



**ALASKA LAND MOBILE RADIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
(A Federal, State and Municipal Partnership)**



**MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council**

**January 21, 2021**

**FROM: SOA Co-Chair**

**SUBJECT: October 15 Meeting Minutes**

**TO: See Distribution**

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**Executive Council Members Present: (all members attended via teleconference)**

Deputy Commissioner Leon Morgan	State of Alaska – Department of Public Safety
Colonel Matthew “Pudge” Davis	Department of Defense – ALCOM/J6
ASAC Adam Pierce	Alaska Federal Executive Association – Federal Bureau of Investigation
Mr. David Gibb	Alaska Municipal League – Fairbanks North Star Borough
Deputy Chief Mike Kerle	Municipality of Anchorage – Anchorage Police Department

**ALMR Support Team Members and Guests Present:**

Mr. John Rockwell	User Council Chair (via teleconference)
Mr. Chris Letterman	ALMR Operations Manager
Mr. Craig Christensen	State of Alaska – Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Mr. Scott Stormo	SOA ALMR Program Manager
Mr. Timothy Woodall	ALMR PM/COR – ALCOM/J6
Mr. Trygve Erickson	Municipality of Anchorage/AWARN (via teleconference)
Mr. David Reed	Information Systems Security Manager
Mr. Jason Gholson	US Postal Inspection Service
Ms. Sherry Shafer	Operations Management Office (via teleconference)

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**1. Call to Order.** Deputy Commissioner Leon Morgan, State of Alaska (SOA) Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. Deputy Commissioner Morgan and the roll was read.

## **2. Opening Statements and Other Announcements.**

There were no opening statements or other announcements.

**3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** Deputy Commissioner Morgan stated he believed everyone had the opportunity to read the minutes.

**Motion: Approve the July 16, Executive Council meeting minutes, as written.**

Hearing no requests for changes Deputy Commissioner Morgan made a motion for approval and ASAC Adam Pierce seconded. There were no objections or further discussion. **The motion was carried and approved.**

## **4. Old Business.**

a. SOA Quantar Replacement. Deputy Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Scott Stormo to provide the update.

Mr. Stormo stated they were currently putting in the second site right now up north of Fairbanks. He added there were several Motorola contractors up in the Fairbanks working and they would be in Alaska for about three weeks. Mr. Stormo noted they would come back down to the Anchorage area after completing the work up north and then after a short break they would work at the drive to sites throughout the winter. He briefed the sites would initially be in frequency division multiple access (FDMA) phase until after the tower analyses were completed for better antennas in the spring, and then they would turn up the System for time division multiple access (TDMA), which would double the voice capacity.

Mr. Stormo also advised the State was funded for the next upgrade to the current software release of 7.17.3, and the Municipality (MOA) and the DOD are working on their funding, because all three must upgrade at the same time.

Deputy Commissioner Morgan asked if there was a ballpark completion date.

Mr. Stormo stated it would depend on when the MOA and DOD got funding, probably late summer or next fall.

Deputy Commissioner Morgan asked if the State was expending the capital funds for the Quantar upgrade and Mr. Stormo advised that \$24M was completely obligated through the contract.

b. State Interoperability Governing Body (SIGB). Deputy Commissioner Morgan advised that the July 9-1-1 Working Group had a meeting which was due in September and the Governor extended until that until December 1. He added they had only had one meeting, had been condensed in format and focus and interoperability was not a

focus of the group at this time. Deputy Commissioner Morgan stated his opinion was that we would see some sort of legislation or SIGB concept that would be coming forth, although he does not know what it will look like. He also reiterated the Department of Public Safety (DPS) position was any SIGB would have to be comprised of all the partners.

Mr. David Gibbs stated he had lots of concerns about the process.

Deputy Commissioner noted he understood, and those concerns were well grounded and DPS would support the locals.

c. Long-term Cost Share Solution. Deputy Commissioner Morgan stated this falls under the SIGB and the DPS position has not changed regarding having the local partners at the table driving his issue.

## **5. User Council Update.**

a. Vacant Positions. Mr. Rockwell briefed the User Council was still meeting regularly and, for the most part, is fully staffed. He noted there is still one vacancy.

b. Approval of Appointments. Mr. Rockwell provided Deputy Commissioner Morgan the opportunity to make the following motion, that had been prepared for the Executive Council consideration.

**Motion: Approve the appointment of SSgt James Angell as the new primary representative and A1C Chasen Carrier as the new alternate representative for DOD Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson to the ALMR User Council.**

Deputy Commissioner Morgan made the motion as presented for approval and Colonel Matthew "Pudge" Davis seconded. There were no objections or further discussion. **The motion was carried and approved.**

## **6. Operations Management Office.**

a. Incident Command Zone Update. Mr. Chris Letterman briefed the new interoperability zone layouts are complete, the flyers for both the organization and the dispatchers have been prepared and provided to the User Council. He added he would be working with the System Management Office (SMO) and subject matter expert (SME) Mr. Nate Skinner on the communications plan going forward.

Mr. Tim Woodall asked if there was a timeline for implementation and reprogramming of radios.

Mr. Letterman noted the changes would be pushed out to the consoles on January 20, 2021. He noted the date for the radios was still under discussion due to the issues with the band plan.

b. Final FY21 Membership Agreement. Mr. Letterman briefed the final signed FY21 membership from the 673<sup>rd</sup> Air Base Wing/JBER was received on September 21.

c. Service Level Agreement. Mr. Letterman advised there were substantive changes to the SLA to call out more clearly responsibilities and ownership. He added it was revised to also explain the differences between the infrastructure owners and non-infrastructure owners and what equipment was covered under the current infrastructure maintenance contract and what they are responsible for responding to. Mr. Letterman noted it had been provided to the User Council for their approval by October 30 and then it would be routed to the Executive Council via email. He thanked everyone involved for their multiple months of effort and review and stated he thought the overall deliverable would be very helpful moving forward.

d. Website Update. Mr. Letterman briefed we are in the process building a new website and Hoke Designs was in charge of putting it together. He noted we had met several times and the basic structure was now 90 percent finalized. Mr. Letterman stated there were weekly meetings every Thursday to go over the refinements and clarify Hoke Designs has adequate access to the content and make sure they understand Mr. Stormo's desires.

e. Training. Mr. Letterman advised under the new contract, they had retained Mr. Joe Quickel as the Training Coordinator and he was working on a list of training vignettes that users would be able to digest in 15-minute video segments that could be posted to the website. He added that Mr. Quickel was also working on two "live" classes to be presented via remote training before the end of the year.

Deputy Commissioner Morgan stated he really liked the training module idea and it would be well consumed by the troopers.

f. Logo Contest. Mr. Letterman briefed he had made the initial announcement at the October User Council meeting last week. He noted Hoke Designs had come up with a web-friendly logo for the new website, but he felt it was missing key components, so he wanted to go out to the membership for ideas for a new logo. Mr. Letterman noted there would be a small contest award of a gift card and stated the Executive Council would be asked to choose the winning design from the submissions. He stated entries were asked to be received by November 13.

Mr. Woodall asked for some background on the reason for changing the logo.

Mr. Letterman explained there were two driving reasons, one was Hoke Designs was having an incredibly difficult time in making the logo web friendly in terms of display on the new website and the other was an update of the logo. He noted the current design component looked more like a cell phone and the thinking was to move away from that imagery to a more accurate looking radio and perhaps a waveform. Mr. Letterman stated he also wanted to include something to reflect the partnership with the DOD and the public-safety component.

g. June System Metrics. Mr. Letterman advised there were 1,013,319 group calls, 1,901,487 push to talks, and a total of 254 busies during the month of September.

## **7. New Business.**

a. Executive Council Charter Update. Mr. Letterman advised the council members the Operations Management Office (OMO) wanted to suggest an administrative change to the Executive Council Charter that would allow the current two non-voting members, Alaska Municipal League (AML) and MOA, to be able to vote on administrative matters, such as approval of meeting minutes, appointments to the User Council and meeting adjournment, but not on matters that pertains to operational status of the System or having a financial impact. He explained this would alleviate some of the burden on the current voting members and allow for a smoother flow of the meeting.

Colonel Davis stated he felt this is a fantastic idea, especially with COVID reemerging and not knowing what is going to happen in the next six months or so.

**Motion: Adopt the changes to the Executive Council Charter, as presented.**

Deputy Commissioner Morgan made the motion as presented for approval and Colonel Davis seconded. There were no objections or further discussion. **The motion was carried and approved.**

b. Mr. Woodall advised the council he wanted bring up a highlight and something that the Executive Council should probably be tracking. He noted in November, Motorola would be looking at whether we are proceeding with the next upgrade and if not, the immediate need would be Motorola's willingness to continue patching the current version of software associated with the Risk Management Framework (RMF) controls requirement. He stated this is of a level of importance and should be tracked should we run across any issues, such as losing the Authority to Operate on the System.

Mr. Stormo stated this means the State needs to finish getting all its Quantars replaced with GTRs and the MOA and DOD need to get a funded contract in place with Motorola for the System upgrade.

Mr. Woodall asked for clarity if the contract would be separate of if they would use the State's existing contract to do that.

Mr. Stormo stated that they were able to do that last time but would need to be discussed to see if it is still workable now that they were under the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs (DMVA).

Mr. Woodall advised that would create another significant issue if they were unable to contract with the State, because the timeline for executing a contract would create some issues. He stated he wasn't tracking they would not be able to do that so he would get

with Mr. Stormo on the contract administration process because if they had to start on a new contract approach that would require a level of work and put them in a certain time crunch. Mr. Woodall added that looming around May is the last time Motorola gave us their borders when they must have or should have something in place to go forward. He suggested he and Scott should meet separately and then report back to the Executive Council on any complications going forward.

Deputy Commissioner Morgan asked Mr. Letterman to work with Mr. Stormo to provide a briefing to the Executive Council at the January meeting to get some optics on this where we stand.

**8. Next Meeting.** Deputy Commissioner Morgan briefed the next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2020, at 1:30 at 5900 E. Tudor, and he hoped that the council would be able to meet in person at that time.

**9. Adjourn Meeting.** Deputy Commissioner Morgan asked if there were any other comments or anything to add to the meeting and hearing none requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion: Adjourn the October 15 Executive Council meeting.**

The motion was made by Deputy Commissioner Morgan and seconded by Colonel Davis. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.



Deputy Commissioner Leon Morgan  
Department of Public Safety  
ALMR Executive Council

**Distribution:**

SOA/DPS, Deputy Commissioner Leon Morgan  
USNORTHCOM/ALCOM J6, Colonel Matthew "Pudge" Davis  
FBI, ASAC Adam Pierce  
AML, Mr. David Gibbs  
MOA, Deputy Chief Michael Kerle  
OMO, Mr. Chris Letterman  
SOA DMVA, Deputy Commissioner Craig Christenson  
SOA DMVA, Mr. Scott Stormo  
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall  
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson  
SOA DPS, Mr. John Rockwell  
SOA DMVA, Mr. Randy Kilbourne