



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Thursday, August 6, 2026 • 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

Scott Wiese, Police Chief, (Monterey Park), Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association

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

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

ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

Nicholas Berkuta, Acting Deputy Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Area Fire Department

David Chen, Assistant Division Director, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

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

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT

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 9:01 a.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL

LA-RICS Board Secretary Laura Vasquez took roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present.

Alternate Chair Berkuta welcomed Alternate Board Member David Chen, who would be joining the LA-RICS Board of Directors temporarily and acknowledged former Alternate Board Member Marshall Yelverton who would be transitioning towards retirement. Alternate Chair Berkuta expressed his appreciation for former Alternate Board Member Yelverton's efforts and contributions to LA-RICS during his time on the LA-RICS Board of Directors.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. July 9, 2026 – Regular Minutes

Agenda Item A

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked the Board if there were any questions to the attached Regular meeting minutes for July 9, 2026; hearing none, he called for a motion to approve.

Board Member Richard Tadeo motioned first, seconded by Board Member Scott Wiese

Ayes (9): Tadeo, Wiese, Nelson, Walczak, Luke, Berkuta, Chen, Hurt, and Coatney

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 Edson greeted the Board and expressed his appreciation for former Alternate Board Member Yelverton's years of service with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, sharing a brief background on Captain Yelverton's history and legacy with the Department and contributions to the LA-RICS Board of Directors. Executive Director Edson welcomed Alternate Board Member David Chen, who would serve as an Alternate Board Member representing the County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) seat. Director Edson asked Alternate Board Member Chen to address the Board. Alternate Board Member Chen acknowledged former Alternate Board Member Yelverton's contributions to the Sheriff's Department and expressed his congratulations on his upcoming retirement. Alternate Board Member Chen shared his background with the County, stating that he had worked for the County for twenty-five (25) years and, worked for the Internal Services Department IT Section, in the last four (4) years he worked for the County Chief Executive Office (CEO) and held the position of Deputy Chief Information Officer of Public Safety in which he gained knowledge and familiarity with the County Departments involved in the LA-RICS JPA. Alternate Board Member Chen went on to say that, as a result of his experience with the public safety agencies he was well versed for his role as Assistant Division Support Director of the LASD Technology and Support Division overseeing the Data Systems Bureau and Communications and Fleet Management Bureau. and he was looking forward to providing his support and expertise as an Alternate Board Member for LA-RICS.

Executive Director Edson reported the LMR System continued to operate flawlessly with no downtime after nearly three (3) years. Executive Director Edson further reported that LA-RICS continued to bring on new Subscribers and Affiliates.



Executive Director Edson went on to say the City of Los Angeles (City) Police Department (LAPD) engaged LA-RICS in discussions with LA-RICS, to see if it was feasible and cost effective to join LA-RICS as a Subscriber; first meeting would be next week.

Executive Director Edson said that LA-RICS continued to make great strides in interoperability in the region and recently hosted the Urban Areas Securities Initiative (UASI) Interoperable Working Group with fire and law enforcement agencies. Executive Director Edson went on to share topics discussed included lessons learned from the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) events, radio programming efforts, enhancements to interoperability, and Standard Operating Procedures. Executive Director Edson said that Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez volunteered to be co-chair of that group and would report on those efforts in more detail in his report.

Regarding the LMR system, Executive Director Edson shared the preventative maintenance efforts continued, and LA-RICS was preparing for an upgrade to release 2024.1, which was included as part of the System Upgrade Agreement with Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI). Executive Director Edson further shared the upgrade would touch the MSI Core, NICE Inform recorders, Dispatch Consoles and RF site routers. Executive Director Edson said that due to the robust redundancy built within the LA-RICS network, MSI would be able to download the redundant hardware and then swap it to primary to upgrade the primary side, preventing any impact on the users. Executive Director Edson went on to say the overall core upgrade activities would take place from August 17th to September 3rd, and the only planned work affecting users would take place early in the morning on August 25th and 26th, when there would be a brief two (2) to three (3) minute outage on each day.

Executive Director Edson stated that MSI reached out to agencies that have NICE loggers or Dispatch Consoles that would be upgraded and that LA-RICS sent out an outage notice to all agencies; all concerns would be routed to LA-RICS IT Manager Justin Compito. Executive Director Edson mentioned there would not be any changes to the Subscriber end user experience because of the upgrade to release 2024.1.

Executive Director Edson shared that, operationally, Authority staff participated in the final review of the recent fires draft After-Action Report being prepared by the McChrystal Group, and LA-RICS saw many recommendations that public safety



agencies move to LA-RICS for operability, interoperability, and narrowband data, the latter since there were so many failures of the cellular networks.

Regarding the Budget, Executive Director Edson reported that LA-RICS was amid Fiscal Year end wrap up; final bills were coming in, and the Fiscal Year would close soon. Executive Director Edson further reported that all expenditures were on track and in accordance with budgeted line items and projections.

Regarding Grants, Executive Director Edson shared that LA-RICS looked forward to UASI and State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) meetings to begin soon, and to make their pitch for funding in support of regional interoperability, especially with the Olympics fast approaching.

Regarding Contracts, Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda item G was to help with LA-RICS' responsiveness and efficiency, specifically, to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute Supplemental Agreements and such and would provide additional details under that Agenda item.

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda item H requested Board approval of an Agreement between the Authority and First Signal Communication Group, LLC (i.e. Mr. Ted Pao) to provide LMR System and Engineering Consultant Services. Executive Director Edson further reported this was critical for LA-RICS to have proper knowledge transfer and mentoring.

Executive Director Edson shared that Board approval was requested for Agenda Item I which was for an amendment to the MSI contract for some change orders.

Executive Director Edson further shared that Board approval was requested for Agenda Item J, which allowed LA-RICS to enter into Purchasing Agreements with Services and Supplies Vendors that were competitively procured in accordance with established budget limits and the LA-RICS Fiscal Manual for Services & Supplies; this would allow LA-RICS to maintain operational efficiency.

Board Member Wiese asked Executive Director Edson if core updates were going to impact the agency radios, and if these radios would require upgrades such as flash upgrades. Executive Director Edson said they would not need that. Board Member Wiese expressed his excitement regarding the possibility of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) joining LA-RICS as Subscribers; he further expressed this could encourage the City of Long Beach, Port of Los Angeles (Port of LA), and the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) all operating on separate



systems to join LA-RICS. Board Member Wiese asked Executive Director Edson if the network would be able to support such bandwidth / usage. Executive Director Edson stated that LA-RICS continued to build the system for the entire region capacity as initially planned and had fifty percent (50%) growth built into that. Executive Director Edson further stated that when looking at the heavy network usage during the fires, there was plenty of spectrum availability, therefore, no problems were anticipated.

Executive Director Edson mentioned the original Joint Powers Authority (JPA) called for five (5) members from the City of Los Angeles (City) to be a part of the LA-RICS Board representing agencies within the city. The agencies represented included, the Office of the City Administrator of Los Angeles (CAO), Chief Legislative Analyst's Office, Port of LA, LAWA, LAPD, LA City Fire, and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Police. Executive Director Edson further mentioned that four (4) of those City agencies purchased their separate core systems. Executive Director Edson stated that discussions with LAPD would begin next Tuesday to determine the roadmap needed for them to join the system, all while being cost-effective, and if construction or upgrades were needed then funding may be needed from the UASI.

Executive Director Edson expressed that he was hopeful that if LAPD joined the system, then other agencies could take notice of how successful the LA-RICS transition was. Executive Director Edson mentioned that it would be easy to migrate City systems onto the LA-RICS core, as they were smaller than LAPD.

Board Member Wiese mentioned that if these agencies purchased their own core equipment, then it should be compatible with the LA-RICS network. Executive Director Edson stated that MSI may be able to assist with this, as MSI had been supportive of bringing LAPD onto the system, and he was hopeful that MSI would provide credits when there was equipment that was transitioned to the system.

Board Member Wiese stated that MSI would benefit institutionally to have this kind of system with so many users, especially during one of the City's largest sporting events. Executive Director Edson mentioned that with the possibility of LAPD and City agencies joining LA-RICS, MSI could support one radio system versus various teams supporting various systems.

Alternate Chair Berkuta echoed Board Member Wiese's excitement with the possibility of LAPD joining LA-RICS and expressed his appreciation on the efforts being made to make this possible.



Board Member Wiese stated he recognized the system was a good system and believed cities that were on other systems would evaluate the way the market was and fiscal impacts; and when contracts would come up for renewal, they would analyze the LA-RICS Subscriber Agreement and what the system offered and would recognize the benefits.

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 - NONE

F. Outreach Update – Lt. Joseph F. Dominguez

Operations Lead Lieutenant Joseph F. Dominguez greeted Board members and referenced the detailed Outreach Summary document for the month of July included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez acknowledged the successful performance of the LA-RICS communications system during recent FIFA World Cup activities, where the regional radio network operated without interruption throughout the events. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that Authority staff maintained a heightened state of readiness to promptly address any technical issues that might have arisen; however, fortunately, there were no operational issues, and the success of the radio communications effort was the result of extensive pre-planning, coordination meetings, and collaborative discussions conducted by LA-RICS in advance of the event.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated that, in addition, the Authority remained prepared to provide programming, equipment, and technical support to both Subscriber and Affiliate agencies at a moment's notice, ensuring resources were available whenever needed. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say this level of preparedness reflected the Authority's ongoing commitment to delivering reliable, interoperable communications in support of regional public safety operations. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez said that LA-RICS appreciated



the collaboration of its member agencies, subscribers, and affiliate partners, whose coordinated efforts contributed to the successful execution of communications throughout the event.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that, throughout the month, LA-RICS further reinforced its critical role in regional public safety communications by demonstrating the strength, reliability, and interoperability of its communications network in support of multi-agency operations, and as the County continued to prepare for and host major international events, the Authority's robust communications infrastructure and strong partnerships remained essential to ensuring seamless coordination among public safety agencies across jurisdictions.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further shared the Executive Director continued to lead efforts to advance communications technology initiatives, strengthen strategic partnerships, and address the evolving operational requirements of member agencies and regional public safety stakeholders, further solidifying LA-RICS' position as a leader in public safety interoperability throughout the County and neighboring jurisdictions.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that throughout July 2026, Authority staff remained actively engaged in the day-to-day management and support of the LA-RICS network, ensuring the continued reliability of the regional communications system. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported that Authority staff monitored network operations, responded to member agency requests, coordinated site access, and oversaw inspections, preventive maintenance, and repair activities as needed. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that working collaboratively with member agencies, contractors, and facility partners, the Authority addressed operational requirements in a timely manner while helping to maintain system performance and resilience. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez said these efforts supported uninterrupted service, ensured continued compliance with applicable requirements, and enhanced the operational readiness of the region's critical public safety communications infrastructure.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that during this reporting period, the Authority continued outreach and coordination efforts with agencies interested in joining LA-RICS as Subscriber or Affiliate members, including:

- Cedars-Sinai Public Safety Department
- LA County Animal Control



- United States Space Force
- LA City Department of Water and Power
- LA County Public Works Department
- Sierra Madre Police Department

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated that through these continued efforts, the Authority supported stronger regional collaboration, advanced communications interoperability, and helped ensure the reliability of critical public safety communications resources throughout the region.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that LA-RICS continued to work closely with the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department (PVEPD) to address intermittent radio communication concerns involving occasional garbled or incomplete transmissions. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further shared that upon notification of the issue, LA-RICS technical staff immediately engaged with PVEPD personnel and remained in regular communication to assist with troubleshooting and gathering additional information. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say the LA-RICS Network Operations Center (NOC) was actively monitoring system performance, reviewing historical data, and tracking network activity to help identify any patterns or contributing factors.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that as the issue was intermittent and could not be consistently reproduced, LA-RICS technical staff continued targeted monitoring efforts to better understand when and where, and under what conditions the issue occurred; recent monitoring by the technical team did not identify any missed, distorted, or incomplete transmissions during the observation period, and overall radio performance appeared normal. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported the Authority would continue to work with PVEPD and utilizing available system monitoring tools to determine the underlying cause and implement any necessary corrective actions to ensure continued reliable communications for the agency.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that as part of the Authority's continued efforts to support dependable and interoperable communications throughout the region, radio programming assistance remained available to Subscriber and Affiliate agencies, and, during the reporting period, Authority staff provided ongoing technical support to multiple partner agencies, assisting with radio fleet updates, template revisions, and system coordination to promote operational consistency and compliance with interoperability standards. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez



further stated that programming and technical assistance were provided to Signal Hill PD, Manhattan Beach PD, Riverside PD, Riverside Sheriff's Department, County Probation Department, Amtrak PD, United States Space Force, and the Ontario PD. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that, additionally, LA-RICS continued to collaborate with radio shop partners to ensure Subscriber and Affiliate agencies had access to the most current programming lineups, configurations, and system updates.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that LA-RICS Authority staff continued to actively participate in the Los Angeles Regional Interoperability Working Group and was leading the Operations Team Subcommittee; the Subcommittee held its inaugural meeting on July 23rd, which was highly productive and included strong participation from partner agencies throughout the County, including several fire service agencies. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further shared the meeting provided an opportunity for agencies to share updates on radio programming efforts, lessons learned from FIFA-related operations, upcoming large-scale events, and ongoing efforts to enhance regional interoperability.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that during the meeting, agencies discussed interoperability challenges, shared best practices, and highlighted the communication solutions and gateway capabilities being utilized to improve coordination among public safety partners. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez said that agencies provided updates on progress toward expanding shared communications capabilities, including radio programming initiatives that would allow additional agencies to seamlessly communicate across regional trunked radio systems; several key partners, including law enforcement and fire agencies, reported significant progress toward programming completion and expanded access to regional interoperability resources.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez added that LA-RICS provided updates on its continued efforts to establish and strengthen interoperability connections with regional and neighboring systems, and, through ongoing collaboration, LA-RICS expanded connectivity with multiple partner agencies and continued to work toward increasing shared communications capabilities throughout the region. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez expressed the Authority remained engaged with local, state, and federal partners to support interoperable communications, including continued coordination with federal agencies and neighboring jurisdictions to enhance mutual aid and emergency response capabilities.



Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated the successful turnout and productive discussions during the first Operations Team Subcommittee meeting demonstrated the continued commitment among regional public safety agencies to improve coordination, address interoperability challenges, and ensured reliable communications capabilities were available when needed. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated that LA-RICS looked forward to the continued growth and success of the Subcommittee and to working collaboratively with regional partners to develop viable standard operating procedures, establish consistent interoperability practices, and identify use case scenarios that further enhanced communications coordination during planned events and emergency operations.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez expressed that LA-RICS was pleased to report the Authority recently received letters of appreciation from the City of South El Monte and the Chino PD Air Support Unit recognizing the coordination, dedication, and technical support provided by LA-RICS staff.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared the City of South El Monte expressed appreciation for LA-RICS' assistance with radio programming efforts, noting the Authority's attention to detail and commitment to enhancing interoperability and communications capabilities, and the Chino PD Air Support Unit also recognized LA-RICS for its support in integrating their new police helicopter radio capabilities, ensuring reliable communications for their operations and partner agencies; both agencies expressed appreciation for LA-RICS' professionalism, technical expertise, and continued commitment to public safety.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez concluded the update on Agenda Item F and asked if there were any questions to which there were none.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (G – J)

G. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENTS AND PURSUE COST RECOVERY AS MAY BE NEEDED TO ACHIEVE REGIONAL INTEROPERABILITY

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item G requested the Board's approval to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute Supplemental Agreements, Memorandums of Understanding, ancillary documents, Letters of Intent or acknowledgements, and other documents that may be necessary to allow



agencies to become Subscribers or Affiliates and utilize the LMR System for either primary radio communications or mutual aid / automatic aid purposes.

Executive Director Edson further reported that, additionally, the Board's approval was requested to delegate authority to the Executive Director to pursue cost recovery fees from agencies, as necessary, for interconnection work, configuration work, goods, services, equipment, installation services, etc. to assist in onboarding Subscribers and Affiliates to use the LMR System.

Executive Director Edson said that, at this time, there was no fiscal impact, however, should the Authority need to recover costs from agencies to assist with onboarding efforts, the Authority would report to the Board on a quarterly basis what, if any costs were recovered.

Executive Director Edson concluded his report and asked if there were any questions to which there were none.

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked for a motion to approve. Alternate Member Scott Wiese motioned first, seconded by Board Member Ric Walczak.

Ayes (9): Tadeo, Wiese, Nelson, Walczak, Luke, Berkuta, Chen, Hurt, and Coatney

MOTION APPROVED.

H. APPROVE A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH FIRST SIGNAL COMMUNICATION GROUP, LLC TO PROVIDE LAND MOBILE RADIO SYSTEM AND ENGINEERING CONSULTANT SERVICES

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item H requested the Board's approval on an Agreement between the Authority and First Signal Communication Group, LLC (i.e. Mr. Ted Pao) to provide LMR System and Engineering Consultant Services.

Executive Director Edson reported that on July 9, 2026, the Board approved an Agenda Item to enter into Sole Source negotiations with First Signal Communication Group, LLC, to provide Assistant Chief LMR System Officer and Engineering Consultant Services to the Authority, and Agenda Item H was the



proposed agreement that was the result of successful negotiations with First Signal Communication Group, LLC.

Executive Director Edson further reported the proposed agreement would allow First Signal Communication Group, LLC, to manage the LMR System and all technical aspects of the LA-RICS LMR Project similar to his previous role at LA-RICS prior to his retirement. Executive Director Edson went on to say Mr. Pao brought forth an extensive amount of institutional knowledge and experience with over eighteen (18) years of dedicated experience to the LA-RICS Project. Executive Director Edson said that Mr. Pao's strategic oversight and technical guidance over the LMR System and the LA-RICS Project as a whole, was instrumental in achieving interoperability in the region, and, additionally, as part of his role, the goal was for a permanent individual to be hired to fill the Chief LMR System Officer position and for Mr. Pao to train this individual.

Executive Director Edson stated if approved by the Board, the billed hourly rate for Mr. Pao would be one hundred thirty-five dollars (\$135) an hour, with a not-to-exceed contract amount of two hundred thirty five thousand four hundred and forty dollars (\$235,440) for the first year, and the initial term would be for one (1) year with a one (1) one-year renewal option, which may be executed upon mutual agreement by both parties.

Executive Director Edson further stated that, additionally, Board approval was requested to delegate authority to the Executive Director to increase the contract amount annually by an additional aggregate not-to-exceed amount of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) at a billed hourly rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125), for specialized services that could only be carried out by First Signal Communication Group, LLC, for the transition of knowledge to the permanent replacement.

Executive Director Edson said the LA-RICS Adopted Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27 accounted for an Information Technology Manager III (IT Manager III) position with an annual amount of three hundred seventy-four thousand four hundred thirty-six dollars (\$374,436), inclusive of salary and employee benefits. Executive Director Edson stated if the Sole Source Agreement with First Signal Communication Group, LLC, was approved by the Board, Mr. Pao would be contracted against the IT Manager III position vacancy with one hundred thirty-eight thousand nine hundred and ninety-six dollars (\$138,996) in annual savings for this position alone, which would be funded by Subscriber Agreement Revenue.



Board Member Richard Tadeo asked if the IT Manager III position was the position Ted Pao previously held, to which Executive Director Edson confirmed, yes. Alternate Chair Berkuta asked Executive Director Edson about the efforts for the recruitment of an IT Manager III. Executive Director Edson stated that LA-RICS was looking into hiring a County employee, however, the County had a hiring freeze and thus were also looking in parallel into hiring a non-County employee via a private contract, and this was the reason that a one (1) year contract with a one-year option was being proposed for First Signal Communication, LLC. Executive Director Edson emphasized that LA-RICS did not have a timeline for when they would be able to fill the IT Manager III position, and the proposed contract with First Signal Communication, LLC, would ensure there would be enough time for a knowledge transfer.

Alternate Chair Berkuta asked if the hiring freeze applied to the LA-RICS JPA. Executive Director Edson confirmed approvals to overcome the freeze and, thus, it impacted LA-RICS indirectly. Counsel Truc Moore clarified the hiring freeze impacted LA-RICS because the hiring freeze prevented LA-RICS from hiring a County employee to fill the IT Manager III position, therefore, the freeze itself impacted the Authority staff they were trying to hire. Executive Director Edson said that LA-RICS could, at times, have the County Chief Executive Officer (CEO) override the freeze, however, it was difficult for the process.

Alternate Board Member David Chen asked what efforts had been made to look for a candidate via a competitive process for the vacancy. Executive Director Edson stated that LA-RICS followed County process, detailing the unique knowledge held, fulfilling the County requirements and received advice from County Counsel that LA-RICS was good to move forward with a Sole Source agreement with First Signal Communication, LLC. Counsel Moore said that Mr. Pao had forty (40) years of experience working for LA-RICS, and he had specialized knowledge of the system. Counsel Moore mentioned that his position with LA-RICS was temporary.

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

Ayes (9): Tadeo, Wiese, Nelson, Walczak, Luke, Berkuta, Chen, Hurt, and Coatney

MOTION APPROVED.

J. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO PURCHASING AGREEMENTS WITH SERVICES AND SUPPLIES VENDORS

Executive Director Edson stated the Board's approval was requested for Agenda Item J to delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into Purchasing Agreements with Services and Supplies (S&S) Vendors that were competitively procured in accordance with established budget limits and the LA-RICS Fiscal Manual for S&S.

Executive Director Edson further stated the LA-RICS Authority historically purchased S&S goods and services including professional and specialized services, office expenses, etc. through the County Fire Department (LACoFD) or LASD or Internal Services Department (ISD); however, due to County procurement cycles, calendared down-time on S&S purchases to accommodate fiscal year opening and closing, and a budgetary constraints and Countywide "freeze", the LA-RICS project team was unable to place orders for S&S items during the first three (3) months of the Fiscal Year (July – September), the last three (3) months of the Fiscal Year (April – June), and at varied times during the Fiscal Year depending on Countywide budget restrictions. Executive Director Edson went on to say these S&S order "pauses" occurred despite having available budgeted funds earmarked and adopted for LA-RICS' S&S, and this process was problematic and inefficient.

Executive Director Edson said that given these purchasing constraints, the Authority desired to enter into purchasing agreements directly with the same vendors the County utilized and conducted direct purchasing for S&S items in accordance with previously approved S&S limits as detailed in the LA-RICS Fiscal Manual and in the annual adopted budget limits. Executive Director Edson stated these purchasing agreements would result from cooperative or piggybacked contracts that allowed other government agencies to purchase from them and were competitively bid. Executive Director Edson shared the Authority would obtain agreements / purchase orders with the same S&S vendors from cooperative or piggybacked contracts from the County and enter into direct agreements with them via S&S purchasing agreement / purchase orders.

Executive Director Edson reported these S&S purchases would continue to be encumbered, invoiced and paid through the same established fiscal processes, including compliance with separation of duties for appropriate level buyer(s) and approver(s) and separately tracked as an S&S line-item fiscal expenditure and paid



in accordance with the same through the LA-RICS fiscal agent, the County Auditor Controller.

Executive Director Edson stated that Board approval was to allow the Executive Director to execute agreement(s) with S&S vendors for direct purchase by the Authority and approve invoices corresponding to the same.

Executive Director Edson further stated that by executing these direct agreements, the Authority would be able to conduct year-round purchasing in accordance with established budgetary limits.

Chair Berkuta identified Agenda Item J was taken out of order and ahead of Agenda Item I.

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

Ayes (9): Tadeo, Wiese, Nelson, Walczak, Luke, Berkuta, Chen, Hurt, and Coatney

MOTION APPROVED.

I. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 138 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 007

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item I requested the Board make those certain California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings and approve Amendment No. 138 with MSI to incorporate two (2) Change Orders, incorporate one hundred (100) hours of network engineering configuration work, and memorialize Console Subsystem Interface connections (CSSI) licensing costs for the Authority and its Subscribers and Affiliates. Executive Director Edson further stated the total cost increase for this work was three hundred ninety-three thousand five hundred eighty-three dollars (\$393,583), which if approved by the Board, would be funded by the Urban Areas Securities Initiative (UASI) grant.



Executive Director Edson reported the first Change Order was to remediate winter damage that occurred at the Frost Peak (FRP) site; the work included tower repair, alignment, hardware installation, testing services, etc.

Executive Director Edson further reported the second Change Order was to allow MSI to perform conduit installation work at the Topanga Peak (TPK) site, which was necessary for a 700 MHz transmit and receive system upgrade.

Executive Director Edson requested the Board's approval to include one hundred (100) hours of network engineering configuration work, which would be used to enhance connectivity to the LMR System and onboard Subscribers and Affiliates; Such work may include establishing CSSI connections with Subscribers and Affiliates, network backhaul configuration work, and ESChat connection work.

Executive Director Edson said the proposed amendment sought to memorialize CSSI licensing costs which allowed the Authority and its Subscriber and Affiliates to allow agencies to connect to the LMR System.

Executive Director Edson concluded his report and asked if there were any questions to which there were none.

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

Ayes (9): Tadeo, Wiese, Nelson, Walczak, Luke, Berkuta, Chen, Hurt, and Coatney

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 identified during the Regular Meeting.



XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE

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

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta thanked the Board Members and attendees for their energy and collaboration and thanked Captain Yelverton for his level of collaboration during his time on the LA-RICS Board and stated he would miss this the most. Alternate Board Chair Berkuta

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Alternate Board Member Coatney made a motion. Alternate Chair Berkuta adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 9:38 a.m. and stated the next Regular Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, September 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the LA-RICS Headquarters.

APPROVED