



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

Thursday, May 1, 2025 • 9:00 a.m.

LA-RICS Headquarters
2525 Corporate Pl., Suite 200,
Large Conference Room
Monterey Park, CA 91754

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Tadeo, Director, EMS Agency County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services

Michael Alegria, Fire Chief (Avalon), Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association

Joshua Nelson, City Manager (City of Industry) California Contract Cities Association

Chris Nigg, Fire Chief, At-Large Seat #4 (City of La Verne Fire Department)

ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Leslie Luke, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Management, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office

Nicholas Berkuta, Assistant Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Area Fire Department

Gustavo Jimenez, Police Captain, Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association

Antonio Zavala, Police Lieutenant, At-Large Seat #3 (City of Covina Police Department)

Cardell Hurt, Captain, At-Large Seat #2 (City of Inglewood Police Department)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT

David Sum, Acting Commander, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

OFFICERS PRESENT

Scott Edson, LA-RICS Executive Director

Beatriz Cojulun, LA-RICS Board Secretary



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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Alternate Board Chair Nicholas Berkuta called the Regular meeting of the Board to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL

LA-RICS Project Team Member Marissa Bosque took roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. April 3, 2024 – Regular Minutes

Agenda Item A

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked the Board if there were any questions to the attached Regular meeting minutes for April 3, 2025; hearing none, he called for a motion to approve.

Alternate Board Member Cardell Hurt motioned first, seconded by Board Member Joshua Nelson.

Ayes (7): Tadeo, Alegria, Nelson, Berkuta, Zavala, Hurt, and Coatney.

MOTION APPROVED.

Board Member Leslie Luke and Alternate Board Member Gustavo Jimenez arrived after the Minutes had been carried into motion.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR



There were no consent items on the Regular Meeting Agenda.

VI. REPORTS (B - D)

B. Director's Report – Scott Edson

Executive Director Scott Edson greeted the Board and reported that in April, the LA-RICS Network did not experience any unplanned outages affecting service delivery. Executive Director Edson further reported that preventive maintenance work for radio frequency has been ongoing throughout the month. Executive Director Edson stated that these scheduled activities impact some analog conventional radio channels, as a site under preventative maintenance must be turned off to complete the planned work. Executive Director Edson mentioned that in most cases, prior coordination goes well and the impact on service delivery has been minimal due to overlapping coverage from adjacent sites. However, Executive Director Edson also mentioned there have been a few exceptions, and the goal continues to be to minimize any disruption in service.

Executive Director Edson expressed that with the 2026 World Cup approaching, it is crucial for the region to quickly come together to connect various P25 systems for interoperability. Additionally, Executive Director Edson went on to express that a comprehensive communication operational plan and training are necessary to ensure first responders and all relevant federal and state agencies are effectively communicating and managing the scheduled events. Executive Director Edson stated the 2028 Summer Olympics would have an even greater impact on first responder agencies, as events would be held simultaneously in Los Angeles and Orange counties for a two-week period. Executive Director Edson also stated that there is an urgent need for all stakeholders to recognize the critical importance of radio communications and to address any needs as swiftly as possible. Executive Director Edson shared the Authority continues to champion this position. Executive Director Edson further shared that given the uncertainty around future federal grant funding; the state and event hosts may need to collaborate with the region to ensure funding needed to prevent communication gaps becomes problematic. Executive Director Edson believes the Authority has been impatiently waiting to attend meetings and planning sessions.

Executive Director Edson said that while waiting, the Authority continues to move forward with regional communications interoperability connections now, with funding from Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) 24 for that purpose.



This week, however, Executive Director Edson said the Authority was surprised to hear the City of Los Angeles (City) might have repurposed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) from UASI 24 for City communication needs, funds that were approved by the UASI for regional interoperable communications. Executive Director Edson expressed that if true, this would delay interoperable communications between LA-RICS and three (3) City Systems. Executive Director Edson also said the Authority asked the Grants Unit in the City Mayor's Office for clarification, which he would report back once something was learned.

