



**ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes**

Date: August 2, 2023

1. Attendance.

P = Present	T = Via Telephone	E = Excused	U = Unexcused	N/A = Not required
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User Council Members

Primary				
U	Atkinson	Ross	Mr.	Federal Non-DOD DOI, BLM-Alaska Fire Service
T	Berrian	Keith	Deputy Chief	Municipalities North, Chena Goldstream Fire & Rescue
E	Cole	Henry	Mr.	SOA DOT
U	Goggia-Cockrell	Tammy	Ms.	Municipalities Central, Vice Chair
T	Kalwara	Erann	Ms.	Municipalities Southeast
U	Kroona	Jon	Mr.	Federal Non-DOD DOJ, FBI
E	Nelsen	Scott	Mr.	SOA All Others, DMVA
U	Nelson	James	Officer	Federal Non-DOD All Others, US Forest Service
T	Martin	Chris	Mr.	DOD USAF, Eielson AFB
T	Rockwell	John	Mr.	SOA DPS, Chair
	VACANT			DOD US Army - Alaska
	VACANT			DOD USAF, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

Alternate				
U	Acone	Abigail	SrA	DOD USAF, JBER
U	Brown	David	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD DOJ, FBI
U	Carter	Bobby	Mr.	Federal Non-DOD All Others, TSA
U	Clendenin	John	Mr.	SOA DOT
E	De Hart	Kaitlyn	A1C	DOD USAF, JBER
T	Edwards	Karl	Mr.	DHS, SOA All Others
T	Endres	Benjamin	Lieutenant	SOA DPS
T	Green	Kyle	Fire Marshal	Municipalities North, University Fire Department
T	Goodman	Jim	Mr.	Municipalities Central, MatSu Borough
N/A	Maley	Christopher	TSgt	DOD USAF, Eielson AFB
U	Redington	Robert	Mr.	Federal Non-DOD DOI, US Fish and Wildlife Service
N/A	Scott	Heath	Chief	Municipalities Southeast, Haines Borough PD
U	Williams	Rick	Mr.	DOD, US Army - Alaska

Supporting Staff and Guests:

P	Fahnestock	Nik	Mr.	System Manager
P	Fussey	Paul	Mr.	Operations Manager
T	Haas	Zack	Mr.	Motorola Solutions
P	Nelson	Dan	Mr.	ALMR Training Coordinator
P	Reed	Dave	Mr.	Security Manager
T	Reiter	Simon	MSG	US Army
T	Rogell	Pete	Mr.	BK Technologies
T	Shafer	Sherry	Ms.	ALMR Document Specialist
P	Skinner	Nate	Mr.	ALMR/ASPCS Manager
T	Thometz	Tim	Mr.	Icom America



***ALMR User Council
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Date: August 2, 2023

T	Ulrich	Naomi	Ms.	Motorola Solutions
P	Woodall	Timothy	Mr.	ALCOM J6 PM/COR

2. Meeting Minutes and Action Items.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
Call to Order	Mr. John Rockwell called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.	
Roll Call	Roll call was taken, and there was not a quorum of User Council (UC) members in attendance for the meeting; therefore, no motions could be presented.	
Introduction of Guests/Special Announcements		
Previous Meeting Minutes	John stated hopefully everybody had a chance to review the July meeting minutes and opened the floor up for comments. Hearing no comments, John moved on.	
Issues & Risks Log	Updates	Action Items Assigned
	John asked Ms. Sherry Shafer for the updates to the Issues and Risks Log. Sherry explained at the last project status meeting, it was briefed that the equipment had arrived on July 10th at Tudor Road and the project manager was working to move some of that equipment up to Eielson and the installations had slipped from August to early September, with the last hop from Fort Greeley to Delta scheduled for the first part of October. She clarified this was for both OP12 and OP13.	
	Issues closed at, or since, last meeting	
	N/A	
Action Items	Review	Resolution
	There were no Action Items from the July meeting.	
Operations Management Office	Mr. Paul Fussey, Operations Manager	Action Items Assigned
Training	1. Mr. Paul Fussey deferred to Mr. Dan Nelson, ALMR Training Coordinator, to provide the update. Dan briefed there are targets for providing training on a monthly basis, generally in the shorter, easy to digest format. He encouraged everybody if they have not looked at the website to please look at the training section. He noted there will be a new video which will probably post tomorrow after a few edits for our Acceptance Test Procedure process. Dan advised he had also recently done training videos on	



