



MINUTES

LOS ANGELES
REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, February 23, 2012 • 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Headquarters, Media Conference Room

4700 w. Ramona Blvd., Monterey Park, CA 91754

Official Voting Members Present:

Doug Cline, representative for County of Los Angeles Fire Department
Dave Culver, representative for County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
June Gibson, representative for City of Los Angeles, Chief Legislative Analyst
Stephen Sotomayor, Chair, representative for City of Los Angeles Police Department
Ed Roes, City of Los Angeles Administrative Office
Erick Lee, Secretary, representative for Culver City, At Large
Kevin McClure, Vice Chair, representative for Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association
Steve Smith, representative for City of Covina, At Large
Eric E. Tsao, representative for City of Torrance, At Large

Representatives For Official Voting Members Present:

Nancy Ramirez, representing James Alther for LAUSD Police Department

Others Present:

Pat Mallon, LA-RICS

Official Voting Members Absent:

John Vidovich, representative for the City of Los Angeles Fire Department
Stephen W. Hannah, representative for City of Long Beach
Daniel Jordan, representative for California Contract Cities Association
David Lantzer, representative for Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
Greg Simay, Chair, representative for City of Burbank, At Large
Andree Stecker, representative for County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Jan Takata, County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office



1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Finance Committee was called to order on February 23, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. by the Chair Stephen Sotomayor.

2. ANOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Formal roll call performed with an acknowledgement of a quorum.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made for approval of the minutes from the January 26, 2012, Finance Committee Meeting. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Chair Stephen Sotomayor asked that before moving on to Old Business, he would like to discuss the Federal Government's passing of HR 3630, the allocation of the D-Block, and the sale of T-Band spectrum. Sotomayor asked Executive Director Pat Mallon to speak.

Executive Director Mallon stated that this past Friday, February 17, 2012, the House of Representatives passed their version of the tax bill, closely followed by the approval of the Senate and the was signed by the President. In that package was the allocation of much sought after public safety spectrum or the D-Block, which is a 10MHz frequency spectrum broadband 700 MHz to public safety. However, one of the negative things for our region is the proposed sale of T-band. TV channels 13, 14 15 and 16 are proposed to be auctioned to create several billion dollars that would offset the deficit, plus also allocate 7 billion dollars to help build out the broadband system and to migrate those agencies that are in the T-band to other frequency ranges. That proposed sale would occur in nine years, with a two-year transition period. As was suggested by the Chair, the LA-RICS system has been based on digital trunk radio system that would operate in the 14, 15, and 16 ranges, so this is a concern to us. In the last couple of days, our technical staff has been brainstorming to understand the bill and to explore alternatives to go forward and meet the interoperable communications needs for the region.

We hope to present something to the Board at a Special Meeting on Thursday, March 15, 2012. For now it is just a lot of speculation as to where the FCC would like to move us. We do not know if the FCC has had an opportunity to react to the legislation. As the Chair suggested, there is a possible alternative to use a 700 – 800 MHz frequency range. There are some channels that are currently licensed to Los Angeles County and Los Angeles City, but there are nowhere near the number of frequencies that will be required for LA-RICS.

Committee Member Erick Lee asked if this new development would affect the RFP. Executive Director Mallon expressed that LA-RICS has incorporated some discussions with Counsel to determine if it will have an impact.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Chair Sotomayor mentioned an item that was brought up to his attention from a committee member regarding the Conflict of Interest (700) forms for the Committee, and the applicability of



these forms to the committee. Chair Sotomayor wanted to address the issue based upon inquiries.

Amanda Drukker, County Counsel, suggested that three out of the four standing committees should fill out the form. Executive Director Mallon stated that since this Body would be making recommendations on the expenditure and/or commitment of funds, staff feels that it is the safest thing to do. Chair Sotomayor stated that he understands the logic behind that. Executive Director Mallon said that they looked at the regulations and it pertains to anyone in the decision-making or recommendation of expenditure of funds. Amanda Drukker stated that the policy was first adopted when the JPA was first formed. She suggests that the Committee Members fill out the forms.

4.1 Cost Allocation Methods

Chair Sotomayor mentioned that the Committee should work on a schedule, since they had several issues, one of the larger issues being with contract cities or districts. Board Member Alexander suggested that as a Committee to hold a workshop on discussing this topic. Chair Sotomayor suggested that a representative from the Sheriff's Department and one from the LA County Fire Department could be present in a future meeting to work through the details. Sotomayor stated that it would be beneficial to sit down with all of the relevant players and work through the process. He asked if the Committee Members would think that it would be helpful and would also like to have the Subject Matter Experts (SME's) experts. He would like to have them for a future Committee meeting.

Committee Member Doug Cline stated the original intent was to have an Ad Hoc Meeting rather than a closed session, but it would be more appropriate to do an open forum. Chair Sotomayor will work with LA-RICS staff and contract cities/Fire in order to set-up a workshop.

Committee Member Cline had another question, since whatever cost allocations are planned will be put forward to the JPA Board, can the JPA Board give the Committee their input/direction before going forward? Vice-Chair McClure felt that it was the duty of the Committee to put together the plan and present it to the Board.

Committee Member Eric Tsao asked a two-part question, if at the next meeting they would discuss the cost allocation itself or how once that is settled how it is going to spread across. Some scenarios were previously submitted to the Board on the cost allocation, (A, B, C, etc.) one was based on population, weighted, users, etc., not sure what happened to that, but it lacked funding sources. Another thing mentioned last week that if you were a contract city and police inside, fire you contract out and how is that going to be split. That should be up for discussion as well.

Chair Sotomayor wanted to be clear if the issue to be discussed at the next meeting was pertaining to the cost allocation within those two different parameters. Committee Member Tsao stated yes.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)



6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Discussion regarding funding plans for the construction of the LA-RICS system and the phased schedule of the LA-RICS project.

Chair Sotomayor stated that the idea is to have as many plans as possible to be able to present options to the JPA Board. One of the discussions he brought up was a phased project schedule for LA-RICS and to optimize the grant funding that is available. Sotomayor asked staff if the migration of the entities that would be joining the LA-RICS system could be used as a method of controlling cost or a method of utilizing our existing funding sources to their full potential? He asked Mehrdad Larijaniha to speak about migration plans and how they relate to building out radio systems and the dynamics of building a large communications system. Chair Sotomayor stated that he would like to better understand how system migration could be used to spread costs out for individual JPA Members. Sotomayor stated some existing radio systems would reach their end of life sooner as opposed to others. This transition period would require the purchase of radio equipment and other infrastructure that could potentially create a gap between existing grants and project costs.

Mehrdad Larijaniha, LA City Senior Engineer, said that the LA-RICS radio system could be phased in based on availability of individual simulcast cells. The cells' availability would be mostly a function of the readiness of the associated sites, upon completion of their site improvements; e.g. new tower, new shelter, etc. Once each simulcast cell is ready, the cities covered by the simulcast cell can consider migrating from their existing systems to the LA-RICS, after their existing systems have reached their end of life, e.g. LAPD voice radio system after 2016.

Executive Director Mallon stated that they have closed and evaluated the requests and proposals from four different project management firms, and currently negotiating with one, and that staff is close finalizing the Statement of Work. One of the statements of work, is that the Project Management firm will provide a cost model that will take into account the funds that LA-RICS has available, and how existing grants can be matched to project timelines.

Executive Director Mallon went on to mirror what Mr. Larijaniha previously mentioned. The RFP for the Telecommunications System may be able to issue notices to proceed in order to meet the needs of the project, in particular as it pertains to the environmental impact reports/statements. They could certainly incorporate a system roll-out to meet the needs of the users in looking at the expiration of their existing systems.

Chair Sotomayor expresses that the main thing is see how can we maximize the use of what we currently have and in an effective manner.

Committee member Lee asked if Deltawrx's previous projections can be used or are they outdated? Executive Director Mallon said that there are still evaluations going on with the Telecommunications RFP, which would be followed by the selection of a vendor. He stated that at this point, this is an issue that cannot be discussed. For the Board to approve a contract, a funding plan has to be established and approved. Hopefully this



Committee can come up with a cost model with some vague figures, closer that the 600 million dollar figure that has been thrown around.

Committee Member Tsao asked if the evaluations are near completion and Executive Director Mallon said that they are very close to it. Maybe by mid-March we may be able to move into negotiations.

Committee Member Tsao asked if there are any other grant deadlines that will be missed or lapsed before that process is done. Executive Director Mallon stated that UASI '09 funds expire in May 2012, \$21.5 million (with a five year appropriation); and SHSGP '09 funds expire in May 2012, \$5.8 million (with a five year appropriation). He stated that we do not have any existing contracts to be funded before grants expire, but does expect them to be extended.

Executive Director Mallon stated that there is another issue in which California CEQA requirements must be completed before the Board commits to proceed with the project. The LMR is system large in scale and incorporates some towers that will be in the National Forest that could require a full environmental impact report and not just an environmental assessment on existing towers because these towers are either fully loaded or have outlived their years of life. He further stated that there are mitigation issued that have to be considered.

The first phase of the LA-RICS project would be for the LTE side or the LMR side and what specific sites will used, what specific elements will be required, and how the it will come together.

Due to the legislation passing on Friday, the Board will have to consider the impacts of HR 3630.

6.2 Scheduled meetings and future topics for discussion:

- Phasing Plan
- Grant Deadlines
- LA-RICS Budget FY 2012-13

7. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

To be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m. by consensus.