Executive Director Edson mentioned that as noted in his previous briefing, utility power remains the least reliable due to scheduled maintenance, unplanned outages, public safety power shutdowns, and fire-related disruptions. Executive Director Edson further mentioned that in April, Southern California Edison (SCE) carried out maintenance work that resulted in extended generator runtime at one of LA-RICS' LMR sites, leading to a variance filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) for operations approaching or exceeding the two hundred (200) hour yearly limit. Executive Director Edson reported that this month, another site is undergoing a similar multi-day planned outage, which would also require a new variance filing with the SCAQMD. Executive Director Edson further reported these outages have necessitated generator operation, fuel depletion, additional maintenance work, and Authority staff time to handle SCAQMD filings.

Executive Director Edson said that Claremont Police Department transitioned to LA-RICS on April 23, 2025, and the transition went relatively smoothly, with no operational issues reported by the officers. However, Executive Director Edson further said that officers and dispatchers would need time to acclimate to how P25 operates, as the operation and audio differ from what they are accustomed.

Regarding grants, Executive Director Edson informed the Board that since the last Board meeting, in connection with the Authority's application for federal financial assistance as it relates to the California Wildfires and straight line winds events, the Authority's team had in person meetings with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on April 14, 2025, and had another meeting on April 29, 2025, to review the damage inventory list, categories' requirements and next steps. Executive Director Edson went on to provide further information and said the next in person meeting will be the week of May 12, 2025, and that will be a site visit to Green Mountain which sustained damage during the Palisades Fire. Executive Director Edson reassured the Board he would keep the Board apprised of updates as they are received. Executive Director Edson said the Authority has an additional meeting scheduled with the FEMA team on May 22, 2025.



Executive Director Edson reported that on April 11, 2025, the Authority received a Grant Management Memorandum through the City Mayor's Office from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) advising the Authority of a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and FEMA "pause" on federal grant funding while they conduct a manual review of its grant programs including pending disbursement requests for obligated grant funds. Executive Director Edson further reported the letter summarized the efforts by Cal OES to address this funding pause, including the status of litigation brought by California and twenty-two (22) other states to restore congressionally authorized funding. Executive Director Edson said the letter shared details associated with the Federal District Court in Rhode Island, which issued an order to end the manual review and comply with the Court's prior order that FEMA not pause or impede the disbursement of federal grant funds.

Executive Director Edson shared the Cal OES letter states they are waiting for the Rhode Island District Court to issue its decision, while in parallel informing the recipients of information that may be needed along with disbursement requests. Executive Director Edson also shared that in discussions with the County, who provides access to a revolving fund through which the Authority pays for grant-funded expenditures, and then submits claims to the grantor for reimbursement of this fund, the Authority continues to work funded by open/awarded grants that have been appropriated. Executive Director Edson mentioned the Authority would continue to work with the County, specifically Mr. Mathew Marlowe and his team at the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO), Office of Budget and Policy and Revenue Alignment, as they assess the impacts of the grant "pause" and will keep the Board informed. Executive Director Edson shared the total worst-case impact is fourteen million six hundred thousand dollars (\$14.6).

Executive Director Edson mentioned that regarding Fiscal, Budget, and Contracts, in the agenda packet Agenda Item G, which is the quarterly Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for AT&T Business Agreement funds; these funds are utilized for any work relating to the Long Term Evolution (LTE) project and/or work at LMR sites that are co-located with LTE sites now owned by AT&T/FirstNet. Executive Director Edson would go over that report later in the agenda.

Executive Director Edson asked the Board to recall that on the last months' agenda the Authority held the Agenda Item with Gencore, pending time to resolve insurance requirements and obtain required policies, and thus having the Authority bring to the board Agenda Item H which requests the Board's approval of an Agreement with Gencore to enhance the existing data management solution used on the LMR system which is called GenWatch3. Executive Director Edson informed the Board



this Agreement includes equipment, installation services, configuration services, training and upgrades, to be provided for a not to exceed amount of one hundred thirty-four thousand dollars (\$134,000) and funded under the existing Adopted Budget's California State Budget Act and/or UASI funds depending again on when the work is completed.

Executive Director Edson shared that Agenda Item I, would request the Board for approval of Amendment No. 128 to the MSI agreement for inclusion of a change order to pay for costs associated with MSI's denied entry and requiring scheduling of a subsequent re-visit to perform preventative maintenance work at one of the Authority's sites located in the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center Courthouse (CCT). Executive Director Edson went on to share that internal miscommunication with the property owner has been addressed and should not occur again.

Executive Director Edson concluded by saying that 2025 is moving quickly, and the Authority's priorities for the summer would be interoperability.

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

C. Joint Operations and Technical Committee Chair's Report – NONE

D. Finance Committee Chair's Report – NONE

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (E – G)

E. Land Mobile Radio Network Operations Status and Issues – Ted Pao

Technical Lead Ted Pao reported that LA-RICS would continue with preventative maintenance work on various components of the LMR infrastructure. Technical Lead Pao shared Enclosure 1, which reflected the statistical breakdown of preventative maintenance activities, specifically for Radio Frequency (RF) subsystems: Digital Trunked Voice Radio Subsystem (DTVRS) – Ultra High Frequency (UHF) and 700 megahertz (MHz), Analog Conventional Voice Radio Subsystem (ACVRS), and Los Angeles Regional Tactical Communication Subsystem (LARTCS). Technical Lead Pao also reported a statistical breakdown of preventative maintenance activities for non-RF systems, specifically generator, fire protection services, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, and direct current power.



Technical Lead Pao shared that progress has been made in every subsystem and infrastructure component. Technical Lead also shared that after one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four (1,854) hours of generator runtime at site East Sunset Ridge (ESR), utility power was restored on April 23, 2025. Technical Lead Pao further shared that, as reported to the Board in the previous month, site ESR went on generator power on February 5, 2025, when SCE equipment failed. Technical Lead Pao went on to say SCE pinpointed the failure at an underground vault next to a damaged tower.

Technical Lead Pao stated that due to safety concerns of its personnel, SCE has held off on the repair until the tower crew removes the damaged portion. Technical Lead Pao further stated that although the owner of the damaged tower attempted to remove the damaged section of the tower, it was not successful in removing it; however, it appears the tower crew was able to secure the damaged component enough to allow the SCE crew to access the vault and restore power. Technical Lead Pao reported that, overall, approximately three thousand (3,000) gallons of diesel fuel were consumed, one thousand seven hundred (1,700) gallons were delivered to the site on April 18, 2025, and another one thousand five hundred (1,500) gallons are scheduled for delivery on May 2, 2025..

Technical Lead Pao said the access road for site Frost Peak (FRP) opened after Mountain High Ski Resort shut down for the ski season. Technical Lead Pao shared Authority staff went onsite to survey any additional winter damage and assess the scope of repair from the previous winter and fire damage because of the Bridge Fire. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that there were new damages to one of the antennas, generator grip strut roof, and fence. Technical Lead Pao mentioned that damages were most likely caused by the fallen ice or ice-loaded antenna with wind, and the Authority staff continues to work with a contractor to restore the site.

Regarding the site security enhancement project, the door access control and surveillance camera, Technical Lead Pao reported that LA-RICS continues with the implementation efforts at various sites. Technical Lead Pao further reported that in the last week, the pace of tower camera installation has picked up with the addition of new contracted tower crews. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that LA-RICS is still on a very tight schedule to complete the installation at the end of the month. Technical Lead Pao said LA-RICS is constantly working out issues and monitoring the progress. Technical Lead Pao stated when the camera and door access installation is completed; the LA-RICS staff will need to perform the final configuration and the camera's analytic capability.



Technical Lead Pao shared Enclosure 1, which included a video and a few images demonstrating camera functionality.

Executive Director Edson mentioned that LA-RICS headquarters had moved to the second floor of the building and going through a hardware refresh; with new technology arriving in the next few months. Executive Director Edson further mentioned that, unfortunately, there were some metal theft and vandalism issues at some sites, and this security is much needed. Executive Director Edson went on to say that by May or June, most sites would have some sort of enhanced security system or door lock system.

