



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL  
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

Thursday, February 1, 2024 • 9:00 a.m.

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

**Scott Wiese**, Chief of Police, Los Angeles County Police Chief's Association

**Joshua Nelson**, City Manager, California Contract Cities Association

**David Povero**, Chief of Police, 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

**Eleni Pappas**, Alternate Vice-Chair, Assistant 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

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

### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT / VACANT

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

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

**Vacant**, At-Large Seat



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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Alternate Board Chair Brian Yanagi welcomed attendees and called the February 1, 2024, Regular Board meeting 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)**

**A. January 4, 2024 – Regular Minutes**

Agenda Item A

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the attached Regular Meeting Minutes for January 4, 2024. There were no questions or corrections, therefore, he asked for a motion to approve both sets of minutes.

Alternate Board Member Cardell Hurt motioned first, seconded by Board Member David Povero.

Ayes (6): Pappas, Yanagi, Wiese, Nelson, Povero, and Hurt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

Board Member Leslie Luke arrived at 9:04 a.m., after the Minutes had been carried into motion.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE**

There was no public comment.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE**

There were no reports on the Regular Meeting Agenda.

**VI. REPORTS (B – E)**



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

Executive Director Scott Edson greeted Board Members, and went on to say that last month, the County of Los Angeles (County) Fire Department (LACoFD), the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) largest fire agency in the United States, successfully completed the transition of its radio communications operation onto the LA-RICS Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System. Executive Director Edson said that after years of meticulous planning, the department finalized the migration on January 22, 2024.

Executive Director Edson shared that LACoFD would primarily rely on the LMR Analog Conventional Radio System (ACVRS) and the Los Angeles Regional Tactical Communications System (LARTCS), for its core operations. Executive Director Edson further shared that it would also leverage the Digital Trunk Voice Radio System (DTVRS) for other types of operations, including Lifeguard, administrative, and specialized units. Executive Director Edson said that notably, the adoption of the LA-RICS LMR System has exponentially expanded the Department's radio capability, providing nearly three times the capacity of its previous legacy system, particularly with the analog subsystem. Executive Director Edson shared that LARTCS has already been utilized for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Urban Search & Rescue communications Specialist training Class held in Santa Clarita Valley and hosted by the City of Los Angeles (City) Fire Department.

Executive Director Edson stated that as expected in any major transition, with thorough planning and pre-testing aimed to minimize logistical and operational issues, the true nature of operational challenges often surfaces during real-world operation. Executive Director Edson stated there are two (2) channels with audio issues that were promptly identified upon the transition. Executive Director Edson further said that collaboratively, LA-RICS and Motorola Solutions, Incorporated (MSI) swiftly addressed and resolved the audio problem by the end of the transition week. Executive Director Edson went on to say that in response, both entities are now revisiting the baseline configuration on all analog channels to ensure a robust and seamless communication system.

Executive Director Edson expressed that adding to the challenges faced in January 2024; the Authority encountered an unexpected incident involving the California Highway Patrol's (CHP) tower collapsing onto the Authority's fence and shelter at Tejon Peak (TPK). Executive Director Edson further expressed that it was suspected to be caused by high winds and ice buildup, with an initial survey indicated damage to the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, vandal cage, and chain-link fence. Fortunately, Executive Director Edson said there is no apparent harm to the radio equipment, except for a bent mast supporting a Global Position System (GPS) antenna. Executive Director Edson mentioned that collaborative efforts with CHP are underway to remove the tower, and discussions with the



Authority's insurance company are in progress to facilitate the restoration of the damaged equipment.

Executive Director Edson stated that in order to enhance regional interoperability, the Authority is currently gathering radio identification (ID) requests from various agencies within the region. Executive Director Edson mentioned that these requests are specifically intended for mutual aid or interoperable operations, designating agencies as affiliates. Executive Director Edson further mentioned that some of these requests are being relayed through intermediary agencies like LACoFD or County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD).

