



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL  
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Thursday, February 2, 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

**Vincent Capelle**, Fire Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association

**Mark Alexander**, City Manager, California Contract Cities Association

**David Povero**, Police Chief, 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

**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

**Cardell Hurt**, Captain, City of Inglewood Police Department

## 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

**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 9:00 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)**

**A. January 5, 2023 – Regular Minutes**

Agenda Item A

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked the Board if there were any corrections or clarification to the attached minutes to the Regular meeting on January 5, 2023. There were no corrections or clarifications, therefore, he asked for a motion to approve.

Board Member David Povero motioned first, seconded by Board Member Richard Tadeo.

Ayes 5: Luke, Forman, Yanagi, Tadeo, and Povero.

Abstained 2: Alexander and Hurt.

Since there were not 6 Aye votes, the minutes will be brought back to the next Board meeting for approval.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE**

There was no public comment.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR (B)**

**B. 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 question regarding the Consent Calendar Agenda Item B.

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

Ayes 7: Luke, Forman, Yanagi, Tadeo, Alexander, Povero, and Hurt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

## VI. REPORTS (C - F)

### C. Director's Report – Scott Edson

Executive Director Scott Edson greeted the Board and stated that one month into 2023 has led to a good start, with hopes of an even better remainder 2023, especially given the project is getting closer to going live. Executive Director Edson shared that since the last Board meeting the Authority's Program Manager, Steve Page, has left Jacobs Project Management Co. (Jacobs) for a new position with Orange County. Executive Director Edson expressed that Mr. Page was a tireless worker and great team player who will be missed, and the Authority wishes him the best with his new employer. Executive Director Edson said the Authority was currently assessing replacement of the Program Manager position and would report back to the Board once a decision was reached.

Executive Director Edson thanked everyone for their continued support as the Authority wraps up the final months of the LA-RICS system deployment. Executive Director Edson stated that in anticipation of the ending of AB 361, the Authority has held this meeting in an effort to make the final finding which would allow the Authority, if needed, to hold remote meetings prior to resumption of in-person meetings in March 2023. Executive Director Edson said the Authority has secured the previously used meeting venue at the County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) Scientific Services Bureau, Hertzberg Davis Forensic Science Center Crime Lab, which he looks forward to welcoming the Board and public at the in-person LA-RICS Board meeting on March 2, 2023.

Executive Director Edson reported the weather over the last couple months have been good for the region, with the most rain in over a decade, but bad for LA-RICS. Executive Director Edson stated that a couple sites run on generators as primary power because fires eradicated the power source at sites last year. Executive Director Edson went on to say that this winter weather has made it difficult to ensure the generators were refueled. Executive Director Edson said that in addition, the weather has washed out many roads, some of which the Authority repaired after the first weather system hit, and with the storms that followed certain roads are now in dire condition.



Executive Director Edson thanked the County of Los Angeles Fire Department (LACoFD) for their assistance in clearing many of the fire roads up to the Authority sites, LACoFD has done a phenomenal job and has assisted multiple times. Executive Director Edson also thanked the LASD and the County Internal Services Department (ISD) who have both been a great help when it comes to road clearing for access, as well as generator re-fuel, repair, and maintenance. Executive Director Edson stated that ISD staff has also assisted the Authority with their fueling contracts for Burnt Peak 1 (BUR1) and Green Mountain (GRM) sites.

Executive Director Edson shared that he received reports in which some of the roads were damaged so extensively, they will need to be rebuilt in areas that failed entirely. Executive Director Edson said that many of the roads are shared by the United States government, the State, and other local agencies. However, Executive Director Edson said that none of the agencies have taken action to coordinate or implement these critically needed repairs. Executive Director Edson shared the Authority is coordinating a meeting to discuss a cost sharing plan with these agencies as it is everyone's best interest of all to ensure that sites are accessible for maintenance. Executive Director Edson hopes to have the meeting in the next week or two (2) at the most. Executive Director Edson further reported that repair of roads, the generators, and now the rebuilding of roads, are costly and could quickly drain the Authority's contingency fund. Executive Director Edson expressed that is why the Authority is aggressively pursuing a cost-sharing model. Executive Director Edson stated that more importantly, the Authority needs to get the roads resolved quickly for the safety of the public, especially since the intent is still to go-live in October 2023.

