



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

Thursday, October 6, 2022 • 9:00 a.m.
Conducted via Microsoft Teams Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Phil Ambrose, Battalion Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Brian Solinsky, Chief, Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association
Mark R. Alexander, City Manager, California Contract Cities Association
David Povero, Police Chief, City of Covina Police Department
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
Jacqueline Rifenburg, Assistant Director, EMS Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services

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

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 (A – B)

A. September 1, 2022 – Regular Minutes

Agenda Item A

B. September 22, 2022 – Special Minutes

Agenda Item B

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked the Board if there were any corrections, clarifications, or comments to the attached Regular and Special meeting minutes. There were no corrections, clarifications, or comments, therefore, he asked for a motion to approve.

Board Member David Povero motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Jacqueline Rifenburg.

Ayes 9: Geiger, Pappas, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Ambrose, Solinsky, Alexander, Povero, and Fronterotta.

MOTION APPROVED.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

There was no public comment.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR (C)

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



Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked for a motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda Item C.

Board Member John Geiger motioned first, seconded by Board Member Brian Solinsky.

Ayes 9: Geiger, Pappas, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Ambrose, Solinsky, Alexander, Povero, and Fronterotta.

MOTION APPROVED.

VI. REPORTS (D - G)

D. Director's Report – Scott Edson

Executive Director Scott Edson stated as reported last month, the Authority met with Assembly Member Tom Lackey who presented the Authority with a symbolic check of \$18.6 million dollars appropriated through the State Budget Act of 2022. Executive Director Edson stated Assembly Member Lackey has been the Authority's true champion for this funding along with his partner from the State Senate, Senator Maria Elena Durazo. Executive Director Edson shared that he, Deputy Chief Eleni Pappas from the County of Los Angeles (County) Fire Department (LACoFD), Chief Brian Yanagi from the County Sheriff's Department (LASD), and Assistant Director Jacqueline Rifenburg from the County Department of Health/Emergency Medical Services (DHS/EMS) Agency, along with Captain Cardell Hurt from Inglewood Police Department, were all present to accept the symbolic check. Executive Director Edson went on to say the media was invited, with one (1) network present, and other networks and stations reaching out following the event for additional information. Executive Director Edson thanked Deputy Chief Pappas for an excellent interview with one of the radio stations.

Executive Director Edson thanked Fire Chief Anthony Marrone and LACoFD for hosting the media event, managing notifications to the press, handling all the logistics, and coordination needed for the successful presentation by Assembly Member Lackey.

Executive Director Edson shared that about ten (10) days ago the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) requested the Authority complete and submit the Pass Through Grant Subaward and Payee Data Record forms in relation to the State funds, which the Authority is expecting to see the \$18.6 million deposited soon.

Executive Director Edson shared the project continues to be in good shape as the system is finished and Full System acceptance is still scheduled for October of 2023. Executive Director Edson further reported the narrowband data network is



the first subsystem to be accepted and although it was scheduled for last month, it has been delayed due to various issues and is now scheduled to take place on October 18, 2022. Executive Director Edson said that LACoFD will cutover and use the narrowband data network as their primary data network. Executive Director Edson further stated the narrowband data network is truly a private public safety data network built out over the Authority's sites and to public safety grade. Executive Director Edson added that it can be used exclusively, or transparently in parallel with cellular data networks that is Verizon, AT&T, and FirstNet.

Executive Director Edson informed the Board that accepting the system now, by subsystem, with the narrowband data network being the first one, has presented the need for a bridge agreement to warranty the network between now and system acceptance in October of 2023. Executive Director Edson went on to say that those negotiations with Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) are ongoing, however, the Authority was unable to come to an agreement by today's meeting, and likely will address the bridge at a Special Board Meeting next week.

Executive Director Edson reported that MCI site is overall good with only the tower work remaining that includes line sweeps and weather proofing, which is scheduled for completion in two (2) weeks. Executive Director Edson shared that all of the radio and Direct Current (DC) Power equipment has been installed, as well as the completion of the fire suppression system. Executive Director Edson reported that all construction work is expected to complete next week by the contractor, Metrocell. Executive Director Edson said that MSI is making all final connections at the equipment racks and plans to start optimizing and testing the MCI site starting next month, on November 2, 2022, and should finish on December 15, 2022.

