



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL  
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Thursday, January 5, 2023 • 9:00 a.m.  
Conducted via Microsoft Teams Meeting

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

**Phil Ambrose**, Battalion Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association

**David Povero**, Police Chief, City of Covina Police Department

### ALTERNATES FOR BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

**Frank Forman**, Alternate Vice-Chair, Deputy Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Department

**Brian Yanagi**, Alternate Chair, Chief, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

**Marcel Rodarte**, Executive Director, California Contract Cities Association

### OFFICERS PRESENT

**Scott Edson**, LA-RICS Executive Director

**Susy Orellana-Curtiss**, LA-RICS Administrative Deputy

**Beatriz Cojulun**, LA-RICS, Board Secretary

### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT

**Brian Solinsky**, Police Chief, Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association

**Mark Fronterotta**, Police Chief, City of Inglewood Police Department

**Vacant**, City of Signal Hill Police Department



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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Alternate Board Chair Brian Yanagi called the Regular meeting of the Board to order at 9:01 a.m.

**II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – ROLL CALL**

Board Secretary Beatriz Cojulun took the roll and acknowledged a quorum was present.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A – B)**

**A. December 1, 2022 – Regular Minutes**

Agenda Item A

**B. December 13, 2022 – Special Minutes**

Agenda Item B

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked the Board if there were any corrections or clarification to the attached minutes to the Regular meeting on December 1, 2022, and Special meeting on December 13, 2022. There were no corrections or comments, therefore, he asked for a motion to approve.

Board Member David Povero motioned first, seconded by Board Member Leslie Luke.

Ayes 7: Luke, Forman, Yanagi, Tadeo, Ambrose, Rodarte, and Povero.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE**

There was no public comment.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR (C)**



**C. FINDINGS TO CONTINUE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER AB 361 AND RELATED ACTIONS**

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked for a motion to approve if there were no comments regarding the Consent Calendar Agenda Item C.

Board Member Luke motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Marcel Rodarte.

Ayes 7: Luke, Forman, Yanagi, Tadeo, Ambrose, Rodarte, and Povero.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**VI. REPORTS (D - G)**

**D. Director's Report – Scott Edson**

Executive Director Scott Edson shared a brief but exciting report to start off the New Year and welcomed everyone by saying Happy New Year, wishing everyone a fabulous 2023. Executive Director Edson stated the entire LA-RICS team is excited about what this year holds for the Authority and for public safety in this region.

Executive Director Edson welcome the new County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff, Robert Luna, to the Sheriff's Department (LASD) and the Joint Powers Authority (JPA). Executive Director Edson stated that Sheriff Luna has been involved with LA-RICS for many years as part of the regional Urban Authority Security Initiative (UASI) Board, which the Authority looks forward to his leadership and expertise as the Department Head of LASD and Chair of this JPA. Executive Director Edson believes that Sheriff Luna has much to do and learn, therefore he will join the Authority as soon as possible, however, Executive Director Edson believes the Authority remains in good hands with Chief Yanagi as his Alternate.

Executive Director Edson reported that last month the Authority received the much anticipated \$18.6 million from the State and the funds are in the bank. Executive Director Edson expressed that financially, the Authority is fully funded through the System completion date in October 2023, as well as operating within the Authority's budget. Executive Director Edson went on to say that the Project's System will go-live in October, and in the next few months the Authority looks to bring before the Board a revised funding model to sustain the Project. Executive Director Edson detailed the model would include a per-device subscription rate plan and a membership model that supports the subscription-based plan. Executive Director Edson mentioned the Authority would be working with the regional UASI to obtain the appropriate maintenance funding equivalent in percentage to what other systems have received and are getting this year.



Executive Director Edson further reported that much marketing and outreach is now taking place and the Authority is working with various agencies and organizations to ensure public safety interoperability is complete in this region. Executive Director Edson recalled the decision made by the UASI Board and its funding was that LA-RICS would be the hub of a hub and spoke model. Executive Director Edson explained that as the hub, public safety agencies would connect to LA-RICS via a spoke, and this would ensure regional interoperability that would finally serve the public. Executive Director Edson said the UASI Board decision made for a fairly expensive model, and one more difficult to design and build, and for that reason the Authority will pursue equivalent maintenance funding and a subscription rate model to support it. Executive Director Edson stated the Authority looks forward to support from the leadership on the UASI Board, to for the first time ever, bring true interoperability to the region.

Executive Director Edson stated that overall, the Authority is in a very good place with all sites constructed, punch list and warranty items ongoing, and in parallel optimization and testing is taking place now. Executive Director Edson said last month the Authority went live with the Narrowband Mobile Data Network (NMDN) and in a few short months the Authority will also go-live with the Digital Voice Trunk Network (DTVRS). Executive Director Edson shared that LASD will be the first to cutover to the new Digital Voice Trunk Network. Executive Director Edson mentioned this network would bring them great capacity, coverage, and resiliency.

Executive Director Edson said that Acting Project Manager Steve Page would follow with more details on the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) system, Technical Lead Ted Pao with Spectrum and Licensing Issues under Agenda Item H, and the Outreach Update would be presented by Lieutenant Robert Weber under Agenda Item I.

Executive Director Edson wrapped up by saying that while the Authority believes Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) has not strictly adhered to scheduling best practices, nor the contract requirements for schedule updates, the Authority is most interested in coming to agreement with MSI on the remaining significant LMR milestone dates and the LMR completion date. Therefore, Executive Director Edson recommends acceptance of this re-baseline Integrated Master Schedule (IMS) in LMR Amendment No. 109 as well as the inclusion of minor design cost associated with the Topanga (TOP) site. These are all identified in Agenda Item J which will be presented by Susy Orellana-Curtiss.

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



**E. Project Manager's Report – Steve Page**

Acting Project Manager Steve Page greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item E.

December Successes

Acting Project Manager Page stated that in December, as Executive Director mentioned, NMDN 1 came online on December 15, 2022, and is currently in use by the County of Los Angeles Fire Department (LACoFD). Acting Project Manager Page further stated the West UHF and West 700 Cells came online and are still being tested by MSI in preparation for cutover to the Digital Trunked Voice Radio System (DTVRS) in March 2023.

December Challenges

Acting Project Manager Page reported that last month, with the rainy season starting up, the Authority had some issues with the generator at Burnt Peak (BUR1), but those have been dealt with now and with NMDN1 in place and operating, the Authority has visibility to the status of the generator.

Acting Project Manager Page further reported the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) finalized their second design for Green Mountain (GRM) with the underground option, and that has been transmitted to State Parks for review.

Acting Project Manager Page said the Authority went through the final items for NMDN1, all of the Work Acceptance Certificates (WACs) were approved, and the system came online on time on December 15, 2022.

Key Program Metrics

Acting Project Manager Page stated that, as mentioned last month, program metrics are pretty much done on the construction side. Acting Project Manager Page also mentioned that all sites are done, all equipment is in, and starting next month, the Authority will cover something new and exciting for the Board.

The Inter-Radio Subsystem Interference (ISSI)

Acting Project Manager Page went on to say that as Executive Director Edson stated, the hub and spoke model of interoperability really leads the Authority to technical talk of this month. Acting Project Manager Page said he would provide details as to the future of the System and went on to say that it would begin once the Authority had the LA-RICS DTVRS connected to other LMR systems through the Inter-Radio Frequency (RF) Subsystem Interface (ISSI). Acting Project



Manager Page further explained that ISSI is a standard within the P25 suite of standards that dictates the minimum requirements for systems to connect together to allow users from each system to use the coverage of different systems. Acting Project Manager Page further explained that in the case of the LA-RICS, it is using the ISSI primarily to connect resources at the system level so that users in the field from these different systems are allowed to talk to one another completely transparently. Acting Project Manager Page said he would discuss and explain the second use of ISSI.

