



JOINT OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY

APPROVED

Tuesday, March 19, 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
Shelly Vander Veen, L.A. County Police Chiefs Association
Jeff LaGreek, Inglewood Police Department
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
Jeff LaGreek, Inglewood Police Department
Ric Walczak, Lieutenant, Covina Police Department

Absent:

Cathy Chidester, Los Angeles County DHS
Chris Donovan, Fire Chief, Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
James Craig, Manhattan Beach Fire Department
Ron Sagmit, Signal Hill Police Department

Officers Present:

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



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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Operations Committee Chair Kyle Zuniga called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

II. ANNOUNCE QUORUM – Roll Call

Operations Committee Chair Zuniga asked for a roll call and acknowledged a quorum was present for Operations but not the Technical committee. Operations and Technical Committee (Joint Committees) Member Jeff LaGreek attended the meeting at 1:42 p.m. Operations Committee Chair Zuniga noted quorum for both committees.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (A)

A. January 29, 2019 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Operations Committee Chair Zuniga asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Technical Committee Chair Ted Pao moved to approve first, seconded by Technical Committee Vice-Chair Scott England.

Ayes 9: Geiger, Zuniga, Hiroshi, Vander Veen, LaGreek, Walczak, England, Morgan, and Pao

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (NONE)

V. CONSENT CALENDAR – (NONE)

VI. REPORTS (B-C)

B. Status Report Update for LTE – Steve Sidore

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

The PSBN network is transitioning to a new core except for the 5 sites below:

1. LAN
2. LADPW38
3. BLR2DPW
4. PLM
5. BMT



The following 16 PSBN sites have been transitioned.

1. ARCPD01
2. CPTFD04
3. MLM
4. CHPWVLLY
5. WHD
6. LAPDNWT
7. LAPDWIL
8. LAPDHWD
9. LASDCSN
10. LASDSCV
11. LAPDHLB
12. LAPDTOP
13. SLA
14. LAPP001
15. FCCF
16. LAPD007

As for migration of existing users on the LTE system, Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) has swapped 102 modems to date and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) will be starting their modem swap next month.

C. Status Report Update for LMR – Program Manager Justin Delfino

Program Manager Delfino provided an update on which sites are in construction and those active, planned, with corresponding details supporting the construction-related activities occurring at these sites to date.

Program Manager Delfino stated LTE Round 2 Objective One Program is in the planning phase. The initial round of 13 sites are divided into two groups, the first seven sites as one group, and the Southern California Edison (SCE) six as a second group. AT&T has been working directly with Project Manager Mark Revis to provide comments on the ZD drawings produced by David Evans and Associates (DEA).

Of the first seven sites, there are three monopole installations planned, which require Geo-Tech investigation. Of those three, two of them have been Geo-Tech drilled already and we have received the reports. We expect to receive the last geo report at the end of the month. Regarding the eight sites that the US Force Service will host, LA-RICS has done an internal layout showing how the infrastructure will be laid out on each site.



For Land Mobile Radio (LMR) network, we have a successful completion of the UASI 2016 performance period, which included the relocation Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Court (CCT), Pomona Courthouse, Cerro Negro (CRN) and Signal Hill, Verdugo Peak (VPK). This week Motorola Solutions will start on DPW38 Water Tank, Agoura Hills, and Industry Water tank.

Upcoming sites for LMR are UCLA and Mirador (MIR) in Pasadena expected to start in April 2019. Overall site construction, (Phase 2. Work) is 40% complete and remains on track for completion at the end of 2020.

This concluded the Program Manager's Report.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (D-F)

D. Cache Radio Subscriptions

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Hiroshi Yokoyama gave an update on the Cache Radio subscription plan and stated San Diego and Orange County have subscription and cache radios and provided the following update:

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Yokoyama stated San Diego County Sheriff's Department (SDSD) system does not operate as a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), but as a consortium. There is a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the member agencies and the Board of Supervisors (BOS). They invited local partners to participate. The Board of Directors (BOD) answers to BOS. Customers are agencies that did not buy in when they had the opportunity to do so e.g., ambulance companies buy subscriptions and dispatch on their network. They bill those agencies a rate, which covers the Network Operations Center (NOC) and an additional infrastructure charge (\$27.50 per radio per month). Non-partner agency is charged \$78.50 per month per radio, which goes into a county trust fund. The trust fund can be used for funding emergency restoration of system repairs or for system enhancement projects.

The last MOA was done in 2015 and the number of participants grew from 23 partners to 50 partners.

SDSD defines the following:

Mutual Aid Users (no charge) are defined for agencies such as the California Highway Patrol (CHP), who have their own communication dispatch system but need to interoperate with their system on a regular basis. They do not charge for mutual aid radio users. The users have access to common mutual aid talk groups. Agencies conduct their normal business, but are not charged to interoperate.



They do their own programming and share key with certain agencies. City of San Diego are on their own system, but have a key share agreement. Common user ID is established on both systems. Imperial County (member) and Yuma, Arizona are also mutual aid users and cover their east county areas. They are considering key share with CHP and Camp Pendleton.

Cache radios are treated as bring your own device (BYOD) and are not charged for use at special events. They have contract with Motorola and EF Johnson for group pricing for purchasing portable radios. Use of cache radios in major events will not be charged as long as a non-member agency is invited by member agency.

Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) defines the following:

- Emergency Use based on an honor system where programmed radios are locked away at the agency only to be used during an emergency. Audits are conducted to verify non-use.
- Mutual Aid are a handful of radios (portable only) programmed and kept at La Habra Heights (LHH) where LHH would call Control 1 and request LHH to be patched in for fire events at no charge. They also have Mutual Aid for San Diego County and Federal agencies.
- Subscriptions are billed quarterly for ease of administrative effort. No minimum amount of usage is defined for subscriptions. If a radios are programmed as non-emergency use, then they will be billed a subscription.
- Cache radios – There are 350 radios kept un-programmed to be loaned out to member agencies. These radios were purchased by member agencies (System funded) and not from grant funding. Portable radio are loaned out to member agency events and programmed over the air. Non-member agencies are charged programming for their own devices.

Project Director Chris Odenthal stated cache radios for testing or a onetime event is not something that falls in the billing cycle; this group and the Finance Committee will take a recommendation to the Board recommending how these will be handled and charged or used on the system. Based on previous conversations as well as this one, cache radios should not trigger a bill.

Technical Committee Member Jeff Morgan stated at Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency we have experience with this topic involving some agencies and hospitals Use and rotation of cache radios which may confuse the fee assessment of a "cache" radio that may be rotated into regular use.



Project Director Odenthal stated that generally the plan for this process is to only apply a charge when that radio is being used consistently. Making sure that billing is charged correctly, specifically not double charging for a singular radio user (switching a radio but never operating more than one) and that is the process on how we track and bill for LMR; the decisions made by the Finance Committee as informed by this group will then be brought to the Board for ratification. We are unlikely to have a perfect solution but our intent is to have billing as representative as possible.

Joint Committee Member John Geiger stated there are two concepts; one there is no billing for minimal / non-use including. The second concept you want to be able to audit full time aggregate use on any given time, and it sounds like the agencies staff has engaged are in line with that concept.

Operations Committee Chair Zuniga stated the team will continue this discussion.

This concludes the Cache Radio Subscriptions discussion item.

E. Outreach to U.S. Coast Guard Sector Los Angeles/Long Beach

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Yokoyama met with United States Coast Guard (USCG) personnel assigned to the Sector Los Angeles/Long Beach Command Center.

USCG is the hub for maritime communications, and monitors VHF 16 unencrypted. VHF 21A (22A, 23A as backups), along with VHF 81 and 83, are used by the allied agencies for search and rescue (SAR) and helicopter operations.

It is highly unlikely for LA-RICS to be useful for their purposes due to the general public depending on open unencrypted VHF 16 to report emergencies.

Technical Committee Chair Zuniga stated that they do interface them. And Will follow-up with the investigative unit.

This concludes the Outreach to U.S. Coast Guard Sector Los Angeles/Long Beach discussion item.

F. Outreach to Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Yokoyama stated met with Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) on February 25, 2019. JPL has purchased about 100 APX 8000 portable radios with about 10% kept as cache. The APX 8000 radios are deployed



to positions rather than issued to individual personnel. Their vehicles have primarily one APX 8500 per vehicle, except the Chief has two.

JPL would utilize all bands of spectrum 700/UHF/VHF, No AVL or MDC. They are interested in a console or MDC in their dispatch. They primarily use VHF conventional digital. They currently have the following:

- In-building coverage issues, and they have BDA's deployed for these challenges.
- Challenged with terrain and lots of complex concrete buildings, some being top secret areas.
- A core with climate controlled shelter with backup generator and offered some rack space also.
- A Motorola digital dispatch console compatible with LA-RICS. In addition, also have approximately 16 Police personnel per shift and approximately 7 through 10 Fire personnel per shift.
- Use of ICI Red 1 (UHF).
- LACoFD Fire Camp 2 is to the south perimeter.
- Verizon broadband via fiber, which is broadcast throughout the campus. They also have an AT&T broadband tower on their south perimeter fence.

JPL is interested in LA-RICS' 700 MHz for better building penetration. LA-RICS should have great coverage with potential microwave backhaul with MIR or CRN towers.

JPL mentioned the possibility of using ESChat Push To Talk (PTT) application. Satellite Cell On Light Truck (COLT) trailer and older communications vehicle parked outside. They are possibly interested in a new communications vehicle.

This concludes the Outreach to Jet Propulsion Laboratory discussion item.

G. LMR System Early Onboarding

Operations Committee Vice-Chair Yokoyama stated that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was approved by the Joint Operations and Technical



Committee last May 2018, and will be presented to the JPA BOD on April 3, 2019, for approval and was included in the packet for this meeting.

Joint Committee Member Geiger stated that it has the right protection in favor of the JPA and any user agency and throws broad net can be a user since this is a test on an onboarding period, when it comes to the BOD; we give the agency reasonable time to disconnect, if they choose not to become members and we have the safety net after 30 days' notice. The protection is there it gives a maximum amount of flexibility and delegated the authority to the Executive Director. I would move to adopt to move it forward to the JPA.

This concludes the LMR System Early Onboarding discussion item.

H. LMR System Capacity

Project Director Odenthal presented a Power Point Presentation to the Committee that included the following updates:

- System Overview
- LA-RICS LMR System
- Microwave Design / MPLS

Project Director Odenthal stated that our goal is to address how the System will perform based on the user counts that will or could be on the System [e.g., if Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) decides to put all of the buses on and they go all over Los Angeles County and there's emergencies etc.]. What you see are the different sub-systems that are part of LA-RICS. We will walk you through the subsystems starting with the 700 MHz layer. The 700 DTVRS has 57 sites and 11 cells; And they have additional ASR sites that stand alone that are in the simulcast cell and the next column over is the UHF T-band consisting of 46 sites. Between the 2 trunked layers (700 and T-Band) we designed the coverage to mimic each other to the greatest extent possible with the different propagation properties. We are trying to make sure that you have coverage where you want to have coverage. In some instances, that is not possible but you see there is a larger side count on 700 because it does not propagate as well as UHF.

Finally, there is a new Narrowband Mobile Data Network operating in T-Band that covers areas not served by broadband service so it's critical dispatch with low capacity but enough to allow LACoFD and LASD personnel that are outside of urban area, whether you're using Verizon or AT&T, to utilize narrow band mobile data and get your critical dispatch. The next layer over is the Telephone Radio Operator (TRO) ACVRS and has 66 frequencies across the County representing the analog conventional pieces being build. TRO stands for telephone radio



operator it is an acronym that comes out of the 1940s that LACoFD does not wanted to move away from.

There is a conventional cell that is countywide that is intended to make sure that should anybody be coming in or need to communicate from a countywide perspective, they are able. LACoFD requires resources from outside the region and Los Angeles Regional Tactical Communication (LARTCS) channels allow agencies to talk immediately on our network because they would have the State and Federal interoperable channels that make up the LARTCS solution. These agencies would be able to contact our dispatch and then be informed where to go and what to respond to as they approach.

Project Director Odenthal stated you have urban portable coverage and better coverage in both Catalina and in the Angeles National Forest and UHF. All the other parameters are the same for most of the other areas. What LA-RICS designed to do was to make sure that we hit worst-case scenario from the capacity perspective we added a 1.25 factor on top of that to make sure that we have even more users.

That is how we designed the basic foundation for the network in order to handle the demands out of the LACoFD and LASD was never just one bad thing happening at one time; there's always multiple things going on. LA-RICS designed around the operational areas in order to multiple simultaneous events.

Technical Committee Chair Pao stated even in the most rural areas have the sites in the north county the minimum capacity is still ten for those particular sites we can reduce the capacity in those locations and if there is a serge the system can handle that serge.

This concludes the LMR System Capacity discussion item.

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 2:38 p.m., and the next Committee Meeting is on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at 1:30 p.m., at LA-RICS Headquarters, 2525 Corporate Place, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Monterey Park, California 91754.