



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL  
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Thursday, May 4, 2023 • 9:00 a.m.

## BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

**Vincent Capelle**, Fire Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association

**Mark Alexander**, City Manager, California Contract Cities Association

**David Povero**, Chief of Police, City of Covina Police Department

## ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

**Leslie Luke**, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Management, 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, Chief, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

**Jacqueline Rifenburg**, Assistant Director, EMS Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services

**Neal Cochran**, Captain, City of Inglewood Police Department

## OFFICERS PRESENT

**Scott Edson**, LA-RICS Executive Director

**Ronald Watson**, LA-RICS Deputy Executive Director

**Beatriz Cojulun**, LA-RICS, Board Secretary

## BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT

**Brian Solinsky**, Chief of Police, Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association

**Vacant**, 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 9:00 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. April 6, 2023 – Regular Minutes**

Agenda Item A

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the attached minutes for the Regular Meeting Minutes on April 6, 2023. There were no questions or corrections, therefore, he asked for a motion to approve.

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

Ayes 6: Luke, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Capelle, Alexander, and Povero.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE**

There was no public comment.

Alternate Board Member Neal Cochran arrived during the notice of Public Comment and joined Board Meeting.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE**

There were no reports on the Regular or the Special Meeting Agendas.

Alternate Board Member Eleni Pappas arrived during the introduction of the Director's Report and went on to join the Board Meeting.



## VI. REPORTS (B – E)

### B. Director's Report – Scott Edson

Executive Director Scott Edson greeted and thanked the Chair, the Board members, and all those in attendance.

Executive Director Edson started with the introduction of Brian Smyth, the new Jacobs Project Director (PD). Executive Director Edson mentioned how recently the Authority lost both its Project Manager (PM) followed by the Authority's PD. Executive Director Edson reported that he is working closely with Jacobs and Deputy Executive Director (DED) Ron Watson, and they were able to interview a couple candidates from a pool of three (3), from which they selected Brian Smyth, who started just two (2) weeks ago. Executive Director Edson said that Mr. Smyth stood out because of his PM experience, most recently setting up a Project Management Office (PMO) in Duarte at the City of Hope. Executive Director Edson further said that he is an Architect, which means he has, or at least the Authority expects from him to have a great attention to detail. Executive Director Edson shared that Mr. Smyth is a local living in Pasadena, therefore, which would allow him to be at the office for those impromptu meetings. Executive Director Edson expressed that Mr. Smyth hit the ground running and has so far exceeded the Authority's expectations.

PD Smyth reiterated that he is an Architect and has been in the business for over forty (40) years. PD Smyth went on to add that as Executive Director Edson mentioned, his background is in Project Management, with a focus on team building, project metrics, and project closeout. PD Smyth said that he looks forward to working with the Authority's great team and thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Executive Director Edson reported that over the last month, the team has continued to work with Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) on the restoration of sites impacted by the storms. Executive Director Edson stated that overall, the LA-RICS LMR System weathered the series of storms relatively well and delivered Digital Trunked Voice Radio Subsystem (DTVRS) services with minimal impact on field testing that was taking place with County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) users. Executive Director Edson further stated the overlapping coverage, the redundancy of various critical infrastructure components, the Microwave backhaul routing capability, and backup power systems; all, for the most part, withstood the severe storms. Executive Director Edson further reported the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System has proven the public-safety-grade radio system, LA-RICS, which took a decade to design and construct, with it finally materializing and delivering reliable services to the end-users testing the system. Executive Director Edson expressed that some areas require improvement and in the Authority's opinion were



not designed properly. Executive Director Edson went on to say that, staff would continue to work with Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) on improvements to components that were impacted by the high wind, snow, and ice conditions.

Executive Director Edson thanked the County Fire Department (LACoFD), and the LASD, for all the help they provided over the last few months, in clearing roads, fuel and people delivery, to our sites. Executive Director Edson feels that even though the weather hampered the Authority's testing and maintenance needs, these partners found creative ways to minimize the impact to the schedule.

