



**ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 6, 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
E	Berrian	Keith	Deputy Chief	Municipalities North, Chena Goldstream Fire & Rescue
E	Cole	Henry	Mr.	SOA DOT
T	Goggia-Cockrell	Tammy	Ms.	Municipalities Central, Vice Chair
T	Kalwara	Erann	Ms.	Municipalities Southeast
E	Kroona	Jon	Mr.	Federal Non-DOD DOJ, FBI
T	Nelsen	Scott	Mr.	SOA All Others, DMVA
E	Nelson	James	Officer	Federal Non-DOD All Others, US Forest Service
T	Martin	Chris	Mr.	DOD USAF, Eielson AFB
E	Rockwell	John	Mr.	SOA DPS, Chair
	VACANT			DOD US Army - Alaska
	VACANT			DOD USAF, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

Alternate				
N/A	Acone	Abigail	SrA	DOD USAF, JBER
E	Brown	David	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD DOJ, FBI
T	Carter	Bobby	Mr.	Federal Non-DOD All Others, TSA
T	Clendenin	John	Mr.	SOA DOT
T	De Hart	Kaitlyn	A1C	DOD USAF, JBER
T	Edwards	Karl	Mr.	DHS, SOA All Others
P	Endres	Benjamin	Lieutenant	SOA Department of Public Safety
E	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:

T	Bolil	Walter	Mr.	Tait Communications
P	Fahnestock	Nik	Mr.	System Manager
T	Flores	Mickey	Mr.	BK Technologies
P	Fussey	Paul	Mr.	Operations Manager
T	Haas	Zack	Mr.	Motorola Solutions
T	Hamm	Noah	Mr.	Steese Fire Department
P	Hammond	Meg	Ms.	SOA DPS
T	Hawkins	Mike	Mr.	Motorola Solutions
T	Osburn	Matthew	Mr.	City of Valdez
P	Reed	Dave	Mr.	Security Manager



**ALMR User Council
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T	Reiter	Simon	MSG	US Army
P	Richter	Bruce	Mr.	DHS CISA
T	Shafer	Sherry	Ms.	ALMR Document Specialist
P	Stormo	Scott	Mr.	APSCS
T	Summers	Peter	Mr.	UAA Police Department
T	Thometz	Tim	Mr.	ICOM America
P	Woodall	Timothy	Mr.	ALCOM J6 PM/COR

2. Meeting Minutes and Action Items.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
Call to Order	Ms. Tammy Goggia-Cockrell called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.	
Roll Call	Roll call was taken, and there was a quorum of User Council (UC) members in attendance for the meeting.	
Introduction of Guests/Special Announcements	<p>Tammy asked if there were any guests and Mr. Paul Fussey advised there were representatives from Tait Communications on the line of Mr. Walter Bolil, and if he wanted to introduce his team.</p> <p>Mr. Bolil stated he was the only one online and he manages sales support contracts as well as state contracts and that he was invited to talk about Tait subscriber units and radios after the general meeting was over. He noted they obviously would have to go through a statewide certification process to get radios recertified as well as some new products.</p>	
Previous Meeting Minutes	<p>Tammy asked if everybody had a chance to review the July and August meeting minutes and if they had any changes. There were no responses.</p> <p>Tammy requested a motion and a second to approve the meeting minutes.</p> <p>Motion: Approve the July 12 and August 2 monthly User Council meeting minutes.</p> <p>Motion: Mr. Scott Nelson Second: Mr. Chris Martin</p> <p>There were no objections or further discussion. The motion passed.</p>	
Issues & Risks Log	Updates	Action Items Assigned
	Tammy asked Ms. Sherry Shafer for the updates to the Issues and Risks Log.	



