LACF072),
 - Tower Peak (TWR),*
 - Dakin Peak (DPK)*
 - Frost Peak (FRP) and
 - San Pedro Hill (SPH)
- There are only (2) sites remaining to start construction, which are MCI and TOP-RELAY. The project team made a trip to MCI during this period to ascertain the condition of the building, finding that it was substantial re-useable will aid in California Coastal Commission approval for use as well as reduce construction costs for the project.

Notable August successes on the LMR Program:

- There are zero recordable injuries to-date. Considering the current fire situations e.g. San Antonio fire, which caused some temporary site access issues to the ESR site, but was quickly re-opened once the fire was extinguished. Thank you to County of Los Angeles Fire Department (LACoFD)



for the trip they made to the ESR access road to survey post fire, to make sure that the road was still useable, which it was.

- Southern California Edison (SCE) is tracking behind schedule at several of the sites where their services are required. Although, in this period SCE finally provided some customer commitment dates for turning on power at the below listed sites:
 - FRP on October 11, 2021
 - Grass Mountain (GMT), Mount Disappointment (MDI), MTL2, Whitaker Ridge (WTR) in October 2021

MSI has indicated that as long as FRP has power by mid-October, then the Ph.4a work can be completed by the end of November, which is the anticipated road closure date, pending ski season conditions.

SAA's:

Program Manager Delfino informed the Board that all site access agreements are complete.

Open Items of Focus:

- The IMS submission of July 13, 2021 DD version 10 is anticipated to be the officially accepted schedule once the Work Acceptance Certificate (WAC) is executed; which is in the review and approval process currently.
- MSI's contractor's license re-instatement is still is not in place and the Project Team is closely monitoring the situation.
- The surety company remains involved in reviewing contractor default claims.
- A draft amendment is in the review and approval process and is aimed to resolve a variety of issues due to the currently planned system delivery, including clarifications on warranty items and key milestones for payments

Areas of Improvement:

Program Manager Delfino further reported on Areas of Improvement, which have had month-over-month consistencies:

- Schedule – MSI has done better with the schedule
- Contract language regarding cut-over plan



- Change order processing
- Contractor productivity – MSI has been far more productive than observed in the past

Featured Site:

With respect to the SPH site, Program Manager Delfino reported:

- This site started its Phase 2 work on time, and is making excellent progress.
- The milestone that MSI and the Authority agreed needs to be completed, is the erection of the tower by December 1, 2021, and is currently on track to achieve that objective.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item C from Program Manager Delfino. 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-I)

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

Program Director Chris Odenthal provided an overview of the PSBN Round 2 project and provided an update on the following sites 21-26:

- Montebello PD (MNTBLPD) and Los Angeles Pier 400 (POLA1) have been completed with electrical turned on.
- Los Angeles Pier 300 (POLA2) is pending final agreement between AT&T Corporation (AT&T) and Fenix terminal for power and fiber connection.
- Magic Mountain Link 2 (MML2) is finishing up its trenching for power in the forest.
- Sites 1-20: there are three (3) sites are pending power connection Whitaker Ridge 2 (WTR2), Whitaker Middle Peak 2 (WMP2), and SCE Studebaker (SCESTUD), with a confirmation from SCE that power would be turned on in September.
 - WTR2 and WMP2 are also LMR sites that contributed to its difficulties from a power delivery standpoint.



- Pomona Court House 2 (POM2), would be turning on the site on September 13, 2021. The site should be done by the end of the month, since it is a house power site, with no additional power delivery required.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item F by Program Director Odenthal. There was no further discussion.

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

Technical Lead Ted Pao reported the Technical Working Group continues to perform spectrum interference monitoring at selected LA-RICS sites to validate the spectrum fingerprinting reports. Technical Lead Pao went on to say the working group meets weekly to go over data collected and discuss the interim results. Technical Lead Pao stated that in addition to the spectrum monitoring, a receiver desensitization test was conducted during the week at Compton Court Building (CCB) that provided a baseline effective receiver sensitivity reading. Technical Lead Pao reiterated, that as reported last month, with better understanding of this issue, it would assist the Authority in the future to assessments of the interference impacting to the system and any mitigation strategy.

Technical lead Pao stated that for the Authority's FCC licensing update, he was pleased to report that the Authority/County have received additional seven (7) UHF licenses from the FCC. Eight (8) applications are still in pending status, three (3) of them are associated with Tejon Peak (TPK) site that are expected to have a longer review and administrative process by the FCC.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item G by Lead Engineer Ted Pao. There was no further discussion.

H. Update on Coastal Commission Sites in the Land Mobile Radio System – Tanya Roth

Deputy Program Manager Tanya Roth provided highlights on the progress of two (2) sites remaining with coastal permitting to be completed. The report included sites TOP-RELAY and MCI.

TOP-RELAY



Deputy Program Manager Roth started her report with TOP-RELAY, which is a LMR site located within a Waterworks compound that also houses a water tank, sensitive Waterworks equipment, and LASD radio infrastructure. The LA-RICS facility would occupy approximately 20% of the overall compound.

Deputy Program Manager Roth said that DRP Planner and Biologist comments were received on Aug 12, 2021, and August 17, 2021, respectively. The Project Team has been working to address all items. The most significant item being the DRPs request for the Authority to replace all existing chain-link with barbed wire fencing at the Waterworks facility with a fencing style that is considered to be more aesthetically pleasing. Waterworks and LASD have both experienced vandalism at the TOP-RELAY site, and are sensitive to fencing that could reduce site security. Staff has engaged in active discussions with DRP in an effort to identify a middle ground that would meet aesthetic code requirements related to fencing, as well as address the security needs of Waterworks, LASD and the Authority.

MCI

Deputy Program Manager Roth stated upon approval of the Engineering Design and Related Services agreement, which would be presented to the Board under Agenda Item J that the Authority team is prepared to run full steam ahead with the MCI site. The Site Access Agreement (SAA) is prepared and ready for full execution. The Site Owner is ready to handover keys to the Authority, and the existing SCE service is ready to be transferred to the Authority's name. Deputy Program Manager Roth went on to say that issuance of a Notice to Proceed (NTP) to the proposed consultant, B&J HBK, Inc., doing business as Brandow and Johnston, would kick off the activities needed to produce the components of a Coastal Development Permit application at the MCI location.

Deputy Program Manager Roth stated as previously reported, that per early consultation with the Coastal Commission, a collocation on the existing 70' lattice tower and within the existing shelter, may qualify for a Coastal Exemption, formally referred to as a Santa Monica Mountains Local Implementation Plan Exemption Determination. Deputy Program Manager Roth stated that engineering assessments that were provided, demonstrate the existing tower and foundation can support the LMR equipment. The Coastal application has been forecasted for submittal before the end of this year.



This concluded the update on Agenda Item H by Deputy Program Manager Roth. There was no further discussion.

I. Outreach Update – Sven Crongeyer

Operations Lead Lieutenant Sven Crongeyer provided the June Outreach Update.

Operations Lead Crongeyer updated the Board with a detailed outreach summary document for the month of August, which was included in the Agenda packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Crongeyer said that a March 3, 2022, meeting date has been set for a LA-RICS presentation at the Sheriff's Contract City Managers' Educational Seminar. Operations Lead Crongeyer went on to say that planning for this event begins in October 2021.

Operations Lead Crongeyer stated the Authority spoke with representatives from the Claremont Police Department last month to discuss dispatch console connectivity, system coverage in the East Cell, and budget planning for onboarding to LA-RICS.

Operations Lead Crongeyer reported that LA-RICS staff had spoken with the radio coordinator for NASA and also with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Operations Lead Crongeyer went on to say they are testing the Cerro Negro (CNR) site for their security department. Operations Lead Crongeyer provided further discussion detail regarding their communications needs, including their desire for interoperability with the LASD and the Pasadena Police Department.

Operations Lead Crongeyer concluded by saying the Authority has been working closely with the Signal Hill Police Department as well as following up with status of their radio code plug, and to see how coverage and testing has been working for their Department.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item I. There was no further discussion.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (J-K)

J. APPROVE AN AGREEMENT FOR LAND MOBILE RADIO (LMR) ENGINEERING DESIGN AND RELATED SERVICES



Contracts Manager Jeanette Arismendez presented Agenda Item J.

Contracts Manager Arismendez requested the Board find the proposed actions exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the activity contemplated are excluded from the definition of a project as further described in the Board Letter.

Manager Arismendez requested the Board's approval of the LMR Engineering and Design Services Agreement with B&J HBK, Inc., doing business as Brandow & Johnston (B&J), in substantially similar form to the Enclosure to the Board Letter, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$229,000 (Two Hundred, Twenty-Nine Thousand Dollars), which, if approved by the Board, would be funded by UASI 2019 Grant.

Contracts Manager Arismendez requested the Board to delegate the authority to the Executive Director to:

- Execute the Agreement substantially similar in form to the Enclosure attached to the Board Letter.
- Approve and execute Amendments to the Agreement that do not impact the total not-to-exceed contract amount, the term, or any terms or conditions of the Agreement, provided any such Amendments are approved as to form by Counsel to the County.
- Issue NTPs for work contemplated in the Agreement.

Contracts Manager Arismendez provided background to the Board by reporting that on January 7, 2021, the Board authorized the Executive Director to enlist the assistance of County Department of Public Works (DPW) for procurement services, in particular for architectural and engineering (A&E) and construction procurement services, for one (1) or more LMR System Sites should more effective site options become available and/or if design related work that could not be accommodated under the existing contract with MSI.

Contracts Manager Arismendez informed the Board that the proposed Agreement presented for their consideration was the result of a successful procurement and negotiation with B&J.

Contracts Manager Arismendez proceeded to provide additional background and went on to say that in June 2021, the Request for Proposals (RFP) was released to the public. Three (3) proposals were received on July 19, 2021. One (1) proposer



withdrew its proposal and the remaining two (2) proposers moved on to the evaluation phase. The Authority entered into negotiations with B&J, was the highest rated Proposer, on August 9, 2021.

Contracts Manager Arismendez stated that the item before the Board was the final negotiated contract with B&J, and therefore the Authority asked for Board approval.

Contracts Manager Arismendez stated that the item before the Board, was the negotiated contract with B&J, therefore the Authority asked for Board approval.

This concluded Agenda Item J presented by Contracts Manager Arismendez. There was no further discussion.

Alternate Chair Vera asked if there was a motion to approve.

Board Member Nunley motioned first, seconded by Board Vice-Chair Osby.

Ayes 9: Geiger, Osby, Vera, Chidester, Solinsky, Rodarte, Walczak, Ridens, and Nunley.

MOTION APPROVED.

K. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 75 – UNILATERAL AMENDMENT NO. 14 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 007 FOR LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM LAND MOBILE RADIO

Contracts Manager Jeanette Arismendez presented Agenda Item K.

Contracts Manager Arismendez requested the Board authorize the approval of Amendment No. 75 / Unilateral Amendment No. 14, to the LMR Agreement with MSI and request the Board to make those certain CEQA findings as set forth in the Board Letter, as well as approve the Agreement in its entirety, which incorporated a Change Order for utility work for the RPVT site, which would result in a cost increase to the Maximum Contract Sum for an amount of \$286,577, if approved by the Board, would be funded by the UASI 19' Grant.

Contracts Manager Arismendez stated it was necessary to proceed with this Change Order at the RPVT site, because it is based on the final power design prepared by SCE, which requires and contemplates extensive electrical underground service,



including boring under fairways and some trenching and the installation of appropriately sized electrical conductors buried 30 inches below grade from the utility meter to the service disconnect located on the building. Contracts Manager Arismendez stated these activities were not previously contemplated because when the site was trued-up the Authority, it did not yet have SCE's final power plan or the easements required to perform the work, but are necessary to complete construction activities at this site.

Contracts Manager Arismendez stated that however, due to the lack of agreement by both parties, the Authority, based on its evaluation of the submittal recommends proceeding with the issuance of Unilateral Amendment No. 14 for this work, absent a consensus with MSI regarding pricing.

- Authorize an increase to the Maximum Contract Sum for an amount of \$286,577 (Two Hundred Eighty-Six Thousand, Five Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars) from \$289,098,311 to \$289,384,888 (Two Hundred Eighty-Nine Million, Three Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand, Eight Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars, which will be funded by the UASI 19' Grant.
- Allow for the issuance of one or more Notices to Proceed for the Work contemplated.
- Delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute Unilateral Amendment No. 14, in substantially similar form, to the Amendment enclosed with your Board Letter package.

This concluded Agenda Item K presented by Contracts Manager Jeanette Arismendez.

There was no further discussion.

Alternate Chair Vera asked if there was a motion to approve.

Board Member Brian Solinsky motioned first, seconded by Board Member Cathy Chidester.

Ayes 9: Geiger, Osby, Vera, Chidester, Solinsky, Rodarte, Walczak, Ridens, and Nunley.

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 10:00 a.m., Counsel Truc Moore stated the Board was back in open session and the Brown Act did not require a report.

XII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

Alternate Board Member Vera called for a motion to adjourn.

The Board meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m., and the next meeting will be held on October 7, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., via Microsoft Teams / Teleconference Meeting.