Technical Lead Pao expressed it will take time to set up and fine-tune the cameras.

Board Member Richard Tadeo asked Technical Lead Pao if LA-RICS was manually tracking and zooming, to which Technical Lead Pao stated that camera tracking would be automatic.

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked Technical Lead Pao if the cameras could detect intrusion into the property and communicate these to the Network Operations Center (NOC). Technical Lead Pao said there was that capability, however, LA-RICS has not gone to that configuration yet; LA-RICS would try to set the system up that way.

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

F. Outreach Update – Lieutenant Robert Weber

Operations Lead Lieutenant Robert Weber greeted Board members and referenced the detailed Outreach Summary document for the months of April 2025 included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported that during the month of April, Authority staff continued with Subscriber and Affiliate outreach efforts while also assisting with several other projects. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported that Authority staff has been assisting with the site security upgrade project and escorts to several sites for inspections and maintenance. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated that County Sheriff's Department's (LASD) Contract Cities subscriber efforts are continuing. Operations Lead Lt. Weber also stated that currently the Authority has been working with the City of Malibu to identify additional uses for the DTVRS system, and the Authority should have more to report in the coming months.



Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared the Authority continues to work with members of the Interagency Communications Interoperability system (ICI) regarding affiliate radio ID efforts and the programming of the regional Inter Subsystem Interface (ISSI) interoperability Talkgroups. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further shared that several of the ICI agencies are in the process of updating their radios and equipment to be interoperable. Operations Lead Lt. Weber expressed that retired Lieutenant Paul Villalobos has been very helpful to the region regarding this effort. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated that progress has been slow but steady. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned that on April 10, 2025, Authority staff attended the ICI Technical Committee meeting, which interoperability was discussed and seems to be moving in an encouraging direction.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber said that regarding overall regional interoperability the Authority has a very positive step forward to report. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say that in April LA-RICS signed an Affiliate Agreement with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to provide connections with their units. Operations Lead Lt. Weber also said the Authority continues the conversation and should have more to report very soon.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that Authority staff is monitoring the progress of the World Cup Emergency Communications planning group, and that on April 15, 2025, the Authority staff attended the working group call, with planning progressing well. Operations Lead Lt. Weber also shared that on April 16, 2025, Authority staff attended a Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) World Cup Webinar, which gave a broader picture and was very informative. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say the April UASI Interoperability Working Group meeting was cancelled, however, the Authority hopes to be back on track next month. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned that Authority staff continues to coordinate with City of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) executives and managers, however due to conflicts, the Authority staff was not able to meet with them in April. Operations Lead Lt. Weber also mentioned that during the month of April, Authority staff continued coordination with Cal OES regarding interoperability and the use of the LARTCS system. Operations Lead Lt. Weber hopes to have more to report in May regarding these efforts.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber said that in addition to the Authority's outreach and interoperability efforts during the month of April, the Authority staff continued planning for internal computer upgrades for the LA-RICS offices.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned that Authority staff continues coordination with Palos Verdes Estates Police Department, the City of Claremont Police



Department, the UCLA Police Department, and several other agencies. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further mentioned the Authority staff would continue to work closely with these agencies to ensure their needs have been met.

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

Operations Lead Weber asked if there were any questions. There was no further discussion.

G. STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS FOR AT&T BUSINESS AGREEMENT FUND FOR PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND NETWORK (PSBN)

Executive Director Edson provided background on the formation of LA-RICS mentioning that when LA-RICS was first formed, it provided both LMR and PSBN systems. Executive Director Edson said the Federal Government decided that they needed a nationwide public safety broadband system, therefore, what LA-RICS built in the form of public safety broadband was used as the national PSBN. Executive Director Edson shared the quarterly report of the balance from that fund.

Executive Director Edson asked if there were any questions. There was no further discussion.

RECEIVED AND FILED

VIII ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (H – I)

H. APPROVE A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH GENCORE CANDEO, LTD. (DBA THE GENESIS GROUP) FOR GENWATCH 3 FOR USE ON THE LAND MOBILE RADIO (LMR) SYSTEM

Executive Director Edson presented Agenda Item H, which requested the Board's approval of an Agreement between the Authority and GenCore Candeo, Ltd. (dba the Genesis Group) (Genesis) to allow Genesis to provide the necessary equipment, installation, configuration and training, to upgrade and enhance GenWatch3, the data management solution used on the LMR System for a total not-to-exceed amount of one hundred thirty-three thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine dollars (\$133,769), which if approved by the Board, would be funded by the State Budget Act of 2022.



Executive Director Edson shared that on August 1, 2024, the Board delegated authority to the Executive Director to enter into sole source negotiations with Genesis, and this agenda item for the Board's consideration is the result of these successful negotiations.

Executive Director Edson further shared that Genesis, developed GenWatch3, the current existing data monitoring and management software utilized in the LMR System. Executive Director Edson went on to say that GenWatch3 was introduced to the LMR System by way of the LMR contract between MSI and the Authority, whereby MSI and Genesis partnered.

Executive Director Edson expressed the Authority sought to contract directly with Genesis to procure additional features and upgrade existing functions not found on the Authority's current version of the application. Executive Director Edson further expressed such enhancements include the ability to monitor the location of all radios used on the system in real time, provide a historical trail of device whereabouts, improved filtering functionality during emergencies, and improvements to notifications for alarms and events, all among other things.

Lastly, Executive Director Edson requested the Board to delegate authority to the Executive Director to negotiate, finalize, and execute the Agreement and approve and execute amendments to the Agreement, provided any such amendments are approved as to form by Counsel.

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

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked for a motion to approve. Alternate Board Member Hurt motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Coatney.

Ayes 9: Tadeo, Alegria, Nelson, Luke, Berkuta, Jimenez, Zavala, Hurt, and Coatney

MOTION APPROVED.

I. LMR AMENDMENT NO. 128 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA--RICS 007

Executive Director Edson presented Agenda Item I in which the Board was requested approval to execute Amendment No. 128 with MSI to incorporate a change order in the amount of eight hundred fifty dollars (\$850), which if approved



by the Board, would be funded by UASI grants or by the State Budget Act funds of 2022.

Executive Director Edson reported the change order is to pay MSI for denied entry at one of the LA-RICS sites, Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center (CCT), where the visit was intended for MSI to perform annual HVAC preventative maintenance. Executive Director Edson further reported that with respect to maintenance, it is the Authority's contractual obligation to provide MSI access to the sites to perform maintenance services. Executive Director Edson went on to say that due to internal miscommunication on the part of the site owner, MSI was denied entry at CCT, and the change order for the Board's consideration would allow the Authority to pay for the costs associated with the resources expended for the site visit.

Further, Executive Director Edson requested the Board to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 128, and issue one or more Notices to Proceed for this work.

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

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked for a motion to approve. Board Member Nelson motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Hurt.

Ayes 9: Tadeo, Alegria, Nelson, Luke, Berkuta, Jimenez, Zavala, Hurt, and Coatney

MOTION APPROVED.

XI. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

There were no Miscellaneous Items for the Regular Meeting.

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

There were no Future Discussion and/or Action Items for the Regular Meeting.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE

XIII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS AND NEXT REGULAR MEETING



Alternate Board Chair Berkuta adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 9:30 a.m. and stated the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the LA-RICS Headquarters.

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Alternate Board Member Hurt made a motion.

APPROVED

Infrastructure Preventive Maintenance Status

RF Preventive Maintenance	Total	Completed	% Completed
DTVRS (UHF & 700 MHz)	103	83	81%
ACVRS	100	74	74%
LARTCS	77	61	79%
None RF System			
Generator	42	41	98%
FPS	58	56	97%
HVAC	52	48	92%
DC Power	59	41	69%

