



# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL  
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

Thursday, December 3, 2020 • 9:00 a.m.  
**Conducted via Microsoft Teams Meeting\***

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**Board Members Present:**

**Mark Alexander**, City Manager, CA Contract Cities Assoc.  
**Mark Fronterotta**, Chief of Police, City of Inglewood Police Dept.  
**John Curley**, Chief of Police, City of Covina Police Dept.

**Alternates For Board Members Present:**

**John Geiger**, General Manager, County of Los Angeles  
**Thomas Ewald**, Vice-Chair, Deputy Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Dept.  
**Mark Glatt**, Chief, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept.  
**Kay Fruhwirth**, Asst., Dir., EMS Agency, County of LADHS

**Officers Present:**

**Scott Edson**, LA-RICS Executive Director  
**Priscilla Dalrymple**, LA-RICS Board Secretary

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**Absent:**

**Chris Donovan**, Fire Chief, City of El Segundo Fire Dept.  
**Joe Ortiz**, Chief of Police, City of South Pasadena Police Dept.  
**Chris Nunley**, Chief of Police, City of Signal Hill Police Dept.



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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Alternate Chair, Mark Glatt, called the Special Board meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call**

Alternate Chair Glatt asked for a roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)**

**A. November 18, 2020 – Special Minutes**

Alternate Chair Glatt asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board.

There were none.

Board Member Mark Fronterotta motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Thomas Ewald.

Ayes 7: Alexander, Curley, Ewald, Fronterotta, Fruhwirth, Geiger, and Glatt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE**

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE**

**VI. REPORTS (B-E)**

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

Executive Director Scott Edson thanked everyone for their service to the public during these unusual times and stated we look forward to 2021 bringing new opportunities; please stay safe!

**LTE 2 Update**

In regards to the LTE 2 update, Executive Director Edson provided an overview and stated since the last meeting, the team followed up with National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on the status of the Asset Transfer Agreement. The grantor



informed the team they do not have any questions so far and understand the urgency in getting these sites transferred to AT&T so they form part of the National system.

Executive Director Edson also stated the team continues to work on construction of sites 21 through 26; Project Director Chris Odenthal will provide a detailed update on those under Agenda Item F.

Executive Director stated he is happy to report POM2 site is cleared for construction and received clearance on mitigation relating to the lead based paint and asbestos. The team continues to outreach between Port of Long Beach and AT&T to help achieve a lease agreement so construction can complete at the site. Long Beach Police Department (LBPD) Chief Luna has provided Deputy Chief Smith to assist LA-RICS.

### **LMR Update**

In regards to the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) update, Executive Director Edson stated as for the Integrated Master Schedule (IMS), the team continues to work with Motorola (MSI) to update the IMS as well as bring in additional permits.

LA-RICS has not accepted schedule submission in over six (6) months, with MSI owing the team answers on a Request for Quote (RFQ), which the team expects will yield schedule efficiencies achieved by re-sequence of certain Phase 4B activities. We hoped to provide a positive update on this item; however, MSI decided additional time is needed to prepare a quote for their work effort on responding to the RFQ. This was a very unusual response and a first of its kind from MSI but they were adamant; the team is evaluating options internally.

Executive Director Edson also stated the team continues to work closely with the County of Los Angeles as the Spectrum Manager of the frequencies upon which LA-RICS is being built to ensure the solution to the interference with Channel 15 (Mexico) is achievable, via the required Sheriff's Department narrow-banding effort and stated he is happy to report the County has ensured narrow-banding work will complete ahead of the time required to complete LMR scheduled activities. The team will continue to closely track the interference mitigation work and report to your Board in meetings to come.

As far as building permits, LA-RICS continues to have forty-seven (47) in hand with only three (3) remaining to be submitted.

Lastly, Executive Director Edson stated the Coastal sites in the Santa Monica Mountains as previously reported to your Board, the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) held a public hearing on November 24, 2020, and unanimously denied the appeals. Executive Director Edson acknowledged and thanked Assistant Fire Chief



Ramirez, Battalion Chief Cabrera, and Chief Glatt for all their public speaking during the hearing and stated all of their voices were well heard and appreciated. LA-RICS expects the BOS will certify its decision in January. Deputy Program Manager Tanya Roth will provide additional details to your Board under Agenda Item G.