Executive Director Edson expressed that with the restoration of most of the damaged components and Microwave realignments, just this last Monday, the DTVRS was provisionally accepted by LA-RICS. Executive Director Edson mentioned the migration of the largest LASDs in the world has started. Executive Director Edson stated that although the LASD is unable to migrate its dispatch operation onto LA-RICS at this time due to its unique dispatch operation and other technologies supporting dispatch operation, all tactical communications are now migrating LA-RICS, within the next twenty (20) days. Executive Director Edson said there are many other non patrol operations that have also migrated to LA-RICS, including LASD Aero Bureau and the Special Enforcement Bureau.

Executive Director Edson informed the Board that acceptance of the DTVRS is a major contract milestone, this is the complete acceptance of all sites under subsystem DTVRS, he reiterated what a huge milestone this is. Executive Director Edson detailed the DTVRS is the heart of LA-RICS suite of radio subsystems and all public safety users in this region will have access to the DTVRS, either via subscriber or via interoperability. Executive Director Edson commented that as he previously stated, the LASD is moving over to it now and other agencies will follow. Executive Director Edson shared that due to the Authority's entire system is not yet fully accepted, there is no charge to use the DTVRS at this time. Executive Director Edson went on to say the Los Angeles Regional Tactical Communications System (LARTCS) and Analog subsystems will follow and be accepted in September 2023, followed by full system acceptance by the end of the year.

Executive Director Edson mentioned that to get there, the team continues to participate in coverage testing and audio evaluation. Executive Director Edson further mentioned that some Analog Conventional Voice Radio Subsystem (ACVRS) testing have now been completed and the results are under review by the staff.

Executive Director Edson reported the LARTCS low band testing has continued into the North County after completing the Los Angeles basin and avoiding the area covered by Mount McDill (MMC), which was damaged by weather. Executive Director Edson further reported that once MSI restores the low-band antennas at MMC, testing there will commence there.



Executive Director Edson went on to say that as you can imagine, with a system of this size, system and site documentation is critical. Executive Director Edson mentioned that documentation is placed in "books" and checked for completeness and accuracy. Executive Director Edson commented that as for those Closeout Book activities, the team has completed the DTVRS Closeout Book material and will start working on the remaining subsystems' Closeout material. Executive Director Edson expressed that it is expected that Closeout Book efforts will continue up to the acceptance of ACVRS and LARTCS. Executive Director Edson thanked all team members involved in this important, yet tedious, requirement.

Executive Director Edson informed the Board that as for the integrated Master Schedule (IMS), unfortunately, the Authority is again in disagreement with the MSI's schedule and continue those discussions. Executive Director Edson shared the last two (2) IMS submissions have pushed out the acceptance date without proper explanation or the Authority's agreement, now showing a full system acceptance date in mid-December. Executive Director Edson said the Authority will do its best to bring in that date.

Executive Director Edson confirmed that moving forward, the Authority will work in parallel with Metrocell, as the Authority's Invitation for Bid (IFB) awarded contractor, and County Internal Services Department (ISD), for certain work (road repair, tower demo, generator removal/ replacement, etc.) that is needed now, and may be needed at a future date, at sites. Executive Director Edson reminded the Board that he has previously of MSI's refusal to perform certain work pertaining to Phase 2 construction. Executive Director Edson thanked the Authority's partners at the County for facilitating a fair and appropriate procurement vehicle to bring on competitive vendors to perform work on a quick timeline for as-needed work. Executive Director Edson commented that to ensure this, Agenda Item K will allow the Executive Director to enlist the County and other agencies such as the United States Forest Services (USFS), to perform this as needed work.

As for Grants, Executive Director Edson said the Authority will continue making good progress on its grant spend, as reported to the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Approval Authority earlier this week.

Executive Director Edson went on to say the UASI approved \$5 million for each of the Authority's grants under UASI '22, UASI '23 and UASI '24. Executive Director Edson further said the Authority needed to utilize the \$15 million in the next twelve (12) months, which is best aligned with the acceptance of the Authority's system later this year, which is why the LASD and LACoFD swapped their allotment with the Authority, which makes the Authority very grateful and appreciative.