Executive Director Edson reported that to-date, twenty-four (24) interoperable request forms have been submitted and fourteen (14) of those agencies have the regionals programed into some part of their radio system. Executive Director Edson believes that is roughly fifty percent (50%) of the local police agencies that have responded and a little more than half of them have the regionals programmed. Executive Director Edson expressed that it is an improvement over previous month, therefore, the Authority would continue to get the message out and get agencies involved.

Executive Director Edson went on to say the Authority has also reached out to the City Police Department (LAPD) to ensure interoperability, but while their system continues to be delayed, the Authority may need an interim solution until their new system is completed.

Executive Director Edson strongly believes that upon compiling a comprehensive overview of business needs and the radio IDs requested by these agencies, Authority staff will formulate a recommended communications plan, and structured radio ID plan. Executive Director Edson feels that with so much to offer in the way of new spectrum and technology, the plans aim to identify the best solution and to facilitate the most efficient radio ID management within the core system, thus ensuring seamless communication during mutual aid and interoperable operations.

Executive Director Edson reported that with the LMR System accepted and wrapping up the second month of the Authority's warranty period, the Authority continues to focus on interoperability. Executive Director Edson reminded the Board they previously approved the User Agreement at the January 4, 2024, Board meeting. However, Executive Director Edson shared that since that time the Authority has received feedback regarding the requirement to become an LA-RICS Member, which require execution of the Joint Power Authority (JPA) Agreement in addition to the User agreement. Executive Director Edson went on to say that would probably further delay agencies' ability to enter into Subscriber Agreement given they need further legal review and governing body approvals.



Executive Director Edson shared that in an effort to ensure interoperability in the region is as seamless as possible, and with the concurrence from County Counsel, it is not necessary to include a requirement for subscriber to become a member of -RICS. Executive Director Edson shared that requirement has been removed from the revised User agreement and he feels it best to bring it before the Board again for approval today under Agenda Item H.

Executive Director Edson mentioned the Authority continues to spend on the open and awarded grant and the processing of remaining work acceptance certificates, the focus continues on subscribers and regional interoperability.

Executive Director Edson reminded the Board the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Approval Authority (AA) voted to award LA-RICS \$2.4 million from UASI 24' to complete the interconnections and upgrades to connect all the systems. Executive Director Edson stated the \$2.4 million included funding for a critical connect license for connecting with the State of California and surrounding counties, an upgrade of two (2) manual to auto-roaming licenses, four (4) Inter-radio frequency Subsystem Interface licenses for connections with other systems, which include the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), and the Port of Los Angeles (POLA), as well as mutual aid roaming licenses. Executive Director Edson stated given the timing of execution of Sub-recipient Agreements the funding from UASI 24' is not expected until late 2025, and the need for these licenses as soon as possible to achieve progress on regional work, the Authority reached out to the City Mayor's Office to see if there were funds or other grant funds that could be swapped with LA-RICS' 24' award to allow for purchase of licenses now versus late next year. Executive Director Edson said that unfortunately the City advised the Authority they could not accommodate a swap and instead directed the Authority to shuffle grant projects around to accommodate the Authority's purchase. Executive Director Edson said the Authority is exploring a grant modification to allow for 2024 purchases out of the 2022 grant and will report if that modification is achieved.

In addition, Executive Director Edson, shared the Joint Operations and technical Committee had reached out to Committee Members, as well as Board Members, for names to serve on the Ad-Hoc Interoperable Working Group. Executive Director Edson was able to share the Authority received a few nominations, therefore, encouraged those who have not responded and are interested to serving on the Working Group or would like to nominate someone, to do so by reaching out to him, the Executive Director or to Operations Lead Lt. Weber.

Executive Director Edson informed the Board they had a couple procurement process requests to delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into two (2) separate sole source negotiations for a System Upgrade Agreement with MSI and the purchase of ESChat software. Executive Director Edson would further



elaborate on what the Authority seeks from those sole source negotiations under Agenda Items I and J.