#### The ISSI Connection

Acting Project Manager Page stated the connection the Authority currently has between LA-RICS and Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) system is a physical cable connected at one of the Authority sites which also houses an ICI site, and this collocation makes it easy to connect one system to another. Acting Project Manager Page went on to say the connection is firewalled, secured, and rules-based, and meets all of the security requirements of both LA-RICS and ICI.

#### The ISSI Operation

Acting Project Manager Page reported that once the two (2) systems were connected together, the Authority configured a number of Regional Talkgroups on both sides (in each core) and mapped them to one another directly.

Acting Project Manager Page said that what this means is that when someone on LA-RICS talks on Talkgroup Regional-3, it comes out on ICI's Talkgroup Regional-3. Acting Project Manager Page further stated that of course this works perfectly, if each of the radios on both sides of the conversation have these sixteen (16) Talkgroups, which is why the Authority's technical team can do one better.

Acting Project Manager Page explained that for ease of operation, the Authority has the ability for the dispatchers on both sides of the link to patch talkgroups together. Acting Project Manager Page mentioned that this would allow the Authority to use Talkgroups that are already programmed in fielded radios, and through Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), linking these existing Talkgroups together across the systems. Acting Project Manager Page went on to provide an example, such as a dispatcher on LA-RICS patches LASD South Los Angeles Local Tactical (LTAC) team to Regional-2, and a dispatcher at Torrance Police Department (PD) then patches Torrance PD TAC-4 to Regional-2 on the ICI system, and immediately, there are deputies on South LA LTAC talking seamlessly to Torrance PD officers on their tactical channel.

Acting Project Manager Page stated the next step has yet to be codified, but the Authority is looking at the impacts of a couple of different things. Acting Project Manager Page said that for example, the Authority can have a permanent





connection for LACoFD Dispatch, and that way, Fire Mutual Aid users on the ICI system can maintain situational awareness of activity on that Talkgroup, or the Authority might choose to put the Aero Bureau Dispatch Talkgroup on the ISSI. Acting Project Manager Page went on to say that while it will be available to users, the Talkgroup is still encrypted and considered secure. Acting Project Manager Page believes the Authority might also consider a radio tech Talkgroup so System Managers have an immediate way to talk to one another in the event of a system-wide issue. Acting Project Manager Page believes that while there are some limitations, the limit is really dependent on the imagination of the user and how the process is used. Acting Project Manager Page stated that all requests of this nature are completely vetted by both Technical and Operational staff of both LA-RICS and ICI, and have to go through the Change Management process before they are implemented, as per the SOP requirements.

#### January Focus Items

Acting Project Manager Page stated that this month the Authority has final audits with the teams at the MCI site for Final System documentation, the Authority continues with the Closeout Books to get them done before DTVRS comes online in March 2023, as well as the Authority continuing to work on the power design for GRM with DWP and State Parks, which is all in preparation for a March cutover of the DTVRS.

Acting Project Manager Page further stated the Authority would also be keeping a close eye on the NMDN 1 cutover to make sure the subsystem continues to operate without issues.

This concluded the presentation and report on Agenda Item E by Acting Project Manager Page. There was no further discussion.

**F. Joint Operations and Technical Chair's Report – None**

**G. Finance Committee Chair's Report – None**

### **VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (H – I)**

**H. Spectrum and Licensing Issues Impacting Land Mobile Radio Deployment – Ted Pao**

Technical Lead Ted Pao provided an update on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), stating there are still no changes to the two (2) Tejon Peak (TPK) license applications, which are the Narrowband Mobile Data Network (NMDN) and for the Analog Conventional Voice Radio System (ACVRS). Technical Lead Pao stated there was no further update from County on the timeline for the approval of the two (2) licenses.



Technical Lead Pao said that in respect to interference issues, as reported to the Board last month, the Authority received the interference reports from MSI for the Criminal Court Building (CCT), Mount Disappointment (MDI), and Signal Hill (SGH). Technical Lead Pao went on to say there was additional information provided in a report by MSI's vendor and the Technical staff would be engaging with MSI and its vendor on the next step to resolve interference.