Executive Director Edson stated that Motorola Solutions, Inc. (MSI) has the ability under contract to profit for its assistance with the road clearing, when needed and requested, and they have done so in the past. However, Executive Director Edson reported that at this juncture, MSI has out right refused to provide those much needed resources, causing the Authority a delay and having to bring on new contractors to repair the roads. Executive Director Edson further stated that at the same time, MSI has warned the Authority the schedule may push out unless the Authority provides them access to these roads to finish optimization and testing. Executive Director Edson expressed that fortunately, the team has improvised, thus far, by utilizing alternate access routes and clearing roads via other service providers.

Executive Director Edson said that due to the damage at the GRM road site, specifically, the Digital Trunked Voice Radio Subsystem (DTVRS) West Cell optimization was not able to start one (1) week early as MSI had planned, but instead started yesterday, one (1) week later than the scheduled start date. Executive Director Edson went on to say that because this is a critical path activity, it would likely extend the planned Final System Acceptance date by one (1) week, unless the activity finishes sooner than forecasted. Executive Director Edson



believes that even with that time lost, the program will still keep the Final System Acceptance within the month of October 2023.

Executive Director Edson reported that with the loss of the Authority's Program Manager, Program Director Justin Delfino would be presenting the Program Manager's Report immediately following this report. After the Program Director's Report (Agenda Item D) would be the Spectrum and Licensing Issues Impacting Land Mobile Radio Deployment reported by Technical Lead, Ted Pao (Agenda Item G); followed by an Outreach Update by Operations Lead Lieutenant Robert Weber (Agenda Item H); and ending with a report on Statement of Receipts & Disbursement for AT&T Business Agreement Fund for Public Safety Broadband Network by Susy Orellana-Curtiss (Agenda Item I).

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

**D. Program Manager's Report – Justin Delfino**

Program Director Justin Delfino greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item D.

January Successes

Program Director Delfino provided the January 2023 highlights and stated that Narrowband Mobile Data Network 1 (NMDN1) remained online and the infrastructure withstood abnormally high winds and heavy rain events. Program Director Delfino stated that this goes back to the design parameters for the public safety grade, which was an issue during design. Program Director Delfino stated there were complaints about having to take it to such a high standard, and having to ensure the Authority looked at the sustained wind speeds, as well as gust wind speeds that have been experienced during the month of January 2023. Program Director Delfino further stated that there were some reported winds in some of the areas in which the Authority has some of these towers in areas where winds reached a hundred (100) miles an hour speeds. Program Director Delfino went on to say that of course having that high standard reduces deflection and ensures the towers remain standing. Program Director Delfino reiterated what Executive Director Edson previously mentioned, that generators gave the Authority some trouble in January 2023 at sites GRM and BUR1, but was pleased to report that within the same month they were back on with the assistance of County and other agencies.

Program Director Delfino expressed that over the course of the program, there have been standing periods in which there was schedule dispute. Program Director Delfino believes that at this point, both MSI and the Authority are in agreement, with the target of milestones and finish date, and for that reason the Integrated Master Schedule (IMS) was approved and as well as work being performed based on it on



the approved version, which MSI has been tracking the dates on the schedule since then has was updated on January 10, 2023DD. Program Director Delfino further reported that MSI has been working for the most part working fairly close with the dates identified in that schedule, certainly with the milestone dates. Program Director Delfino said that it was encouraging that MSI and the Authority are both in agreement at this point in the program.

Program Director Delfino said the Authority received a report from Southern California Edison regarding the planned BUR1 area solar plant, which would be completed within the Quarter Four 2023 timeframe, meaning the power plant would be online in October 2023. Program Director Delfino went on to say the intent is to utilize solar and propane systems to energize each of the installations on the BUR1 site with normal power, LA-RICS' installation included, would benefit the Authority.

Program Director Delfino shared with the Board that outreach efforts have been ramping up as law enforcement agencies in the region have expressed serious interest since knowing the NMDN1 site is up and the 700 MHz system is rapidly close to its debut.

#### January Challenges

Program Director Delfino expressed that generator repairs and emergency refueling events/challenges has been one of the major focuses of the month. Program Director Delfino reiterated what Executive Director Edson mentioned, the 700 MHz and UHF MHz optimization are critical path activities to complete the West Cell and make sure the ensuing or following subsequent activities can start on their planned dates. Program Director Delfino would later provide photos of the GRM site to provide insight as to how severe some of the roads were damaged.

