JOINT OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

APPROVED

Tuesday, January 29, 2019 · 1:30 p.m.
LA-RICS Headquarters – Large Conference Room
2525 Corporate Place, Suite 200, Monterey Park, CA 91754

Operations Committee Members Present:
John Geiger, Los Angeles County, CEO
Kyle Zuniga, Chair, Chief, County of Los Angeles, Fire Department
Hiroshi Yokoyama, Vice-Chair, Lieutenant, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Cathy Chidester, Los Angeles County DHS
Anthony Vairo, Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association
Ric Walczak, Lieutenant, Covina Police Department

Technical Committee Members Present:
John Geiger, Los Angeles County, CEO
Scott England, Vice-Chair, Telecommunications Engineer Command and Control, LACoFD
Information Officer, EMS Agency, County of LADHS
Hiroshi Yokoyama, Lieutenant, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Jeffrey Morgan, Los Angeles County DHS
Ted Pao, Chair, Information Technology Specialist, Los Angeles County Internal Services Department
Ric Walczak, Lieutenant, Covina Police Department

Absent:
Chris Donovan, Fire Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
James Craig, Manhattan Beach Fire Department
Jeff LaGreek, Inglewood Police Department
Ron Sagmit, Signal Hill Police Department

Officers Present:
Scott D. Edson, LA-RICS Executive Director
Joann Huerta, LA-RICS Committee Secretary

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

I.   CALL TO ORDER

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Hiroshi Yokoyama called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

II.   ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Hiroshi Yokoyama asked for a roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present for both committees.

III.   APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A.   November 27, 2018 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Hiroshi Yokoyama asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Committee Member Cathy Chidester moved to approve first, seconded by Committee Member Ric Walczak.

Ayes 9:   Geiger, Zuniga, Yokoyama, Chidester, Vairo, Walczak, England, Morgan, and Pao

IV.   PUBLIC COMMENTS – (NONE)

V.   CONSENT CALENDAR – (NONE)

VI.   REPORTS (B-C)

B.   Status Report Update for LTE – Eileen Healy

Eileen Healy, a consultant with Televate, provided an update on the Long Term Evolution (LTE) Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN).

The aspects of the LTE program underway since the transfer of asset of the PSBN sites to AT&T closed on June 30, 2018. The network integration and the migration of agency users to FirstNet continues.

NETWORK: AT&T continues steps to integrate the PSBN sites into the NPSBN. LA-RICS tracks this work to assure that member impacts are minimized, and that members stay informed. For example, LACoFD and small agency PSBN SIMs loaded onto the FirstNet core is a step that is required and in process. These agencies now have access to both LA-RICS PSBN and FirstNet Band 14 sites using the legacy routers. LA-RICS will be testing and monitoring this to be sure

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the broadband service to members is not negatively impacted and, indeed, that service levels are delivered as promised by FirstNet. LA-RICS also continues to refine requirements and processes for procuring and managing LA-RICS-owned Cell Sites on Light Truck (COLTs), which will enhance County level communication for First Responders.

ONBOARDING/AGENCY MIGRATION TO FIRSTNET: New FirstNet routers replacing the legacy PSBN routers process, called the "router swap" has begun as County Fire and Sheriff seek approval from their governing body to upgrade their in-vehicle Broadband routers. LA-RICS will continue to track the progress of these programs.

LA-RICS continues to support agencies that have been using the PSBN including Inglewood PD, El Segundo Fire, Claremont PD, Department of Health, La Verne Fire, UCLA Health, County Fire and Sheriff.

LA-RICS is also moving ahead with a prototype Dashboard (now called VIEWS) to provide County Fire with proactive, actionable information to reduce downtime, manage service providers, and usage auditing. LA-RICS is also looking at value-added interoperability with the radio network such as push to talk (PTT) smartphone radio services.

Finally, LA-RICS continues to work with AT&T on the FirstNet Local Control platform to assure it has all the capabilities needed by First Responders. A meeting with FirstNet Local Control developers has been requested. Any agency wishing to attend this meeting should let the Committee Chairs know.

C.   Status Report Update for LMR – Chis Odenthal

Project Director Chris Odenthal identified sites in construction and those active and planned while providing details supporting the construction-related activities occurring at these sites to date.

Project Director Odenthal stated that LA-RICS is currently closing out UASI 16 sites and have several that are under construction with all those projects moving forward. We have received a permit for DPW38 out in lake Los Angles for a 180-foot lattice tower. Rio Hondo is pending, and should come out soon.

As of now, under construction or about to begin is: Signal Hill, which is just wrapping completion, under final power, we have BKK, which is undergoing electrical metering that was a little interesting because it is pulling power from the methane discharge from the landfill next door, which is providing commercial power. We are looking for cleaner power source for that site. Pomona courthouse is well on its way. In addition, Agoura Hills in West Valley is also beginning

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construction in the next day or so, pending outreach with the homeowners' association. OAT Mountain Porter Ranch, its twin, was done in UASI 13. In addition, those are sites that have carried over from previous UASI years such as CCT downtown, which is completing its generator and fuel tank installations. FCCF should be firing up in the second week of February 2019.

Vice-Chair Scott England asked if we could use the site in the downtown area for testing. Once its microwave connection is established to FCCF, we would expect to do some testing at the end of the Q2 or early Q3. The only one that will not be turned on will be Baldwin Hills, which is a California State Park site.

State Parks and Cal OES will be here on Monday hopefully to resolve the final negotiation on the lease agreement that has been complicated because the State owns the park, but the County manages it. Additionally, there is another State Park facility, Green Mountain, that sits out in Topanga State Park. That is also critical and we are hoping to have some resolution from the lease agreement perspective. Once BHS is complete, the entire Downtown cell should have service.

Vice-Chair England asked if we can onboard people that are in that footprint. Project Director Odenthal recommends the Committee make a recommendation to help that decision. Admin. Deputy Susy Orellana-Curtiss noted that it would be a recommendation to the Board on bringing users on to the system prior to system acceptance.

Vice-Chair England stated when that cell fires up we could actually bring on anybody for an early onboarding so they can use the radio system. Project Director Odenthal stated that we would keep you posted on status of that lease agreement with the State Park.

This concluded the Project Director's Report.

VII.   DISCUSSION ITEMS (D-F)

D.   Cache Radio Subscriptions

Vice-Chair Yokoyama gave an update on the Cache Radio subscription and stated Orange County and San Diego have subscription radios and cache radios. Cache radios are not charged and are radios that are stored unused until an emergency arises.

Both agencies have come out with the two different subscription rates, one full use for daily use radios, and another category, which they call emergency use, for radios that are cached and not charged as part of the subscription rate. Therefore,

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we are opening it up to the committee to see what their thoughts are on that model for the system.

Member Cathy Chidester asked when radios are kept in a cache, should they be rotated out because it is bad for them to sit there, charged, and not charged from a radio maintenance perspective.

Vice-Chair England stated that usually the maintenance is to turn them on and you maintain them and run through a PM program or you rotate them through. As long as they are maintained and utilized in accordance with monthly maintenance requirements.

Chair Kyle Zuniga stated that we have to look at agency use and agency deployment. Everybody may have a different view and how they are going to store, use, and backfill staff for emergencies and rotate radios out for maintenance. They will come up with a day-to-day use model and maybe use them for an emergency for small incidents and large incidents. In addition, for large incidents on the Fire side some costs are reimbursable through State and Federal funds.

Member Chidester asked what is the rationale for not charging for the ones not in a cache for emergencies only.

Chair Yokoyama stated those not being used on a daily basis are supposed to be available for use when additional personnel are needed to address an emergency, however, those are considered cache.

Chair Zuniga gave an example of how County Fire does it. We have spare fire engines and we back fill and staff those on a daily basis as needed. Those radios sit in a storage box and when we staff them, we use them during incident emergency.

Chair Zuniga stated there is a way to track radio use, for example if it is being used for a day or if it was being use for an hour. We need to define what constitutes daily use and set a demarcation for treatment of cache. Vice-Chair England stated that staged radios are not utilized; many agencies will buy more radios than they actually need. However, what agencies have to keep in mind is the radios require maintenance. There are costs associated with maintenance and that needs to be addressed in the treatment of cache and who is responsible for maintenance of those radios.

Member John Geiger stated the debate is you have two different concerns here as discussed in other committees. One concern here is pure operability on what do we do to help assure folks are on an interoperable system during an emergency. We want as many users on the system as possible to promote greater

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interoperability. Separate and apart from that, do you include the cache or do you take them off the table and do a cost recovery?

Deputy Dana Gower stated as far as the fiscal in my conversations with Orange County they got push back from their member cities when it came to charging them for use of cache radios. These radios in cache and are not consuming airtime so they decided to have three tiers, for primary use, mutual aid and emergency only.

Executive Director Scott Edson asked when they issue a radio for every individual do they check them in and out. Deputy Gower stated that some agencies do like Santa Ana and Anaheim. Certain smaller cities like Tustin does not. In order to distinguish between primary and emergency use they do audits of the radios to assess use. If they detect use of a "cache radio", they will bring it up to the agency's attention.

Executive Director Edson stated the LA-RICS system has the ability to recognize how much traffic is transmitted and receiving per radio so use can be addressed via audit. At the Sheriff's Department, we issue radios.

Chair Pao stated there may be instances where the Deputy's home unit is in Lakewood and they live out in Palmdale but still monitors Lakewood's dispatch talk group. When they do that, they are using the LMR network resources on and off duty.

Deputy Gower stated that in Minneapolis when the bridge fell down you had people all over the state listening to what was going on. However, with this radio system's operation you can limit where the talk groups are being used. If you have an emergency in LAX, there is no need for Pomona to listen to it or Palmdale. That is a congestion issue, which can be mitigated with system controls. We are discussion treatment of cache for billing purposes.