Executive Director Edson informed the Board that unfortunately the GRM site has yet to have commercial utility power. Executive Director Edson further stated the team has aggressively pursued both State Parks and City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to complete their design and review processes, which has been a challenge. Executive Director Edson said that once State Parks agrees that utility pole size, color, and location are acceptable as proposed by LADWP, then the start of installation work can finally begin. Executive Director Edson believes the good news now is that progress is being made to obtain commercial power at GRM. Executive Director Edson stated that Acting Project Manager Steve Page would cover this and more in his LMR System Update report immediately following this Director's Report in Agenda Item E.

Executive Director Edson acknowledged that Operations Lead Lt. Robert Weber would report on the Joint Operations and Technical (Joint) Committee Meeting under Agenda Item F and again on Outreach under Agenda Item I. Executive Director Edson stated LASD had a communications failure recently and the LA-RICS system was able to assist, to which Operations Lead Weber would also speak on that item.



Executive Director Edson informed the Board that Ted Pao would provide an update on Spectrum issues under Agenda Item H.

Executive Director Edson let the Board know that Agenda Item J is the only action item presented to them today per previous month's discussion item, where the Board was asked to elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

Executive Director Edson stated that at next month's meeting the Board should expect to see an agenda item for consideration on returning to in-person meetings. Executive Director Edson said that as he understands, technically and legally the Board could continue teleconferencing, but the Board also has no restrictions to preclude them from returning to in-person meetings either; it is a Board decision.

Executive Director Edson took the opportunity to thank Board Member Mark Alexander for his assistance in ensuring the Authority updates the Contract City Association members on LA-RICS. Executive Director Edson stated the Authority has calendared a presentation to the membership at their City Managers Summit later in the month and expressed that he was very much looking forward to the event.

This concluded the report on Agenda Item D by Executive Director Edson. There was no further discussion.

E. Project Manager's Report – Steve Page

Acting Project Manager Steve Page greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item E.

September Successes

Acting Project Manager Page reported that in September, the Phase 2 team's focus was on the completion of construction at the MCI site above Malibu, audit walks and related punch list resolution, as well as the review and subsequent approval of certain Closeout Books.

September Challenges

Acting Project Manager Page mentioned the move towards permanent power at the GRM site continues to be a challenge, as Executive Director Edson said, with the Authority working with LADWP and State Parks for an easement. Acting Project Manager Page further reported that in late in September, all the parties aligned and are working through the writing of the relevant Rights of Entry and easement documents. Acting Project Manager Page went on to say that later in the afternoon the Authority would be meeting with LADWP to go over the description documents



that is required for State Parks to review for their approval in order to begin construction.

Acting Project Manager Page said the next portion of the Closeout Book program includes the requirement of the System Documentation binders for each site to be approved. Acting Project Manager Page shared that MSI provided fifty-eight (58) books in September for review by staff, which is now in process and anticipated to be completed before the Narrowband Mobile Data Network 1 (NMDM1) cutover on October 18, 2022.

Key Program Metrics

Acting Project Manager Page said that as with last month, the number of sites has not changed, and will not change until the Authority does the final sign off for MCI to be completed, which is expected to be complete from the Phase 2 site within the next week.

Phase 2 Substantially Complete

Acting Project Manager Page shared a PowerPoint slide reflecting a map representing substantially completed sites in yellow and expressed that until the Authority gets the final sign off for MCI, the map would continue to reflect with MCI site as the sole pin in red.

Phase 4 Installed

Acting Project Manager Page continued to show the same image and said the sole red pin pending Phase 4 installation is MCI which did see significant progress over the course of the summer, and is extremely close to completion, as the Executive Director Edson mentioned, the Authority is going through weather proofing of the connectors that are outdoors and line sweep that should be completed within the next two (2) weeks.

Sites Optimized

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



Sites On-air

Acting Project Manager Page mentioned the Authority has forty-eight (48) sites on the air, with the West Cell sites, San Pedro Hill (SPH), and Burnt Peak (BUR1) being those remaining to come online.