Program Director Delfino reported that MSI's performance of the water intrusion corrective work they are currently working on versus the particularly severe winter weather the region is having, it is a juxtaposition to work on building enclosure, when products being used may be temperature sensitive and affected by the weather or effects of the weather. Program Director Delfino went on to say that not only does the weather make it difficult to access the sites, but also to work on the building enclosure when experiencing a lot of winter weather. Program Director Delfino shared that both parties have formally agreed that corrections would be completed prior to the final system acceptance milestone.

Program Director Delfino discussed staffing changes, as Executive Director Edson previously mentioned, Mr. Steve Page has left the program which is a significant staffing change as he held a prominent role in the program, spending over four (4) years on the program, made substantial contributions, and was really a key player. Program Director Delfino expressed his well wishes for him well in his new endeavor.





Program Director Delfino went on to present slides showing the devastating damage done to the roads at some of the sites.

Program Director Delfino talked about the Portal Ridge (PRG) site as he displayed the slide that was taken on January 12, 2023, in which it showed the water accumulation and damage. Program Director Delfino expressed the Authority's concern as to the integrity of the anchors that are responsible for holding down the equipment rack. The Authority hopes to avoid any corrosion taking place or high humidity that could possibly cause damage to the equipment. Program Director Delfino further spoke about the road that had deep ruts and many loose rocks that could cause damage to wheels and tires, and with such huge ruts could cause vehicles to overturn. Program Director Delfino reported that MSI was able to clean up the road.

The following slide Program Director Delfino showed was the substantial loss and avulsion of the paved portion of the primary access road at the Magic Mountain Link's (MML) site which is not something easily repaired. Program Director Delfino said the Authority is investigating to what extent repairs are needed to make the roads safe enough to traverse.

The next slide shown by Program Director Delfino was for Mount Lukens 2 (MTL2) primary access road is the last part of the road which had a section of about 500 feet or road that was washed out. Program Director Delfino said that fortunately for both MML and MTL2, the team was able to provide alternate access routes for both sites, which MSI was able to use to access the sites.

The last slide shown at Green Mountain (GRM) by Program Director Delfino was to show that the Authority had to deal with rushing water that could cause significant avulsion and lost the primary path preventing vehicle access.

#### LA-RICS Site Map

Program Director Delfino went on to discuss the slide on Site Map for Phase 2 and said the blue dots represented pins indicated where site projects were located, which have all been constructed and substantially complete. Program Director Delfino shared there are no new construction sites that need to take place and all plan sites have been built.

#### February Focus Items

Program Director Delfino reported the Authority is finalizing Closeout Books with priority focused on DTVRS sites, with a working group that has been established between LA-RICS and MSI to review the quantity and type of deliverables in an effort to streamline the process ensuring efficiency.



Program Director Delfino said that resolving permanent power at GRM is still high on the To-Do list, because obviously running a generator nonstop is costly. Program Director Delfino stated that in addition, there is also a deep desire to get the resident generator commissioned and operational.

Program Director Delfino mentioned that preparations for the DTVRS cutover are scheduled to start March 9, 2023. Program Director Delfino also mentioned that planning for a DTVRS system bridge warranty is also on the Authority's high priority list prior to the start of the DTVRS cutover. Program Director Delfino further mentioned that increasing of capability and compatibility between the LA-RICS system and the LASD systems are also on the priority list (e.g. essentially tying in together of the logging recorder systems to ensure crossover compatibility).

Program Director Delfino said that MSI sent to the Authority correspondence reporting that of the ten (10) sites that were inaccessible in January 2023, eight (8) sites were resolved. Program Director Delfino further said the remaining two (2) sites which continue to experience difficulties are Grass Mountain (GMT) and Whitaker Middle Peak (WMP). Program Director Delfino stated that both sites still require a solution, which the team is actively working what means and methods can be implemented to gain access to those locations. Program Director Delfino also mentioned that East Sunset Ridge (ESR) road was cleared with the help of a neighboring county.

Program Director Delfino shared that MSI's completion of microwave adjustments at Compton Court Building (CCB) and select over water shots which is important to the integrity of the backhaul system which both MSI and the Authority recognize, with the expectation of it being resolved in the next couple of weeks.