***ALMR User Council
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Date: September 6, 2023

	<p>Sherry explained OP12 and 13 are for microwave hops and those are currently in progress. She noted they had started the R1 North and Alcantra hop today.</p> <p>Sherry advised for the powerline issues, the updates from Mr. Scott Stormo for Heney Range and Saddle Mountain had been added.</p> <p>Scott noted they had provided some splices to the utility company down there and they are going to walk the line and repair the splice that they found damaged and hopefully that will fix that, and we'll be able to get back on our powerline and off of the other partners powerline, which was late breaking news as of yesterday afternoon.</p> <p>Scott stated the Saddle Mountain site got about 1000 feet of power line replaced and that seems to have repaired it and this morning they were able to energize the line and the site has been running on commercial power for most of the day, so far. He added even if the power line is fixed for the moment, it is still 30 plus years old, so they still desperately need deferred maintenance funding to replace it, but they are back on commercial power, which is a much better situation than running on a short-run generator. Scott briefed that they had also prepared a long-run generator that they are going to try to get put in within the next week or two if the weather allows, so we have a better generator if the situation reoccurs.</p> <p>Sherry asked Scott if he wanted these closed or left open for another month and he requested they be left open.</p> <p>Sherry asked MSG Simon Reiter if there was an update on the Birch Hill Master Site B side buss.</p> <p>MSG Reiter responded they were waiting for an engineering diagram prior to accepting bids, and they were also requiring a site survey to be completed. He briefed as far as the upgrades on Birch Hill, with the exception of the UPS, everything is still on schedule.</p>	
	Issues closed at, or since, last meeting	
	N/A	
Action Items	Review	Resolution
	There were no Action Items from the August meeting.	
Operations Management Office	Mr. Paul Fussey, Operations Manager	Action Items Assigned
Training	1. Mr. Paul Fussey briefed on a new video vignette that had been posted for Subscriber Acceptance Test Procedure. He also noted the Operations Management Office (OMO) has	



***ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes***

Date: September 6, 2023

Outreach	<p>set up different radio testing and as Mr, Bolil alluded to a little bit earlier, the OMO is working on more units for testing. He added there would be a live town hall on TDMA Part 2 that will be on September 13 at 10:00 AM, and the OMO will send out the link. Paul stated this morning, Mr Nelson and he conducted an interoperability training exercise at the MatSu Valley with several different departments, EMS, police and fire, and they were working with the interoperability channels that were updated back in 2019 and how they can be incorporated into actual training and real-world incidents.</p> <p>2. Paul reported the OMO had received 105 out of 133 agreements that are final, and there are still three waiting for DOD signature, six are waiting for the Kenai Peninsula Borough mayor’s endorsement, ten are waiting for the non-DOD signature, and there are still nine agencies that have not responded.</p>	
August Document Reviews	<p>3. Paul advised the Cybersecurity Policy and Procedure, Privileged User Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure, and the Spectrum Licensing and Management Policy and Procedure were all updated in August.</p>	
August System Metrics	<p>4. Paul stated the ATR was broken during the quarterly rollover on August 30 and 23 hours of data was lost that is non-recoverable. He noted there were 1,575,414 calls, which was a little bit of an uptick from last year. Paul briefed the monthly push to talks were at 2,605,103 and once again higher than last year and definitely higher than last month. He added there were 563 busies, but if you look at like total percentage, it was only at .0003 percent, and it is a little high from last year, but still not even 1 percent.</p> <p>Paul advised the monthly sites below three nines dropped from 20 last month to 12, but everyone should keep in mind we’ve been pretty maintenance heavy. He stated there were also microwaves bouncing, some software upgrades, and things beyond our control, especially Women’s Bay out in Kodiak where the ACS fiber was cut so the transport was down, and the same at Pillar Mountain, which is also in Kodiak. Paul also noted there were antenna remediations and some PMIs.</p> <p>Paul stated, for the website, there were 352 sessions with 202 users and 88 percent were new visitors, so the website is getting out there more, and more people are using it, especially with the TDMA upgrades, so that is a welcome sight to see.</p>	
Other Items	<p>5. Paul briefed that, some folks from APSCS, and Bering Straits went down to Nashville for the APCO conference and</p>	



**ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 6, 2023

	<p>then the MTUG, which is the Motorola Trunked Users Group. He stated it was highly informative talking to other entities and other states how their systems work and some of the issues. Paul added it was nice to see what we're doing right here in Alaska and talking to other people; we're not reinventing the wheel on something that we're updating.</p> <p>Paul reminded the group that he had mentioned earlier they did the Quarterly Zone Controller Rollover and that occurred on August 30 and 31. He explained the process is that they get here early in the morning, contact dispatch centers across the state to make sure there's nothing going on, and then we roll over to the different zones for the upgrades</p>	
System Management Office	Mr. Nik Fahnestock, System Manager	Action Items Assigned
Periodic Maintenance Inspections Radio Inventories	<p>1. Mr. Nik Fahnestock stated the PMIs like Paul was talking about, they are just hitting those up.</p> <p>2. Nike noted that along with the membership agreements that Paul mentioned, he wanted to add on that the radio inventories his guys are sending out to make sure that agencies are reviewing what they actually have in stock, versus what you may not have. He also requested, if agencies have radios that need to be removed, to please submit a Subscriber Request Form for that.</p>	
State of Alaska	Mr. Scott Stormo	Action Items Assigned
Divide Tower Microwave Hops	<p>1. Mr. Scott Stormo briefed that for about a year there's been a new tower that was put in down in Divide and they were running on some temporary dishes that went bad last winter. He noted that yesterday they got some people up there and were able to get the new dishes installed and aligned, not to where they are supposed to be, but good enough that we're actually connected and passing traffic again. Scott explained there had been a lot of issues with the South Richardson Hwy are, closer to Valdez and Heney Range in Cordova over the last year and that hopefully they are in a much better position going through the winter with those remediations that were done yesterday. If the weather cooperates, they will conduct some more work on it this week.</p> <p>2. Scott stated if everyone saw the email that he just sent to Motorola a little bit ago about the microwave hops that they are starting to install, he thinks they need to have some conversations about that, just to make sure we're on the same page and make sure the DOD sites are operating as well as they can after the microwave hops are put in. He added that is nothing bad, but he noticed on the project Issues and Risk Log there's little piece of equipment they are buying for Clear that says that if the piece of equipment</p>	



***ALMR User Council
Meeting Minutes***

Date: September 6, 2023

<p>New Infrastructure and Operations Maintenance Contract</p>	<p>State of Alaska. He explained that the Community Partnership Program in 2013 was a Congressional authorization for federal agencies to enter into contract and service agreements with state and local government agencies where like services are shared. In this case, the maintenance of the Alaska Land Mobile Radio system is a common, shared service between the state and the federal government agencies, in this case the DOD, so that we can enter into this agreement which will address primarily the fiduciary responsibilities. Mr. Woodall briefed that they have a draft of that agreement and had started the coordination process. The Army went through an organizational change and that has created some questions regarding fiduciary responsible agents and as that's getting hammered out all the way up to the big Army level. They are kind of on hold because the agencies that have the responsibility to fund these systems must be clearly identified and they have to be a signatory to the agreement, so it is moving, but it's moving like lava.</p> <p>4. Mr. Woodall noted they should be starting to define the requirements for the new contract coming up two years out for that contract award. He explained the administration process is about a two-year process, so they will begin with the DOD review of the requirements that we have in the current statement of work and get that updated. Mr. Woodall stated they would try to do that in the October or November timeframe, so that he can provide Scott with a validated DOD requirement for the contract. He advised the State of Alaska would execute the contract under the Inter Service Support Agreement and then the DOD would execute what he would call a mirror contract, based on the current terms and conditions of the State's competitively awarded contract that allows DOD to follow the Federal Acquisition Regulations and work through the defense finance process. Mr. Woodall briefed this would avoid having to send funds to the State, and then have the State do a Federal-State authority and hopefully get rid of all the difficulty that happens between federal agencies trying to give money to State agencies.</p>	
<p>User Council Representative Reports</p>		<p>Action Items Assigned</p>
<p>SOA DPS</p>	<p>1. Lt Ben Endres reported he had nothing.</p>	
<p>SOA DOT</p>	<p>2. Mr. John Clendenin</p>	
<p>SOA All Others</p>	<p>3. Mr. Scott Nelson stated he had nothing new.</p>	



*ALMR User Council
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DOD JBER	1. A1C Kaitlyn DeHart stated she had nothing.	
DOD Eielson	2. Mr. Chris Martin stated he had nothing	
US Army Installations	3. MSG Reiter stated he had nothing else to offer.	
Federal Non-DOD DOJ	1. There was no representative present.	
Federal Non-DOD DOI	2. There was no representative present.	
Federal Non-DOD All Others	3. Mr. Bobby Carter stated he had nothing from TSA.	
Munis-North	1. There was no representative present.	
Munis-SE	2. Ms. Erann Kalwara briefed Juneau had gotten their new K-core and consoles installed and they were thrilled that Saddle Mountain was connected back to commercial power again.	
Munis-North	3. There was no representative present.	
New Business	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
	Tammy asked if there was any New Business and there was no response from the group. She reminded the group there was a presentation by Tait after the close of the regular business meeting.	
Next meeting	Discussion	
	Tammy stated the next meetings were on October 4 and November 1.	
Adjournment	Discussion	
	Tammy asked if there was any other discussion, and hearing no response, she requested a motion and a second from the council members to adjourn the meeting. Motion: Adjourn the September 6 User Council meeting. Motion: Mr. Chris Martin Second: Ms. Tammy Goggia-Cockrell There were no objections or further discussion and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned: at 2:03 p.m.	