



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

January 7, 2016
The Hertzberg Davis Forensic Science Center
1800 Paseo Rancho Castilla, Conference Room 623
Los Angeles, CA 90032

Board Members Present:

Daryl L. Osby, Vice-Chair, Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Dept.
Cathy Chidester, Director, EMS Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services
Bill Walker, Fire Chief, City of Alhambra Fire Dept.
Larry Giannone, Chief of Police, City of Sierra Madre Police Dept.
Kim Raney, Chief of Police, City of Covina Police Dept.

Alternates For Board Members Present:

Dean Gialamas, Division Dir., alternate for Jim McDonnell, Chair, Sheriff, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept.
John Geiger, General Manager, alternate for Sachi Hamai, CEO, County of Los Angeles

Officers Present:

Patrick Mallon, LA-RICS Executive Director

Absent:

Mark R. Alexander, City Manager, CA Contract Cities Assoc.



I. CALL TO ORDER

Director Dean Gialamas called the meeting of the Board to order.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Director Gialamas acknowledged that a quorum was present and asked for a roll call.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. December 17, 2015 – Special Meeting Minutes

Director Gialamas asked for a motion to approve, Board Member Cathy Chidester motioned first, seconded by Alternate Board Member John Geiger. The Board's consensus was unanimous.

Ayes 6: Gialamas, Osby, Hamai, Chidester, Giannone, and Raney.

MOTION APPROVED.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (None)

V. CONSENT CALENDAR – (None)

VI. REPORTS (B-D)

B. Director's Report – Pat Mallon

Long Term Evolution (LTE) Project Status

Executive Director Pat Mallon stated after months and months of reports advising of the challenges we have faced, he is more than pleased to report a very successful deployment of the LTE system in support of the Pasadena Rose Parade. To begin with, he commended the dedicated personnel from the Sheriff's Department and County Fire, as well as the consultant staff from Jacobs and Televate along with the Motorola team. The success achieved would not have been possible without an extremely high level of commitment. They are to be commended individually. What a TEAM!

Executive Director Mallon also shared some observations of our FirstNet liaison that was on-site during the initial operation of the system. Here are a few of his observations: Agencies involved in the deployment included the Sheriff and County Fire as well as the Pasadena Police Department, and Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Devices and Applications consisted of 60 Sonim, and 30 Motorola Smartphones. The Sonim devices ran Mutual Link Edge, ES Chat, and the Sting situational awareness application. The Motorola Smartphones ran Wave 5000,



Compass Com, RTVI, and Moto bridge to facilitate video and situational awareness capability. A total of 14 video cameras were operational on the Band 14 system, 8 fixed video cameras along the parade route and another 6 mobile cameras, all feeding back to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). DHS provided a mobile server to record and store all video feeds during the event.

Two LA-RICS PSBN sites in Pasadena provided coverage for the event. Real-time network performance data is pending from Motorola although raw data files were delivered to the team at 30 minute intervals. This information will be evaluated over the next few weeks. We will provide performance statistics as it becomes available.

We also ran comparative network speed tests against both AT&T and VZW periodically throughout the event successfully. As expected, Band14 speeds were exceptional in comparison: At parade start VZW was running at Downlink at 0.70 Mbps, and Uplink at 0.08 Mbps. By comparison, Band 14 was running Downlink speeds of 33.49 Mbps, and Uplink at 6.46 Mbps. In our initial testing vs. AT&T the Latency Test failed with reading too low vs. Band 14 Downlink at 32.62 Mbps, and Uplink at 8.51 Mbps. Early feedback from device users was also positive. Application training was fairly quick, but use of applications was extremely intuitive according to users. EOC command personnel were impressed with the coordination of the event as well as the quality and stability of the video feeds.

The deployment also tested the linkage of the LTE system with the Land Mobile Radio (LMR) system. On site supervisors found all of their communications needs were met with a hand held device being able to communicate over LMR channels as well. Thus, they were able to remove their LMR radios and rely solely on the LTE handheld. Another system that was demonstrated was the linkage of the LTE system to a High Frequency radio system. The High Frequency (HF) systems include the Military Auxiliary Radio system. Representatives were able to connect their HF radios to the public telephone network and were able to make phone calls as well as connect to other HF stations. One aspect of disappointment was the lack of LTE system coverage at the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Fire Camp 2. This site sits in a depression out of the line of site from either of the Pasadena LTE installations or the one at Altadena Sheriff's Station.

We had expected that an installation at Verdugo Peak would have provided coverage, but unfortunately we have had great difficulty in establishing backhaul through the Los Angeles City AVIAT microwave network. You might recall that, in the past, LA-RICS funds were reallocated to the City to build out the Aviat system. Also, deployment of the extra Cell on Wheel (COW) was considered but we found the equipment has not yet been commissioned. Otherwise, the site offered all the connectivity necessary to be functional through the site's Wi-Fi system. This was a disappointment, but was a learning experience.



We are continuing dialog with the National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) to clarify a path forward on any work on what we are referring to as LTE Phase II. We hope to have further clarification at your February meeting.

LTE Construction Status

Construction status of fixed LTE sites was concluded, with 63 sites completed. 14 of the COW are in place a 10 at Southern California Edison (SCE) sites, 2 at the County of Los Angeles Water Works sites, 1 at the Sheriff's STAR Center and 1 at the California Highway Patrol (CHP) station in Woodland Hills. The last of the 15 COWS is held as a Deployable and available for response as needed. Testing and optimization is ongoing with system coverage testing being conducted this week. The results of that coverage will be the basis of system improvements under LTE Phase II. Cluster tuning is ongoing with a total of 8 clusters in the system.

LMR Early Deployment at the Rose Parade

In addition to the LTE system, the early deployment of the LMR system was also accomplished to support the Rose Parade. The Sheriff's Department located the LA-RICS Site on Wheels (SOW) at the Altadena Sheriff's Station. During the Pre-Parade operation, we encountered a problem in communications with the Pasadena Police personnel. During the pre-parade operation, Pasadena personnel were teamed with Sheriff's personnel. The Pasadena radios were not programmed with the LA-RICS early deployment channels, and we had to resort to conventional channels. During the day parade operations, Sheriff's personnel were solely deployed on the parade route using the LMR system. The LA-RICS DTVRS system was used exclusively in two of the four parade zones. Feedback from Deputies and Dispatchers was outstanding on clarity and coverage. System clarity resulted in numerous "radio checks" to confirm operation. As you may recall, the acquisition of the SOW and radios was part of our early LMR deployment.

LMR Environmental Status

Discussions with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the City of Los Angeles are continuing relative to the Environmental Impact Analysis. Our draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment and Biological Report have been submitted to FEMA. We are hopeful of receiving an environmental clearance in February 2016. We are conducting outreach to the federal agencies on whose land we are proposing LMR installations. The Forest Service has been a good partner thus far, and is interested in using the LMR System.

LMR System Design

As reported in December, the opting out of the City of Los Angeles has changed the landscape of system capacity requirements particularly within the City borders. A Notice to Proceed has been issued to Motorola to begin the redesign of the system.



C. Project Manager's Report – Pat Mallon

The Jacobs Project Management Report and Motorola Monthly Report are included in your package as Agenda Item C.

D. Grant Status Report – Pat Mallon

As previously reported, we have sought an answer to the question of supplanting under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program from the Los Angeles City grant administrators, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and FEMA, formally seeking clarification in June 2015. We responded to a request for additional information from CalOES, the grant administrator at the State level on December 24, 2015, as required. We have not received any response as of this date.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (E)

E. Outreach Update

The purpose of this discussion item is to update your Board on the status of outreach pertaining to the Land Mobile Radio (LMR).

Stakeholder outreach continues to involve support for the LMR Environmental Impact Report (EIR) public hearing period on the draft EIR, the continued planning and initiation of the first round of stakeholder meetings, and the continued development and distribution for the bi-monthly ongoing communications newsletter.

Director Gialamas congratulated LA-RICS staff, Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, CEO, ISD, Motorola, Jacobs, and Televate for the success at the Rose Parade with the LTE. Director Gialamas stated he personally saw a preview and CEO Sachi Hamai previewed the system on the eve of New Year's also and we both were impressed.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (F)

F. 2016 VENUE CHANGE OF LA-RICS BOARD MEETINGS

It is recommended that your Board:

Set the new Venue location of the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau for the Calendar year 2016 Board Regular Meetings.

Director Gialamas asked for a motion to approve, Board Member Larry Giannone motioned first, seconded by Board Member Daryl Osby. The Board's consensus was unanimous.



Ayes 7: Gialamas, Osby, Hamai, Chidester, Walker, Giannone, and Raney.

MOTION APPROVED.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS – (None)

X. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION BY THE BOARD

Board Member Chidester asked for a report on the expenditures of the UASI 11 Funds because there is a March deadline.

XI. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
(Government Code Section 54957(b)(1))
Title: Executive Director

3. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
(Government Code Section 54957(b)(1))
Title: Executive Director

4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
(Government Code Section 54957.6)

The Board entered Closed Session at 9:16 a.m., and returned to open session at 10:06 a.m.; Counsel Truc Moore stated that the Brown Act does not require a report.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT and NEXT MEETING:

Director Gialamas announced adjournment of this meeting at 10:07 a.m. The Board's consensus was unanimous. The next Board meeting will take place on Thursday, February 4, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Hertzberg Davis Forensic Science Center, 1800 Paseo Rancho Castilla, Los Angeles, CA 90032.



BOARD MEETING INFORMATION

Members of the public are invited to address the LA-RICS Authority Board on any item on the agenda prior to action by the Board on that specific item. Members of the public may also address the Board on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. The Board will entertain such comments during the Public Comment period. Public Comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per individual for each item addressed, unless there are more than ten (10) comment cards for each item, in which case the Public Comment will be limited to one (1) minute per individual. The aforementioned limitation may be waived by the Board's Chair.

(NOTE: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3(b) the legislative body of a local agency may adopt reasonable regulations, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker.)

Members of the public who wish to address the Board are urged to complete a Speaker Card and submit it to the Board Secretary prior to commencement of the public meeting. The cards are available in the meeting room. However, should a member of the public feel the need to address a matter while the meeting is in progress, a card may be submitted to the Board Secretary prior to final consideration of the matter.

It is requested that individuals who require the services of a translator contact the Board Secretary no later than the day preceding the meeting. Whenever possible, a translator will be provided. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. (323) 881-8291 or (323) 881-8295

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR LA OFICINA CON 72 HORAS POR ANTICIPADO.

The meeting is recorded, and the recording is kept for 30 days.