Executive Director Edson noted that before the Board was the UASI '22 Subrecipient Agreement as Agenda Item I, reflecting these "swaps" allocating \$11.7



million to LA-RICS out of the 2022 grant award, instead of \$5 million. Executive Director Edson noted, the 2022 grant award comes in the spring of 2023, this is why the Authority could not wait to receive the \$5 million in spring of 2024 and another \$5 million in the spring of 2025, as by that time the Authority's system would have been accepted and the warranty period would have completed. Executive Director Edson that in the end, receiving \$15 million over the next twelve (12) months will work out perfectly, and again thanked the County partners for helping the Authority achieve that funding. Executive Director Edson stated the team met with the grantor on Tuesday and provided and update that included the fantastic news regarding the DTVRS subsystem acceptance.

Executive Director Edson detailed there are various fund sources in the Authority's Adopted Budget, and as the end of the fiscal year is fast approaching, the Authority will be reconciling certain actual and projected charges to the Authority's "new" fund source, being the California (CA) State Funds. Executive Director Edson previously mentioned it to the Board, the Authority included State Funds in the FY 2022-23 budget, and however, at the time the budget was presented the Authority had not yet received those funds. Executive Director Edson further mentioned the Authority did receive those funds late December 2022, and thus have been utilizing the funds appropriately since that time. Executive Director Edson expressed that given this, the Authority plans to bring to Finance Committee together later this month, and to the Board in June, a Budget Adjustment which realizes the use of CA State Funds for certain expenditures that are not eligible for grant funds. Executive Director Edson said that aside from that, as Agenda Item H details, the Authority continues to spend "under budget" out of the Authority's AT&T Business Agreement Funds.

Executive Director Edson took a moment to say to congratulations and say farewell to Board Member Mark Alexander, who was attending this, his last meeting. Executive Director Edson shared that Board Member Alexander arrived at the La Cañada Flintridge in October 1988 and became the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) appointed City Manager. Executive Director Edson further shared the Board Member Alexander was initially appointed as an Administrative Assistant and was later promoted to Assistant to the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, and Deputy City Attorney. Executive Director Edson went on to say that Board Member Alexander was named City Manager in June 2003. Executive Director Edson mentioned that Board Member Alexander has held the position 20 years, becoming the longest-serving City Manager and longest-tenured employee (at 35 years) of the City's forty-seven (47) year history. Executive Director Edson expressed that Board Member Alexander holds the distinction of being the longest-tenured City Manager in the entire San Gabriel Valley.

Executive Director Edson shared some unknown facts about Board Member Alexander, that he started his municipal engagement as a Commission Appointee to the City of San Dimas' Juvenile Justice Commission upon entering his high school years, and Board Member Alexander's retirement will complete a forty-four



(44) year career in local government. Executive Director Edson said that Board Member Alexander was offered his first internship with the City of San Dimas when he commenced his undergraduate college education. Executive Director Edson said that later, Board Member Alexander went on to serve in various administrative positions with the cities of Glendora and Simi Valley before landing in the City of La Cañada Flintridge.

Executive Director Edson stated that Board Member Alexander's accomplishments are too great to speak of, but went on to say that as an active member of the city management profession, Board Member Alexander has served on numerous boards and committees, as well having held several leadership positions, Executive Director Edson jokingly said the most prestigious, of course, being that of a LA-RICS Board Member. Executive Director Edson Board Member Alexander's started with LA-RICS in 2005 before there was a LA-RICS or a Joint Power Authority (JPA). Executive Director Edson further said that Board Member Alexander was instrumental and actively involved in the creation of the JPA, membership and by-laws, in 2009. Executive Director Edson believes that fourteen (14) years of Board Member Alexander's twenty (20) years as City Manager, he represented the Contract Cities on this Board. Executive Director Edson concluded by saying the he has known Board Member Alexander all this time and does not believe there was anyone else that could have better represented Contract Cities. Executive Director Edson said in fact, his knowledge and expertise in city government benefitted this JPA and every city in this County.

Executive Director Edson concluded by saying that from the entire LA-RICS team, he thanked and congratulate Board Member Alexander, wishing him the best. Executive Director Edson said the Authority will invite him back come time for full system acceptance. Executive Director Edson presented Board Member Alexander with a plaque.

