

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





MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council

August XX, 2025

FROM: Department of Defense Co-Chair

SUBJECT: August 6 Meeting Minutes

TO: See Distribution

Executive Council Members:

Colonel Nicholas DeAngelis Department of Defense - ALCOM/J6 (via

teleconference)

Director Bradley Wayland Alaska Federal Executive Association (via

Teleconference)

Deputy Chief of Administration

Gina Burington

Municipality of Anchorage – Anchorage Police Department (via teleconference)

ALMR Support Team Members and Guests:

Mr. David Reed Information Systems Security Manager Ms. Erika Bishop

State of Alaska, Department of Public

Safety

Mr. John Rockwell State of Alaska, Department of Public

Safety

Mr. Kevin Farrell **Motorola Solutions**

Operations Management Office Ms. Mary Burnham

Mr. Nikolas Fahnestock **ALMR Systems Manager** Mr. Paul Fussey **ALMR Operations Manager**

Mr. Pete Rogell **BK Technologies** Mr. Richard Sasai **Motorola Solutions**

Mr. Rikk Rambo Law Enforcement Coordinator, Western

States Information Network

Mr. Ryan Marlow State of Alaska, Department of

> Transportation & Public Facilities Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALCOM PM/COR

Ms. Sandy Puckett Mr. Timothy Woodall Mr. Trygve Erikson Ms. Tammy Goggia-Cockrell Municipality of Anchorage User Council Vice Chair

- **1.** <u>Call to Order</u>. Co-Chair Colonel Nicholas DeAngelis, Department of Defense ALCOM/J6, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Colonel DeAngelis requested that Ms. Mary Burnham read the roll, which she did, and she noted there were a quorum of Executive Council members present. Ms. Erika Bishop joined the meeting after the roll was taken.
- 2. <u>Opening Statements and Other Announcements</u>. Colonel DeAngelis asked if there were any opening statements or other announcements. Hearing none, Colonel DeAngelis stated the council will now move on to the approval of the April meeting minutes.
- **3.** <u>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</u>. Colonel DeAngelis asked the members if they had a chance to review the April minutes and if they had any requested changes at this time. None were offered and he requested if any of the other council members could please offer a motion by stating their name and a second by stating their name to approve the April meeting minutes.

Motion: Approve the April 17, 2025, Executive Council meeting minutes, as presented.

The motion was made by Deputy Chief Gina Burington and seconded by Director Bradley Wayland. There were no objections or further discussion, so **the motion passed.**

4. Old Business.

- a. State Interoperability Governing Body (SIGB). **(TABLED)** Colonel DeAngelis asked Mr. John Rockwell if there are any new updates on the SIGB.
- Mr. Rockwell stated that he did not have any at this time.
- b. Long-term Cost Share Solution. **(TABLED)** Colonel DeAngelis asked Mr. Rockwell if there were any updates on this item.
- Mr. Rockwell stated that he did not have an update at this time.
- c. Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA). Colonel DeAngelis asked Mr. Tim Woodall if there were any updates to the Intergovernmental Support Agreement.
- Mr. Woodall briefed that at the last meeting he announced that at the Secretary of the Air Force level they had approved the Air Force installations. He noted that when entering into the IGSA with the State of Alaska in order to receive operations management infrastructure maintenance services, they were then given the okay to