Vice-Chair England stated that is why operationally we set it up the system to handle all of the regional users to accommodate a responder traveling form home to an incident and allow them to communicate even though it takes two hours to get to the incident because technically that's the best way to set the system up.

Member Rick Walczak stated Covina has 60 sworn police officers and 120 radios because occasionally they have volunteers and reserve officers with the radios for the most part sitting in cache. However, when we have the Christmas parade or another public event the use spikes. If we need to pay for cache radios, we engage in a discussion of operations and cost. We do not want to have fewer radios.

Chair Yokoyama asked if Covina has a reserve program, as some departments have a minimum of 20 hours per month requirement to be on duty at a patrol

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station. He asked, where do we set the no charge threshold usage. That is the discussion / recommendation that needs to be addressed.

E. Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System, Request for Information

Contracts Manager Jeanette Arismendez presented Agenda Item E and informed the Committee that Authority staff is still in the information gathering stages and is looking at other agencies who have issued similar Request for Information (RFI) solicitations. In particular, the staff is reviewing what information was included that could be beneficial for inclusion in the upcoming RFI as well as potential updates in technology. The staff is also looking to other agencies that have sought out similar services by way of solicitation for computer-aided dispatch system and records management systems such as the Sheriff's Department.

F. Department of Homeland Security Mobility Acceleration Coalition

Chair Zuniga stated last month during the week of December 11, 2018, we took members to Harris County in Houston Texas. The purpose was for members to be engaged and to stay informed of the regional mobility planning efforts in their area. Chair Zuniga shared a handout of the Mobility Acceleration Coalition of public safety agencies across the Houston/Harris County and Los Angeles regions. Which includes the following information:

> **GOAL:**
> Avoid costly interoperability problems with mobile data adoption
>
> **OBJECTIVE:**
> Share lessons learned from respective FirstNet Early Builder programs to develop a set of best practices for adopting interoperable mobile technologies for public safety
>
> **HOW IS MAC FUNDED?**
> Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science & Technology Directorate (S&T) awarded a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) 14-02 FRG.21 to Mobility 4 Public Safety to facilitate MAC deliverables.

Chair Zuniga stated on day one they went over a program review with Houston Harris County and went over their process and practices and had good working group's discussions on the same. On day two, they went on a regional overview and paid a visit to their port security. On day, three was a joint planning workshop, which included discussions of best practices.

We started at their Tran star EOC, and then we went to Sector Houston U.S. coast guard area for what they offer. We met with their agency representatives and was

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shown how they use their technology and best practices inclusive of the governance. Certain agencies have not achieved set policy and procedure for operations and governance and thus we had an opportunity to share a lot of what we are doing here at LA-RICS.

Discussions also focused on funding and grants. We talked about Cloud strategies and scenarios in addition to Identify credential access management (I CAM) for the future. We dove into the mobility portfolio and all the data we use as well as what Houston implemented in the events and emergency as well as resource use.

Regarding Mobile devices and user adoption and support, LA-RICS is much further ahead in application then they thought we were and with governance and policies than other participating agencies are. Harris County has had a lot of learning opportunities with incidents and events and how to get onboard with a common platform with other public safety providers, that is where they are ahead of us.

Moving forward a couple of the pilot programs could be coming soon. We are going to meet monthly and with the hope of deploying at a planned event and will keep you updated on the outcome.

Member Jeffrey Morgan stated on the previous topic on the CAD system that his agency are potentially looking at a similar solution. What is the potential scenarios for how you would use that as a subscription service?

Executive Director Edson responded the thought behind this is for centralized CAD and RMS It would be an add-on service that you can buy as an addition to your subscription. Instead of buying a $5 million CAD, we would have a regional CAD that your agency will use to dispatch your people.

Similarly, another agency can use that CAD to dispatch their people. You will be able to see all those police and fire or emergency vehicles. For example, for $5 a month per car you can subscribe to CAD and replace your existing CAD system you have. The vision is to allow agencies to see crime across borders in real time.

Member Morgan asked any time frame on that. Executive Director Edson responded the RFI should be out in a couple of months.

Member Chidester stated that EMS and laws CAD requirements are different. They are looking for new information and billing components. People that do the CAD for EMS are not the same people that do the CAD for LASD.

Contracts Manager Arismendez stated that is what is being requested in the RFI to potentially procure a CAD solution that can provide what is needed by EMS, Fire and Law.

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Executive Director Edson closed with saying; we are letting them know how we want to do business and letting them recommend the best way to make it work so we all have some sort of CAD and RMS system on one platform. That is our goal.

VIII.   ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (NONE)

IX.   MISCELLANEOUS – (NONE)

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

XI.   CLOSED SESSION REPORT – (NONE)

XII.   ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Yokoyama announced adjournment of this meeting at 2:47 p.m., and the next Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at 1:30 p.m., at LA-RICS Headquarters, 2525 Corporate Place, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Monterey Park, California 91754.

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