Board Member Alexander said he has enjoyed his eighteen (18) years doing this important work that everyone has been doing and commends everyone for volunteering their time to be part of this which is so important. Board Member Alexander said there have been millions of dollars and thousands of hours that have been invested in something very important for the County that was vastly needed and identified after the 911 aftermath, which will be helpful and useful for the County residents. Board Member Alexander thanked everyone, but especially thanked the staff because they have been so wonderful to work with for the last eighteen (18) years of his involvement with LA-RICS. Board Member Alexander recalled the year LA-RICS started was also the same year he was as the meeting of Contract Cities and jokingly said he took the job that no one else wanted, but it has been a great experience.

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



**C. Project Manager's Report – Riad EIMasri**

Deputy Program Manager Riad EIMasri greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item C.

April Successes

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri provided the April 2023 highlights and stated that dry conditions with a warming trend and elevated temperatures in April helped dry out the hills at the Angeles Forest sites and made the roads to these sites easier to navigate. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri further provided the Board details in regards to the stretch of dryness that came after the latest storms in February and March, which caused equipment damage at the MMC site and damaged access roads to key DTVRS sites. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said these events delayed the DTVRS subsystem cutover initially scheduled to start on March 16, 2023.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri stated the clearance in the weather helped speed preparation efforts for the DTVRS subsystem cutover with a focus on MMC site restoration effort and Microwave Link alignment issues.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri reported that restoration work at the MMC site continues to be in progress with MSI crews working through weekends as long as wind condition allow it, the focus would be on repairing and restoring Microwave links and DTVRS elements as a priority.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri provided details on site access roads and said that dry conditions helped MSI crews to reach and resume repair work to restore Microwave links at several DTVRS sites. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri also said that Microwave repair and restoration efforts included the following links:

- Magic Mountain Link (MML) to three (3) sites, City of Los Angeles Fire Del Valle (LACFDEL), Hauser Peak (HPK), and Mount Lukens 2(MTL2).
- Burnt Peak 1 (BUR1) to Whitaker Ridge (WTR)
- MMC to two (2) sites: Grass Mountain (GMT) and Hauser Peak (HPK).
- Whitaker Middle Peak (WMP) and three (3) sites: Portal Ridge (PRG), Tejon Peak (TPK), and Oat Mountain Nike (ONK).

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said there were two (2) term solutions, long and short, but currently the short term solution for commercial power at the Green Mountain (GRM) site, was to use power from existing service limited to 37 KVA. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri also said this service currently feeds a LAPD equipment shelter next to the LA-RICS shelter.





Deputy Program Manager EIMasri confirmed that LA-RICS was awaiting the results of a ten (10) day load study that was requested by the City of Los Angeles (City) Department of Water and Power (LADWP) at both LARICS and the adjacent City Police Department (LAPD) shelters to confirm if the LADWP would be able to provide adequate power to the LA-RCIS service with the existing infrastructure. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri mentioned that loggers were installed on April 25, 2023 for the ten (10) day load study and would be picked up next week on May 9, 2023.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri informed the Board the long term solution will be underway once a meter is under the Authority's name and will request LADWP for an upgrade to have 100 KVA.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri that Right of Entry (ROE) Authorizations and migration coordination efforts continue with County ISD.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said the Low Band Testing & ACAP Audio Grading started on March 15, 2023, and would continue through the first week of May 2023, pending replacement of a damaged Low Band Channel antenna at the MMC site, which currently the antenna is at the site but waiting for wind conditions to allow installation.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri mentioned the Narrowband Mobile Data Network 1 (NMDN1) Subsystem remains operational, as well as with no major issues reported on the monthly reports.

#### April Challenges

Project Team Lead EIMasri said that as for April challenges tower crews at the MMC site have cancelled and lost many tower work hours due to high winds at the site.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri shared that MSI crews have not been able to access the Frost Peak (FRP) site, which is due to snow accumulation on the site ground reaching up to the shelter's roof, causing road closure by the Mountain High ski resort. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri went on to share that Mountain High did announce that May 1, 2023, was the last day of the skiing season and would be closed effective May 2, 2023. Mountain High closed the road until a certain portion, the Authority is working to coordinate efforts to clear up the remaining part of the road going to FRP site.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri reported the same as the previous month, the road to the WMP site is badly washed away in many sections, which currently does not provide a safe way to get a work truck up to the site and continues to be a



struggle. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said this is an orphan site that no one has interest in nor any equipment, therefore, are left alone to fix the road.