begin the drafting of the IGSA, which they have in a near final draft form and ready for coordination. Mr. Woodall stated that on the Department of Defense (DoD) side they are working out exactly who their signatories will be, and he thinks they have that figured out and are working towards that with regard to the Department of the Army level, they are equivalent to SAF or the Secretary of the Air Force. He commented that at the Secretary of the Army level, they are moving forward, approving the Army entering into an IGSA with the State of Alaska for same set of services, and he expects, based on the last meeting with the Department of Army and the 59th Signal Commander, that hopefully by the end of this month and no longer than 90 days from a few weeks ago they should have the Army concurrence and with regard to the IGSA. Mr. Woodall noted that they have already drafted the IGSA and it is in 100% compliance with the terms and conditions of the Air Force's IGSA, and the only thing that will change are the member agencies that are identified. He stated that he hopes to have both IGSAs ready for signature, hopefully, by the end of September. Mr. Woodall noted that at that point, what that means is that the Department of Defense, as an infrastructure owner, has been receiving contracted services that the State of Alaska executed and that the DoD were third-party beneficiaries to that contract. He stated that, in other words, the DoD were not signatory to it, but they were receiving services from it without an IGSA in place, tracking the money, procuring the money through appropriations processes, and receiving the services, the Department of Defense was not protected. Mr. Woodall commented that this gives the DoD a contractual response, a contractual relationship with the State of Alaska, who will continue to contract for those services, and it also allows the State of Alaska to perform services through their State of Alaska Public Communications Office that is here in this building. He noted that from a microwave perspective or any other from aDoD radio perspective, the State of Alaska can also perform services. Mr. Woodall stated that he thinks that will put DoD in a good place and it will also codify the relationship that the DoD has with the state and it should help with the funding issues that the DoD had in the past. He commented that hopefully next time the council has a meeting he can announce that the IGSA has been signed and everything that was a problem before will hopefully have been resolved. Mr. Woodall stated he would end with that.

Colonel DeAngelis thanked Mr. Woodall and stated that next is radio inventory.

d. TDMA versus Non-TDMA Inventory. Colonel DeAngelis asked Mr. Paul Fussey for an update on this item.

Mr. Fussey briefed that, as everybody knows, the goal is to have all radios on the ALMR system TDMA capable by December 31, 2026, and so the Operations Management Office (OMO) and the Systems Management Office (SMO) have been working with other agencies to make sure that they get TDMA radios. He noted that the OMO and SMO are working with the agencies to actually activate their talk groups, so Mr. Fahnestock and the SMO team have been doing that. Mr. Fussey stated that a couple of weeks ago they did activate TDMA for all the Matanuska-Susitna (MatSu) Borough and they are getting ready to turn it on for Palmer. He commented that they are still working with Fairbanks to get theirs turned on. Mr. Fussey noted that once again he wanted to reiterate to the group , that ALMR does not want to turn them all on at once because the OMO and SMO have run into some little hiccups, if you will, for example one agency thought their

radios were ready to go to TDMA only to find out they had to do some more software upgrades, which they are working to complete before ALMR can turn them on to TDMA. Mr. Fussey stated that is why they are doing it a little bit at a time because they do not want to put anybody in danger with the radios not working, so slowly but surely they are working on it. He commented that is the update he has for TDMA/FDMA, Colonel DeAngelis thanked Mr. Fussey and stated that next is the Rabinowitz Courthouse.

e. Fairbanks Rabinowitz Courthouse Bidirectional Antenna (BDA). Colonel DeAngelis asked Mr. Rockwell if he had any updates to this item.

Mr. Rockwell briefed that as reported previously, the state has the engineering done on the courthouses, both Rabinowitz and Palmer, and they have funding secured. He noted that they do have the funding available to them, and he has already created the allocations for the Rabinowitz Courthouse and has the documentation into purchasing, so it should be moving forward as soon as possible. Mr. Rockell said, "thank you very much."

Colonel DeAngelis thanked Mr. Rockwell.

f. Motorola Contract. Colonel DeAngelis asked Mr. Scott Stormo for an update on this topic.

Mr. Fussey asked the chair if he could speak regarding items "f" and "g" with his permission.

Colonel DeAngelis stated that there were no issues and to proceed with the briefing.

Mr. Fussey briefed that Mr. Stormo is out today, so as far as the Motorola operation service contract is concerned, he knows that Mr. Stormo is working on that with Mr. Woodall, but Mr. Fussey does not have an update for that item

g. Tudor Road Electrical Work.

