



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Thursday, July 9, 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

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

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

Marshall Yelverton, Captain, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

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

Antonio Zavala, 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

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

Vacant, At-Large Seat #4

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. June 4, 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 June 4, 2026; hearing none, he called for a motion to approve.

Board Member Richard Tadeo motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Cardell Hurt.

Ayes (8): Tadeo, Alegria, Luke, Berkuta, Yelverton, Jimenez, Zavala, 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 Edson greeted the Board and reported the month of July was very active for LA-RICS with much progress being made in regional interoperability and coordination for the International Association Football Federation (FIFA) World Cup events, and the system performed flawlessly. Executive Director Edson further reported that around July 4, the system experienced some interference issues that impacted Palos Verdes Estates Police Department (PD) and primary talk groups.

Executive Director Edson shared that LA-RICS was able to provide unaffected talk groups to the Palos Verdes Estates PD, and the County of Los Angeles (County) Internal Services Division (ISD) was dispatched to try and identify the interference; however, the interference cleared up before a source could be identified. Executive Director Edson further shared that LA-RICS was looking closely at this occurrence and its response and resolution, specifically to determine whether or not any additional Service Level Agreements with County ISD and changes or improvements to LA-RICS' policies were needed; LA-RICS would have more to share in the coming months.

Executive Director Edson stated that IT Manager Justin Compito and Sgt. Alvaro Sierra and his team did an outstanding job with immediately mitigating the interference issue for Palos Verdes Estates PD. Executive Director Edson mentioned this was a great experience to learn from, and this would help LA-RICS prepare for the Olympics.

Executive Director Edson expressed that Sgt. Sierra and his team received several commendations during this last month for their knowledge and dedication to regional interoperability; Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez would speak to this and mention the many coordinated meetings and efforts that recently took place in the Outreach Report.

Executive Director Edson stated that LA-RICS continued to be a true leader when it came to advancing communications and interoperability in the region, and overall, technically, the LA-RICS network continued to support its agencies well through the World Cup. Executive Director Edson further stated that LA-RICS continued to



work with County ISD to develop communications monitoring and mitigation processes for the World Cup and were having pre and post-game coordination meetings. Executive Director Edson went on to say there were no reported communications issues with the LA-RICS network supporting the World Cup games at SoFi Stadium.

Executive Director Edson reported that LA-RICS progressed through the first half of the year with preventative maintenance efforts consisting of over three hundred (300) separate site activities to cover generators, air conditioners, fuel tanks, fire suppression, and radio preventive maintenance. Executive Director Edson further reported there were no network outages impacting users caused by this extensive work, and preventative maintenance continued with the rest of the radios on the network.

Executive Director Edson stated the major planned maintenance effort would occur in the third quarter of this year with the LA-RICS network core upgrade; this upgrade would bring Motorola Solutions, Inc (MSI) core to the 2024.1 release, and the NICE logging system and MSI consoles that customers were using would be upgraded; user radios and consolettes would be supported without any changes. Executive Director Edson further stated that LA-RICS would provide a notice for the system impacting work on the LA-RICS core on August 25 and August 26.

Executive Director Edson said the user impact would be the same with the quarterly security patches requiring rollover of key servers to the backup core, creating an outage for about two (2) minutes between the hours of 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. Executive Director Edson mentioned the upgrade would also include site radio upgrades at each site that would be transparent to the users by upgrading radios one at a time; this would lower the capacity of the LA-RICS system while the radios were being upgraded, but no traffic would be lost.

Executive Director Edson reported that, operationally, the Authority staff participated in the review of the recent draft After Action Report of the 2025 wildfires that was being prepared by The McChrystal Group, and, again, there were recommendations for public safety agencies to use the LA-RICS network for interoperability, operability, and narrowband data – especially narrowband data due to the failure of the cellular networks.

Executive Director Edson further reported that since all of the systems in the region were connected in one way or another, the Urban Areas Securities Initiative (UASI) Interoperable Working Group, overseen by the UASI Administrator, and the Mayor's



office, created operations and technical committees that would meet, discuss, and formalize Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for law enforcement and fire interoperability responses. Executive Director Edson went on to say the committees began with an SOP that LA-RICS built three (3) years ago, therefore, progress should quickly be made, especially with the upcoming Olympics.

Regarding the Budget, Executive Director Edson reported that LA-RICS was in the process of a Fiscal Year end wrap up with final bills submitted for June; LA-RICS expected to have the Fiscal year closed out in the coming months. Executive Director Edson further reported that all expenditures were on track in accordance with the budgeted line items and projections.

Regarding Grants, Executive Director Edson reported that LA-RICS continued to make progress in regional interoperability, working collaboratively with the other standalone systems, such as the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), City of Long Beach, and the Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) Agency to ensure that not only the grant funded interconnection work was completed, but the development of policies and procedures required for the system-of-systems model to work would be put in place. Executive Director Edson mentioned that Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez volunteered to Chair the Mayor's Office Interoperable Communications Operations Committee and would host the kickoff meeting this month; the initial goal would be to discuss various use cases and to discuss what was needed operationally, technically, and procedurally to ensure a seamless experience by public safety staff. Executive Director Edson mentioned that Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez would share more information in his Outreach report.

Executive Director Edson reminded the Board that as the region approaches the next Grant cycle, not only was it imperative to recognize reports on success, such as those experienced during the World Cup events, but also through funding that would support the systems and programs that were serving the region.

Regarding Contracts, Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item G was a request for Board approval of a Site Access Agreement for site Tejon Peak (TPK); the LA-RICS Board previously approved a Site Access Agreement for this site, however, it was co-terminous with the County's Master Lease Agreement with the site owner, Ralphs Trust, which expired, and was on a month to month holdover, thus, LA-RICS had to bring in a new Site Access Agreement, which maintained the same license space which was previously agreed to. Executive Director Edson said that, additionally, this new streamlined agreement allowed Ralphs Trust and



Southern California Edison (SCE) to execute the agreement instead of having two (2) separate agreements; the agreement would continue to be gratis.

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item H was for some Change Orders for ball valve installation at ten (10) sites to improve drainage and purchase encryption keys, both of which would increase the Motorola Agreement maximum contract sum by sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) payable via the UASI Grant.

Executive Director Edson said that Agenda Item I requested for Board delegation to the Executive Director to begin negotiations for a Sole Source Agreement with Ted Pao to provide his technical assistance to LA-RICS, while, in parallel, LA-RICS recruited for the technical vacancy, which could be a lengthy process, especially for a specialized position. Executive Director Edson mentioned that if negotiations resulted in a favorable agreement, LA-RICS would present the agreement to the Board for consideration.

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item K was for an upgrade to the hardware and software of existing primary and secondary T-MON units to the latest T-MON LNX unit devices used for alarm monitoring; this would enhance the remote alarm monitoring system interface, priority alerts and status notifications of the system. Executive Director Edson further reported that this project, which was under thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) was fully funded under the UASI Grant.

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item J addressed a vacancy on the Board that resulted from the resignation of the City of La Verne Fire Chief Chris Nigg; Chief Nigg accepted a position as a Fire Chief in the Orange County region.

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

IT Manager Justin Compito greeted the Board and reported that LA-RICS was going through preventative maintenance and that there were no ongoing LMR network



issues to report, however, he would present on another effort that LA-RICS was making.

IT Manager Compito reported that LA-RICS was working with County ISD on enhancing the radio system and RF spectrum network monitoring for the Los Angeles County region. IT Manager Compito further reported that LA-RICS was working with the County to install passive Anritsu spectrum monitors across the region, and LA-RICS completed a proof of concept and would install a total of ten (10) sites that were purchased under County ISD's budget; they would be installed at both LA-RICS and County ISD sites.

IT Manager Compito shared a diagram that reflected a sample Anritsu connection plan to make it easy to follow for personnel who were using or monitoring it. IT Manager Compito stated the equipment contained up to twelve (12) ports, and this was what was being drafted for basic connectivity, and this would be installed at eight (8) planned LA-RICS sites; this was now implemented at three (3) sites in support of World Cup activities and would be implemented at the other planned sites.

IT Manager Compito stated the network diagram had twelve (12) ports listed, and Discone #1 and #2 would provide a wide spectrum view for anything that was outside of the normal antenna systems that may impact the region or the LA-RICS system; the third port would be internal in case there was any interference being generated at the locations inside of the room. IT Manager Compito went over the other ports and their frequencies shown on the diagram.

IT Manager Compito shared that LA-RICS was using this in concert with County ISD for the World Cup activities, and there were no service interruptions from an operational perspective. IT Manager Compito further shared that LA-RICS was working with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to monitor the region, and the FCC identified some issues. IT Manager Compito stated that County ISD was using the system to help them locate where the frequency or interference was coming from.

IT Manager Compito concluded the update on Agenda Item E and asked if there were any questions to which there were 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 June included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that throughout June 2026, LA-RICS continued to demonstrate its vital role in regional public safety communications by reinforcing its leadership in interoperability and its ability to support coordinated response efforts across jurisdictions. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported that, as the region prepared for and hosted major international events, including FIFA World Cup activities, the Authority's communications infrastructure and collaborative partnerships remained essential to ensuring seamless interagency coordination. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that the Authority continued to strengthen its position as a regional leader in public safety interoperability throughout the County and neighboring jurisdictions. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that the Executive Director remained actively engaged in advancing communications technology initiatives, fostering strategic partnerships, and addressing the evolving operational needs of member agencies and public safety stakeholders.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that, during this reporting period, the Executive Director and Authority staff participated in the review of the draft After-Action Report that was being prepared by the McChrystal Group for presentation to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors regarding the response to the Eaton and Palisades fires. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez mentioned that preliminary findings recognized the exceptional performance, reliability, and resilience of the LA-RICS communications systems during these large-scale emergency incidents. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further mentioned the Authority was encouraged by the positive feedback received to date and looked forward to the release of the final report, which was expected to further underscore the critical role interoperable communications played in supporting an effective and coordinated regional response.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that, during June 2026, Authority staff continued to provide comprehensive oversight and support of the LA-RICS network by monitoring system performance, responding to agency inquiries, coordinating facility access, and facilitating inspections, routine maintenance, and emergency repair activities. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported the Authority staff



worked closely with member agencies, contractors, and site stakeholders to address operational needs and ensured the continued reliability and resilience of the system; these ongoing efforts helped maintain regulatory compliance, minimize service disruptions, and support 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:

- El Camino College Police Department (Affiliate)
- California State Parks (Subscriber)
- City of Lawndale (Subscriber)
- Amtrak Police Department (Affiliate)
- Chino Police Department (Affiliate)
- United States Space Force (Affiliate)

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez said these efforts continued to foster greater regional coordination, supporting the growth of interoperable communications and reinforcing the reliability of the region's public safety communications infrastructure.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that as ESChat continued to expand across subscriber agencies, additional organizations were being onboarded and were actively utilizing the application in support of daily operations. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further shared that, to date, five hundred fifty-nine (559) provisional ESChat licenses were issued and remained active among participating agencies, reflecting sustained regional interest and adoption. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say the Authority continued to receive positive feedback regarding ESChat's functionality, ease of integration, and its ability to enhance operational communications within existing interoperability frameworks.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that Authority staff was engaging provisional license holders to assess ongoing usage and to forecast anticipated interest in transitioning to the paid subscription model following the conclusion of the trial period; early indications suggested strong potential for continued use, supported in part by the cost-effective structure established by the Authority to maximize accessibility for participating agencies on the LA-RICS system. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated that, additionally, recent onboarding of personnel from



the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Aero Bureau further expanded system utilization, with initial user feedback reflecting a positive experience and noting the platform's ease of use and support for field operational needs.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center (CCT) site located at the Criminal Courts Building in Downtown Los Angeles recently experienced intermittent issues with the electrical breaker controlling power to the equipment, resulting in temporary loss of system connectivity. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported that Authority staff responded promptly to each occurrence, restoring power and service as quickly as possible to minimize any disruption to the regional communications network.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez mentioned that due to the shared rooftop location and the associated security protocols required for access, response efforts occasionally required additional coordination with building management to ensure timely entry, and Authority staff was actively collaborating with building representatives to streamline access procedures for future maintenance and emergency response activities, while also developing a more structured mitigation plan for similar incidents. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further mentioned that building management advised that, due to the nature of the building's incoming electrical infrastructure, power fluctuations and surges were not uncommon and impacted other systems within the facility. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say the first step would be to replace the breaker, and Authority staff would continue to work closely with all stakeholders to identify and implement a more permanent solution to enhance system stability and ensure the ongoing integrity and reliability of the site.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that radio programming support for Subscriber and Affiliate agencies continued to be provided as part of the Authority's ongoing commitment to ensuring reliable and interoperable communications across the region. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated that, throughout the reporting period, Authority staff delivered programming assistance to multiple partner agencies, supporting radio fleet updates, template modifications, and system alignment to maintain operational consistency and interoperability standards. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez mentioned that programing assistance was provided to Chino PD Air Support, Ontario PD Air Support, Riverside Sheriff's Department Air Support, and the City of South El Monte.



Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez reported that LA-RICS' continued growth created a need to further strengthen its organizational capacity to maintain the operational integrity and continued success of the Authority. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further reported that LA-RICS was pleased to announce that, in the coming months, two (2) Administrative Services Manager I positions from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) would be joining the LA-RICS team in these critical roles. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that following an extensive process of interviewing, vetting, and background review, LA-RICS was confident these individuals would be strong additions to the Authority. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez said that Authority staff was developing a structured training and transition model to ensure the effective integration of these positions, including the thoughtful redistribution of responsibilities and knowledge transfer across the team. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez expressed that LA-RICS was looking forward to formally introducing these new team members to the Board once they joined the Authority and completed their initial orientation period.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that on June 18, Authority staff participated in a meeting with the City of Los Angeles to reconvene the Los Angeles Regional Interoperability working group. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated that he would serve as co-chair of the Operations Team Subcommittee, jointly with Lt. Robert Weber, working in close coordination with the Technical Team and MSI to develop comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); these SOPs would serve as a foundational framework and model for establishing consistent communications standards among emergency responders across the region. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez went on to say that LA-RICS recognized that effective planning, training, and exercises were essential to translating policy and procedural guidance into practical, real-world capability for establishing and maintaining communications during incidents and disasters.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that, accordingly, the Subcommittee would be responsible for defining the authorities, roles, and procedures governing first responder use of Los Angeles Regional interoperability channels and the activation and deployment of mobile assets.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that as the FIFA World Cup matches were underway, Authority staff remained pleased and confident in the performance and reliability of the LA-RICS network, and, to date, the system had not experienced any operational issues, and both the Operations and Technical teams continued to remain vigilant, providing ongoing monitoring and readiness to respond to any



inquiries or issues that may arise. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further stated that at the request of the California Highway Patrol (CHP), which was providing dignitary and team escorts throughout the region, the Authority granted access to select interoperable talkgroups to support continuous communication with partner agencies for the duration of the event.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that, recently, Authority staff were notified of interoperability challenges between CHP and Torrance PD during coordinated dignitary escort operations, and, in response, Authority staff, in collaboration with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), promptly implemented a console patch utilizing the (California Radio Interoperable System) CRIS "CHP Orange" talkgroup, restoring effective communication between the two (2) agencies. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez further shared that, in addition, Authority staff responded expeditiously to multiple last-minute requests from regional agencies for loaner equipment, including mobile radios, and provided programming and technical support to ensure interoperability and optimal system performance across participating jurisdictions.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez closed his report by acknowledging LA-RICS' own Sgt. Sierra, who recently received a commendation from Supervisory Air Marshal in Charge Charles Frye for the instrumental role he played in facilitating the execution of an Affiliate Agreement with LA-RICS. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez said that Sgt. Sierra established a clear strategic plan and provided critical feedback that proved invaluable throughout the process, and his efforts enabled the Federal Air Marshal Service to significantly expand its land mobile radio capabilities and enhance operational readiness for the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez shared that, additionally, the work currently underway contributed substantially to preparations for Super Bowl LXI (61) and the 2028 Summer Olympics. Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez expressed that Sgt. Sierra was further recognized for his dedication, professionalism, and unwavering support in directly enhancing officer safety through improved communications and interoperability.

Operations Lead Lt. Dominguez stated that Sgt. Sierra was valuable to LA-RICS and congratulated him on this well-deserved recognition.

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 – K)

G. APPROVE A SITE ACCESS AGREEMENT FOR A LAND MOBILE RADIO SITE

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item G requested the Board make those certain California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings and authorize the Executive Director to finalize and execute a Site Access Agreement (SAA) for site Tejon Peak (TPK) on a gratis basis and delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute amendments for the term of the SAA, provided such amendments were approved as to form by Counsel.

Executive Director Edson mentioned the Board previously approved an SAA with the County and a consent to the SAA with Ralphs Trust and Southern California Edison (SCE) to provide licenses to use a portion of the County leased site at Tejon Peak; that Master Agreement the County held for this site had since expired and was on a month-to-month holdover. Executive Director Edson said that, because of this, a new agreement was required, which was before the Board for approval.

Executive Director Edson stated the new SAA before the Board incorporated the consents with Ralph's Trust and SCE so that LA-RICS would not need to enter a separate consent to the SAA; all parties would co-sign, including provisions that were mutually agreed upon by all.

Executive Director Edson further stated the SAA would continue to be a gratis lease, and LA-RICS would continue to provide utility; the term was for ten (10) years co-terminous again with the County's master lease and had four (4) extension options of five (5) years each.

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 Board Chair Berkuta motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Hurt.

Ayes (8): Tadeo, Alegria, Luke, Berkuta, Yelverton, Jimenez, Zavala, and Hurt

MOTION APPROVED.



H. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 137 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 007

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item H requested the Board make those certain CEQA findings and approve Amendment No. 137 with MSI to incorporate two (2) Change Orders for a total cost increase of sixty thousand four hundred and forty-three dollars (\$60,443), which if approved by the Board, would be funded by the UASI grant.

Executive Director Edson stated the first Change Order was to allow for ball valve installation work at ten (10) LMR sites to improve the infrastructure of the sites by installing high-quality drainage solutions, which was necessary to ensure the sites remained operational. Executive Director Edson further stated the second Change Order was to allow MSI to provide KVL7000 key-loaders, configured with all options needed for encryption key management.

Lastly, Executive Director Edson requested the Board delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute the Amendment and issue Notices to Proceed (NTP) accordingly.

Alternate Board Chair Berkuta asked for a motion to approve. Alternate Board Member Leslie Luke motioned first, seconded by Board Member Michael Alegria

Ayes (8): Tadeo, Alegria, Luke, Berkuta, Yelverton, Jimenez, Zavala, and Hurt

MOTION APPROVED.

I. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH FIRST SIGNAL COMMUNICATION GROUP, LLC TO PROVIDE ASSISTANT CHIEF LMR SYSTEM OFFICER AND ENGINEERING CONSULTANT SERVICES

Executive Director Edson reported that Agenda Item I requested the Board delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into negotiations with First Signal Communication Group LLC (First Signal) for a Sole Source Agreement to provide Assistant Chief LMR System Officer and Engineering Consultant Services to the Authority. Executive Director Edson further stated that, if approved by the Board, upon completion of negotiations, Authority staff would return to the Board with a proposed agreement, corresponding scope, terms and conditions, and cost.



Executive Director Edson said that Board approval was requested to enter into Sole Source negotiations with First Signal, a company established by Mr. Ted Pao, the Authority's most recent Lead Technical Engineer, who dedicated eighteen (18) years to the LA-RICS project and was intimately familiar with LA-RICS as an organization and had all-encompassing institutional technical knowledge of the LMR system.

Executive Director Edson stated the Authority was seeking a replacement for Mr. Pao's former position as the Technical Lead, and entering into a Sole Source Agreement with First Signal would allow the Authority to (1) fill the Technical Lead vacancy to eventually serve as the Chief LMR System Officer; (2) permit First Signal to engage in an LA-RICS and LMR System knowledge transfer with the new Technical Lead, and (3) assist the Authority with any technical and engineering issues to ensure the LMR System continued to perform at a public safety grade level.

Executive Director Edson further stated that understanding the Authority adopted the County procurement mode, and in accordance with the County Board of Supervisor's Policy No. 5.100 for Sole Source Contracts and Amendments to Extend Contract, notification was being provided to the Board as well as a request to delegate authority to the Executive Director to engage in negotiations for a Sole Source Agreement.

Executive Director Edson went on to say should the Board approve Agenda Item I, the Authority would commence negotiations with First Signal and return to the Board for consideration of a proposed agreement along with corresponding scope, terms and conditions, and cost for Consultant Services with First Signal.

Executive Director Edson asked if there were any questions. Board Member Richard Tadeo confirmed with Executive Director Edson that Mr. Pao recently retired from LA-RICS. Board Member Tadeo asked Executive Director Edson if there would be need for any Non-Disclosure Agreements to which Executive Director Edson said there were none. Alternate Chair Berkuta asked Executive Director Edson if there were any conflicts of interest to which Executive Director Edson said there were none.

Alternate Board Member Hurt asked if Mr. Pao's salary would be considered during negotiations. Executive Director Edson stated that First Signal's salary would be



an item of discussion during negotiations, with his current salary serving as salary savings.

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

Ayes (8): Tadeo, Alegria, Luke, Berkuta, Yelverton, Jimenez, Zavala, and Hurt

MOTION APPROVED.

J. ELECTION FOR AT-LARGE DIRECTOR SEAT

Executive Director Edson stated that it was recommended the Board set January 7, 2027, for a mail-in ballot election for an At-Large Director seat. Executive Director Edson further stated that only member agencies of the authority were eligible to vote for these seats. Executive Director Edson went on to say this At-Large Director seat was vacant, given the City of La Verne Fire Chief left office, thus creating the vacancy; the City of La Verne would remain a member of the Authority.

Executive Director Edson shared the schedule for mail nomination forms as reflected in the Board letter, and mentioned that if there were no candidates, then the Board would appoint the At-Large Director. Executive Director Edson further shared that LA-RICS was following the Bylaws process for this election.

Executive Director Edson concluded his report and asked if there were any questions. Board Member Tadeo asked Executive Director Edson if there were any limitations on who should be nominated. Executive Director Edson stated there are certain requirements the candidate needed to meet, and these requirements would be outlined in the mail-in ballots.

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

Ayes (8): Tadeo, Alegria, Luke, Berkuta, Yelverton, Jimenez, Zavala, and Hurt

MOTION APPROVED.



K. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 022 WITH DPS TELECOM

Executive Director Edson stated that Agenda Item K requested the Board to delegate authority to the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 4 to the Agreement with DPS Telecom to upgrade the hardware and software of the existing primary and secondary T/Mon units to the latest T/Mon LNX units, which would enhance the remote alarm monitoring system interface and prioritize alerts and status notifications of the system; this was necessary to ensure the LMR System was performing optimally.

Executive Director Edson said that, additionally, the Amendment sought to extend the Term for a period of two (2) years from October 28, 2026, through October 27, 2028, to align with the Warranty Period for the upgraded equipment, for a cost increase in the amount of twenty-eight thousand three hundred ninety-two dollars (\$28,392), which if approved by the Board, would be funded by the UASI grant.

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 Board Chair Berkuta motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Hurt.

Ayes (8): Tadeo, Alegria, Luke, Berkuta, Yelverton, Jimenez, Zavala, 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 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 adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 9:33 a.m. and stated the next Regular Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, August 6, 2026, 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 Tadeo made a motion.