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	<p>Talkgroup Sharing and Inventory Maintenance as well as several others. He explained that he had revised the training plan a little bit for the last half of the year for some current events, so there will continue to be a steady stream of training resources coming out.</p> <p>Dan briefed that the next live training event has been scheduled and it will be a TDMA Part Two in the ALMR Town Hall format that was presented a year, year, and a half ago. He explained it is more of an open forum that will center on TDMA issues as that transition proceeds, but it's also an informal way for all our members and users to be able to ask questions of our staff and in a little bit more of an informal but structured environment. Dan stated the training is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13th at 10:00 AM and he believed he had sent the invite out, but if not, he would send it out shortly. He encouraged everyone to feel free to forward that to members of their organization that may be interested in that training and all members are welcome to attend on Teams that day.</p> <p>Dan mentioned that members can continue to request training under the training menu on the ALMR website. He added under the training menu, there's a request training link and that will come to the Operations Management Office (OMO), and he'll do his best to be able to provide those items or they can contact the OMO. Dan advised if there were any training topics that member agencies were interested in to please feel free to continue to submit those requests and he would follow up with them.</p>	
Outreach	<p>2. Paul reported the FY24 membership agreements have been distributed except for the US Army and currently 69 have been returned from the agencies.</p> <p>Paul stated the FY24 cost share notices had been sent out to the agencies, who should wait for the invoice from DPS. He noted there have been some payments sent to other departments within the State that caused some confusion and created some extra work to try and track everything down.</p> <p>Paul briefed ALMR has been receiving the cybersecurity training certificates from dispatch centers and thanked the agencies for sending those in. He explained some of the spreadsheet lists were outdated, but the SMO is creating an updated spreadsheet.</p>	
July Document Reviews	<p>3. Paul advised the High-Level Communications Strategy, the OMO Customer Support Plan, the Interoperability Policy and Procedure, and the Key Management Facility Policy and Procedure were updated.</p>	



*ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes*

Date: August 2, 2023

<p>July System Metrics</p>	<p>4. Paul stated ALMR has fixed the glitch in Genesis, so the metrics that are showing now have all zones in there. He reminded the group that last month there were some issues and only the amount for Zone 1 was available, but all three zones are now available. Paul briefed there were 1.5 million calls and push to talks were 2.5 million and those numbers are a little bit lower than last year. He added the busies were at 1,053 and the next couple of slides show why as there have been PMIs, a lot of antenna work, and some of the towers have been down for several days as they rearranged everything and put in new antenna brackets. Paul noted as shown on the monthly sites below three nines slides, that has jumped back up to 20, compared to 7 last month but looking at the reasons most of them are PMIs, tower remediation, and dual diversity antenna work and there were also a couple of the CGW failures and those devices were disabled to keep them from bouncing.</p> <p>Paul stated the crews have been working hard and they are out again today working on the towers. He added there are some weather issues at some of the helicopter sites, but other than that, the crews have been working nonstop.</p> <p>Paul briefed the last item he had was to talk about our website and there were 1,116 views in July and 88 percent of those were new viewers with 12 percent returning and he has been pushing the website quite a bit when he talks with members as Mr. Nelson and I mentioned earlier.</p>	
<p>Other</p>	<p>5. Paul noted the OMO had created a calendar on the website that lists upcoming events and APCO, IWCE, and many other meetings are out there on the calendar. He advised the group if they had an event or something coming up that they want to put on the calendar that pertains to ALMR, please let the OMO know and they can put it on there.</p> <p>Paul also briefed the BK9000 portable is scheduled for ATP testing on August 15.</p> <p>Lastly, Paul advised that he and some of the folks from Bering Straits and APSCS would be flying out Saturday to attend the APCO and the MTUG Conferences, so they would be out all next week.</p>	
<p>System Management Office</p>	<p>Mr. Nik Fahnestock, System Manager</p>	<p>Action Items Assigned</p>
<p>Periodic Maintenance Inspections</p>	<p>1. Mr. Nik Fahnestock stated Paul pretty much covered everything on his side. He added they have been doing a lot of the PMIs, and his guys were out right now and would be doing one today give or take the weather.</p>	



*ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes*

Date: August 2, 2023

<p>Fort Greely and Fort Wainwright Garrison Membership</p>	<p>the month, which is what they are scheduled for at this time and he would keep the council updated if that changes.</p> <p>2. Mr. Woodall asked if MSG Reiter was on the phone, and he confirmed he was. Mr. Woodall advised that he had sent some time ago when LTC Miller was there, an email asking about the organizational structure of the Army regarding membership agreements. He explained the discussion was since the 11th Airborne is not necessarily part of the installation command and it is the Garrison Commanders that hold the responsibility or have the requirement for land mobile radio, logical then the Garrison Commanders would each get a membership agreement for Greeley and Wainwright. Mr. Woodall advised that he was still waiting for a response on that, so he was going to have the Operations Management Office press forward with that approach and then asked MSG Reiter to coordinate those directly with the garrisons.</p> <p>MSG Reiter stated Mr. Woodall could just shoot him an email with all the requirements and he would back brief the new G6, LTC Ciatti, on everything and he'll try and get that hammered out.</p> <p>Mr. Woodall agreed that was the way they would move forward on this so that it gets moving, as it had been a while.</p>	
<p>TDMA Frequencies</p>	<p>3. Mr. Woodall advised, about the TDMA spectrum, that the State has submitted all of their TDMA requirements for spectrum and the DOD will be working that in the next 30 days to get their records up to the national level, so he thought they were tracking on that.</p>	
<p>TAS/TAN Changes</p>	<p>4. Mr. Woodall briefed they had been storing the Transportable Area North (TAN) at Eielson and the building that it was housed in and kept online had a roof collapse and they had to move it out of that structure, so it is sitting outside, and it's not connected to services. He explained they really need to have it connected 24/7, so it keeps up to date with what's being pushed for the system, so they are arranging to have the TAN moved back down to JBER and at that point, they will consolidate the TAN and TAS into what they will call the DCCS-T, the Deployable Communications Capability System Transportable. Mr. Woodall advised if the system is needed to be deployed to the north, then it will have to be airlifted or ground transported to that location for support so it would take a little bit longer to get up north in those cases and would cost a little bit more money. He noted regarding its history of use and so forth, and after doing risk analysis, they thought it would be better to have it down here where it could get continuous feeding and care because the cost of going up</p>	



*ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes*

Date: August 2, 2023

	<p>there to do PMI and maintain the system just didn't make sense, based on the number of times it was actually used. Mr. Woodall briefed that this was just a little bit of risk management and a cost savings approach on their side, but it was funded, and Motorola is working through the TDMA upgrades on it to the new upper technology level and making it TDMA ready to go. He also noted the 100 subscriber units in the transportable can be used in an emergency which are APX6000s being flashed to TDMA.</p>	
User Council Representative Reports		Action Items Assigned
SOA DOT	1. There was no representative present.	
SOA DPS	2. Lt Ben Endres reported he had no updates. John asked how many radios he still had to get programmed and out to the troopers, and Lt Endres stated he would have to get John an exact number, but there were roughly 50 to go out.	
SOA All Others	3. There was no response.	
US Army Installations	1. There was no response.	
DOD JBER	2. There was no representative present.	
DOD Eielson	3. Mr. Chris Martin stated he had nothing	
Federal Non-DOD DOI	1. There was no representative present.	
Federal Non-DOD DOJ	2. There was no representative present.	
Federal Non-DOD All Others	3. There was no representative present.	
Munis-Central	1. Mr. Jim Goodman stated he just wanted to comment and update about Bailey Hill, and between BSIT, ALMR and the folks at the State that was one of the most seamless changes that he had ever experienced in a lot of years of doing this radio stuff. He added they have both proven to be excellent partners and extra willing to support, so he just wanted to pass on a deep thanks from the City of Palmer and he didn't have hard numbers for the group, but just subjectively from checking around for coverage, it looks to be greatly improved. Jim added it was a long process to get there, but everybody pitched in and made it happen, and they were very grateful over there in Palmer.	
Munis-SE	2. Ms. Erann Kalwara briefed she was excited to report they got their new Motorola core and consoles delivered today by	



***ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes***

Date: August 2, 2023

Munis-North	<p>the shipping company and would be installing those between August 7 - 23 and are anxiously awaiting that. John asked about the on-going issues at Saddle Mountain.</p> <p>Erann advised they have been working with the State technicians to make sure that that fuel tank for the generator is kept full and they are hoping that all gets taken care of and they get commercial power before winter.</p> <p>3. Deputy Chief Keith Berrian stated he had nothing to report other than wondering if anyone else was having as hard a time as they were getting Motorola portables. He explained they were 400 days out on our last order, so as we move forward towards the TDMA conversion, any of the departments that wait till the last minute might have an issue.</p> <p>John asked how everybody else was doing on getting portables.</p> <p>Mr. Woodall responded from the DOD side, they tried to order radios and were told a year to a year and a half, potentially, before they would probably see those. He added on the State side, they were usually saying 364 days. Mr. Woodall stated it was their understanding it was supply chain issues for chips and those kinds of things.</p> <p>John advised since the MTUG was coming up, that could be a topic and Paul could maybe broach the MTUG on that and see if there's anything they can do or push on that. He clarified that if there was a supply issue with the chips, there was not a whole lot we can do, but at least if Paul would maybe report back next month on what he found out from MTUG that would be great.</p> <p>Paul responded he would do that.</p>	
New Business	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
	John asked if there was any New Business and there was no response from the group.	
Next meeting	Discussion	
	John stated the next meetings were September 6 and October 4.	
Adjournment	Discussion	
	John asked if there was any other discussion. Sherry advised him there was still no quorum in attendance. Hearing no further discussion, John ended the meeting at 2:03p.m.	