

Date: March 3, 2021

#### 1. Attendance.

#### **User Council Members**

	Oser Council Members				
	Primary				
Т	Angell	James	SSgt	DOD USAF, JBER	
U	Atkinson	Ross	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD DOI, BLM-Alaska Fire Service	
Т	Cicciarella	Bob	Chief	Municipalities Central	
U	Eike	Erin	LTC	DOD US Army - Alaska	
E	Fournier	Doug	Deputy Chief	Municipalities North, North Star VFD	
U	Kalwara	Erann	Ms.	Municipalities Southeast	
Т	Kroona	Jon	Mr.	Federal Non-DOD DOJ, FBI	
N/A	Nelson	James	Officer	Fed Non-DOD All Others, US Forest Service	
Т	Martin	Chris	Mr.	DOD USAF, Eielson AFB	
N/A	Monteleone	Dan	Mr.	SOA DOT	
Т	Rockwell	John	Mr.	SOA DPS, Chair	
Т	Skinner	Nate	Mr.	SOA All Others, DNR Forestry	

	Alternate				
U	Boyce Timothy Mr. Fed Non-DOD DOI, National Park Service			Fed Non-DOD DOI, National Park Service	
N/A	Brown	David	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD DOJ, FBI	
N/A	Carrier	Chasen	A1C	DOD USAF, JBER	
Т	Cole	Henry	Mr.	SOA DOT	
Т	Eubank	Greg	Mr.	SOA All Others, DMVA	
U	Berrian	Keith	Deputy Chief	Municipalities North, Chena Goldstream Fire & Rescue	
Т	Goodman	Jim	Mr.	Municipalities Central, MatSu Borough	
Т	Jones	Dave	Mr.	DOD USAF, Eielson AFB	
Т	Loughton	Mike	Special Agent	Fed Non-DOD All Others, US Forest Service	
N/A	Mlynarik	Pete	Chief	Municipalities Central, Soldotna PD	
Т	Nelsen	Scott	Mr.	SOA All Others, DMVA, Vice Chair	
N/A	Roberts	Rick	Captain	SOA DPS	
U	Scott	Heath	Chief	Municipalities Southeast, Haines Borough PD	
Е	Williams	Rick	Mr.	DOD, US Army - Alaska	
Т	Young	Sam	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD All Others, TSA	

#### **Supporting Staff and Guests:**

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Р	Conant	Travis	Mr.	System Manager	
Р	Letterman	Chris	Mr.	Operations Manager	
Т	Caltagirone	Paolo	Mr.	Motorola Solutions	
Т	Reed	David	Mr.	Information Systems Security Manager	
Т	Richter	Bruce	Mr.	DHS CISA	
Т	Shafer	Sherry	Ms.	Document Specialist	
Т	Stormo	Scott	Mr.	SOA APSCS	
Т	Thometz	Tim	Mr.	Icom America	
Т	Ulrich	Naomi	Ms.	Motorola Solutions	
Т	Woodall	Timothy	Mr.	DOD PM/COR	



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#### 2. Meeting Minutes and Action Items.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
Call to Order	Mr. John Rockwell called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.	
Roll Call	Roll call was taken and a quorum of User Council (UC) members was in attendance.	
Introduction of Guests/Special Announcements	There were no guests or special announcements. Ms. Naomi Ulrich and Mr. Travis Conant joined after roll call was read.	
Previous Meeting Minutes	John asked if everyone had a chance to review the January meeting minutes and if there were any requested changes. There were no responses and he asked for a motion to approve the previous minutes.  Motion: Approve the February 3 meeting minutes as written.  Motion: Mr. Henry Cole Second: SSgt James Angell  There were no objections. The motion passed.	
Issues & Risks Log Item Number	Active Issue	Action Items Assigned
	John asked Ms. Sherry Shafer, Operations Management Office, to provide the update for the Issues and Risks Log. She noted there were not changes from the last meeting.  Issues Closed at, or since, last meeting	
Action Items Review	Opened Items	Resolution
	John asked Sherry Shafer to also provide the update for the Action Items.  Sherry stated there was one item still open from the December 2 meeting and that was the User Council was to develop a transition policy regarding the timeline for replacement of non-TDMA radios after the lifecycle briefing to the Executive Council (EC). She noted this item would remain open until the completion of installation of TDMA on the system.	
Operations Management Office	Mr. Chris Letterman, Operations Manager	Action Items Assigned
Interoperability Zones/Talkgroups	1. Chris briefed that after the changes in January to the Interoperability Zones a patch had been established to the old Region E Incident Command (IC) Zone. He advised that patch would be taken down on April 20 and asked Mr. Travis Conant if he had any further information.	



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Travis noted that the new Central Hail talkgroup and Central Command 2, 3 and 4 talkgroups had all been patched to the old Region E IC zone channels.

Chris introduced Mr. Jacob Butcher, MATCOM, and asked him to explain how they are addressing the changes to the new Central Zone.

Mr. Butcher advised their initial main concern was who would be monitoring the Hail channel and he noted that MATCOM has been participating in interoperability meetings with the MatSu Borough, Anchorage and Chugiak as they work through the procedural changes.

John thanked Jacob for taking a proactive approach and coordinating with the other agencies.

#### **Logo Contest**

2. Chris informed the council the top two submissions are with the design firm and that he hoped to see them in time for the April EC meeting.

#### Outreach

3. Chris advised he would be calling the State agencies next.

## Coverage and Site Prioritization Survey

4. Chris briefed there was a long list of areas that came out of the survey and if anyone wanted to see the full list to contact him or Sherry.

John asked what the top three sites were and Chris stated they were Nikiski, the Tok Cutoff (Tok Highway and Taylor Highway toward Chicken), and the Parks Highway near Anderson.

### Annual Inventory Confirmation

5. Chris briefed the notification letters went out to the agencies in January and reminded council members to check with the agencies. He added 56 responses had been received to date.

#### **Training**

6. Chris stated the OMO was meeting with the Training Coordinator tomorrow to frame out the next course. He noted the topic was very comprehensive and would be split into two parts – Interoperability Intro and a "light" tabletop/incident walkthrough scenario.

## February Document Reviews

7. Chris noted the OMO had reviewed and updated the Business Case and the Strategic and Operational Plan and the System Management Office had performed their annual review of their SMO Customer Support Plan.

#### **February Metrics**

8. Chris briefed there were 1,055,505 group calls in February, which was down approximately 17.5K from

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t v s s r v	3. Travis reminded everyone the upgrade would be kicking off again on March 17 with the Master Site upgrades and additional site upgrades.  Mr. Scott Stormo  Mr. Scott Stormo advised he did not have much to add technical wise as Travis already covered what is going on with the LMR GTR/system upgrade project but restated something that he had talked about before regarding the State going through a lot of vacancies and a lot of retirements and turnover so if anybody knows of people that would be interested in being a technician at the state of Alaska to put them in contact with him.  Mr. Timothy Woodall	Action Items Assigned  Action Items
	off again on March 17 with the Master Site upgrades and additional site upgrades.  Mr. Scott Stormo	
State of Alaska	off again on March 17 with the Master Site upgrades and	
Replacement c		
Excess Site Assets	2. Travis stated had also been looking at other sites with too many assets and had turned down four channels at the Fire Station 12 site which is currently a 10-channel site. He advised there was no impact noted. Travis advised one channel had been turned down at the Bailey Hill site which is a seven-channel site and now the SMO is just monitoring the sites for any impact. He briefed a decision will be made down the road on whether or not to remove the channels and utilize them in other sites.	
t r	1. Mr. Travis Conant briefed the SMO had reviewed whether the Ted Stevens site was needed and reminded the council it had been turned down a year ago. He noted there had been no issues and the System Change Request would be going to the EC to decommission the site and use it elsewhere.	
Management Office	Mr. Travis Conant, System Manager	Action Items Assigned
M s c	availability in January and those were Haines, Pillar Mountain, Sitka, and Womens Bay. He added the OMO was still working on the format for this report and how it would be displayed.  Mr. Greg Eubank stated he did not see it in the materials package and Chris advised for now it was only being verbally reported on at the meetings but if any of the council members wanted a copy to email the OMO.	
ji ii s	January. He added there were approximately 1,937.114 push-to-talks, which was a decrease of around 35K from January. Chris stated there were 261 busies, which was an increase from January. He advised there was a gain of 125 subscribers from January putting the count at 23,272.  Chris there were four sites that fell below 99.9% uptime	

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	Mr. Timothy Woodall stated he had nothing for the group at this time.	
New Business	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
Demonstration of New Capability	1. SSgt Angell John advised he had been in contact with Systems Definition Incorporated regarding a demonstration for a service called Enhanced Personal Accountability for responders. He briefed that what they are doing is taking a laptop and hooking it up to a subscriber unit and using that as onsite command and control. SSgt Angell explained they can push out an accountability command through a subscriber hooked up to the laptop and all the receiving subscriber hooked up to the laptop and all the receiving subscriber units would have to do is push the push-to-talk button and it tells you who is actually receiving that message. He noted the primary demographic is the military and other DOD, but they would have the potential to pull in civilian agencies if there was a sponsor. SSgt Angell stated they would like to install a piece of equipment to use JBER as a test bed that would be connected to the back end and asked the council if the company representative, Mr. Frank Briese, could be invited to the April 7 meeting to provide a presentation.  John opened the discussion up to the group to see if anyone was interested in a demonstration and explanation of the technology or if anyone felt this was not the right venue and the consensus was positive from those council members who responded.  There was also some discussion of approval and vetting through the Information Systems Security Office, Mr. David Reed.  Scott Stormo advised the product was listed on the Motorola Solutions website as their trusted partner and he also believed it may have been demonstrated at an MTUG meeting last winter.  Mr. Paolo Caltagirone confirmed that it was the same product and to rest assured it is a tried-and-true solution and could get some details on it if everyone is interested and also contact Frank and see what he is planning to share.  David Reed asked if this solution was in use on any other federal networks and Paolo stated he would have to dig around because he did not know the answer.  SSgt Angel stated they were trying to	



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#### Alaska Statewide Interoperability Communications Plan (SCIP)

California as an M3 core with about 17 bases connected to it, so that's going to be potentially one of the initial tests.

2. Mr. Bruce Richter thanked everyone that participated in

the survey that was pushed out related to the SCIP update

# process and noted there were over 76 respondents and about half of them were ALMR User Council members, but the other half came from all over the state. He stated the information would with the roll up when they have that Final Script Workshop on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Priority Calling Service

3. Bruce added the next items were not ALMR specific but wanted to share the information. He noted Verizon, just this week, announced they are waiving all the fees that they used to have for wireless priority service many agencies still have kind of a mix where some got charged and this presented an obstacle to anybody adopting their priority service. Bruce advised is anyone was interested to please talk to him and he would help them get set up. He advised he has a DHS iPhone, and it's the first equipped device and successfully able to implement a dual SIM on that phone so when he is in better coverage for Verizon, Verizon will work on it, and when he Is in better coverage on FirstNet, it works on it. Bruce stated the capability does exist and it was not as painful as he thought it would be and he is happy to discuss it further with anybody that is interested.

#### **SAFECOM Grants**

5. Bruce briefed DHS has come out with three documents that he thinks are relevant and would send them to Sherry so she could include them in the minute. He advised the first was the 2021 version of the <u>SAFECOM Grant Guide</u> and the <u>2021 Fact Sheet</u> that just got released and it is relevant to anybody that applies for any DHS grant related to communications equipment; it is the boiler plate for your grant and you are certifying you are going to be compliant with both the state SCIP and with the SAFECOM grant quidance.

#### CISA Technical Assistance Planning Guide

5. Bruce stated CISA also released their new 2021 CISA Emergency Operations Technical Assistance Planning Guide and he would get that citation out to Sherry after the meeting. He stated they also offer a number of things that individual agencies can request working through this week that might be of benefit.

#### Public Safety Unmanned Aircraft System Resource Guide

6. Lastly Bruce noted for those having problems with citizens flying unmanned aerial systems around and it's causing an issue or for agencies that have adopted that as part of their program they have now just released their <a href="Unmanned Aircraft System Resource Guide">Unmanned Aircraft System Resource Guide</a> that is a collection of resources and best practices and where to go if you have an issue or if you need enforcement.



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Next meeting	Discussion	
	John reminded everyone the next meetings were on April 7 and May 5.	
Adjournment	Discussion	
	John asked if there was any other discussion for the good of the group and hearing no response, he requested for a motion to adjourn the meeting.  Motion: Adjourn the March monthly User Council meeting.	
	Motion: Mr. Dave Jones Second: Mr. Henry Cole	
	There were no objections. The motion <b>passed</b> .	
	The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.	