### **Grants**

In regards to the Grants update, the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grants, Los Angeles / Long Beach UASI Approval Authority directed interoperable communications working group met on November 19, 2020 to prepare a recommended funding percentage / funding level for the Operations & Maintenance (O&M) of the interoperable communications projects, which includes LA-RICS. The working group will present a funding recommendation to the Approval Authority at their December meeting along with a letter detailing the breadth and scope of Operations & Maintenance associated with individual systems, such as LAPD, as well as O&M of large scale HUB), such as LA-RICS. The recommendation to the Approval Authority will remind members building a regional system was tied to the commitment to fund O&M activities to ensure agency participation and best service for its users. As systems are approaching completion of their deployment phase, it is time to commit funding for sustainment, thus the ongoing O&M. The approval authority December meeting date is pending. The team will be sure to report the status to your board.

In regards to the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) grant, as LA-RICS awaits the federal grantor approval of the Asset Transfer Agreement and the team wraps up the Long Term Evolution (LTE) program, LA-RICS is saying farewell to a partner and friend. In 2009 through an agreement with Deltawrx, LA-RICS first met Televate staff as they helped prepare the BTOP grant application, which your Board is aware yielded the largest award in the Nation to build a dedicated Broadband Public Safety System. In 2011, upon receipt of the grant, the team entered into an Agreement with Televate to serve as the LA-RICS Authority's Broadband Engineering Consultant and Subject Matter Expert. They never let us down!!! Fast-forward a few years, several hurdles, HR 3630, acts of congress, negotiations, and agreements, the team has successfully built almost 100 Public Safety grade sites in Los Angeles County to be incorporated into the National PSBN.

Executive Director Edson went on to state the team has routers in first responder vehicles functioning on this system at less cost than before, and deployables ready to provide mission critical support to our first responders. The team has trained the first responders on this platform, and have demanded and received, what public safety is owed out of this Public Safety Broadband Network. All of these achievements were accomplished with the expertise of Televate and are too many to list and for this, the team will take this opportunity to thank our partners and friends from Televate. They have stood with us and provided steadfast support, expertise, solutions and results;



have consistently stayed on budget and on schedule despite the challenges experienced. As LA-RICS concludes the Long Term Evolution (LTE) portion of our project, the team proudly recognizes our accomplishments were achievable through this successful relationship and partnership - which is hard to see end. Nevertheless, it is only their contract, which will end, as Televate will always be considered a partner to Los Angeles County public safety. LA-RICS has a plaque to present to Joe Ross and Rick Burke and their team virtually; Televate is truly a public safety partner! Executive Director Edson read the plaque which stated, "Presented to Televate for Outstanding Dedication and Commitment to LA-RICS and its Public Safety Mission 2009-2020 A fabulous and long-term and forever partner to Los Angeles County".

Alternate Chair Glatt stated on behalf of the Board thanks to Televate for their long, hard work on the LTE project; and went on to state he has done many projects with Los Angeles County nowhere near this scale and cannot imagine how much work, time, and effort went into a project on a scale of this sort. In addition, putting together from scratch basically a communication network. Alternate Chair Glatt stated thank you on behalf of the public safety community and wished them the best in future endeavors.

Alternate Board Member Thomas Ewald stated on behalf of Vice-Chair Fire Chief Daryl Osby, the men and women of Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD), particularly the staff that is assigned to the LA-RICS project, he would like to extend appreciation to Televate for their professionalism and commitment over the years in leading us and meeting the success of the deployment of the systems. Thank you from the LACoFD.

Alternate Board Member Geiger stated on behalf of the Chief Executive Office (CEO) he would like to add Televate was there from the beginning and our success is their success and offered up great appreciation for their partnership throughout the years.

There was no further discussion.

### C. Project Manager's Report – Justin Delfino

#### **LTE2 Current Status:**

Program Manager Justin Delfino presented the status of LTE2 and stated 75% of the sites have been accepted by FirstNet AT&T; fifteen (15) out of the first batch of twenty (20) sites. The team is well positioned on gaining acceptance of the remaining five (5) sites; Project Director Odenthal will explain in more detail the progress that LTE2 has made toward completion.



### **LTE2 Sites 21 through 26**

Program Manager Delfino provided an overview of sites 21 through 26 as stated below:

- MML2 – Base scope work completed.
- MTBLPD – Base scope work completed.
- POLA1 – Missing part will be re-purchased and installed, two (2) weeks to complete site after new part arrives. Power connection requires action by LADWP.
- POLA2 - Power run proposal approved by Fenix, COR to pay for the work is under review by Authority, work to commence end of December 2020, or early January 2021 depending on availability of Fenix Terminals.
- POM2 – Work is forecasted to begin January 2, 2021.

### **LMR PROGRAM CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW**

Program Manager Delfino provided an update on the construction overview and shared some recent successes on the LMR Program as stated below:

- Appeals for LACF072 and SPN will now be heard by California Coastal Commission. Deputy Program Manager Roth will provide more detail under Agenda Item G.

### **Open and Active Sites:**

- Phase 2 work is currently underway at GMT, JPK2, LPC, MDI, MML, PMT, PRG, RHT, RIH, BUR1, CPK.
- Phase 4 work is currently underway at GMT, JPK2, PRG, RIH, WTR, WMP.
- Phase 2 work completion for UASI 18 is on track for thirteen (13) site completions and ten (10) sites that had small tasks to complete have all been completed with the exception of INDWT; SCE committed to complete by the end of December 2020.

### **SAA**

Program Manager Delfino stated there is one (1) outstanding SAA for DPK and Deputy Program Manager Roth will address in the Coastal update in detail under Agenda Item G.



### **Current Focus:**

Program Manager Delfino stated as Executive Director Edson mentioned in his report, the schedule has been a primary focus between the LA-RICS and MSI Teams and provided highlights below:

- In order to arrive at schedule IMS resolution, Phase 2 and Phase 4 work needed to be further scrutinized to ensure that unnecessary lags were removed, scope was appropriately captured for each site, and work sequence was accurate and efficient. MSI created a Fragnet schedule making several modifications that will allow an earlier completion of the Program by several months. MSI and Authority are working through each change in detail prior to directing the changes be made and accepting a re-baselined IMS due to severe schedule impacts in 2020 (COVID, fires, etc.) The Authority is expecting to receive an updated version of the IMS that includes all changes in December 2020.
- Grant spend coordination with MSI to ensure adherence to the spending plans.
- West Cell Configuration RFQ No. 60 response from MSI.

Program Manager Delfino provided updates and shared site photos of what the Team has been working on as stated below:

### **LPC**

This site is located in the US Forest and is a collocated site (LTE/LMR). The tower is erected and completed (shelter, fence, etc.).

### **PMT**

This is the only solar site; the foundation is under construction. This is a UASI 19 site.

### **RIH**

A storm drain system is being installed and the Team is making good progress at this site.

### **MDI**

This is a busy antenna site and MSI did have difficulties with a final tower location at this site, due to the proximity to other towers and underground utilities. The equipment pad and re-bar tied was installed.

### **GMT**

Tower is up, shelter in, and generator tank set. The Team is working on some last minute touch ups before this site comes to a complete close, pending some junction boxes that need to be set. This site is tracking on-time for grant spend completion.

**BUR1**

Layout of the tower and the drilling machine used for this site (Shown pictured).

Lastly, Program Manager Delfino stated for the next Board meeting hoping to have some pictures of CPK as construction is starting this week.

This concludes the Project Manager's Report.

There was no further discussion.

D. Joint Operations and Technical Committee Chairs Report – No Report

E. Finance Committee Chair Report – No Report

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (F-G)**

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

Program Director Odenthal presented Agenda Item F and provided an update on sites 21 through 26 and stated Executive Director Edson and Program Manager Delfino had provided important key points of each of these sites and where LA-RICS stands and added details on a couple of relevant points as highlighted below:

**MML2**

Punch walk to be scheduled first week of December and then this site will be handed over to AT&T.

**MNTBLPD**

Completed work includes lines, antennas, and the tower. The team is still in conversation with Montebello on their existing tower and have not told us the plan yet to move a microwave and the team is working through that with the city.

**POLA1 and POLA2**

As mentioned by Program Manager Delfino, the installation is complete and all equipment is on site. The only thing remaining is DPW to energize in about three (3) weeks and this site will be delivered to AT&T.

**POLB1**

As touched on briefly by Executive Director Edson, the team is working with the City of Long Beach PD as well as Port Security for an update on any movement on the financial terms that the Port has presented to AT&T. Presently it is twice as much of as the neighboring City of Los Angeles Port complex, where the team put two (2) sites. This is the last outstanding item. LA-RICS has completed all agreed work at this site.



**POM2**

As briefly explained by Program Manager Delfino and Executive Director Edson, this site has asbestos issues and the team is very familiar with the process. The JCC does have its own process using their vendor as well as the check boxes to be completed, which are all finally completed and the team will conduct the site walk with construction to begin immediately thereafter.

There was no further discussion.

**G. Update on Coastal Development Permit Process for Five Land Mobile Radio System Sites – Tanya Roth**

Deputy Program Manager Tanya Roth provided an update and stated the highlight of this Coastal report is the good news from the BOS de novo hearing last week that both Executive Director Edson and Program Manager Delfino touched on in their report. The BOS denied all appeals relating to Saddle Peak and Fire Station 072 and found in favor of the project proceeding forward.

Deputy Program Manager Roth echoed Executive Director Edson's comments, thanking Assistant Fire Chief Ramirez, Battalion Chief Cabrera, and Chief Glatt for their testimony in support of the project. She shared that hearing from the end users of the system really adds invaluable context at the hearing that highlights the need for the sites.

Next up is for the Board's decision to agendize on consent and staff is coordinating with the BOS office and targeting a January meeting. Once consent is finalized, the next step in the process is the secondary appeal period appealable to the Coastal Site Commission. Provided there are no appeals at that time the Coastal Development Permits (CDP) will be finalized.

In regards to the Catalina sites, Black Jack Mountain (BJM), Dakin Peak (DPK), and Tower Peak (TWR), staff are working closely with Department of Regional Planning (DRP) to complete the final administrative steps for the formal three (3) Coastal Permits. In parallel to those efforts, MSI is working with Public Works to address all plan check comments for issuance of Building Permits.

As reported in our meeting last month, the SAAs for BJM and TWR, are complete with DPK following in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Once the trifecta of a CDP, building permit and a fully executed agreement are in place for each site then construction can commence.

There was no further discussion.



## VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (H)

### H. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 012 WITH SD EDSON, INC., FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

County Counsel Truc Moore presented Agenda Item H, Amendment No.2 to Agreement No. LA-RICS 012 with SD Edson, Inc., for professional services with Executive Director Scott Edson and recommended the Board take the following actions:

1. Approve Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement with SD Edson, Inc., for Executive Director services, substantially similar in form to the Enclosure, which revises the Agreement to reflect the following:
  - a. Extend the current Term to March 25, 2023.
  - b. Revise the Term to include a one (1) year renewal option to expire on March 25, 2024, if exercised in the sole discretion of the Authority.
  - c. The existing billed hourly rate of \$111.30 and not-to-exceed amount of \$231,504 per year shall remain unchanged. Executive Director Edson salary will be funded out 100% from the LA-RICS operating budget and has already been approved as of October 1, 2020. Executive Director Edson is funded 100% from member contributions, currently consist of \$6 million and was previously paid from AT&T to the LA-RICS Authority Business Agreement. The fiscal impact previously reported paid through UASI and this is not the case. Previously paid through September 30th for 50% by LTE under BTOP and 50% under member contribution. As of October 1, 2020, is funded 100% through member contributions.
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board, or his designee, to execute Amendment No. 2, in substantially similar form to the enclosed amendment (Enclosure).

Alternate Board Member Geiger stated he would move to amend the motion on Item No. 2; as written the Delegated Authority is to the Chair of the Board or his designee for execution and the request is to amend to state to Chair or Alternate Chair. Alternate Board Member Thomas Ewald seconded to move to amend.

Alternate Board Member Geiger motioned first, seconded by Board Member Mark Alexander to approve Agenda Item H as amended.

County Counsel Moore stated in compliance with state law, she will read into the record that the Board has approved a contract extension to Agreement No. 012 with



SD Edson, Inc., for a not-to-exceed amount of \$231,504 per year for Scott Edson at the hourly rate of \$111.30. His contract will not expire until March 25, 2023, and there remains a one (1) year renewal option.

Ayes 7: Alexander, Curley, Ewald, Fronterotta, Fruhwirth, Geiger, and Glatt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE**

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

**XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

The Board entered into Closed Session at 9:34 am for Item No. 1 only.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –Anticipated Litigation (subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9) (1 case)

The Board returned from Closed Session at 10:01 am and Counsel Moore took roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present. Counsel Moore stated the Brown Act does not require a report.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:**

The Board meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m., and the next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 7, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., via Teleconference/Microsoft Teams Meeting.

Chair Glatt wished everyone safe and Happy Holidays.