Mr. Fussey briefed that the Tudor Rd. electrical work took place on August 2nd and 3rd, this past weekend, and the contractors were working on the system. He noted that they were able to bypass the generator and there were some folks here from the APSCS team on scene both Saturday and Sunday as the electrical work went on. Mr. Fussey stated that the building does have a new transfer box in the back, and all work has been completed at this time for the building, but he does not have an update if there is power out to the yard yet, however, the building did not have any loss of power from the master site for electrical. He commented that for right now that work, as far as he knows, is done except for the yard.

Colonel DeAngelis inquired if anyone had any questions or comments on any of the old business items, and having completed the old business items, he asked Mr. Scott Nelsen to provide the update on the User Council.

5. User Council Update.

Ms Tammy Goggia-Cockrell announced that she would be speaking as the Vice-Chair since Mr. Nelsen was not able to attend.

Ms. Goggia-Cockrell briefed that she had a few items from the last User Council meeting, with the first item being that the User Council has vacancies for an alternate for Southeast Municipalities and an alternate for the Federal Department of the Interior. She noted for general information that updates were provided by the Operations Manager, the Systems Manager, the State of Alaska, the DoD, and User Council Representatives. Ms. Goggia-Cockrell stated that Mr. Stormo noted that APSCS is getting closer to an actual date for when the new shelter and new tower will be going up at Heney Range in Cordova and Lieutenant Ben Endres with DPS noted that they had a meeting and training on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) with the Army National Guard on the 20th through the 22nd of July to work on communications and essentially to get everyone on the same page as it relates to communications during search and rescue. She also noted that Ms. Erann Kalwara of Juneau hosted the ORCA 2025 joint training exercise with the Army National Guard, law enforcement, fire department, state and tribal members on June 9th through the 12th, and they utilized the ALMR talk groups for the exercise and Ms. Kalwara also commented that they are still working on console upgrades at the Juneau Police Department, police and fire dispatch, and connectivity to ALMR with this upgrade. Ms. Goggia-Cockrell stated that was all she had and thanked the Chair.

Colonel DeAngelis asked if there were any questions from anyone else at this point. Hearing none he continued on.

6. Operations Management Office.

Colonel DeAngelis asked Mr. Fussey to please provide the Operations Management Office (OMO) update.

a. Training and Outreach. Mr. Fussey briefed that Mr. Dan Nelson, who does the training videos for ALMR, uploaded to the website a training video covering preventive maintenance inspections (PMIs). He noted that ALMR was getting some calls from the field questioning why the towers are are going down for an hour here, two hours there, sometimes up to five hours, which is when Mr. Fahnestock and his team are out doing preventive maintenance, inspections, and taking a look at all the equipment. Mr. Fussey stated that is why Mr. Nelson created a training video on that to better educate everyone on why the towers are going down. He commented that Ms. Claire Wittschiebe, from the help desk, does a phenomenal job of reaching out to the areas, letting them know ahead of time what towers will be going down, what areas will be affected, and then also putting it out in an e-mail, so the training video covers that to try and help everyone understand what PMIs are and why they're being done.

Mr. Fussey noted that, as previously stated, he is working to contact all the members to see if they have any questions about the radio upgrades.

Mr. Fussey stated that he has been sitting through the Alaska Municipal League (AML) meetings and two weeks ago there was a really good one on grants, so he is working with some of the grant managers from AML to try and find any federal monies that are out there for small departments or smaller agencies that just don't have the funding assets to get new radios.

Mr. Fussey commented that, as he said before, ALMR is working on turning on TDMA and they should have a couple of agencies turned on to TDMA next week. He noted that the team did get contacted by one particular group that wanted the team to activate their talkgroups for TDMA, however, they did not have a specific talkgroup that belongs to them, because they use talkgroups that belong to other agencies, therefore, when the team talked to them they let them know this and advised them that they would need to get permission from the parent agency of that talkgroup before ALMR can activate TDMA for them. Mr. Fussey stated that is just one of the things the team looked at, but once they get permission from the parent group for that TDMA talkgroup, then the team will turn it on for them because all their radios right now are currently TDMA capable, which is one of the other reasons why the team is just going slowly when turning on TDMA.

