



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY**

Thursday, November 6, 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

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

Ric Walczak, Police Chief, At-Large Seat #3 (City of Covina Police Department)

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

ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

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

Gustavo Jimenez, Police Captain (Monterey Park), Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT

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

Michael Alegria, Fire Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association

OFFICERS PRESENT

Scott Edson, LA-RICS Executive Director

Laura Vasquez, 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. October 2, 2025 – Regular Minutes

Agenda Item A

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked the Board if there were any questions to the attached Regular meeting minutes for October 2, 2025; hearing none, he called for a motion to approve.

Alternate Board Member David Sum motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Cardell Hurt.

Ayes (8): Tadeo, Nelson, Walczak, Nigg, Berkuta, Sum, Jimenez, and Hurt.

MOTION APPROVED.

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 October, the network operated smoothly with no service interruptions, stating restoration work at site Frost Peak (FRP), near Mountain High Ski Resort, was nearly complete; one final microwave path alignment remained and was scheduled for completion. Executive Director Edson further reported that regarding electrical service at site Burnt Peak (BUR1), LMR Amendment No. 133, which would be presented before the Board, would cover the work LA-RICS needed Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) to perform to complete the service connection. Executive Director Edson went on to say LA-RICS learned that Southern California Edison (SCE) may need to delay the completion of the solar grid project due to a protected bee habitat, and LA-RICS expected SCE to complete its portion by the end of the first quarter of 2026.

Regarding regional interoperability implementation, Executive Director Edson shared that in October, LA-RICS made significant progress toward regional System-of-Systems interoperability, and the agenda included the Board's request for approval of LMR Amendment No. 133, which added more interconnection work to advance interoperability using the Hub-and-Spoke model. Executive Director Edson further shared the region's 2016 System-of-Systems decision delayed LA-RICS' progress due to other systems falling behind; however, after years of delays and hundreds of millions of dollars in grant-funded radio projects, LA-RICS was finally pushing for the agencies in the region to achieve true interoperability.

Executive Director Edson stated that once this new interconnection work was completed, LA-RICS would have Inter-RF Subsystem Interface (ISSI) connectivity ready for the City of Long Beach, City of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), Port of Los Angeles (POLA), San Bernardino County, and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). Executive Director Edson further stated that it was important to note that LA-RICS' part would be finished as soon as the physical connections and fleet mapping were completed on the partner systems' side. Executive Director Edson went on to say LA-RICS was also making progress with Motorola Critical Connect for Ventura County and the California Radio Interoperable System (CRIS). Executive Director Edson expressed this would not be possible without the strong commitment from MSI and the LA-RICS staff.

Executive Director Edson said that LA-RICS was working with regional partners on ISSI operations to support future events, whether they were planned, spontaneous, or ongoing. Executive Director Edson expressed that with the 2026 World Cup approaching soon after these interconnections are complete, LA-RICS must ensure



that ISSI interoperability capabilities and features were included in the operations plan. Executive Director Edson further expressed the 2026 World Cup would serve as a model for scaling up support for the LA 2028 Olympics, and achieving full System-of-Systems operations would require time for programming radios, updating consoles, developing an interoperability plan, and training end users. Executive Director Edson went on to say Emergency Communications Centers (ECCs) would also need training and practice in ad-hoc, planned, and hybrid operations.

Regarding law enforcement interoperability, Executive Director Edson expressed that he was thrilled to report that during the last week of October, LA-RICS assisted the LAPD with programming some of their Metro division radios with the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) and their regional channels. Executive Director Edson further expressed that with this effort, LA-RICS had minimal interoperability with LAPD with more to come. Executive Director Edson went on to say that, additionally, California Highway Patrol (CHP) aero units had LA-RICS and their subscriber talk group channels, and Operations Lead Lieutenant Weber would speak about this in his report.

Executive Director Edson shared the hope that communications among first responder agencies would never again be cited as a weakness in after-action reports, as was demonstrated with the recent County of Los Angeles Fire Department (LACoFD) Palisades Fire After Action Report. Executive Director Edson further shared that even with years of planning and experience, fire agencies faced communications challenges when multiple failures and incidents occurred at once. Executive Director Edson went on to say that commercial broadband technology, FirstNet, and Frontline, could make day-to-day public safety operations more efficient and introduce helpful new tools; however, during major wildland fires or disasters, public safety agencies must rely on proven public-safety-grade land mobile radio systems for critical incident response to protect lives and property.

Executive Director Edson mentioned that, as a reminder, the LA-RICS system included a narrowband data only network with the same coverage as the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) network, and agencies could use the narrowband network as a fallback to FirstNet or Frontline. Executive Director Edson further mentioned that, currently, only LACoFD used the narrowband data network.

Executive Director Edson shared that LA-RICS was recognized as a strong performer in the McCrystal Group's After-Action Review of Alert Notification Systems and Evacuation Policies for the Eaton and Palisades Fires. Executive Director Edson expressed that LA-RICS remained committed to providing the



region's most capable interoperable communications system. Executive Director Edson stated that LA-RICS' ISSI connections and affiliate agreements could also offer a seamless backup for first responders, as demonstrated during the Eaton Fire. Executive Director Edson mentioned it was encouraged that every public safety agency in the region connect to LA-RICS either as an affiliate or a subscriber.

Executive Director Edson said that as LA-RICS approached the midway point of the fiscal year, there were certain line items that were not in accordance with the Adopted Budget, with realization of savings specifically associated with vacant approved budgeted positions within the Project Team. Executive Director Edson reported that LA-RICS was working with LASD on filling those vacant items, however, as many are familiar with the County of Los Angeles (County) hiring process, this was taking some time. Executive Director Edson further reported that there were certain project team items that were being filled via Professional Services Agreements, as the County pool of employees did not have the technical and operational experience with P25 technology that was needed for this new system. Executive Director Edson went on to say that a Sole Source Agreement with PV Communications, Inc. was part of the agenda packet; this Sole Source Agreement would fill one of these vacant positions for the ongoing operations and maintenance work at LA-RICS.

Regarding Grants, Executive Director Edson said that, as he mentioned to the Board in the last meeting, the Urban Area Securities Initiative (UASI) 2026 Approval Authority was preparing for the UASI 2026 application cycle. Executive Director Edson shared there were several meetings that took place with the Interoperable Communications Working Group that led to the decision to pack the group's carveout request into one letter that would be shared with the UASI Approval Authority voting members. Executive Director Edson further shared the letter was to identify any gaps needed to complete the Systems-of-Systems model and the carveout for ongoing operation and maintenance of this model.

Executive Director Edson went on to say that, unfortunately, as had been past practice, certain agencies utilized the gap and operations and maintenance carveout to identify system refresh, system expansion needs and not "completion" of the interconnections required for the System of Systems model or the agreed-upon operations and maintenance charges tied to the MSI Subscriber User Agreements (SUA). Executive Director Edson stated this was likely due to lack of oversight and proper management by the Mayor's office who received grant funds annually to manage and administer the grant. Executive Director Edson further stated that, additionally, the letter's content was not validated or verified for appropriateness, and despite being agendaized in the UASI Approval Authority



meeting for presentation and discussion, the item was ignored, and the UASI Approval Authority voted to maintain the existing allocations which include a seven hundred thousand dollar (\$700,000) allocation to each system regardless of system technology, footprint, population served, functionality, or regional interoperability needs.

Executive Director Edson expressed that LA-RICS remained hopeful and would keep pushing for accountability to ensure the implementation of interoperable communications and the director at the Mayor's office would be equipped to understand priorities and appropriate use of grant funds and equitable funding.

Regarding Contracts, Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item G was the Sole Source Agreement for Mr. Paul Villalobos to continue to provide radio subject matter expert services for LA-RICS users and affiliates, with certain services provided to outside agencies reimbursable under the Board approved Hold Harmless Agreement. Executive Director Edson further reported this position was included in the LA-RICS Adopted Budget under the Sheriff Deputy line item and would be filled by two as-needed part-time individuals.

Executive Director Edson went on to say that as LA-RICS reported to the UASI Approval Authority and the Interoperable Communications Working Group in the past, one of the major impediments with achieving interoperability in the region was the lack of available resources or funding for certain agencies; as a result, these agencies were unable to complete radio programming. Executive Director Edson said that to mitigate this issue, LA-RICS established a Hold-Harmless Agreement that gave these agencies a vehicle through which to accomplish this very important and time-sensitive work despite their lack of permanent resources and at a lower cost.

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item H was incorporating certain out of scope Change Orders to LA-RICS' agreement with MSI, including fire remediation work at site Hauser Peak (HPK), scope for permanent power at site BUR1, CADi Interface Connection and IMW API work, and the UASI 2024 interconnection work to finish the System-of-Systems model where LA-RICS served as the hub for the region. Executive Director Edson further reported the team was working closely with MSI to ensure the interconnection and provisioning work to complete the interconnections on the LA-RICS side were expedited; the issue was that certain agencies, namely the City of Los Angeles (City) agencies, such as POLA, LAWA, and LAPD, were not prioritizing the interconnection work. Executive Director Edson went on to say that LA-RICS would continue to push for this work to be completed, and with the additional available resources to help these



agencies with their delayed radio programming work, LA-RICS hoped to have this work completed before the 2026 International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) World Cup.

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item I was for an Amendment for thirty-seven thousand dollars (\$37,000) with Gencore Candéo, LTD. Dba the Genesis Group to integrate a Genesis CAD interface with the MSI CAD interface. Executive Director Edson mentioned this would help with interoperability.

Executive Director reported that Agenda Item J was requesting the Board's approval to accept the 2024 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) grant funds which totaled one million one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$1,120,000) which would be the final SHSGP allocation that was parsed out over several years to pay for the deployment of the system. Executive Director Edson further reported these were reimbursement grants; LA-RICS pays out of their own funds and then receives reimbursement from the grant. Executive Director Edson went on to say these funds would be utilized to replenish the funds that paid for the Final System Acceptance that was paid out when we completed the one-year warranty.

Executive Director Edson stated that former LA-RICS Board Secretary Beatriz Cojulun was no longer with LA-RICS and made a lateral transfer to LASD; Ms. Cojulun was with LA-RICS for fourteen (14) years and did an outstanding job, and she would be missed. Executive Director Edson further stated that LA-RICS was able to fill one of their administrative vacancies recently with Laura Vasquez, from LASD, and she would perform many of those duties as LA-RICS attempts to fill other positions.

Executive Director Edson shared that Operations Lead Lt. Weber would also be leaving LA-RICS later this month as one of the LASD Assistant Sheriff's recognized Operation Lead Lt. Weber's outstanding work at LA-RICS and offered him a position. Executive Director Edson further shared Operations Lead Lt. Weber was with LA-RICS for about three (3) years and had many successes; his biggest contribution to LA-RICS was successful interoperability during the fires and the visit from LAPD last week. Executive Director Edson expressed his appreciation to Operations Lead Lt. Weber.

Executive Director Edson reported that, after several interviews, LA-RICS hired Lt. Joe Domingez from the LASD Sheriff station in Norwalk, and he would report more on Lt. Dominguez in the next Board meeting.



This concluded the report on Agenda Item B 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 – F)

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

Technical Lead Ted Pao reported the LMR network did not experience any service-affecting outages in October, and, operationally, the LA-RICS team continued to focus on site maintenance and repair tasks. Technical Lead Pao further reported that most of this month's work involved preventative maintenance such as fuel polishing for generator fuel at radio sites, fuel spill and overfill containment drainage after rain, site repairs, housekeeping, vendor escort duties, and electrical work. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that over eighty percent (80%) of the LA-RICS field staff's time was dedicated to supporting these activities.

Technical Lead Pao shared that LA-RICS had made significant progress in negotiating with MSI on meeting the region's interoperability needs amongst various other P25 public safety radio systems in the region. Technical Lead Pao expressed that LA-RICS firmly believed that it was the right time for the Los Angeles and Long Beach UASI regions to be connected via ISSI after having spent hundreds of millions of grants funded dollars on radio systems.

Technical Lead Pao shared a slide (**Agenda Item A – Enclosure 1**) regarding the System-of-Systems Hub and Spoke model. Technical Lead Pao stated the Hub-and-Spoke ISSI configuration ensured that all Los Angeles and Long Beach UASI funded radio systems were connected to LA-RICS as the hub. Technical Lead Pao further stated the three (3) City systems which were LAPD, LAWA, and POLA were also connected in a mesh network configuration to support the operational needs of the three (3) agencies.

Technical Lead Pao expressed that LA-RICS was happy to report of ISSI connections to San Bernardino County and the California Radio Interoperable System (CRIS), which was the Cal OES statewide interoperable system. Technical Lead Pao shared that it was in LA-RICS' plans to connect with adjacent counties and CRIS to further expand interoperability beyond the Los Angeles and Long Beach UASI region; and with San Bernardino County extending to the state lines



with Arizona and Nevada, and Cal OES' coverage to forty percent (40%) of the state, it could have immense impact to interoperability and coverage extension to subscribing agencies.

Technical Lead Pao shared a second slide (**Agenda Item A – Enclosure 2**) which highlighted the benefits of ISSI. Technical Lead Pao stated the ISSI allowed up to twenty-four (24) disparate P25 radio systems to connect which could mean coverage extension for some users. Technical Lead Pao provided the City of Long Beach, as an example, with its limited city bounded sites, may have a roaming agreement and capability with LA-RICS which could extend its coverage beyond what the city bounded sites could cover.

Technical Lead Pao stated that with the auto-roaming feature enabled, it was transparent to the end user that roamed outside the home system's coverage and operated on a host system in the neighboring system. Technical Lead Pao further stated that even if the two (2) systems were operating in a different frequency band, if the subscribing radio was capable of multi-band or all-band operation, it did not need user intervention with the auto-roaming feature.

Technical Lead Pao went on to say that with such roaming capability, system operators such as LA-RICS must consider how to best ensure the guest users would not overload the host system and impact its subscriber base; as every agency or system needs and capacities were different, a "one size fits all" approach would not work well with ISSI deployments.

Technical Lead Pao shared a third slide (**Agenda Item A – Enclosure 3**) which highlighted Premium Critical Connect for LA-RICS. Technical Lead Pao reported that Amendment No. 133 which would be presented to the Board, would allow LA-RICS to procure a previously negotiated Premium Critical Connect for LA-RICS. Technical Lead Pao further reported that Critical Connect was an MSI-hosted interoperable solution in lieu of a physical ISSI connection. Technical Lead Pao went on to say the solution required a connection to the MSI hosted services but would not need an ISSI license. Technical Lead Pao said that in addition to offering roaming features like the ISSI, it would offer additional features besides manual and auto roaming.



Technical Lead Pao shared some examples of these features which are listed below:

- P25 Linking: This links talk groups and users between disparate P25 systems and is similar to patching one talk group with another through a console or radio patch but utilizing the two (2) LMR cores.
- Broadband Interoperability: Connect with MSI WAVE PTX or carrier based (AT&T, Verizon, FirstNet) broadband push-to-talk (PTT) solutions. Technical Lead Pao mentioned that LA-RICS would be using ESChat for broadband PTT solutions.
- Wireless LMR Interoperability: Connect with conventional communications systems via a Radio over IP (RoIP) gateway.

Technical Lead Pao mentioned there were other features that were less likely to be useful for LA-RICS, however, they were available.

Technical Lead Pao shared that Critical Connect was LA-RICS' primary means to connect with CRIS, as Cal OES already implemented Critical Connect. Technical Lead Pao further shared Ventura County implemented Critical Connect, and this would allow ISSI-like connectivity to both systems. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that Critical Connect would also allow interoperability with other regional systems utilizing Critical Connect. Technical Lead Pao expressed that LA-RICS hoped to have ISSI and Critical Connect implemented in the first quarter of 2026.

Board Member Chris Nigg asked Technical Lead Pao what the status was of LA-RICS' connections with the surrounding Counties; Board Member Nigg asked because from a fire discipline, they have mutual aid arrangements; for example, the LACoFD shares mutual aid with the Orange County Fire Department as they are in Cal OES Region 1. Technical Lead Pao stated that regarding fire services, the ISSI does not extend to conventional systems, and LA-RICS would have discussions about this with other surrounding Counties. Technical Lead Pao further stated that LA-RICS was already in discussions with San Bernardino County and LA-RICS has a contact with Orange County.

Board Member Nigg said that regular practice was to share resources with surrounding Counties, therefore, connections with surrounding Counties were critical. Board Member Nigg also said that agencies were still using the analog system. Technical Lead Pao stated the County usually defaulted to the County Communications Plan which would be on the analog system.



Regarding LACoFD connecting to fire agencies in Orange County, Alternate Chair Berkuta stated that each fire engine in Orange County would have one (1) or two (2) Orange County provided radios which are digital; and the challenge was that not every firefighter would have a radio. Alternate Chair Berkuta further stated that in the event of a fire or emergency, global awareness of that emergency may not happen, therefore, it would be beneficial to have true interoperability between the two (2) Counties.

Executive Director Edson expressed that LA-RICS has engaged with Orange County and prioritized the Los Angeles region due to upcoming large events. Executive Director Edson said that San Bernardino County approached LA-RICS with a request to connect to the system due to a mutual site, therefore, it was convenient to make that connection. Executive Director Edson stated that LA-RICS would be adding ISSI and Critical Connect, and it was LA-RICS' vision to have connections with all the surrounding Counties. Executive Director Edson further stated that discussions were had regarding bringing new tools to the region. Executive Director Edson went on to say the digital trunked system was new to LACoFD and to County public safety workers, and LA-RICS envisioned using these tools and having better opportunities to use them.

Executive Director Edson expressed that LA-RICS envisioned a connection with Orange County; and LA-RICS had close contacts with Orange County, including a former LA-RICS team member and a former Police Chief who previously served as an LA-RICS Board member. Executive Director Edson mentioned that both individuals looked forward to a connection as soon as possible. Executive Director Edson further mentioned that as soon as LA-RICS had the tools ready for a connection with Orange County, then LA-RICS could focus on how these can be beneficial for fire and law enforcement.

Board Member Nigg applauded the effort, and he was glad to hear that LA-RICS was crossing County lines as LACoFD has a great need for it. Technical Lead Pao mentioned that LA-RICS took the opportunity to connect with San Bernardino County as soon as it arose, and LA-RICS was in the process of connecting with Riverside County. Technical Lead Pao mentioned that some fire departments were on the trunked system, and LA-RICS was moving forward on that.

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 month of October 2025 included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported that during the month of October, the Authority staff continued with Subscriber and Affiliate outreach efforts while also assisting with several internal projects. Operations Lead Weber further reported there were some improvements to the LA-RICS' Board room; LA-RICS was also working on several other projects to improve the workspace to improve work efficiency and be of better service to partner agencies. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say LA-RICS continued to work with Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) regarding affiliate radio ID efforts and the regional ISSI interop talk groups. Operations Lead Lt. Weber said he was happy to report that all but one agency had programmed to the regional channels, and this was extremely important for any large events or day-to-day operations; this was a platform they could communicate with each other on.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported that, on October 9, the Authority staff attended the ICI Technical and Operations Committee Meeting, and interoperability was moving forward. Regarding planned regional ISSI connections, Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported that on October 16, the Authority staff attended the UASI Regional Planning Group call where discussions were held regarding these efforts and the gap analysis conducted by MSI. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say the Authority staff continued to work with MSI representatives regarding these efforts and would have more to report soon.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that Authority staff members continued to work with personnel from the City of Long Beach PD and the Long Beach Office of Information Technology regarding the ISSI connection to LA-RICS. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further shared this connection was moving forward, and LA-RICS hoped to begin testing the connection between the systems this month.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated the Authority staff continued coordination efforts with the LAPD, and he was proud of this, because he was pursuing this effort for most of his time with LA-RICS. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further stated that on October 23, Authority staff met with staff from the LAPD's Information and Technical Bureau to work on programming radios for Specialized Units, and the effort continued through October 28. Operations Lead Lt. Weber said he was happy to report that as of last Tuesday, LA-RICS programmed LAPD Specialized Unit radios



with LA-RICS talk groups which enabled them to communicate between Specialized Units.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned this was the first phase of working with LAPD Specialized Units, and that as soon as those radios were in the hands of the Specialized Unit officers, the Special Weapons and Tactics Specialized Units would be able to communicate with LA-RICS, and this would be significant progress.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported the Authority staff continued to work on the overall interoperability effort with the LAPD in establishing direct connection, and, in addition, the Authority staff was working on interoperability efforts with CHP and Cal OES. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported the Authority staff met with CHP and Cal OES several times this month and hoped to have a connection with them in early 2026. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say the Authority staff would be working with them to prepare for the deployment of their new radios to first responders in the region and ensure they would be prepared to connect to the LA-RICS system.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that on October 21, the Authority staff attended the World Cup Emergency Communications Planning Group Meeting; the meeting continued to be productive as details of the system connections and communications plans were discussed. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further shared the Authority staff attended a follow up meeting on October 23 regarding spectrum interference and best practices.

Operations Lead Weber went on to say the Authority staff continued coordination efforts with the Palos Verdes Estates PD, UCLA PD, and several other agencies; the Authority staff continued to work closely with these entities to ensure their needs were met. Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported Authority staff members 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 Lt. Weber expressed his appreciation in serving the Board and the Executive Director as the Operations Lead for LA-RICS; Operations Lead Lt. Weber was happy with the progress LA-RICS was making, and there would be much to look forward to at the end of this year and in early 2026. Operations Lead Lt. Weber said his new duties would be interlaced with coordination and interoperability, and he would be involved in the region.



Executive Director Edson and Alternate Chair Berkuta expressed their appreciation to Operations Lead Lt. Weber.

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

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (G – J)

G. APPROVE A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH PV COMMUNICATION, INC. FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST CONSULTANT SERVICES

Executive Director Edson shared that Agenda Item G was requesting the Board's approval to an Agreement between the Authority and PV Communication, Inc. (i.e. Mr. Paul Villalobos) to provide Public Safety Radio Communication Specialist Consultant services to the Authority. Executive Director Edson stated that, if approved by the Board, the billed hourly rate would be seventy-five dollars (\$75), with a contract amount not-to-exceed one hundred thirty thousand eight hundred dollars (\$130,800), which would be funded by the Subscriber Agreement Revenue, which was included in the LA-RICS Fiscal Year 2025-26 Adopted Budget. Executive Director Edson further stated the Agreement would have an initial one (1) year term commencing upon the date of execution of the Agreement and include three (3) one-year renewal options which may be exercised at the sole discretion of the Authority.

Executive Director Edson reported that on October 2, 2025, the Board approved entering negotiations with PV Communication Inc. to augment the radio support work currently provide by a part-time Jacobs Project Management consultant employee (Mr. Dana Gower), who was previously an LASD Deputy, and this agenda item for Board consideration was the result of these successful negotiations. Executive Director Edson further reported that various aspects of Mr. Villalobos' background substantiate his capability to perform as a Public Safety Radio Communication Specialist Consultant as exemplified by Mr. Villalobos' experience as listed below.

- Mr. Villalobos has over thirty (30) years of experience serving the Monterey Park Police Department.
- Mr. Villalobos has expertise in the public safety radio communications industry including Criminal Justice Law Enforcement encryption and security protocols, P25 interoperability standards and policies, and compliance with Department of Homeland Security directives and Federal Communications



Commission P25 standards, establishing communication links between various radio systems; conducting field testing, and performing diagnostics and troubleshooting issues related to programming.

Executive Director Edson requested the Board 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.

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

Ayes 8: Tadeo, Nelson, Walczak, Nigg, Berkuta, Sum, Jimenez, and Hurt.

MOTION APPROVED.

H. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 133 AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 007

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item H requested the Board's approval to execute Amendment No. 133 with MSI to include three (3) Change Orders and interconnection work required to achieve regional interoperability. Executive Director Edson further reported the cost for the work contemplated in Amendment No. 133 increased the Maximum Contract Sum in the amount of one million, two hundred sixty-five thousand six hundred and thirty-four dollars (\$1,265,634).

Executive Director Edson went on to say the Change Orders were needed for certain work and / or services not covered by the Maintenance Plan to ensure the sites remain operable. Executive Director Edson said one Change Order is necessary to remediate fire damage, which included full generator maintenance service and site cleanup at site HPK because of the Hawk Fire. Executive Director Edson mentioned the Authority intended to file an insurance claim for reimbursement for this Change Order.

Executive Director stated the second Change Order was to allow MSI to perform construction work at site BUR1 to allow delivery of utility power based on a power design provided by SCE and that in order to transition from a temporary generator to permanent power at BUR1, MSI would excavate, grade, and perform installation work which was contemplated in the Change Order. Executive Director Edson further stated the last Change Order was needed to provide CADi interface



connectivity and application interface enablement work to allow any subscriber agency to interface with Genesis.

Executive Director Edson mentioned that, in addition to the Change Orders, Amendment No. 133 included certain interconnection work that would enhance interoperability with various agencies in the region, and such interconnection work included, but was not limited to, premium Critical Connect and Smart Connect, roaming upgrades, dedicated priority circuits, mutual aid roaming licenses, and ISSI interconnection configuration work. Executive Director Edson further mentioned this work would be funded by the UASI grant.

Lastly, Executive Director Edson requested the Board to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 133 in substantially similar form to the enclosed Amendment and issue one or more Notices to Proceed for this work.

Executive Director Edson asked if there were any questions to which there were none. There was no further discussion.

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

Ayes 8: Tadeo, Nelson, Walczak, Nigg, Berkuta, Sum, Jimenez, and Hurt.

MOTION APPROVED.

I. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 01 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 025 WITH GENCORE CANDEO, LTD. Dba THE GENESIS GROUP

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item I requested the Board to authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement between the Authority and Genesis to allow Genesis to integrate a Genesis CAD interface with MSI's ASTRO 25-CADi in order to improve LA-RICS users / subscribers radio capabilities and increase the total contract amount by thirty seven thousand two hundred twenty one dollars (\$37,221), which would be funded by the UASI grants.

Executive Director Edson further reported that integrating the Genesis CADi into MSI's ASTRO 25-CADi to serve as a full CAD client sending radio commands such as Selective Radio Inhibit, Database Snapshot and Call Alert for the Authority and it's Users / Subscribers would improve interoperability throughout the Los Angeles County region. Executive Director Edson went on to say this interface would allow



multiple subscriber agencies to interface their CADi system to the LA-RICS radio system should they choose to do so.

Board Member Joshua Nelson asked Executive Director Edson if this was the last part of the grant to which Chief confirmed as so. Board Member Nelson asked Executive Director Edson if the Authority would apply for a new grant for FY 2025-26. Executive Director Edson stated the Authority asked for funding for 2025-26 to assist with interoperable communications, however, the Authority did not receive any funding except for the seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) in funding for operations and maintenance.

Executive Director Edson said that, currently, the only grant funding the Authority received was for operations and maintenance. Board Member Nelson asked Executive Director Edson if this would be an ongoing cost to which Executive Director Edson said would be a one-time cost. Board Member Nelson asked Executive Director Edson if the Authority would continue to pursue grants to which Executive Director Edson confirmed as so.

Board Member Chris Nigg stated that, for context, the Los Angeles County region experienced a twenty-million-dollar (\$20,000,000) deficit in FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 was presumed to be the same.

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

Ayes 8: Tadeo, Nelson, Walczak, Nigg, Berkuta, Sum, Jimenez, and Hurt.

MOTION APPROVED.

J. ACCEPT 2024 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (SHSGP) FUNDS

Deputy Executive Director Ron Watson presented Agenda Item J, in which Board approval was requested for acceptance of one million one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$1,120,000) in grant funds from the Fiscal Year 2024 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) as distributed through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). Deputy Executive Director Watson stated the funding would be used to replenish the revolving fund that paid for the final portion of holdback for the final LMR System Acceptance that was paid at completion of the 1-year Warranty Period that followed Final System Acceptance.



Lastly, Deputy Executive Director Watson requested the Board to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute the 2024 SHSGP Subrecipient Agreement between the County and the Authority.

Deputy Executive Director Watson asked if there were any questions to which there were none. There was no further discussion.

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

Ayes 8: Tadeo, Nelson, Walczak, Nigg, Berkuta, Sum, Jimenez, and Hurt.

MOTION APPROVED.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

There were no Miscellaneous Items for the Regular Meeting.

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

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

XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE

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

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 9:42 a.m. and stated the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the LA-RICS Headquarters.

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