Network Management

As mentioned a few months ago, Acting Project Manager Page said the Authority started discussing some of the technical portions of moving from a Phase 2 focused to Phase 4 focused program, and this month, the Authority wants to take a quick look at the management of the radio system.

Acting Project Manager Page as aforementioned in the site roaming discussion, the System Managers have the ability to create 'profiles' in the network to control how radios act on the system. Acting Project Manager Page explained that while profiling is normally a bad thing, in this case it is well worth the effort that is put in, and helps manage the finite resources System Managers have in the radio system. Acting Project Manager Page further explained that at the network level, System Managers have the ability to restrict certain TalkGroups, or even certain radios, to specific sites. Acting Project Manager Page said System Managers can even restrict a TalkGroup to sites that are only 700 MHz, or only UHF, as the operations require, and this is all part of the review the Joint Committees perform when bringing new users and requirements to the system, in order to balance loading and ensure we meet the requirements of the end-users.

Acting Project Manager Page stated the Joint Committees meet to discuss users that are potentially coming on the system, and part of that includes an analysis of the data created by the system. Acting Project Manager Page went on to say there are two (2) specific parts, the preliminary set-up in the Network Management terminal, which allows radios to use the system, and the metrics that are generated and logged. Acting Project Manager Page shared that once System Managers allow a radio onto the system, any time that radio interacts with the network, a record is created. Acting Project Manager Page expressed that every hour, megabytes of data is created which can be used to generate informative and colorful reports for management.

Acting Project Manager Page believes this is completely different from the way things were previously done, as way back in the day, the only opportunity the Authority had for 'metrics' was an electric clock connected to a receiver that would measure total elapsed time. Acting Project Manager Page explained that in one of the better texts on the topic, Captain Alan Burton from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department, wrote about this in 1973, and the methods he described were in use for decades. Acting Project Manager Page said it was only with the advent of computerized radio systems that more detailed metrics become available. Acting



Project Manager Page further explained that with more advanced number crunching computers and related software such as Tableau and PowerBI, the Authority now has the ability to drill down into some seriously big data. Acting Project Manager Page expressed that times certainly have changed.

Acting Project Manager Page provided an example of that and said that System Managers use data provided from regarding one (1) of the Authority's agencies to analyze their loading requirements, and present the results to the Joint Committees for approval. Acting Project Manager Page went on to say that System Managers can also take data generated by the Authority's system to analyze the system's performance and make recommendations for changes.

Acting Project Manager Page stated the end result of all this is the ability to accurately manage the capacity of the system to ensure maximum operational availability.

October Areas of Focus

Acting Project Manager Page reported that this month, the team would be focusing on the finalization of work at MCI, with staff being on site almost each day to keep the construction on track and would also be keeping a close eye on the NMDN 1 cutover, starting October 18, 2022, to make sure the subsystem comes online and is operating optimally for the end-users in the field.

This concluded the presentation and report on Agenda Item E by Acting Project Manager Page. There was no further discussion.

F. Joint Operations and Technical Chair's Report – Operations Lead Lieutenant Robert Weber

Operations Lead Lieutenant Robert Weber reported that on September 20, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. the Joint Committees Meeting was held.

Operations Lead Weber mentioned the Joint Committee heard items on LMR Update presented by Acting Project Manager Steve Page, as reported today, in regard to MCI, ongoing testing, and Closeout Books; Technical Vice-Chair from LACoFD, Scott England, reported on Inter Subsystem Interface (ISSI) Interoperability Working Group, which all is moving forward; Technical Lead, Ted Pao, of the County Internal Services Department (ISD) gave an update on Spectrum and Licensing Issues; and Technical Vice-Chair provided another report on the Alert Wildfire System and Proof of Concept that was later presented at a Board meeting. Operations Lead Weber stated the meeting closed with mention of the next Joint Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2022.



This concluded the presentation and report on Agenda Item F by Operations Lead Weber. There was no further discussion.

G. Finance Committee Chair's Report – None

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (H – I)

H. Spectrum and Licensing Issues Impacting Land Mobile Radio Deployment – Ted Pao

Technical Lead Ted Pao provided an update on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), to which he stated the Authority is still waiting for the two (2) Tejon Peak (TPK) licenses to be granted by the FCC. Technical Lead Pao said that one is for the NMDM and the other is for the Analog Conventional Voice Radio System (ACVRS).