Mr. Fussey briefed that Ms. Burnham has done phenomenal work contacting the members for their signed membership agreements, which were due by July 1st. He noted that there are a couple agencies that have not yet signed them so there are nine agreements that need to be completed. Mr. Fussey stated that the OMO is ahead of last year, but keep in mind there are over 140 agencies on the system, so to only have nine left by this time of year means the OMO is way ahead.

Mr. Fussey noted that the July newsletter was sent out on the 15th of July, and as a friendly reminder, Ms. Burnham puts it out digitally on our website and all the past newsletters anybody can take a look at digitally. He also stated that he takes hard copies and mails them to all the state legislatures and all the federal legislatures for Alaska out in DC, so they all get mailed a hard copy.

Mr. Fussey mentioned that as previously stated by Ms. Goggia-Cockrell, on July 21st he was requested by Department of Public Safety (DPS) to go out to JBER. He commented that he, Mr. Fahnestock, and a technician from Mr. Stormo's shop went out to Bryant Field, and there was a huge search and rescue (SAR) exercise. Mr. Fussey noted that the Air National Guard, Army National Guard, the Coast Guard, the Department of Public Safety, and multiple search and rescue groups were looking for help from the ALMR team to find a common frequency that they could all talk on. He stated that after going through their talkgroups and their radios, the team was able to come up with the State1 interoperability channel, which all the agencies were able to put onto their radios, some already had that on their radios, and they were doing com checks out there. Mr. Fussey commented that it worked phenomenally, so that way the volunteer search and rescue groups can talk to military helicopters and vice versa, so that was a really good meeting out there and he appreciated the invite.

Mr. Fussey commented that the quarterly security updates will be conducted August 26th to the 28th, which is where he and Mr. Fahnestock come in at 4:00 in the morning and start prepping everything, then they reach out to all the dispatch centers at 5:00 in the morning, and next they do the zone control rollovers in conjunction with Motorola and their techs. He noted that that will be happening on the 26th and 28th of August, so the dispatch centers might go down for a minute or so, then come back up, and that is why they coordinate with the dispatch centers, and that is only done quarterly.

Mr. Fussey noted that from 18 August to 5 September, a DoD cybersecurity team will be monitoring ALMR. He inquired if anybody has any questions since Mr. David Reed, the ALMR security manager, is here if anybody has any questions on what that might pertain. He opened it up for questions from group if anybody has any questions on the DoD cybersecurity team. Mr. Fussey asked Mr. Reed if he wanted to touch on anything.

Mr. Reed stated that they will have little impact on the network itself and should not be pushing any software or anything to any of the clients and that they are just going to be performing a security review of the network.

Mr. Fussey thanked Mr. Reed.

b. Project Status Update. Mr. Fussey briefed that mixed crews are currently out in the field conducting PMIs with Mr. Stormo and Mr. Fahnestock's groups and they are out right now in different areas.

Mr. Fussey noted that Mr. Reed did a security scan and Mr. Fussey contacted the dispatch centers that needed to reboot their consoles. This helps maintain cybersecurity of the system, so he appreciated everybody answering the emails and rebooting their consoles.

Mr. Fussey stated that the TAS and TAN upgrade is still being worked on. He commented that it was supposed to be completed in June, however as of today it is not completed. Mr. Fussey noted that Mr. Woodall has been very proactive, so he appreciates Mr. Woodall's help on that. Once the TAS and TAN, which are transportable towers, have had everything upgraded and they have been field tested, Mr. Fussey will let the Executive Council know.

Mr. Fussey briefed that one thing he has for the project status update, is kind of a long-winded statement. On 17 July, Motorola conducted a software upgrade in the Fairbanks Alaska State Trooper (AST) Dispatch Center. He noted that the upgrade update was due to the center moving from the MCC 7500 dispatch consoles to the newer AXS models, and Motorola uploaded the wrong software. I If you have not known by now, it took down all the dispatch centers on ALMR across the state for a minimum of seven hours. Mr. Fussey stated that he has a meeting set up tomorrow, 7 August, with all the dispatch centers and the affected parties and they are going to discuss what happened, and Motorola did give ALMR an after action report. He commented that they are going to go over that and any PACE, which stands for Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency, plans that dispatch centers might have. Mr. Fussey noted that he

apologizes for what happened, and since he is the operations manager, the buck stops with him, so for all the dispatch centers across the state, he does apologize for the inconvenience. He stated that Motorola has updated their checklist and that should not happen again. Mr. Fussey commented that what it was when Motorola was updating a state dispatch center, however, ALMR is 85% state and 15% federal, so it has to have a different configuration on there, so that should not happen again, and once again, he apologizes for that one and they will go over that tomorrow.

Mr. Fussey asked if there were any questions before he went to the July metrics, and hearing none he continued on.

c. July system metrics. Mr. Fussey briefed that, he will start out with the monthly group and individual calls, there are a lot more than last year, and the group calls were 1,729,360 system wide, the monthly push-to-talks 2,820,681, and busies were 1230, and he pointed out that was 1230 busies out of 2,820,681 calls.

Mr. Fussey noted that the monthly sites below three nines were 23, and the numbers have been going up precipitously the last couple of months and they are a lot higher than last year. He stated, however, that there is a very good reason for that, which is the SMO and SOA have teams out doing preventive maintenance, and ALMR does have the Motorola teams out there replacing the ALIVE antennas, which is just standard maintenance. Mr. Fussey commented that when you start taking down the antennas to replace them, those sites will drop below three nines, so it is nothing to worry about system wide, it is just maintenance and as the council can see, installing the ALIVE antennas is affecting these sites here. He noted that Hurricane had one overheated generator which has been fixed, and members can see the PMIs down here with the preventative maintenance, so everyone knows that they are going to go down because the teams are out there working on them. Mr. Fussey stated that the remaining ones were the commercial circuit, that was for the SATS system due to the commercial backhaul connection and those are beyond our control.

Mr. Fussey stated that as the council starts looking at subscriber counts, and remember subscriber units are radios, a request a couple months ago from the user council, Mr. Fahnestock and his team started breaking it down for everyone. He stated that ALMR does have three zones, so zone one is from Denali Highway South, which includes Kodiak and Southeast; zone two is Denali Highway North, and zone 4 is the Anchorage Wide Area Radio Network (AWARN), which is the Municipality of Anchorage system. Mr. Fussey commented that if members look, zone one State of Alaska, the team has it broken down with how many radios are on the ALMR system, and for zone one and zone two for the SOA; DoD; then Alaska Municipal League, which is state and local, with of course the 6264 that are the Municipality of Anchorage's radios. The federal is broken down by zone one and zone two, but the only ones that are on zone four is the Municipality of Anchorage. He noted that ALMR has 33,000 licenses for the system, so the team likes to show everyone what ALMR has on here and if members start looking at the different months, right now ALMR is at 32,631. Mr. Fussey stated that a lot of people have been adding their TDMA radios and then ALMR does get some subscribers accounts to remove some, and he knows one agency this past month put a

subscriber request to remove 40 radios from the system because they had already updated their TDMA radios. He commented that this gives the council a breakdown of how many radios are on ALMR for the state, DoD, municipalities, and the federal agencies.

Mr. Fussey asked if there were any questions that anybody had on the metrics, hearing none, he stated he would proceed.

d. Other. Mr. Fussey briefed that the OMO contract has been signed and that went into effect July 1, 2025, and will go out to June 30th, 2026, which leaves three out of nine option years remaining for the operations management office.

Mr. Fussey noted that the monthly off-site inspections were completed by him for May, June and July, and he will travel up to the zone two master site sometime this month to conduct his inspection of that area, the backups, and maintenance of the system, which are all required per contract every year.

Mr. Fussey stated that he completed his Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) certification for building and system access that is also required.

Mr. Fussey commented that he was in Baltimore last week for conferences, so he attended the MTUG, which is the Motorola Trunk User Group, the Genesis User Forum, and APCO, the Association of Public Safety Communication Officials, which was from last Sunday, 27 July through Friday, 1 August. He noted that he was out in Baltimore for those three conferences and he has briefed Mr. Stormo on them. He will, for the next newsletter, have an article in there briefing on what went on, what transpired, and once he gets all the slide decks he will send them out to the users that want them from the training that he completed.

Mr. Fussey noted that the teams postponed the zone two PMI work for a while due to all the ongoing wildland fires, so now that the fires are starting to die down he stated that the teams will start pushing out back into zone two to start doing PMI work.

Mr. Fussey stated he had one anecdote; Operation Arctic Edge is being held on JBER August 12th or 13th with the focus on interoperability preventing human trafficking and the impact of local communities. He will go out there and sit in and see if they have any questions for ALMR or interoperability for the radios.

Mr. Fussey commented to the Chair that completes his report pending any questions or comments.

Colonel DeAngelis asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Fussey about any of these items, hearing none, he continued on.

7. New Business.

Colonel DeAngelis stated that the first item of new business is the review and approval of Fiscal Year 27 (FY27) OMO SMO Operating Budget, which will be presented by Mr. Fussey.

a. Mr. Fussey briefed that if the council looks at the document they will see that the OMO team did leave the comments in there and this is why the document has the gray area on the side. He noted that this is put out every year and it goes through a process where the team sits down and get the numbers from the DoD, DPS, and also from Mr Stormo, and the team compiles the numbers for the contract. Mr. Fussey stated that once it is completed, then it is sent to the User Council, so at the last user council meeting the group went over it, and some of the members had some questions, and wanted some things added. He commented that once the additions were done, then Ms. Burnham sent it out to the User Council members for a vote and the majority of members voted to pass it on. Mr. Fussey noted that once the User Council has approved it, then it is required to go to the Executive Council, which he is going to propose and point out today, and if there are further questions the team can go from there, but what is going to happen is the council will discuss it today and since there are only two voting members present, the council will go over it today. The council cannot vote on it today, but he will go over and discuss it and will be happy to answer any questions, so he just wanted to preface his presentation. He stated that once this is done and once Ms. Burnham sends it out, and the Executive Council gets the chance to vote on it, then it goes to Mr. Stormo.

Mr. Fussey noted that the operations management contract,, has three out of nine years left, it was a 10 year contract. He stated that the number \$347,220 has not changed in the last six years and that covers him, Ms. Burnham, and also Mr. Dan Nelson, who does the training videos. Mr. Fussey commented that the paragraph explains what the OMO team does, which covers all his offsite inspections, reaching out to the members, the Executive Council meeting, the User Council meeting, and for him to attend the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA) conferences, the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy Associates (FBINAA) conferences, the local ones here. He noted that he also attends the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association and Alaska Police Chiefs Association meetings.

Mr. Fussey asked if anybody has any comments or questions on the OMO portion

Mr. Fussey stated that the next section it says estimated infrastructure operations and maintenance services (IOMS). He commented that this is the Systems Management Office, which is Mr. Fahnestock and his team and the ALMR help desk. Mr. Fussey noted that this is for FY27 and their current contract will have expired by the time of FY27, so he asked the state agencies that manage this contract for an estimated amount. This is estimated only because the team does not know what that contract is going to be. He stated that once again, that is estimated only and that is the number he received from the State of Alaska, but that covers the ALMR help desk, Mr. Fahnestock, his team going out doing all the PMIS, and Ms. Wittschiebe doing everything she does, so it is quite a few people that this contract covers.

Mr. Woodall noted for clarity, that no contract talks have occurred for the next contract systems.

