



BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

Thursday, September 22, 2022 • 9:00 a.m.
Conducted via Microsoft Teams Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Tadeo, Director, EMS Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Phil Ambrose, Battalion Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Mark Fronterotta, Police Chief, City of Inglewood Police Department

ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Geiger, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office
Eleni Pappas, Alternate Vice-Chair, Deputy Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Brian Yanagi, Alternate Chair, Acting Chief, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Tom Jacobs, Lieutenant, Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association
Ric Walczak, Captain, Police Chief, City of Covina Police Department

OFFICERS PRESENT

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT

Mark R. Alexander, City Manager, California Contract Cities Association
Brian Leyn, Captain, City of Signal Hill Police Department



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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Alternate Board Chair Brian Yanagi called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 9:01 a.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

There was no public comment.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR (A)

A. FINDINGS TO CONTINUE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER AB 361 AND RELATED ACTIONS

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked if there were no questions, since there were none, he went on to ask for a motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda Item A.

Board Member Richard Tadeo motioned first, seconded by Board Member Mark Fronterotta.

Ayes 8: Geiger, Pappas, Yanagi, Tadeo, Ambrose, Jacobs, Walczak, and Fronterotta.

MOTION APPROVED.

VI. REPORTS – NONE

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (B)

B. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT EQUIPMENT ON A GRATIS BASIS

Administrative Deputy Susy Orellana-Curtiss presented Agenda Item B, and walked them through the three (3) recommended actions:



Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss presented the first of three action items and said to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute a receipt, which is in substantially similar form to the document within the Enclosure, which will allow the Executive Director to accept certain donated equipment, as well as donated installation and maintenance services at select LMR sites on a gratis basis.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss went on to presented the second action item, to accept additional equipment, as well as installation and corresponding maintenance services and execute additional receipts substantially similar to the one in the Enclosure, between the Authority and the Regents, if any additional equipment is provided by the Regents on a gratis basis.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss presented the third and final recommendation, to delegate authority to the Executive Director to amend any agreements, including but not limited to, Site Access Agreements (SAAs), permits to enter, leases permits, equipment license agreements, or any other ancillary documentation necessary to accept, install, operate, and/or maintain equipment donated by the Regents, on a gratis basis, in connection with the Alert Wildfire camera system.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss highlighted to the Board there is no procurement to be considered, as it is a donation from the Regents of the University of California, and a receipt in the Board's packet reflects acceptance of that donated equipment. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss said that once the Board approved the item, the equipment would then become property/equipment of LA-RICS and given such, that equipment would be installed in accordance with the Authority's executed SAA's at certain LMR sites. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss stated that County Counsel reviewed the actions presented to the Board and reported there were two (2) Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), Technical Committee Vice-Chair Scott England and Technical Lead Ted Pao, that provided the Board with additional information including technical and operational details.

Technical Committee Vice-Chair Scott England, a Consulting Telecommunication Systems Engineer with the County of Los Angeles (County) Fire Department (LACoFD) and the Authority, stated that Alert Wildfires is a consortium of universities, led by the University of California, San Diego; University of Nevada; and University of Oregon. Technical Committee Vice-Chair England reported that Alert Wildfire provides access to hundreds of state-of-the-art cameras on communications towers across the Southwestern side of the United States to firefighters and first responders. Technical Committee Vice-Chair England stated that California Fire, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), United States Forest Services (USFS), LACoFD, and many other fire agencies use Alert Wildfire to spot, size-up, and to provide situational awareness for these wildland fires. Technical Committee Vice-Chair England stated that since LACoFD uses the Wildfire system, LACoFD has identified many areas in the County that do



not have coverage where LA-RICS sites can provide such coverage. Technical Vice-Chair England shared that LACoFD is in full support of the Alert Wildfire System and using LA-RICS sites to fill the blind spots. Technical Committee Vice-Chair England said that Technical Lead Pao would provide an overview of the Alert Wildfire Backhaul System and how they work.

Technical Lead Ted Pao informed the Board that Alert Wildfire would be using commercial broadband, as provided by AT&T or Verizon, to backhaul its video. Technical Lead Pao went on to say this would not cause any disruption to LA-RICS or County systems. Technical Lead Ted Pao said the Authority would consider carrying the video on the Authority's microwave system at a later time, and when that time comes the Authority would seek approval from the Board.

Technical Lead Pao shared that from a system operator perspective, having the cameras will not only help with the operation of the LMR sites, in particular at these very remote ridge top sites where often time there is a need to see the immediate site condition, such as wind, rain, snow, and ice. Technical Lead Pao went on to provide examples, such as when there are windy conditions, there is no need to send a tower crew up to the site for any scheduled or unscheduled work, because it would not be safe for them to climb the tower. Technical Lead Pao further stated that the Internal Services Department (ISD) also uses cameras at many sites for its security and site situational awareness. Technical Lead Pao said that during the Lake and Bobcat fires, ISD also used cameras for fire monitoring. Technical Lead Pao expressed that cameras are a valuable resource and useful for a site manager and for its operator. Technical Lead concluded his report.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked if any Board Member had any questions, technical or otherwise.

Alternate Board Member John Geiger thanked Technical Lead Pao and Technical Committee Vice-Chair England for their comprehensive reports. Alternate Board Member Geiger referenced the Alert Wildfire Agenda item at the Joint Operations and Technical Committee meeting that took place on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, in which he had questions but the reports from this meeting addressed his concerns thoroughly and he continued to feel this is a noteworthy project and engagement and moved to adopt the item as agendaized.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked if Alert Wildfire provided any challenges as far as indemnification to the LA-RICS systems, as well if LA-RICS assumed any shared liability as part of the endeavor. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss responded by saying that LA-RICS is free and clear in any liability, and as for the Regents, as contributor or donor of the equipment, is also providing LA-RICS these services which they would carry out, including its maintenance once installed. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss went on to add the language that was included in the



receipts was intended to clarify that, for both parties, which would be signed by LA-RICS and the Regents of California.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked if there were no questions, since there were none, he went on to ask for a motion to approve Agenda Item B.

Alternate Board Member Geiger motioned first, seconded by Board Member Fronterotta.

Ayes 8: Geiger, Pappas, Yanagi, Tadeo, Ambrose, Jacobs, Walczak, and Fronterotta.

MOTION APPROVED.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

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

XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE

XII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Board Member Tadeo motioned first.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 9:24 a.m., and stated the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on October 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., via Microsoft Teams / Teleconference Meeting.

APPROVED