



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



**MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council**

**April 19, 2012**

**FROM: DOD Executive Co-Chair**

**SUBJECT: February 16, 2012, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**TO: See Distribution**

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**Executive Council Members Present:**

Colonel George Hays	Department of Defense (DOD) Alaskan Command
Commissioner Joe Masters	State of Alaska (SOA) Department of Public Safety (via teleconference)
Assistant Special Agent in Charge Darrin Jones	Alaska Federal Executive Association (AFEA) Federal Bureau of Investigations
Chief Jeff Tucker	Alaska Municipal League (AML) North Star Volunteer Fire Department (via teleconference)
Mr. Kevin Spillers	Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Office of Emergency Management (via teleconference)

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

Mr. Pete Murphy	User Council, Vice Chairman
Mr. Del Smith	Operations Manager
Mr. Adam Paulick	SOA ALMR Program Manager
LTC Mike Brown	ALCOM/J60, Deputy J6
Mr. Tim Woodall	Department of Defense PM/QA/QC
Mr. Trygve Erickson	Municipality of Anchorage
Mr. Ken Kucharzak	ALCOM/J61, Operations Division Chief
Ms. Sherry Shafer	Operations Management Office
Ms. Sharon White	Enterprise Technology Services

1. **Call to Order.** Colonel George Hays, Department of Defense (DOD) Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 1:41 p.m.

2. **Opening Statements and Other Announcements.** There were no opening statements

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** Colonel Hays asked the Executive Council if they had reviewed the December minutes and if they had any requested changes. There was no discussion or comments.

**Motion: Approve December 15, 2011, Executive Council meeting minutes, as written.**

The motion was made by Colonel Hays and seconded by Commissioner Joseph Masters. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

4. **Old Business.**

a. Alaska Federal Executive Association (AFEA) Funding. Colonel Hays requested Mr. Tim Woodall update the Executive Council on this item.

Mr. Woodall stated there had been funds transferred from the Federal Non-DOD agencies to the DOD. The BATFE, FBI, NOAA, and the FAA have submitted their documents, but the FAA document was not signed by the agency and had to be returned.

ASAC Darrin Jones was concerned that the paperwork already signed by the FBI was being reviewed by Air Force attorneys at this point in the process.

Mr. Woodall explained that the agreements had been vetted through Air Force legal before they were sent to the agencies. They were now with the representative for Wing support agreements who was waiting for all of them to come in. He stated the reason for this was that the money could not be applied toward the contract CLINs until the full amount was in hand. If they applied a portion of it at a time and were unable to get the full amount to fund the CLIN, then they would have to turn around and figure out a way to return the money to those agencies that had already paid.

ASAC Jones stated it looked like these actions were all retroactive.

Mr. Woodall stated this was true. He stated in the future any agreed upon payments would probably be made to the State directly through independent contracts and that would all be decided when an approach and method were worked out for SOA FY14.

b. Army Site Equipment Divestiture. Mr. Woodall advised the council that the equipment inventory has been completed at all sites which are accessible by road with the exception of Valdez. He explained that the recent, severe snow storms had made it too

dangerous to travel there to do the inventory. Mr. Woodall stated the Ernestine and Divide sites had been scheduled for February 14, but the trip was weathered out and would be rescheduled. Once those are completed, that would leave only Wolcott Mountain to be inventoried.

c. ALMR System Life Cycle and Update. Mr. Woodall briefed the council that the initial quote for the update was a rough order of magnitude (ROM). He also advised that a statement of work had been written to obtain a contract proposal. Mr. Woodall stated he believed there could be up to a half million reduction in the cost from the original ROM.

Mr. Woodall briefed that the Army was already transferring their portion of the funds to support the update, but the Air Force was still working on funding. He stated he believed the DOD would have their portion of the funds to support the update by May.

Colonel Hays stated that Pacific Air Forces had confirmed Eielson would be funded sometime this quarter. He advised that Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson had only been funded for operations and maintenance at this time.

Mr. Kevin Spillers stated it was the intent of the Mayor to pursue the Municipalities portion through the legislature.

Commissioner Masters stated that the Department of Administration was successful in getting the State's portion into the Governor's budget, and they were hopeful it would be funded.

Mr. Del Smith stated he had listened to the last few minutes of the Budget session and that there had been discussion regarding the Cost Share. He stated it sounded like the funds would be in the Governor's amended budget.

Colonel Hays reminded the council members if one of the partners failed to secure funds, the update would fall through.

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

Mr. Pete Murphy, Vice Chair, presented the User Council 2011 Annual Assessment on System Operations and Management Performance to the Executive Council. He stated that the greatest concerns of the User Council (UC) were highlighted in the last paragraph; the aging State of Alaska Telecommunications System (SATS) being the number one concern. He stated that the continual deferral of maintenance had left SATS in such a state of disrepair that it was unreliable.