Mr. Fussey thanked Mr. Woodall and asked if anybody had any questions on this section.

Mr. Fussey briefed that this section is the operations and maintenance costs, and it states in the top part there are a lot of different fiscal years for the MOA, DoD, and the State of Alaska because they run on different years or fiscal times, so it is projected. He noted that once again he wanted to stress that it is projected annual cost based on the best estimates available at the time of preparation when the OMO team got this together and this is for FY27. Mr. Fussey stated that the DoD and state amounts come from Addendum A, State of Alaska and DoD life cycle for the System Upgrade Assurance (SUA) and then the team does have the contract support, but like I said, this contract the team does not know. He commented that the OMO contract stayed the same and that is broken up by Department of Defense and State of Alaska's infrastructure owners that put towards the contract same as the SMO contract or IOMS.

Mr. Woodall stated that he just had a comment on the estimated contract support costs, as the team recalls in the user council meeting, Mr. Stormo said that number was determined by taking what is currently paid and then adding in inflation that because state contracts do not have inflation through the period of performance of the contract, so Mr. Stormo took into account what the impact of inflation would be on those numbers. Mr. Woodall noted, again, that those numbers are only an independent government estimate they are not estimates received from any potential future contractor, nor has any talks been with any future contractor because that would be a violation of the contracting and solicitation requirements. He stated he just wanted to make that clear.

Mr. Fussey thanked Mr. Woodall for the clarification and he appreciated it.

Mr. Fussey noted that he reached out to the AWARN team and received those numbers from the Municipality of Anchorage, now keep in mind the Municipality of Anchorage maintains the AWARN system, which is a simulcast system at 700/800 megahertz. They maintain that themselves not through the state or the DoD, however, it is zone four of ALMR, so everyone can all talk together for interoperability.

Mr. Fussey stated that Alaska is one of the few states that does not have a SUA and it is kind of interesting that when he was down at APCO and MTUG talking to the other state representatives there, even small communities, just about all of them have a SUA contract. He commented that what a SUA does is whenever there is equipment upgrades, for instance the MCC 7500 and AXS consoles, the SUA contract will cover all that equipment upgrade, also the G series RF stations. Mr. Fussey noted that at the MTUG meeting, the two-part consoles, which agencies have the Z1 mini and then a console that is actually being combined into one coming up in another year and a SUA contract covers that for everyone to upgrade all that equipment. He stated that is what the SUA is for but Alaska is one of the areas and agencies that does not have one.

Mr. Woodall stated that it also includes technology updates.

Mr. Fussey commented that yes, that includes the software upgrades from 2021 to 2025 and thanked Mr. Woodall.

Mr. Fussey briefed that at the top of Addendum A, a comment was requested to be added in at the last User Council meeting, which stated that the operating budget does not include the costs for state, local, and municipal agencies to replace or update their

subscriber units. so this is for equipment infrastructure that does not include radios, and like he said, he has been working with Alaska Municipal League trying to find grants out there to help agencies find money for radios.

Mr. Fussey noted that the life cycle like Mr. Woodall mentioned, refers to the operating software 2021.1 is what the system is currently on and then that will be hopefully upgraded to the newest software upgrade, and then you have infrastructure improvements, which is also for the DoD. He stated that ALMR has the two infrastructure owners which are the state and the DoD and once again reflects near long term funding requirements, and are not including the OMO contract, the SMO contract, but the capital cost. Mr. Fussey commented that the group starts looking at maintenance, antennas, dishes, generators, software upgrades, and Mr. Stormo asked to put a 3% increment in there for inflation. He noted that right here was a release for the software and then the coverage enhancement, infrastructure, capital investment and then for the DoD also to the current release, their contract, and then a system upgrade to two plus.