Executive Director Edson went on to say that as the Authority finalizes agreements for year one (1) of LMR maintenance, the Authority would bring forward the revised Funding Plan reflecting the subscription-based model, as well as the recommended Budget for FY 2024-25. Executive Director Edson expressed that it has taken a bit longer to finalize the costs associated with, not only with year one (1) maintenance as reflected in the contract, but also the System Upgrade Agreement and the facilities maintenance component, which was not included in the MSI maintenance contact.

Executive Director Edson concluded by saying that in parallel, the team has been working to identify revenue fund sources to offset the ongoing Operation and Maintenance (O&M) costs, including grant revenue and rent from agencies collocating on the Authority's sites and towers. Executive Director Edson shared that Jacobs team has committed to finalizing that cost recovery and potential revenue generating model that should go to the Finance Committee and the Board in the next couple of months.

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

**C. Project Manager's Report – Brian Smyth**

Program Director Brian Smyth greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item C.

**Hits and Misses**

Project Director Smyth shared the Jacobs Project Management (PM) Team presentation, which now reflects the Project being now in the Maintenance Phase. Project Director Smyth went on to highlight some successes and challenges, as well as provided an overview of the maintenance and service agreement oversight the PM Team has been performing. Project Director Smyth reported that a meeting occurred between California State Parks and the City of Los Angeles (City) Department of Water and Power (LADWP) in December 2023. Project Director Smyth further reported that LADWP would research their existing easement and that LA-RICS and LADWP would work on a joint Right of Entry (ROE) agreement to present to California State Parks. Project Director Smyth said that LA-RICS submitted a draft ROE agreement to LADWP for review, therefore, a follow-up meeting among all parties is scheduled.





### **Site Access Roads**

Project Director Smyth said the United States Forest Service (USFS) would perform road repair at sites Whitaker Middle Peak (WMP) and Magic Mountain Link (MML) and would be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2023, which the PM Team would be monitoring its progress.

### **Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)**

Project Director Smyth informed the Board that three (3) variances for SCAQMD that were opened last year have been closed. Project Director Smyth stated that lessons were learned, and does not anticipate any more variances as the PM Team is closely monitoring generator usage to stay ahead of potential challenges.

### **TWR Tower Demolition**

Project Director Smyth reported that a bid for site Tower Peak (TWR) would be awarded by the end of March, and demolition work will be complete by the end of April 2024.

Executive Director Edson raised the topic of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) tower collapse at site Tejon Peak (TPK). Executive Director Edson stated that field personnel were onsite with the both insurance claims adjuster and CHP tower crews, with work being in progress.

Project Director Smyth reported the County of Los Angeles Fire Department (LACoFD) successfully transferred all users to Analog Conventional Voice Radio System (AVCRS) on January 21, 2024, without major incident.

### **Monitoring/Trending/Forecasting Tools**

Project Director Smyth mentioned that progress is being made in oversight of warranty and maintenance with usage of a shared calendar by the PM Team. Project Director Smyth further mentioned the PM Team's major focus is on the Change Request (CRQ) process, which involved the suppression of alarms when personnel visit sites. Project Director Smyth shared the PM Team and MSI met last week to discuss process improvements in an effort to further share the goal was to establish a process in response to valid intruder alerts. Project Director Smyth mentioned the PM Team uses an activity calendar to find activity overlaps, as well as finding solutions to increasing efficiency with respect to site access and work force.

Project Director Smyth said the PM Team uses various tracking maintenance activities through several logs. Project Director Smyth further shared that a new site acquisition team called MET3 has joined the PM Team to closely track



generator usage and stay ahead of generator usage tracking and permit compliance activities.

### **Logistics**

Project Director Smyth reported that regular scheduled maintenance activities such as refueling depend on site access, were tracked on a road repair responsibility matrix of agencies that LA-RICS can contact to request assistance for road repairs. Project Director Smyth further reported that a process is in place to ensure these sites do not run out of fuel, which considers factors such as tank size for fuel monitoring and weather that can influence site access.

Project Director Smyth informed the Board that work at the Catalina Island Conservancy is ongoing, since the continuous escort services coordination by park rangers, as well as abiding by hazmat protocols on the island. Project Director Smyth further informed the Board there are complicated logistic challenges with working on the island, and the goal is to have a network of resources to assist with work efforts.

### **Lease and Regulatory Compliance**

Project Director Smyth shared the Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) permit is a hazardous materials permit, which is required for sites with fuel tanks and batteries onsite, paid on an annual basis. Project Director Smyth said that protocols are in place for situations regarding spillage of hazardous materials.

Project Director Smyth expressed that LA-RICS is in contact with USFS to confirm completion of fuels reduction (weed abatement) at sites. Project Director Smyth said that weed abatement is an activity that is being budgeted for in the coming years under the gap services coverage plan.

Project Director Smyth mentioned that in this phase of the project, beacon tower lighting is LA-RICS' responsibility to inform the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of a light outage. Project Director Smyth said there is a certain timeframe for the light to be repaired after the FAA is notified, which is something LA-RICS and MSI are working on to establish protocols for when incidents may occur.

Project Director Smyth reported that LA-RICS is taking over AQMD permits in this phase of the project, in which all permit bills and permit renewal information are logged to ensure proper forecasting of invoices.

Project Director Smyth stated that site inspections are ongoing, and there have been some sites that do not have updated fire suppression system tags. Project Director Smyth further stated the PM Team is working with MSI to ensure all tags are up to date and in compliance.





### **Procurement**

Project Director Smyth shared there are two (2) sites that do not have permanent power, which are Burnt Peak (BUR1) and Green Mountain (GRM). Project Director Smyth further shared that Southern California Edison's (SCE) plans for a solar plant at BUR1 will be significantly delayed until the end of this year. SCE's original completion was by mid-year.

### **Job Order Contract (JOC) / On Call on Construction Services**

Project Director Smyth expressed the PM Team continues to work with Job Order Contracts (JOC) through County Internal Services Department (ISD) and various Invitation for Bids (IFB) for other general construction services.

### **Incident Management**

Project Director Smyth shared graphs of different types of incidents and a breakdown of sites and incidents for those sites. Project Director Smyth further shared the PM Team is focused on BUR1, Mira Loma Facility (MLM), Palmdale (PLM), Signal Hill (SGH), and Whitaker Ridge (WTR) as these sites have several incidents such as door alarms, microwave issues, and temperature sensor issues.

Project Director Smyth expressed the PM Team is investigating these incidents, confirming these incidents are not affecting system performance, and creating protocols in response to these incidents.

Project Director Smyth was asked about the door alarms and a solution regarding the CHP tower at TPK that fell on the LA-RICS shelter. Project Director Smyth that in regards to security related matters, the Network Operations Center (NOC) is notified by visitors in advance of a scheduled site visit, since the system cannot tell the difference between an actual visitor and an intruder. Project Director Smyth detailed the intent of security measures that involve surveillance cameras and remote door controls. Project Director Smyth mentioned these options will be addressed once funding is available.

Project Director Smyth mentioned that damage to the LA-RICS shelter is minimal. Technical Lead Pao stated that CHP may look at using a tower from California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) that is within the same compound.

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



**D. Joint Operations and Technical Committee Chair's Report – Operations Lead Lieutenant Robert Weber**

Operations Lead Lt. Robert Weber greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item D.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared the Joint Operations and Technical Committees meeting was held on January 16, 2024, was chaired by Operations Lead Lt. Weber; having quorum present; the Minutes were approved; the Joint Committee received an update on the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) system by Project Director Smyth; a Regional Interoperability Update with a brief discussion on different areas of interoperability that are being worked on; and LMR Network Operations Status and Issues Update were both presented by Technical Lead Ted Pao, and a robust Inoperability discussion with Joint Committee Member Vincent Capelle and Committee members on how to further work with the fire departments in the area including attending the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association (LAAFCA). Operations Lead Lt. Weber said that with no further items and no comments, the meeting concluded.

This concluded the presentation and report on Agenda Item D by Operations Lead Lt. Weber.

**E. Finance Committee Chair's Report – NONE**

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (F – G)**

**F. Land Mobile Radio Network Operations Status and Issues – Ted Pao**

Technical Lead Ted Pao greeted the Board and presented Agenda Item G.

Technical Lead Pao reiterated that as reported by the Executive Director, the LACoFD successfully transitioned its radio communications to the LA-RICS LMR System. Technical Lead Pao expressed that managing such a substantial change for a large fire department, especially one that involves expanding the radio channels, presents inherent challenges. Technical Lead Pao said that it would be expected that fire personnel would require some time to fully adapt to this transition. Technical Lead Pao shared that nevertheless, the overall shift has been relatively smooth.

Technical Lead Pao reported that following the transition, the Authority was notified of two (2) channels experiencing audio or simulcast issues. Technical Lead Pao went on to say that collaborative efforts of LA-RICS and MSI efficiently addressed and resolved these issues by the end of the transition week. Technical Lead Pao mentioned that ongoing monitoring and proactive measures are in place to ensure that all equipment operates within proper parameters.



Technical Lead Pao further reported that at TPK, the Authority's most northern site with an elevation just under 5,000 feet, the shelter's HVAC vandal cage and fence sustained damage when the CHP tower failed due to high winds and light ice buildup. Technical Lead Pao explained that initial assessments indicate no structural or roof damage to the shelter. However, Technical Lead Pao believes that a comprehensive evaluation of the damage caused by the tower would be conducted once it is removed. Technical Lead Pao said that weather events have impeded CHP's efforts to remove the tower, but arrangements are being made to address this as soon as possible.

Technical Lead Pao concluded by sharing a slide presentation of the LMR operation status for January 2024. Technical Lead Pao shared details regarding the top ranking Talkgroups and their total talk times/minutes for entire month of January 2024, by site and agency.

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

**G. 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 during the month of January 2024, Authority staff continued with efforts regarding future staffing and budget needs for the ongoing operation of the LA-RICS system, which entailed meetings, planning, and some additional interviews. Sergeant Alvaro Sierra of the County of Los Angeles (County) Sheriff's Department (LASD) joined the LA-RICS team in January and is progressing well, and has also been attending meetings and training sessions to get up to speed.

Sgt. Sierra introduced himself expressing that he is glad to be part of the LA-RICS project, as well as the state of the art interoperable communications system, and looks forward to working with everyone.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated that on January 18, 2024, the Authority met with the UASI Regional Interoperability Working Group. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared the group discussed the Ad-Hoc Committee that LA-RICS is working to set up to assist with interoperability between Law Enforcement and Fire agencies, among other topics. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further stated the Working Group discussed the Los Angeles Regional Tactical Communications System (LARTCS) and Analog Conventional Radio System (ACVRS) systems and how those could be used in the region. Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned the topic of shared or visiting radio Identifications was also discussed. Operations Lead Lt. Weber said



the meeting then turned to the current progress regarding affiliate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreements for ID sharing. Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared there was a detailed conversation regarding the need to have interoperability between the two (2) largest agencies in the County, which are LASD and the City of Los Angeles (City) Police Department (LAPD). Operations Lead Lt. Weber stated the Authority is currently working on planning meetings regarding this effort with the LAPD. Operations Lead Lt. Weber expressed the Authority is continuing to collect interoperability requests via the forms that were sent out last year and as mentioned by Executive Director Edson, the Authority has received twenty-four (24) forms from agencies requesting interoperability with LASD. Operations Lead Lt. Weber also shared that Battalion Chief Dayton Calhoun is also working on an interoperability request form for the fire agencies in the region.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber shared that during the month of January, the Authority staff was busy working on several operational and planning efforts with LASD and the County Fire Department (LACoFD). Operations Lead Lt. Weber was happy to report that as of January 22, 2024, the Authority's partners at the LACoFD have successfully migrated over to the new LA-RICS ACVRS. Operations Lead Lt. Weber further shared that in January the Authority attended the Inland Interoperability Group meeting where discussion of the new LA-RICS systems went on, as well, on how the Authority plans to work with the region in the coming months and years.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber mentioned that Authority staff conducted additional outreach and coordination with the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department as they evaluate their needs and possibility of moving to our system. Operations Lead Lt. Weber also mentioned the Authority conducted further coordination with UCLA as they work toward moving to the LA-RICS system. Operations Lead Lt. Weber said that Authority staff would work closely with these agencies to ensure their needs are met.