Program Director Delfino concluded by reporting on the Budget and schedule management, which is a primary focus for the month. Program Director Delfino said that typically when discussing a stationary project such as an infrastructure project like a hospital, courthouse, or warehouse; those static projects have a bell curve where costs escalate up to the mid-point of construction by about half a percent (0.5%) a year with a decline on the bell curve where costs and risks taper down. Program Director Delfino said that in this particular development of this network, what is seen is that all of the sites are so geodiverse and because some of them, approximately about thirteen (13) of them use forest roads to access the sites, presents new challenges. Program Director Delfino further said this is the reason for looking into cost sharing models were LA-RICS does not take on the cost liability for road damage all on its own and can share it amongst the other users on the site. Program Director Delfino said the risk profile being looked at still has some expected risks of decline, there are still some elements of risk due to the nature of the program, as well as the way the sites are being spaced out the way that they are.





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

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

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

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (G – I)**

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

Technical Lead Ted Pao provided an update on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), that during the weekly working group meeting with ISD, LA-RICS inquired as to how the County is following up with the FCC on the two (2) outstanding license applications for [Tejon Peak (TPK)], as they have been impending status for the Narrowband Mobile Data Network (NMDN) and for the Analog Conventional Voice Radio System (ACVRS). Technical Lead Pao expressed the Authority's concern over the possibly of the FCC mandating certain antenna patterns in order to issue a license, as they previously did for the DTVRS license, which was for the same TPK site. Technical Lead Pao mentioned that ISD would engage with the County outside FCC Counsel on this request for inquiry and return to the working group with its findings.

Technical Lead Pao reported on interference issues and said the spectrum working group continues to monitor the interference that may be impacting existing County operations and future LA-RICS operations. Technical Lead Pao further reported that due to the variability of the atmospheric conditions, which impact the intensity of the interfering signal, long-term monitoring is needed to accurately characterize how the interference impacts operation. Technical Lead Pao concluded by saying that a snapshot of short-term duration does not truly reflect long-term impact. Technical Lead Pao expressed LA-RICS' appreciation of ISD's efforts in this important step.

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

**H. 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 January included in the Agenda Packet for review and information.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported that throughout the month of January 2023, Authority staff and personnel from the County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's



Department (LASD) Communications and Fleet Management Bureau (CFMB) conducted field testing at the majority of the LASD's East and North Patrol Division stations. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further reported that as of January 2023, the Authority staff and LASD have been able to conduct full station testing at several stations including Industry, Walnut, San Dimas, and Temple Sheriff's stations. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that system metrics from the testing would be shared with the LASD's CFMB staff. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that system performance went well, as LA-RICS staff continues to evaluate testing metrics.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber reported that on January 19, 2023, Authority staff worked with Inglewood Police Department personnel to conduct field testing in the City of Inglewood. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated that system metrics from the testing would be shared with the Inglewood Police Department communications staff. Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated that as LA-RICS staff further evaluates the metrics from the test, it can be reported the system performed well, thus far.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that on January 19, 2023, Authority staff conducted outreach to the City of Duarte, Temple City, and the City of Lancaster. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned they are all evaluating their communications needs and the possibility of using LA-RICS. Operations Lead Lt. Weber went on to say that Authority staff would work closely with these cities to ensure their needs are met.

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 H. Operations Lead Lt. Weber asked if there were any questions. There was no further discussion.

**I. Statement of Receipts & Disbursement for AT&T Business Agreement Fund for Public Safety Broadband Network – Susy Orellana-Curtiss**

Administrative Deputy Susy Orellana-Curtiss greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item I, which provided a statement of the uses of the AT&T, Inc. (AT&T) Business Agreement fund, which funds the Member Funded Operations in line items within the Adopted Budget.

Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss was happy to report that statements are in accordance with the Adopted Budget through the period ending of December 31, 2022. Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss reported the Board is under budget and projected to deplete Business Agreement funds in April 2023, instead of the forecasted February 2023.



Administrative Deputy Orellana-Curtiss concluded the update on the Receive and File Agenda Item I. There was no further discussion.

Agenda Item I

**VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – NONE**

**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 9:25 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 9:33 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 9:35 a.m., and stated the next Regular Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVED