JOINT OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 · 1:30 p.m.
Microsoft Team Meeting

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
John Geiger, County of Los Angeles, Chief Executive Office
Jeff Morgan, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Jeff LaGreek, At-Large Seat #9
OPERATIONS ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Robert Weber, Chair, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Aaron Fate, Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association
Ric Walczak, At-Large Seat #8
OPERATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT/VACANT:
Dayton Calhoun, Alternate Vice-Chair, County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Vacant, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Vacant, California Contract Cities Association
Vacant, At-Large Seat #10

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
John Geiger, County of Los Angeles, Chief Executive Office
Scott England, Vice-Chair, County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Lipin Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Ted Pao, Chair, Los Angeles County Internal Services Department
Jeff LaGreek, At-Large Seat #9
TECHNICAL ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Robert Weber, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Ric Walczak, At-Large Seat #8
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT/VACANT:
Vacant, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Vacant, California Contract Cities Association
Vacant, At-Large Seat #10

OFFICERS PRESENT:
Scott Edson, LA-RICS Executive Director
Susy Orellana-Curtiss, LA-RICS Administrative Deputy
Beatriz Cojulun, LA-RICS Committee Secretary

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

I.   CALL TO ORDER

Operations Committee Chair Lieutenant Robert Weber called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

II.   ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL

Beatriz Cojulun acknowledged a quorum was present for both Joint Operations and Technical Committees (Joint Committees).

III.   APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A.   July 19, 2022 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Operations Chair Weber asked the Committees for approval of the minutes.

Technical Committee Vice-Chair Scott England motioned first, seconded by Technical Committee Chair Ted Pao.

Operations Committee
Ayes 6:   Geiger, Weber, Morgan, Fate, Walczak, and LaGreek.

Technical Committee
Ayes 7:   Geiger, England, Weber, Tan, Pao, Walczak, and LaGreek.

MOTION APPROVED.

IV.   PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

There was no public comment.

V.   CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE

There were no Consent Calendar items.

VI.   REPORTS (B - D)

B.   Land Mobile Radio System Update – Steve Page

Acting Project Manager Steve Page presented Agenda item B the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System Update.

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August Successes

Acting Project Manager Page reported that in August 2022, the Phase 2 team's focus was on construction at the MCI site above Malibu, with large portion of the work complete, and Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) performing some of their activities inside the shelter as the final construction items are worked on.

Acting Project Manager Page shared that review of MSI's coverage test results has been continuing, along with significant progress on the Closeout Books for both Phase 2 and Phase 4, which has also been a challenge.

August Challenges

Acting Project Manager Page stated the move towards permanent power at the Green Mountain (GRM) site continues to be a challenge, with the Authority working with the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and State Parks for an easement. Acting Project Manager Page expressed the ball is in the court of State Parks' as of last week, with the project description having been forwarded up the chain of command.

Acting Project Manager Page further reported that moving towards the activation and subsequent release of Part 1 of the Narrowband Mobile Date Network (NMDN) system later in September has continued to be a challenge with the Closeout Books for all of the sites being connected to NMDN in any way (whether a NMDN site or part of the backhaul for those sites) being a prerequisite.

Key Program Metrics

Acting Project Manager Page mentioned that as with last month, the number of sites has not changed now that Catalina is done, and until MCI is complete, these numbers will not change substantially.

Phase 2 Substantially Complete

Acting Project Manager Page said the sole and final site is MCI, which is currently under construction.

Acting Project Manager Page presented a PowerPoint Presentation map indicating that until MCI site is completed, the map will remain the same with the yellow pins representing substantially completed sites and MCI site as the sole pin in red.

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<u>Phase 4 Installed</u>

Acting Project Manager Page reiterated that all of the sites except for MCI, which is pending Phase 4 installation, should have significant progress over the course of the next couple of months.

<u>Sites Optimized</u>

Acting Project Manager Page reported that as of right now, the Authority has fifty-two (52) sites optimized. Acting Project Manager Page mentioned a few of months ago, once the Authority received primary power to these sites, MSI was able to allocate appropriate resources to optimize sites and get them prepared for coverage testing.