He advised the Executive Council that the UC wanted to emphasize how important monitoring the status of the sites was. He stated whatever the Cost Share solution was for the future, SATS maintenance needed to be brought up to the standard for the ALMR System. ALMR was dependent on the SATS backbone and if SATS was unreliable, then

ALMR would be unreliable, as well. He advised the Executive Council it was the intent of the UC to be more proactive in the future, versus reactive.

## **6. Operations Management Office (OMO).**

a. 2010-2011 System Metrics Comparison. Mr. Smith presented the 2010 - 2011 System metric comparison charts to the council. He stated that there were no real surprises in the comparison and that the spikes in the counts in 20aa were consistent with previous spikes in 2010.

b. January Metrics. Mr. Smith presented the January 2012 metrics slide and pointed out that over a million calls had already been made in the first month alone. He stated this was a testimonial to the fact ALMR was a viable and useful system.

c. 2011 Annual Information Assurance Audit Report of Findings. Mr. Smith presented the report to the council. He advised that although preparing an annual report was not a contractual requirement of the OMO, provided QA/QC oversight of System Management information assurance was. He stated the report was prepared to demonstrate to the User Council and the Executive Council, the due diligence of the OMO. He advised that monthly checks were done in two specific areas, discrepancies were annotated, and follow-up actions were initiated to ensure they were fully addressed. He also stated an annual security breach of the facility was attempted to ensure the Master Controller for the System was safe.

d. SATS Issues. Mr. Smith referred back to the severe rise in November and December 2011 busies. He advised the council these were due to constant SATS failures during those months. He stressed to the council the symbiotic relationship between ALMR and SATS. Mr. Smith also noted that during the House subcommittee hearing that Director Shier had emphasized the current break/fix maintenance standard in place was insufficient for a critical system and SATS needed a preventive maintenance standard similar to ALMR. He advised that although it was currently included in the proposed 7.9 update, the possibility existed within the software to re-route pathways, making the system 'self-healing' in many aspects. He stated that with the upgrades ETS was also making to SATS, there should be greater system redundancy in the future.

ASAC Jones asked if SATS was a non-critical system and if that was why it was underfunded and poorly maintained.

Mr. Smith advised that SATS was part of the State's critical IT infrastructure, as well as carrying sensitive law enforcement information, information for DOT cameras, and information for forestry.

## **7. New Business.**

a. Cost Share Working Group Update. Commissioner Masters requested that any discussion on Cost Share be postponed until ETS Director Pat Shier was available. He

stated that the Executive Council needed to be prepared to present all available options to the Legislature when the time came.

Mr. Woodall stated that for SOA FY13, the working group had agreed the best decision was to continue with the status quo since there were no funds available within the DOD, and there was no cost share solution decided on yet and there would not be by the beginning of the State fiscal year on July 1, 2012.

Colonel Hays asked if the council should present the motion and vote on the cost share for SOA FY13.

Commissioner Masters asked if they should wait for Director Shier before voting.

Mr. Woodall advised the council that Director Shier had already agreed to this at the February 9 Cost Share Working Group meeting so there was no reason to delay voting.

**Motion: Approve that the existing Cost Share approach and method be continued for State of Alaska Fiscal Year 2013 beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.**

The motion was made by Colonel Hays and seconded by ASAC Jones. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

Colonel Hays stated that currently there were seven proposed approaches and five methods for the future cost share but they hadn't been fully discussed yet. He thought the current options needed to be narrowed, the specifics needed to be better defined, and the numbers for each needed to be run. He stated perhaps the Operations Management Office could help with the statistics

ASAC Jones agreed there were infinite possibilities.

Mr. Woodall asked that the Executive Council provide some specific direction and a timeline to the Cost Share Working Group. He requested the Executive Council provide specific requests for the maximum number of approaches and methods they hoped to see, guidance on the statistical calculations, and a summation of why they were chosen or rejected. He advised this would help the working group to focus on the big picture.

Chief Jeff Tucker requested any further Cost Share discussion be postponed until Director Shier was available.

Colonel Hays tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

b. Interim DOD Co-Chair to the Executive Council. Colonel Hays advised the council this was his last Executive Council meeting as he was out-processing for retirement.

He introduced LTC Mike Brown and stated that LTC Brown had the full authority to act as the ALCOM/J6 and make any necessary decisions as the DOD Co-Chair to the Executive Council until the new J6 arrived sometime in the June or July timeframe.

**8. Next Meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2012, 1:30 p.m. at the Department of Public Safety Training/Conference Room, 5700 E Tudor Road.

**9. Adjourn Meeting.** Colonel Hays adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m.



GEORGE W. HAYS, Colonel, USAF  
Department of Defense Executive Council Co-Chair  
ALMR Executive Council

**Distribution:**

ALCOM/J6, Colonel George Hays  
SOA DPS, Commissioner Joseph Masters  
AFEA, ASAC Darrin Jones  
AML, Chief Jeff Tucker  
MOA, Mr. Kevin Spillers  
ALCOM/J60, LTC Mike Brown  
User Council, Mr. Pete Murphy  
OMO, Mr. Del Smith  
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall  
SOA ETS, Mr. Adam Paulick  
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson