



JOINT OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Tuesday, February 20, 2024, • 1:30 p.m.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Dayton Calhoun, County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Joshua Nelson, California Contract Cities Association
OPERATIONS ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Robert J. Weber, Chair, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Alfred Reyes, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Phil Ambrose, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Paul Villalobos, City of Monterey Park Police Department
Ric Walczak, At-Large Seat #8
OPERATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT/VACANT:
Leslie Luke, County of Los Angeles, Chief Executive Office
Jeff LaGreek, At-Large Seat #9
Vacant, At-Large Seat #10

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Lipin Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Ted Pao, Chair, Los Angeles County Sheriff
Joshua Nelson, California Contract Cities Association
TECHNICAL ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Grant Grunbaum, County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Robert J. Weber, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Phil Ambrose, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Ric Walczak, At-Large Seat #8
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT/VACANT:
Leslie Luke, County of Los Angeles, Chief Executive Office
Jeff LaGreek, At-Large Seat #9
Vacant, At-Large Seat #10

OFFICERS PRESENT:
Scott Edson, LA-RICS Executive Director
Nadine Luscombe, LA-RICS Project Team Member for Committee Secretary, Beatriz Cojulun



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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Operations Committee Alternate Chair Lieutenant Robert Weber called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL

Nadine Luscombe took roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present for both Joint Operations and the Technical Committees.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber welcomed the Joint Operations and Technical Committees Members and proceeded with Approval of the Minutes.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – (A)

A. February 20, 2024 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Operations Lead Lt. Weber asked the Committees for approval of the minutes. Vice-Chair Chief Dayton Calhoun motioned first, seconded by Joint Committee Alternate Captain Ric Walczak.

Operations Committee:

Ayes (8): Calhoun, Grunbaum, Weber, Reyes, Ambrose, Villalobos, Nelson, Walczak.

Technical Committee:

Ayes (7): Grunbaum, Weber, Tan, Ambrose, Pao, Nelson, Walczak.

MOTION APPROVED

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

There was no public comment.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE

There were no Consent Calendar items.



VI. REPORTS (B – E)

B. Land Mobile Radio System Update – Brian Smyth

Program Director Smyth greeted the Chairman and members of the Committee.

Hits and Misses

Project Director Smyth stated that, moving forward, the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System update will be presented in a different format. Project Director Smyth shared a general summary of activities that occurred in January 2024, with one significant activity being the California Highway Patrol (CHP) tower collapse at Tejon Peak (TPK), which occurred on January 7, 2024. Project Director Smyth further shared the tower collapsed due to ice build-up, high winds, and metal fatigue, and that an insurance claims adjuster visited the site for assessment on January 24, 2024. Project Director Smyth expressed the tower was removed from the LA-RICS shelter and was laid safely onsite. Project Director Smyth reported that CHP would dismantle the tower and remove it from the site. Project Director Smyth further reported the site has been secured as the perimeter fence was restored, and the fence required only minor repairs.

Regarding utility power at site Green Mountain (GRM), Project Director Smyth expressed the City of Los Angeles (City) Department of Water and Power (LADWP) agreed to consider the option of using the existing pole rather than installing a new metal pole. Project Director Smyth further expressed that, as a result of legal negotiations, California State Parks waived their Right of Entry (ROE) requirement for recovering legal fees. Project Director Smyth reported the LADWP would need to visit the site to confirm the existing pole can be utilized. Project Director Smyth shared that, in addition, LADWP would need to visit the site to plan their construction mitigation plan which needs to be incorporated into the biological evaluation, as this is a requirement on the ROE application.

Project Director Smyth expressed that, due to the delay in Southern California Edison (SCE) receiving their Special Use Permit (SUP), SCE announced a delay of six (6) months for the completion of the new solar power system at Burnt Peak (BUR1). Project Director Smyth further expressed the new completion date for the solar power system is anticipated to be complete in the fourth quarter of 2024. Project Director Smyth mentioned that LA-RICS would issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for work required to connect to the SCE solar power grid.



Project Director Smyth mentioned the road damage at (GRM) was repaired by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD).

Project Director Smyth reported the responsibility of processing and paying permit renewals to the Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has been transferred from Motorola Solutions, Incorporated (MSI) to LA-RICS. The Jacobs Project Management Team (PM Team) developed a comprehensive automated tracker that would notify LA-RICS of upcoming permit renewals.

Project Director Smyth further reported that bids were received for the tower demolition work at TWR on February 6, 2024, and the tower demolition work will be awarded on February 28, 2024. Project Director Smyth stated the completion of this work is anticipated by the end of April 2024. Project Director Smyth further stated the PM Team would be working with the Catalina Island Conservancy to monitor construction during fox pupping season, which runs from February to early April 2024.

Monitoring Tools

Project Director Smyth outlined the Change Request (CRQ) process, which involves an individual notifying the MSI Network Operations Center (NOC) before they enter the LA-RICS shelter and when they exit the shelter so the NOC is aware to suppress the door alarms during this time. Project Director Smyth further outlined the MSI NOC would notify LA-RICS, who would follow-up on the alarm. Project Director Smyth expressed the PM Team revamped the CRQ calendar process to implement a solution, which automatically populates the shared calendar by pulling CRQ data from the MSI MyView portal and posting them to the shared calendar. Project Director Smyth further expressed the PM Team is working on protocols for response to door alarms for unscheduled entries and is pushing compliance and reliance on the shared calendar, as the door alarm activity noted in the incident tracker is mostly a result of non-compliance with the CRQ process.

Logistics

Project Director Smyth expressed that site access roads for BUR1 and GRM were affected by the recent storm, and the PM Team has plans in place for road repair work. Project Director Smyth further expressed the PM Team coordinates the Preventative Maintenance schedule with MSI to be sure road conditions do not prevent scheduled PMs from occurring.



Project Director Smyth stated the PM Team continues to work with Catalina Conservancy to arrange for escorts to conduct Preventative Maintenance work for sites on the Santa Catalina Island.

Lease and Regulatory Compliance

Project Director Smyth mentioned the Lease and Regulatory Compliance Tracker tracks renewal dates and yearly reporting requirements for the Air Quality Management District (AQMD) permits. Project Director Smyth further mentioned the tracker also provides notification of upcoming renewals and reporting deadlines. Project Director Smyth shared the Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) and California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) Tracker is used to track renewal dates and yearly reporting requirements for hazardous material compliance.

Project Director Smyth reported that a Site Acquisition Team joined the project addressing the backlog of monitoring and compliance activities. Project Director Smyth further reported the Site Acquisition Team would be setting up a process for the intake of application forms for collocation requests, Site Access Agreement (SAA) development / modification, weed abatement, coastal permits, and citations that have been received.

Procurement

Project Director Smyth shared the PM Team is developing a budget for a gap analysis, which is a breakdown of scope, cost, and schedule for each service that falls between the scope of MSI warranty services and County Internal Services Department (ISD) maintenance and operations services.

Fuel Monitoring

Project Director Smyth shared the PM Team receives generator fuel level alerts reported by the Data Processing System (DPS) T/Mon SMMS, and the PM Team prioritizes in addressing these alerts based on fuel tank size.

Incident Management

Program Director Smyth reported the PM Team is tracking facilities and backhaul incidents by site and category. Program Director Smyth further reported that not all incidents are issues to be resolved, as some incidents are levels of activity. Program Director Smyth stated that many incidents are expected at site County of Los Angeles (County) Fire Fire Command and Control Facility (FCCF) since this site serves as the NOC.



Program Director Smyth shared data of total facility and backhaul incidents for the top five (5) sites for January 2024 with the sites being Mount Disappointment (MDI), Mira Loma Detention Facility (MLM), Pomona Courthouse (POM), Whitaker Middle Peak (WMP), and PHN (Puente Hills Nike). Project Director Smyth reported that Generator / Automatic Transfer Switch alarms occurred at sites MDI, MLM, and POM. Project Director Smyth further reported the MDI and MLM alarms were the result of SCE power outages, and the POM alarm was a result of a weekly generator testing. Program Director Smyth stated the microwave alarm at Whitaker Middle Peak (WMP) is due to fade, according to MSI, and the Network Time Protocol alarm at PHN was a false alarm caused by unrelated site work. Program Director Smyth mentioned the tower beacon light at MLM has been resolved.

This concluded the Project Managers report with no additional discussion.

C. Regional Interoperability Update – Operations Lead Lt. Weber

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported the Authority would attend the Regional Interoperability meeting this week with the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Working Group.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported the Authority would meet with Mutual Aid leaders at their regular meeting on February 20, 2024, to move forward in discussions on programming Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) Agencies with Regional Interoperable Talkgroups.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned the Authority has moved forward with the process needed to distribute shared and visiting Radio IDs. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further mentioned the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ICI regarding these shared and visiting Radio IDs is in the final stages of completion. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated once the agreement is completed, the Authority would begin work on the process. Operations Lead Lt. Weber concluded his report with no additional discussion.

D. LMR Network Operation Status and Issues– Technical Lead Ted Pao

Technical Lead Ted Pao greeted the Committee Members.

Technical Lead Pao stated the County of Los Angeles Fire Department



(LACoFD) successfully transitioned its radio communications to the LA-RICS LMR System. Technical Lead Pao further stated that managing such a substantial change for a large fire department, especially one that involves expanding the radio channels, presents inherent challenges. Technical Lead Pao further stated the transition period into the LMR System is expected, and the transition period has been relatively smooth.

Technical Lead Pao mentioned the California Highway Patrol (CHP) tower collapse at site Tejon Peak (TPK), which is the most northern site, with an elevation of just under five thousand (5,000) feet. Technical Lead Pao further mentioned the tower collapse, which was a result of high winds and ice buildup, caused damage to the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) vandal cage and fence. Technical Lead Pao expressed that initial assessments indicate there are no structural or roof damage to the shelter. Technical Lead Pao further expressed the CHP removed the tower from the LA-RICS shelter on February 16, 2024, and that once the weather clears up and access to the site is available, LA-RICS will perform a full assessment of the damages.

Technical Lead Pao reported the top fifteen (15) sites with the most Talkgroup time with the Downtown Los Angeles seven hundred (700) MHz, Downtown Los Angeles Ultra High Frequency (UHF), South seven hundred (700) MHz, and the San Gabriel seven hundred (700) MHz having the most Talkgroup time. Technical Lead Pao further reported these statistics follow the trends of previous months.

Technical Lead Pao shared data of sites with the most Talkgroup use and reported the custody site at the County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) Men's Central Jail (MCJ) had the most Talkgroup usage with twenty-five thousand and ninety (25,090) minutes. Technical Lead Pao further shared Inglewood Police Department (IGPD) was behind MCJ with twenty-one thousand, one hundred and ninety-seven (21,197) minutes, and the Twin Tower Correctional Facility (TTCF 1) having the third most Talkgroup usage.

Technical Lead Pao reported the MCJ site had the most Push-to-Talk (PTT) Count, and that it is speculated the Downtown Los Angeles cell had longer conversations, however, the talk time was longer in minutes. Technical Lead Pao expressed MCJ had the most PTT Count by cell. Technical Lead Pao further expressed the system treats a console location as a site, therefore, IGPD is part of the group of sites with the most PTT Count. Technical Lead Pao mentioned this group of sites with the most PTT Count by cell for January 2024 include dispatch sites.



Technical Lead Pao stated LASD is the Agency with the most talk time as far as Agency use with the Agency using two hundred and fifty four thousand, two hundred and thirty four (254,234) minutes, the LACoFD using one hundred sixty one thousand, nine hundred and eighty six (161,986) minutes, and IGPD using twenty one thousand, two hundred and thirty three (21,233) minutes and the Drug Enforcement Administration Office (DEA) using five thousand, one hundred and seventy minutes (5,170) for January 2024.

Technical Lead Pao concluded his report with no additional discussion.

E. LA-RICS User Agreement – Deputy Executive Director Ronald Watson

Deputy Executive Director Ronald Watson greeted the Committee Members.

Deputy Executive Director Watson stated that Agenda Item E is to provide the Joint Committees with an update on the LA-RICS User Agreements for both Subscribers and Affiliates. Deputy Executive Director Watson further stated the LA-RICS Authority achieved System Acceptance in November of 2023, with the LA-RICS Board approving the User Agreement template for Subscribers and Affiliates in December 2023 and January 2024 respectively. Deputy Executive Director Watson shared, in summary, the User Agreement provides a template document to be executed by either Subscribers who will pay a twenty dollar (\$20) Monthly fee to utilize the LMR System for their primary radio communications or affiliates who desire to utilize the LMR System only for Mutual or Automatic aid.

Deputy Executive Director Watson explained that Subscribers who intend to use the LMR System for their primary radio communications, will be required to pay a Monthly Fee of twenty dollars (\$20) per device that has access or utilizes the LMR System, which can include radios, consoles, consolettes, modems, and other equipment. Deputy Executive Director Watson further explained, this includes devices that utilize the LMR System either directly or indirectly, such as smartphones with Push-to-Talk (PTT) functionality.

Deputy Executive Director Watson expressed Affiliates who intend to utilize the LMR System solely for Mutual or Automatic aid will be able to use the System at no-cost but will be required to enter into an Affiliate User Agreement. Deputy Executive Director Watson further expressed that currently, both LACoFD and the LASD are full subscribers to the LA-RICS System and to date, dozens of Subscriber Agreements have been sent to other non-County Agencies within the Operational Area, so they are



available to LA-RICS for their use as either a Subscriber or as an Affiliate Member.

Deputy Executive Director Watson reported that, of the Subscriber Agreements sent, besides to the County of Los Angeles, the Authority believes about another one thousand (1,000) Users will be added as Subscriber units.

Deputy Executive Director Watson further reported the User Agreements are available on the LA-RICS website and can also be obtained from the LA-RICS Joint Operations and Technical secretary or any other LA-RICS team member.

Deputy Executive Director Watson shared that once required documentation is provided by the User Agency, the LA-RICS team will work with the Agency to obtain necessary information for radio programming, provisioning, etc.

Deputy Executive Director Watson concluded his report with no additional discussion.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – NONE

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

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

X. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE

XI. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Operations Lead Lt. Weber called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Joint Committee Meeting, to which Vice-Chair Calhoun motioned first.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber adjourned the Regular Joint Operations and Technical Committee Meeting at 1:59 p.m. and stated the next Joint Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 1:30 p.m., at the LA-RICS Headquarters, 2525 Corporate Place, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Monterey Park, California, 91754.