Technical Lead Pao stated as Executive Director Edson's report, LACoFD will be transitioning its mobile data network onto LA-RICS starting October 18, 2022. Technical Lead Pao further stated that working with LACoFD to extend the Authority's temporary special license for the narrowband data transmitter for TPK to ensure there is uninterrupted operation

Technical Lead Pao said that in respect to interference issues MSI has conducted the interference data collection at Signal Hill (SGH), Mount Disappointment (MDI), and the Criminal Courts Building (CCT). Technical Lead Pao went on to say the vendor is conducting post process work on the data collected. Technical Lead Pao said the Authority should be getting the reports this month and would report the results next month to the Board, if the Authority receives the report from MSI.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item H. There was no further discussion.

I. Outreach Update – Lieutenant Robert Weber

Operations Lead Lieutenant Robert Weber greeted Board members and referenced the detailed Outreach Summary document for the month of September included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Weber reported that Authority staff and personnel from LACoFD traveled to Catalina Island to conduct outreach and planning with several agencies including Avalon Fire Department, Avalon Harbor Patrol, and the LACoFD's Bay Watch Station. Operations Lead Weber also reported the meetings were organized by Battalion Chief Dayton Calhoun and Captain August Dougherty. Operations Lead Weber further reported the trip was very productive, and the information obtained would be used by the LACoFD and the LA-RICS team going forward. Operations Lead Weber stated that Authority staff assisted with and attended



several weeks of critical system training provided by MSI. Operations Lead Weber shared that training covered basic Digital Trunked Voice Radio Subsystem (DTVRS) concepts, radio code plug building, and fleet mapping. Operations Lead Weber said that Authority staff continued to conduct meetings and planning with personnel from the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department's (LASD) Communications and Fleet Management Bureau (CFMB) regarding full station testing in the very near future. Operations Lead Weber provide a current update and shared that testing will be done later this week at one of the LASD Station.

Operations Lead Weber stated that on September 28, 2022, a power failure caused a County microwave length to go down in the East County area affecting LASD stations at City of Industry, Temple City, San Dimas, and Walnut, with communications issues in coordination with the CFMB and Authority staff, the LA-RICS system was used to bridge the gap and was used for approximately four (4) hours until the issue was repaired. Operations Lead Weber went on to say the system worked very well and received positive comments from station personnel.

Operations Lead Weber informed the Board that Director Edson and Members of the Authority staff tentatively plan to present a short system update to the California Contract Cities Association during the last week of October 2022.

Operations Lead Weber said that Authority staff conducted outreach at Cerritos College Police Department. Operations Lead Weber went on to say the command staff at the Police Department is evaluating its communication needs and the possibility of using LA-RICS. Operations Lead Weber expressed that Authority staff would work closely with the Department to ensure their needs are met.

Operations Lead Weber concluded by saying that Authority staff members have continued close contact with our State and Federal partners to ensure interoperability during major events and to further collaborate on regional public safety communication.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item I. Operations Lead Weber asked if there were any questions. There was no further discussion.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (J)

J. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Executive Director Edson informed the Board that based on last month's discussion regarding the current positions held by Chair and Vice-Chairperson, the Board discussed and opted to support Chief Yanagi from LASD remain as Chair and LACoFD Chief Anthony Marrone remain as Vice-Chair. This item was open for discussion and/or vote.



Board Member Alexander motioned first to support Chair and Vice-Chair remain as discussed, seconded by Alternate Member Geiger.

Ayes 9: Geiger, Pappas, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Ambrose, Solinsky, Alexander, Povero, and Fronterotta.

Counsel to the Authority, Truc Moore, confirmed for the record that LASD is Chair and LACoFD is Vice-Chairperson.

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 9:24 a.m.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –Anticipated Litigation (subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9) (2 cases).
2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION [Government Code Section 54957(b)(a)] Title: Executive Director

The Board returned from Closed Session at 10:08 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 Chair Yanagi called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Alternate Board Member Eleni Pappas motioned first.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 10:09 a.m., and stated the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on November 3, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., via Microsoft Teams / Teleconference Meeting.