RIH 3 Hikers Full View



AGENDA ITEM A - ENCLOSURE 2

RIH 3 Hikers Midium Zoom



AGENDA ITEM A - ENCLOSURE 3

RIH 3 Hikers Close Zoom



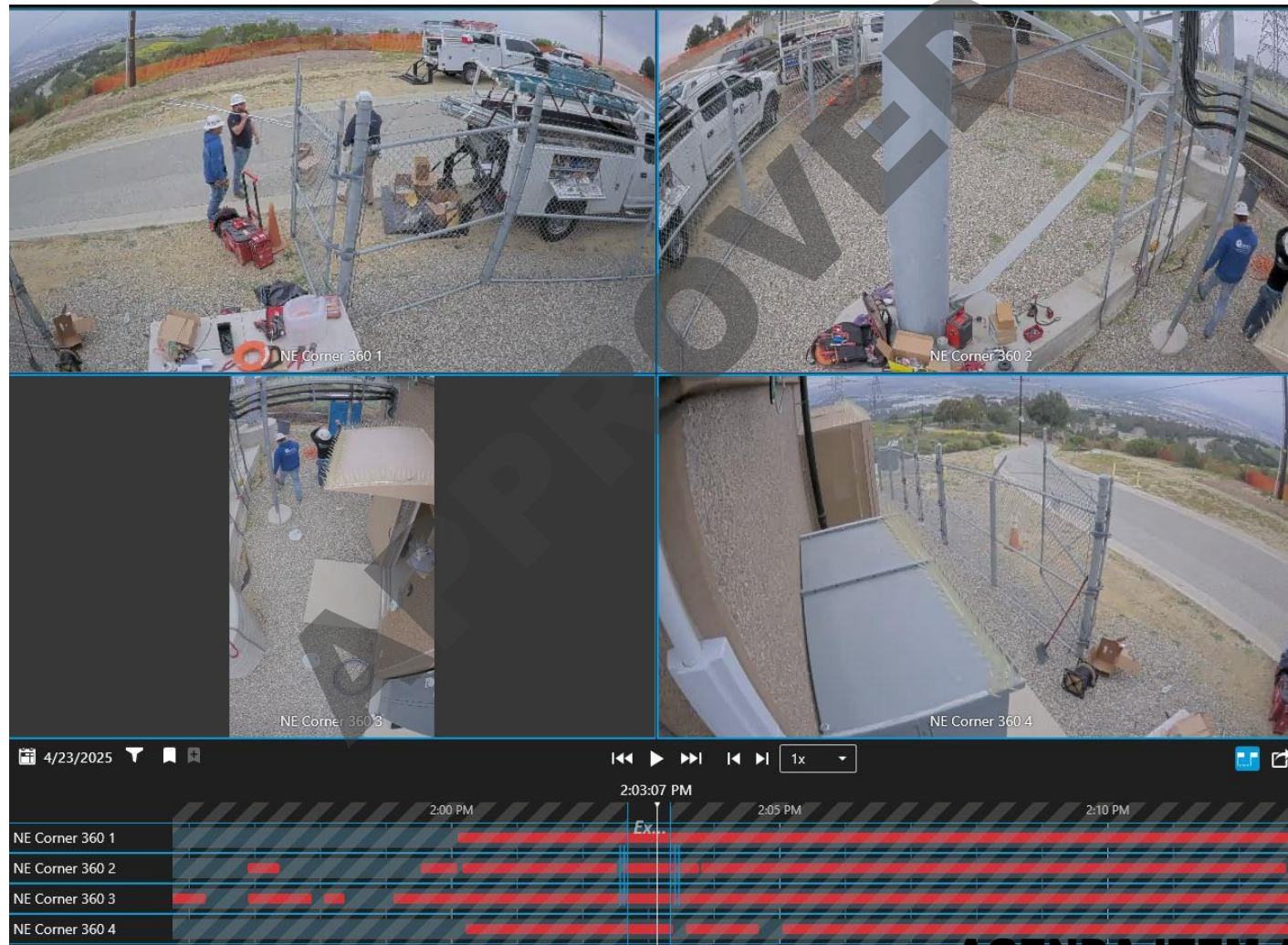
AGENDA ITEM A - ENCLOSURE 4

RIH Front Gate Camera Example



AGENDA ITEM A - ENCLOSURE 5

RIH 360 Degree Camera Sample



AGENDA ITEM A - ENCLOSURE 6