Mr. Woodall stated that just a comment on the current 2021.1 to the current technology release, that would be a capital investment that the infrastructure owners would have to make that would be required prior to entering into a SUA relationship contract with Motorola as they require the system to be at the latest technology when SUA is enacted. He commented that in order to move into the SUA which ALMR may not get there and maybe the contract may have to be negotiated in a way that ALMR starts a SUA, in other words, maybe a 10 year contract, but in year three ALMR starts the SUA because it may take that long, because of the multiple agencies and different funding processes that we have to go through, but ALMR anticipates that that will be a conversation that would go on during the contract negotiation processes. Mr. Woodall noted that he is hoping that in 2027 the agencies will have the money to do that, or hopefully in '26 ALMR can have the money to do that, but the group is not seeing that is likely for all the agencies to line their money up to get that upgraded to that point. He stated that they do realize that they are going to have to do a lot of education with the infrastructure owners with regard to the benefits of a SUA approach versus a regular operations and maintenance (O&M) standard PMI approach and a capital investment to bring it up to the latest technology levels. He commented that this is going to require a lot of outreach on ALMR's part, a lot of support from the Executive Council, and maybe even some endorsement and support letters to legislatures and so forth, but anyways, he knows that the prices look pretty high, but considering that adding into that cost and the team believes it is at somewhat of a savings. Mr. Woodall noted that the capital investments that are made every three to five years plus the ongoing O&M that is paid, so the owners pay that money anyways, but putting it all under an O&M that will make it easier to keep the system up to date, should make it a little easier to get the money, and then when the owners normalize it under the O&M framework for funding, he thinks long term it should eliminate some of the huge issues they have of aligning money for capital investments for upgrades. He stated that is a quick explanation on why that cost looks the way it does and what ALMR would like to see in our transition to a new contract and a new approach.

Mr. Fussey thanked Mr. Woodall and noted that there is the Municipality of Anchorage, and they are looking at their RF equipment platform migration, that is their dynamic

transcoders and some more other consoles there that they are working on, so those are the numbers the team got from Municipality of Anchorage.

Mr. Fussey asked if there were any questions on the operating budget and stated that was everything that he had, but once again, everyone will be able to look at it at their leisure and Ms. Burnham will email it out to everyone. He noted that it has already been approved by the User Council. He inquired if there are any questions from the group, hearing none, he stated that concludes his briefing.

Colonel DeAngelis thanked Mr. Fussey and stated that the second item of new business is that the Executive Council is in need of an Alaska Municipal League representative to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Mr. Alex Boyd, who was an associate voting member, which will be presented by Mr. Fussey.

b. Mr. Fussey briefed that Fire Chief, Deputy Chief Boyd is retired and his position is open right now on the Executive Council. He noted that retired Deputy Chief Boyd was one of the associate voting members and Mr. Fussey commented that retired Deputy Chief Boyd's job in the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association is also being filled. Mr. Fussey stated that Ms. Burnham did send out an email to the Alaska Municipal League and they told her that they will work on trying to get a replacement, but the council does not have one at this time, Mr. Chair, but the OMO is working on it.

Colonel DeAngelis thanked Mr. Fussey for the updates.

8. <u>Next Meeting</u>. Colonel DeAngelis advised the next meeting is scheduled for October 16 at 1:30 pm. Please check your calendars and let Ms. Burnham know if there are any conflicts.

Colonel DeAngelis inquired if there was anything else anyone would like to offer at this time, nothing was heard.

9. <u>Adjourn Meeting</u>. Colonel DeAngelis stated that he would accept a motion and then a second from any of the council members to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Adjourn August 6, 2025, meeting of the ALMR Executive Council.

The motion was made by Director Bradley Wayland and seconded by Deputy Chief Gina Burington. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

Colonel DeAngelis thanked everyone and stated that the meeting was adjourned, and that he would see everyone at the next meeting.

Mr Fussey reminded the council members to look for the email from Ms. Burnham on the budget and thanked everyone.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Colonel Nicholas DeAngelis
DoD – Director of Communications, ANR, & ALCOM
ALMR Executive Council

Distribution:

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