<u>Sites on-air</u>

Acting Project Manager Page shared the Authority still stands at forty-eight (48) site on the air, with the West cell sites, San Pedro Hill (SPH) (which is currently under optimization), and Burnt Peak 1 (BUR1) being those remaining to come online.

<u>Still to Come</u>

Acting Project Manager Page stated that this month, the team will be focusing on the construction at MCI site, with staff being on site almost each day to keep the construction on track.

Acting Project Manager Page concluded by saying the Authority is getting ready for the go-live of the NMDN 1 portion of the system later this month.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item B presented by Acting Project Manager Page. There was no further discussion.

Committee Member John Geiger requested that Acting Project Manager Page distribute a copy of his PowerPoint Presentation to the Joint Committee Members. Acting Project Manager Page stated that he would have the Board Secretary provide distribute it to the Joint Committee Members.

C. **Regional ISSI Interoperability Working Group Update** – Scott England

Technical Alternate Lead Scott England, from the County of Los Angeles (County) Fire Department (LACoFD), reported that operations done on the Inter Subsystem Interface (ISSI) is still with the Port of Los Angeles (POLA) Authority. Alternate Technical Chair England went on to say that technical connectivity has been establish, as well as a better understanding of the path moving forward. Alternate

Technical Chair England further stated that MSI is reaching out to the POLA Authority to provide them with the cost and as to what will be the connectivity. Alternate Technical Chair England concluded by saying the Authority is waiting on MSI's report.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item C presented by Acting Project Manager Page. There was no further discussion.

D.   **Spectrum and Licensing Issues Impacting Land Mobile Radio Deployment Update** – Ted Pao

Technical Chair Pao provided a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) license update, the Authority is still waiting for the two (2) Tejon Peak (TPK) licenses to be granted by the FCC. Technical Chair Pao said that one of the licenses was for the Narrowband Mobile Data Network (NMDM) and the other license is for the Analog Conventional Voice Radio System (ACVRS).

Technical Chair Pao stated that for interference issues, MSI has conducted the interference data collection at Signal Hill (SGH), Mount Disappointment (MDI), and Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Center (CCT). Technical Chair Pao went on to say the vendor continues conducting post process work on the data collected. Technical Chair Pao said the Authority expects to receive reports this month or beginning of next month, which he stated would report the results next meeting to the Joint Committee.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item D presented by Technical Chair Pao. There was no further discussion.

E.   **Alert Wildfires** – Scott England

Alternate Technical Chair England presented a PowerPoint Presentation on Alert Wildfire, in which he stated that it was a video monitoring system that utilizes the communication sites to help spot wild fires and give situational awareness for public safety. Alternate Technical Chair England provided a website link that would be used throughout his presentation, as well as sharing the presentation later on for everyone's reference.

Alternate Technical Chair England provided further information and shared that Alert Wildfire is led by University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is a consortium of education institutes, utility companies, and fire services agencies. Alternate Technical Chair England went on to say that while the LA-RICS Project works with Alert Wildfire in an effort to see if the project would like to have Alert Wildfire at sites, the Authority wanted to come up with a Proof of Concept.

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Alternate Technical Chair England shared that once Proof of Concept and testing are looked at, the Authority will provide findings and recommendations for the Joint Committees

Alternate Technical Chair England stated the Proof of Concept was to install Alert Wildfire at two (2) of the LA-RICS sites Whitaker Middle Peak (WPK) and Whitaker Ridge (WTR). Alternate Technical Chair England informed the Joint Committees that a Statement of Work was created in order to install all of the equipment from towers, to layout, and to the power, which were all of the infrastructure from each of the sites that were agreed upon when the Authority moved to the installation phase.

Alternate Technical Chair England went on to say the installation phase was successful, the Authority was able to install all of the equipment with no issues, no hassles, everything went in accordance. Alternate Technical Chair England further said the Authority was able to get the system up and online, with the first video cameras actually covering the Interstate 5 Freeway (I-5 corridor) which determined the path that Alert Wildfire wanted in order to view and being able to get it up and going online.