Operations Lead Lt. Weber concluded by saying that Authority staff members have continued close contact with State and Federal partners to ensure interoperability during major events and to continue collaboration on regional public safety communication.

Extensive discussion ensued among the Board members regarding interoperable communications efforts. The discussion included the awaited Subscriber User Agreement, sharing of identifications (IDs), ICI and regional frequencies, Orange County outreach, and future outreach with CHP. There was a consensus that further outreach with agencies is required to make progress on the path to regional interoperability.

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



**VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (H – J)**

**H. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO FINALIZE AND EXECUTE A REVISED VERSION OF THE LA-RICS USER AGREEMENTS FOR BOTH SUBSCRIBERS AND AFFILIATES FOR USE OF THE LAND MOBILE RADIO (LMR) SYSTEM**

Executive Director Edson presented Agenda Item H requesting the Board's approval to authorize the Executive Director to finalize and execute revised LA-RICS User Agreements with Users who desire to utilize the LMR System.

Users can be either "Subscribers" who will pay a Monthly Fee to utilize the LMR System for their primary radio communications or "Affiliates" who desire to utilize the LMR System only for mutual or automatic.

Executive Director Edson stated that Subscribers would continue to pay a Monthly Fee of \$20 dollars per piece of equipment that has transmitting capability with the LMR System, which could include radios, consoles, consolettes, modems, and other equipment. Executive Director Edson further stated the notable change on the revised Subscriber version of the USER Agreement is it no longer requires Subscribers to join the Authority's JPA as a member in order to use the LMR System.

Executive Director concluded by saying that affiliates who use the LMR System for mutual or automatic aid only, there has been no changes to their agreement and would continue at no cost.

Executive Director Edson was asked if there was fee to join, to which he responded by saying the original Funding Plan has cost involved for operations and maintenance of the system, however, no JPA Member has ever had to pay, due to all fees being waived until a new Funding Plan is in place, which would be in the next few months.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi stated in the absence of any questions, asked for a motion to approve. Board Member Povero motioned first, seconded by Board Member Scott Wiese.

Ayes (7): Luke, Pappas, Yanagi, Wiese, Nelson, Povero, and Hurt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**



**I. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SOLE SOURCE AMENDMENT WITH MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR A SYSTEM UPGRADE AGREEMENT FOR THE LAND MOBILE RADIO SYSTEM**

Executive Director Edson presented Agenda Item I requesting the Board's approval to authorize, the Executive Director, to enter into sole source negotiations with Motorola Solutions, Inc. for a System Upgrade Agreement (SUA) for the LMR System. Executive Director Edson stated the SUA contemplates upgrades of certain covered equipment, software updates, installations, and testing that is necessary for the LMR System to stay current with manufacturer software releases and hardware support.

Executive Director Edson reminded the Board, the LMR Agreement with MSI is currently in its final year-long no-cost Warranty Period, set to end on November 16, 2024, and will enter a period whereby the Maintenance Work will be performed based on the scope of work and predefined costs set forth in the Agreement. Executive Director Edson mentioned that while the Agreement includes scope and corresponding costs for a Software Maintenance line item under the Maintenance Work, the Authority does not intend to exercise the Software Maintenance option in favor of a SUA. Executive Director Edson further mentioned the SUA offers a more comprehensive arrangement of system upgrades and software updates, ensuring better functionality and security features are deployed on the LMR System while extending the operational life of the LMR System.

Executive Director stated the SUA offered by MSI includes system upgrades and software updates which are proprietary to MSI, thus, requiring the need for a sole source amendment to the LMR Agreement. Executive Director Edson expressed that with the understanding the Authority has adopted the County of Los Angeles procurement mode and in accordance with the County Board of Supervisor's Policy No. 5.100 for Sole Source Contracts and Amendments, notification is 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 amendment.

Executive Director said that should the Board approve this Agenda Item I, the Authority would commence negotiations with MSI and return to this Board for consideration of a proposed SUA amendment along with corresponding scope, terms and conditions, and cost.

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

Ayes (7): Luke, Pappas, Yanagi, Wiese, Nelson, Povero, and Hurt.





**MOTION APPROVED.**

**J. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH SAN LUIS AVIATION INC., DBA SLA CORP FOR ESCHAT PUSH-TO-TALK FUNCTIONALITY FOR USE OVER THE LAND MOBILE RADIO SYSTEM**

Executive Director Edson presented Agenda Item J requesting the Board's approval to authorize, the Executive Director, to enter into sole source negotiations with San Luis Aviation, Inc., dba SLA Corp for ESChat Push-to-Talk (PTT) functionality for use over the LMR System.

Executive Director Edson reiterated that as the Board is aware, the LMR Agreement with MSI is currently in its no-cost Warranty Period, set to end on November 16, 2024, and the Authority is using this Warranty Period to achieve its long-term operational goals which include, but is not limited to, enhancing interoperable communications over the LMR System by integrating broadband technology with the LA-RICS LMR System.

Executive Director Edson went on to say that ESChat is a carrier agnostic commercial grade IP based PTT system providing voice privacy and seamless communication between users of differing wireless carriers over the LMR System. Executive Director Edson also said that ESChat PTT functionality would provide the ability for LA-RICS Users to communicate from broadband devices such as smartphones and tablets to LMR Radios. Executive Director Edson mentioned that incorporating ESChat functionality provides the following benefits to the LA-RICS System and its Users by:

- Providing a cost-efficient mechanism for Users so they can utilize their existing broadband devices as opposed to purchasing new devices for use on the LMR System
- Offering a platform already utilized by the Department of Justice (DOJ), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), United States (US) Military, and other federal, state, local public safety agencies and will allow ESChat Subscribers to communicate regardless of differing mobile phone carriers or LMR Radio Systems, thus, extending the LA-RICS coverage footprint beyond County of Los Angeles
- Providing a platform that is already CJIS compliant and FirstNet certified

Executive Director Edson expressed understanding the Authority has adopted the County of Los Angeles procurement mode and in accordance with the County Board of Supervisor's Policy No. 5.100 for Sole Source Contracts and



Amendments, notification is 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 stated that should the Board approve this Agenda Item J; the Authority will commence negotiations with San Luis Aviation, Inc., dba SLA Corp and return to the Board for consideration of a proposed agreement along with corresponding scope, terms and conditions, and cost for ESChat.

Board Member Wiese asked if there was any expectation of pushback from MSI for not going with their system, to which Executive Director Edson stated that MSI would prefer the Authority selecting their offerings, but ESChat is compliant, therefore, no issues are expected.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi stated in the absence of any questions would ask for a motion to approve. Alternate Board Chair Yanagi motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member Joshua Nelson.

Ayes (7): Luke, Pappas, Yanagi, Wiese, Nelson, Povero, and Hurt.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

- IX. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS – NONE**
- X. MISCELLANEOUS – NONE**
- XI. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD –**
- XII. CLOSED SESSION REPORT – NONE**
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING AND NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi stated the next Regular Board Meeting would be held on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., at the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD), ELAC Community College Bureau, 1055 Corporate Center Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91754.

Alternate Board Chair Yanagi called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:57 a.m. Board Member Povero motioned.