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

**I. Outreach Update – Lieutenant Robert Weber**

Operations Lead Lieutenant (Lt.) Robert Weber greeted Board members and referenced the detailed Outreach Summary document for the month of December included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Weber reported that Authority staff and personnel from the County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) Communications and Fleet Management Bureau (CFMB) have been working diligently on the migration of TalkGroups to the "NICE" logging recorder system. Operations Lead Weber stated that this planning is an integral part of the overall system testing plan for LASD's stations throughout the County in 2023. Operations Lead Weber mentioned that in early December the Authority team worked with LASD to start full unit testing with the LASD's Community College Bureau. Operations Lead Weber further reported the system received very favorable comments from their staff. Operations Lead Weber shared that system metrics from the testing would be shared with the LASD's CFMB staff. Operations Lead Weber went on to say that LA-RICS staff is still evaluating the metrics from the test, however, the system performed very well. Operations Lead Weber shared that Authority staff and LASD are planning to conduct full station testing at several stations in the early part of 2023, with full migration scheduled for March of 2023.

Operations Lead Weber went on to report that Authority staff continues to work with the City of Inglewood Police Department regarding ongoing SoFi Stadium events and the early onboarding process. Operations Lead Weber stated the intent is to conduct full Department testing with them in the very near future with a goal of early 2023. Operations Lead Weber expressed that Authority staff worked closely with the LASD's Emergency Operations Bureau and the City of Pasadena regarding the 2023 Rose Parade and Rose Bowl events. Operations Lead Weber stated that this marked the second time the full LA-RICS system has been tested at the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl events. Operations Lead Weber believed, that as expected, the system performed very well and received several favorable comments.

Operations Lead Weber concluded by saying that Authority staff members have continued close contact with our State and Federal partners to ensure





interoperability during major events and to further collaborate on regional public safety communication.

This concluded the update on Agenda Item I. Operations Lead Lt. Weber asked if there were any questions. There was no further discussion.

## VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (J)

### J. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 109 TO AGREEMENT NO. LA-RICS 007 LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM LAND MOBILE RADIO

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss presented Agenda Item J, Amendment No. 109 to the LA-RICS Agreement with MSI for the build of the LMR System.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss reiterated what Executive Director Edson stated in his report, this Amendment includes two (2) items the Authority asked the Board approve. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss stated that 1.a, was to incorporate costs related to Phase 1 permitting work at Topanga-RELAY (TOP-RELAY) site totaling \$2,379. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss went on to explain that 1.b was to adopt the updated IMS, which updates the Subsystem Acceptance dates, among other things, and continues to reflect the System completion date of October 2023.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss asked the Board authorize the corresponding increase to the Maximum Contract Sum in the amount of \$2,379. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss went on to ask the Board to delegate authority to the Executive to execute Amendment No. 109, which is substantially similar to the document in the Agenda Packet, as well as issue any corresponding Notices to Proceed related to this Amendment.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss mentioned the background Executive Director Edson provided regarding the TOP-RELAY permit reconciliation work, which is \$2,379 payable to MSI for completion of certain permitting work they have confirmed and completed for the TOP-RELAY site. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss concluded by saying the second item was the acceptance of the IMS, which reflects the actualized realized date of the NMDN Phase 1 acceptance that occurred on December 15, 2022, and the remaining Subsystem Acceptance dates through the Final System Acceptance date which remains to be October 2023.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked if anyone had any questions, comments, or concerns with Agenda Item J, if not, he then asked for a motion to approve.



Board Member Povero motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Rodarte.

Ayes 7: Luke, Forman, Yanagi, Tadeo, Ambrose, Rodarte, and Povero.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE**

**X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD – NONE**

**XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

The Board entered into Closed Session at 9:21 a.m.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –Anticipated Litigation (subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9) (2 cases).

The Board returned from Closed Session at 9:27 a.m. Counsel Truc Moore stated the Board was back in open session and the Brown Act did not require a report.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING AND NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Board Member Povero motioned.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 9:28 a.m., and stated the next Regular Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, February 2, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., via Microsoft Teams / Teleconference Meeting.