Alternate Technical Chair England stated that within the first two (2) weeks of installation the first fire started and the cameras were able to provide live images and allowed the Authority to respond and see as it was put-out. Alternate Technical Chair England expressed the system was very useful and provided a lot of information for when the Authority deploy it. Alternate Technical Chair England felt that a lot was gained therefore started applying it to some of the applications, which allowed the Authority to put some of the video applications on the Authority's Mobile Data Computers (MDCs) which is something that has been worked on, the corresponding fire fighters have been moving towards it as they see it on their MDCs. Alternate Technical Chair England went on to say that it was also incorporated by the State of California and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) and incorporated it to the tactical analyst applications that every fire agency now has access to it and that all of the cameras in Southern California have the view, as well as application for situational awareness.

Alternate Technical Chair England further stated that Alert Wildfire wants to donate the equipment to LA-RICS, as well as the installation at LA-RICS sites. Alternate Technical Chair England stated that Alert Wildfire will do all of the installations, maintain the equipment, they will pay for the space and backhaul, and once all of the grants are closed out and the system is signed over, they would move all of the infrastructure to LA-RICS backhaul. Alternate Technical Chair England reported that Alert Wildfire reviewed all of LA-RICS communications sites and came up with a prioritized list, which would have the biggest impact for the system that is up and currently online, as well as being able to see the Authority's sixteen (16) sites, as

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well as see where there are holes in their system. Alternate Technical Chair England further reported that WMP has a big hole where the I-5 corridor, between Tejon – Castiac Lake, therefore, it is a big help to the Alert Wildfire application and the safety agencies responding, confirming that it was a very successful proof of concept test. Alternate Technical Chair England further shared that based on that proof of concept the Joint Committees recommend the JPA Board accept Alert Wildfire equipment and the system installation, which had a big impact on public safety and improved security at the LA-RICS sites, which further provides additional public safety resources. Alternate Technical Chair England concluded by saying this proof of concept reflected the goal the Authority has been trying to achieve.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber commended the team on their work on the proof of concept, which has been very helpful given the current California fires, as well as how much more helpful it will be in the future. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated the Authority's mission of interoperability with LA-RICS and given the team of firefighters in the field getting the information before they get to the fire in an effort to mitigate the current fires that are ongoing throughout the State.

Joint Committee Member Geiger asked about what comprised the Alert Wildfire system, in regards to installation what was actually being offered, the equipment that would be used, the software, etc. Alternate Technical Chair England said the equipment would be new video cameras that had zoom capabilities, control boxed with all of the equipment, terminal for power, and Cradlepoints broadband router to avoid going into the Authority's infrastructure, so that all of the backhaul video goes straight across the cellular companies. Alternate Technical Chair England said that once the system is accepted, the intent would be to move over the video to the Authority's backhaul to anything that is available in order to provide a more reliable infrastructure, with very minimal impact.

Alternate Technical Chair England said he would like to recommend the Joint Power Authority approve the item, especially since Alert Wildfire has donated the equipment, allowing the Authority to avoid issues with space, lease, or anything else, therefore, the equipment would belong to LA-RICS and Alert Wildfire would provide installation, maintenance, and payment of the backhaul.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss said the item was inadvertently agendized as a report and how it has been presented, but did want to this item be presented to the Board as a recommendation that included the Joint Committee had a meeting and the opportunity to discuss Alert Wildfire Program and what proposed for deployment, this way the Joint Committee would have included its recommendation. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss went on to say that since this item was not agendized as an action item, she proposed and asked the Joint Committees if they would like to include in the presentation to the Board that Joint Committees had an opportunity to review the information, did not have any

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questions nor express any concerns, if the Joint Committees was comfortable with that.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber asked if there were any questions and if the Joint Committee would like to take the item be taken as an action item, he then asked for a motion to recommend the JPA Board accept and approve the Alert Wildfire equipment and system installation based on the successful proof of concept.

Joint Committee Member Geiger did not feel the item was properly presented as an action item and would like more details provided on what the ongoing commitment would be and if this would be migrated to LA-RICS. Joint Committee Member Geiger stated the early information in the report sounded very promising, but would like a more holistic analysis of what that proof of concept entails and what it affects, the advantages/disadvantages, level of commitment, etc., especially since the Committees are being asked to endorse the proof of concept, he would like more details before endorsing for consideration by the Board.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss stated that moving forward with the proof of concept installation connectivity to the LA-RICS backhaul, would be done until the Authority approached acceptance, which prior to that time, the Joint Committee could return with a more detailed agreement that would include how Alert Wildfire would use the LA-RICS backhaul.

Joint Committee Member Geiger stated that while it is nice to have a no cost proof of concept and sounds promising, he would like to see a broader analysis, as well as a written response hearing back from the County stakeholders, the County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department (ISD), as well as to hear more from the Subject Matter Expert (SME) as to the short-term affect, the long-term opportunities, length of term commitment, whether or not it is a stand-alone system, if it interfaces with Countywide operations, since he believes there is a protocol for analysis on that.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber said that if further information would be needed then Scott England would provide further information, but if written information or a response from the County stakeholders was needed, the item could be tabled. Joint Committee Member Geiger stated there was no need to table, since the current item was a report and not an action item.

Alternate Technical Chair England reported that as of right now, it was deployed and completely outside, which is only connected to the LA-RICS towers as they provide the backhaul. Alternate Technical Chair England went on to say the only thing happening is the Authority is using the power at the site to minimal power. Alternate Technical Chair England further said they are completely independent and would donate the equipment to LA-RICS and install it completely separate.

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Alternate Technical Chair England mentioned that is why they wanted to have a separate installation until system acceptance. Alternate Technical Chair England further mentioned that once accepted, then maybe the Authority could talk about taking payments from them for the backhaul utilization integration, how that looks, and how that impacts LA-RICS. Alternate Technical Chair England expressed this was just a way to get up the cameras as quick as possible during this fire season, in an effort to actually fill in those gaps. Alternate Technical Chair England said this was a high-level PowerPoint overview that would provide everyone with up to-date information, which was not the actual report. Joint Committee Member Geiger stated he would like further information before even endorsing the current report that would go to the Board.

Executive Director Edson stated asked Joint Committee Member Geiger if there was something that could be currently done to provide a partial resolve for the Joint Committees to move forward the proof of concept and present it to the Board at a Special meeting, especially because the fire season is still ongoing. The Authority will attain the details of the proof of concept and would give the details after the proof of concept and a new report to the Board before it truly impacts the LA-RICS System. Joint Committee Member Geiger said that it would be best to take it forward not as a recommended item from the Joint Committees, but something the Joint Committees have been made aware of and provide more detailed SME reports at that Special Board meeting. At which point, Executive Director Edson thanked Joint Committee Member Geiger for his input.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item D presented by Operations Chair Lt. Weber. There was no further discussion.

VII.   DISCUSSION ITEMS – NONE

VIII.   ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – (F)

F.   2023 SCHEDULE FOR LA-RICS JOINT OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE'S MEETINGS

Operations Chair Weber presented Agenda Item F for the Joint Committee to approve the following dates for the calendar year 2023 Joint Operations and Technical Committees' Regular Meeting Schedule:

- January 17
- March 21
- May 16
- July 18
- September 19
- November 21

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All Regular Meetings would be held at 1:30 p.m. Pacific Time via Microsoft Teams until further notice.

Operations Chair Weber asked for a motion of approval.

Joint Committees Member Geiger motioned first, seconded by Technical Committee Vice-Chair England.

Operations Committee
Ayes 6:   Geiger, Weber, Morgan, Fate, Walczak, and LaGreek.

Technical Committee
Ayes 7:   Geiger, England, Weber, Tan, Pao, Walczak, and LaGreek.

MOTION APPROVED.

IX.   MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

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

XI.   CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE

XII.   ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Operations Chair Weber called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Joint Committee Meeting. Technical Lead Pao motioned first.

Operations Chair Weber adjourned the Regular Joint Operations and Technical Committee Meeting at 2:59 p.m. and the next Joint Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 1:30 p.m., via Microsoft Teams Meeting.

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