#### MMC Site

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri addressed a presentation slide that contained only eight (8) DTVRS Radio Frequency (RF) cables, as well as four (4) Microwave lines that were replaced out of 28 RF cables that were damaged by ice.

#### Microwave Link Repair Work

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri mentioned that LA-RICS has documented field observations following MSI's effort to reinforce Microwave mounts and realign Microwave Links at WMP and MML sites. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri believes the source of the Microwave link alignment problem at most if not all links stems from the same tie-back clip (collar) mounting hardware used to anchor the dish tiebacks to the tower legs.

#### LA-RICS LMR Program IMS

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said the team was tracking progress off an approved IMS February 7, 2023 DD. However, Deputy Program Manager EIMasri also said that MSI's IMS dated April 11, 2023 DD, was submitted on April 23, 2023, is currently still under review. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri further said the IMS reflects the forecast of a final System Acceptance date of December 12, 2023. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said with the DTVRS subsystem start date actualized on May 1, 2023, the focus now is on the remaining three (3) subsystems, which are LARTCS, ACVRS and NMDN2. Deputy Program Manager EIMasri mentioned the complete rebuild and restoration of the MMC site remains the critical variable as it is affected by weather and equipment delivery.

#### May Focus Items

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said that May focus starts with the MMC site restoration work to complete all of the other work and cable installation, as well as completing any work enforcing Microwave dish mounts.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri mentioned that staff continues receiving and processing Closeout documentation owed by MSI.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri confirmed that staff would continue to coordinate the efforts to provide commercial utility to the GRM site.

Deputy Program Manager EIMasri said that staff continues preparation for the main subsystems cutover, which are LARTCS, ACVRS and NMDN2.



Deputy Program Manager EIMasri shared that staff continues to explore road access repair options to WMP Site, as well as to provide the MCI site a permanent back-up generator.

This concluded the presentation and report on Agenda Item C by Project Team Lead Riad EIMasri.

There was no further discussion.

**D. Joint Operations and Technical Chair's Report –**

Operations Lead Lieutenant Robert Weber greeted the Board and provided them with a report on the Joint Operations and Technical Committee meeting that was held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported there was quorum; no public comments, and no consent calendar and moved on to reports, the LMR Update by Deputy Program Manager EIMasri, similar to the Program Manager Report.

Under Discussion Items, Operations Lead Lt. Weber presented Agenda Item B, the LASD cutover to the DTVRS system, given the Authority's subsystem acceptance, as well as how the LASD full testing was moving forward and how the cutover progress was moving forward.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber said that under Discussion Items there was a very important and monumental part of his report, in which he was able to perform a demonstration with the Torrance PD on the Authority's Inter Subsystem Interface (ISSI), which the Joint Committees are recommending for approval. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated the demonstration consisted of a connection between the Torrance PD and LASD regional Talkgroups, which demonstrated that during an emergency or a critical incident direct and quick connection between Talkgroups could occur, to have communication, and Interoperability. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared there was a conversation during the demonstration with Officer Slauson who was in front of the Torrance PD on one of their Tactical Talkgroups, as Operations Lead Lt. Weber was on a Regional Tactical Talkgroup.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that after the demonstration there was a discussion as to how it would work, in which Board and Joint Committee Member Chief Vincent Capelle, also dialogued as to how it would work with the Fire Department and planning for that in the future. Operations Lead Lt. Weber expressed that interoperability being the sole purpose of the Project, the Joint Committees moved to recommend the Board to approve the ISSI MOU that has been in works for quite some time.



Operations Lead Lt. Weber informed the Board the Joint Committees voted on an updated 2023 Joint Committee Meeting Schedule, reflecting the change to have monthly meetings.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber said the meeting adjourned, since there were no other matters to address.

Alternate Chair Yanagi asked if Torrance PD stood alone, if they dispatched, or have communications with other agencies. Operations Lead Lt. Weber believed that Torrance PD does have communications with other agencies and have their own dispatch, as well as being on Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI).

Executive Director Edson added the ISSI MOU would be presented under Agenda Item L. Executive Director Edson said that what is important about the Joint Committees moving their meetings to being monthly, is because they will be working on all of the policies, procedures, standing and operating issues that need to take place between Fire, law, Emergency Management System (EMS) interoperability for the future.

Board Member Capelle wondered if the MOU was just to provide the ability to do the patching for the spoke model, and there would be a different MOU if there are ICI Members who want to use LA-RICS in a fee for service type. Executive Director Edson said yes, that would be the case.

This concluded the presentation and report on Agenda Item D by Project Operations Lead Lt. Weber.

**E. Finance Committee Chair's Report – None**

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (F – H)**

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

Technical Lead Ted Pao reported that currently there is no update on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding the two (2) outstanding license applications for Tejon Peak (TPK), which are ACVRS and NMDN. Technical Lead Pao shared the Authority is currently operating on the Special Temporary Authorization (STA) for NMDN and temporary permit for the Authority's ACVRS.

Technical Lead Pao reported on interference issues and said the Authority continues its discussion with County ISD regarding working with wireless microphone manufactures, venues, and broadcast industry to educate about Channel 15 in the Los Angeles Region, which are LMR DTVRS, the UHF system



that it is operating on. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that as previously reported, the Authority has found that wireless microphone system for event venues, such as Crypto Center and Dodger Stadium have occasionally used Channel 15 spectrum. Technical Lead Pao reported that although these are very low powered transmitters, they may still cause operational issues for the Authority's end-users. Technical Lead Pao stated that it has been observed these offending transmitters on Channel 16, which a large number of public safety LMR System in Los Angeles have been using since the 1980's.

Technical Lead Pao detailed there was one instance in which ISD was able to track down a band using the frequency operated by the LACoFD when they were causing interference to the system. Technical Lead Pao expressed this is a real issue and a lot of things going on in the region, e.g. concerts and other events going on continuously; the Authority will keep an eye on this issue.

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

**G. Outreach Update – Lieutenant Robert Weber**

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

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported that during the month of April 2023, Authority staff and personnel (MS) started testing for the ACVRS and LARTCS. Operations Lead Lt. Weber explained the process has been streamlined as much as possible and continues to make good progress. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that Authority staff and personnel from the County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) Communications and Fleet Management Bureau (CFMB) conducted several specialized ATV operations in order to provide MSI access to the Whitaker Middle Peak (WMP) communications site. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported this site was a critical microwave link for DTVRS and road access to the site was completely cut off during the winter storms. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that with the LASDs assistance, MSI was able to reach the site to perform critical microwave realignment. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say these repairs along with the work at the MMC have been paramount to DTVRS cutover scheduled for early May 2023. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned that Authority staff and LASD Personnel also conducted several specialized four-wheel drive refueling operations to keep the GRM and BUR1 communications sites on line.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber informed the Board that Authority staff conducted additional outreach to the City of Lakewood regarding their Sky-Night helicopter patrol program. Operations Lead Lt. Weber said Authority staff also conducted additional outreach to the City of Industry. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to



say that these cities are all evaluating their communications needs and the possibility of using LA-RICS. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated that Authority staff would be working closely with these agencies to ensure their needs are met. Operations Lead Lt. Weber also stated that Authority also have several MOUs in process with other cities.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item G. Operations Lead Lt. Weber asked if there were any questions.

There was no further discussion.

**H. Statements of Receipts & Disbursements for AT&T Business Agreement Fund for Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN)**

Deputy Executive Director Ron Watson presented Agenda item H to the Board with the report of uses of the AT&T Business Agreement funds through March 31, 2023. Deputy Executive Director Watson stated that is was previously reported to the Board for the last quarter, expenditures paid for by the Business Agreement funds are those items which are not eligible for grant funding such as management and administration items including the Executive Director and certain fiscal and grants management staff. Deputy Executive Director Watson said these expenditures fall under Member Funded line items within the Board's Adopted Budget and are paid for out of the funds secured via the AT&T Business Agreement. Deputy Executive Director Watson went on to say the expenditures detailed in this quarters' report are in line with the adopted budget, and actually under budget. Deputy Executive Director Watson concluded by saying the quarterly statement is prepared by the LA-RICS Authority's fiscal agent and the County of Los Angeles Auditor-Controller. This is a Receive and File item.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item H. Deputy Executive Director Watson asked if there were any questions.

Board Member Alexander motioned to Receive and File.

There was no further discussion.

**MOTION RECEIVED AND FILED.**

**I. ACCEPT 2022 STATE URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI) FUNDS**

Deputy Executive Director Watson addressed the Board seeking approval of Agenda Item I on behalf of the Authority for acceptance of the \$11.7 million in grant funds from UASI 2022 grant award, distributed through Cal OES; to authorize the Executive Director to execute the enclosed UASI 2022 sub-recipient agreement between the City of Los Angeles and LA-RICS; and to delegate authority to the



Executive Director to execute any subsequent amendments that do not change the grant award.

Deputy Executive Director Watson stated that as Director Edson mentioned in his report, the UASI voted to award \$15 million to LA-RICS over the course of three (3) grant years (UASI '22, '23, and '24). Deputy Executive Director Watson stated that given the Authority's system acceptance will occur later this year, the funds were needed sooner versus later, and thanks to the County of Los Angeles Fire Department as well as Sheriff's Department, we were able to swap workbooks allowing LA-RICS to receive approximately \$11.7 million in UASI '22 and remaining \$3.3 million in UASI '23 award.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item I. Deputy Executive Director Watson asked if there were any questions.

There was no further discussion.

Alternate Chair Yanagi asked if there were any questions, to which there were none. Board Member Povero motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Eleni Pappas.

Ayes 8: Luke, Pappas, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Capelle, Alexander, Povero, and Cochran.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**J. CALIFORNIA JOINT POWERS INSURANCE AUTHORITY – CERTIFICATION OF DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE(S)**

Executive Director Edson recommended the Board designate a Board member to serve as the appointee to represent the Authority on the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA), and the Executive Director to serve as an Alternate appointee. All in accordance with the provisions of article 7 of the CJPIA Executive Director Edson asked to recall that at the last Board meeting this item was tabled in the hopes that maybe a recruited Board Member would replace Mark Alexander and be interested in this position.

Executive Director Edson asked if the Board would like to appoint any Board Members present or if Board Member Alexander has anything to add or provide regarding his replacement. Board Member Alexander stated that a colleague expressed interest in joining the Board, currently the City of Industry City Manager, Josh Nelson, and the Authority has already reached out to him, but it is really in the hands of the Contract Cities going through the formal appointment process. Board Member Alexander went on to say that a CJPIA Director does not have to be a



CJPIA Member, there is a major meeting to attend that entails a dinner and presentation on the Budget status and adoption of the Budget for the following year.

Alternate Chair Yanagi was not sure that tabling the item would allow for more information to be brought forward and asked Board Member Alexander if his replacement would be able to be appointed.

Board Member Capelle stated that West Covina is a CJPIA Member and he is a new Member on the LA-RICS Board of Directors, he offered to represent the LA-RICS JPA.

Alternate Board Member Pappas nominated Board Member Capelle. At which point, Alternate Chair Yanagi formally asked if there were any questions, to which there were none. Alternate Board Member Yanagi seconded the motion.

Ayes 7: Luke, Pappas, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Capelle, Alexander, and Povero

Alternate Board Member Neal Cochran stepped away and did not participate in the vote.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**K. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENLIST THE ASSISTANCE OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES FOR VARIOUS SERVICES AT LAND MOBILE RADIO SYSTEM SITES**

Executive Director Edson presented Agenda Item K, requesting the Board delegate authority to the Executive Director to enlist the assistance from the County and other governmental agencies to perform various services in-house, via competitive bid, or via emergency processes managed by the County or the governmental agency by way of issuance of a written request for services that may be needed by the Authority at LMR System sites for an aggregate not-to-exceed amount of \$325,000. Executive Director Edson went on to say that if the Board approved it, such costs would be funded by the UASI grant, in particular from the Contingency line item for unforeseen work and captured in the LA-RICS Adopted Operating Budget.

Executive Director Edson Once your Board approves, the Executive Director will report quarterly regarding what costs, if any, were incurred for services as well as inform your Board of the remaining balance of the not-to-exceed budgeted amount.

As Executive Director mentioned in his report, MSI is refusing any “new” work / including road repair work and tower demolition work, which is required in order to continue to deploy the LMR system through System Acceptance. Executive





Director Edson went on to say the IFB vendor retained by the Authority to perform certain work is limited to their specific scope and has also refused to perform certain work, therefore, the Authority is working with the County, as well as with other agencies such as the US Forest Service, to perform certain work such as: Road repair work; generator work; conduit installation work; and tower removal work.

Lastly, Contracts Executive Director Edson recommended the Board approve Agenda Item K, that comes from the UASI grant, contingency line item and available to the Authority for emergency services.

Executive Director Edson concluded Agenda Item K. There was no further discussion.

Board Member Alexander asked Executive Director Edson for clarification if it is a competitive bid process or in an emergency, or if it is a competitive bid process or when deemed necessary basically clarification whether it should be used when it is an emergency or when it is deemed necessary. Executive Director stated that it is both; in an emergency or through a County process that is already in place (pre-approved vendors and services) and appropriate when then deemed necessary.

Board member Capelle asked if the item returns to the Board for notification, to which Executive Director Edson said that it does not, as long it is within the dollar amount, he is allowed to execute it.

Alternate Chair Yanagi asked for a motion to approve. Alternate Board Member Pappas motioned first, seconded by Board Member Povero.

Ayes 7: Luke, Pappas, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Capelle, Alexander, and Povero.

Alternate Board Member Neal Cochran stepped away and did not participate in the vote.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**L. LA-RICS AND INTERAGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY SYSTEM AUTHORITY ISSI CONNECTION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Operations Lead Lt. Weber presented Agenda Item L, LA-RICS and Interagency Communication Interoperability System Authority Inter Subsystem Interface (ISSI) Connection Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), on behalf of the Authority recommended the Board to approve the MOU between LA-RICS and ICI, included in the package enclosure. Operations Lead Lt. Weber detailed that execution of the MOU would allow for, among other things, the oversight, use, control, coordination and management of the regional Talkgroups using the ISSI



connection; to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute the ISSI MOU with ICI; and to delegate authority to the Executive Director to approve and execute amendments to the ICI ISSI MOU, provided they are approved as to form by Counsel to the Authority.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber expressed this was the ISSI connection that he previously spoke about during his reporting of the Joint Operations and Technical Committees meeting on May 2, 2023, which is extremely monumental and paramount to the Authority's operability Hub and spoke model of interoperability.

Alternate Member Yanagi asked if in the wording between the MOU and ICI it specifies if the MOU could be used with other entities, e.g. South Bay or LAPD. Operations Lead Lt. Weber said the current MOU is specific to the ICI system (MSI System) and LA-RICS System (they are compatible with one another). Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated that he could only assume that it would be a similar template MOU, which would require another MOU with that other entity detailing the specifics to that MOU.

Board Member Capelle asked for clarification if the only other digital trunked system available, other than ICI is the City LAPD. To Operations Lead Lt. Weber's understanding, that is correct but they are not a full P25 Phase 2 yet, but does cover any/all of the agencies that are connected with the ICI System. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say that also included are the Fire Departments, but would have to see how that would pan out, and what addendums would be worked out at the Executive Director's direction.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber concluded Agenda Item L. There was no further discussion.

Alternate Chair Yanagi asked if there were any questions, but seeing there were none he asked for a motion to approve. Alternate Board Member Leslie Luke motioned first, seconded by Board Member Alexander.

Ayes 8: Luke, Pappas, Yanagi, Rifenburg, Capelle, Alexander, Povero, and Cochran.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – NONE**

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE**

**X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD –**



**XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT** – There was no closed session scheduled for this Board meeting.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING AND NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Executive Director Edson stated that currently the meeting location for the next Board meeting would probably be held at the East Los Angeles College (ELAC) Administrative Offices.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi stated the next Regular Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., at the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD), ELAC Community College Bureau, 1055 Corporate Center Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91754.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:53 a.m. Board Member Alexander motioned.

APPROVED