



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



**MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council**

**July 18, 2012**

**FROM: DOD Executive Co-Chair**

**SUBJECT: June 21, 2012, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**TO: See Distribution**

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**Executive Council Members Present:**

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Brown	Department of Defense (DOD) Alaskan Command
Commissioner Joe Masters	State of Alaska (SOA) Department of Public Safety
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:**

Major Matt Leveque	User Council Chairman
Mr. Del Smith	Operations Manager (via teleconference)
Mr. Jim Kohler	Enterprise Technology Services
Mr. Pete Murphy	User Council, Vice Chairman
Mr. Tim Woodall	Department of Defense QA/QC
Mr. Adam Paulick	Enterprise Technology Services
Ms. Sherry Shafer	Operations Management Office

1. **Call to Order.** Lieutenant Colonel Michael Brown, Department of Defense (DOD) Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

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

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

**Motion: Approve April 19, 2011, Executive Council meeting minutes, as written.**

The motion was made by LTC Brown and seconded by Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) Darrin Jones. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

4. **Old Business.**

a. Alaska Federal Executive Association (AFEA) Funding. ASAC Jones stated he was looking for some clarification regarding the previous cost share by the Federal Non-DOD agencies for Federal FY12. He advised that he had received word that at the June 6 User Council meeting, the Department of Defense (DOD) had stated they were no longer going to try to collect funds from the Federal Non-DOD agencies and the debt was to be forgiven. ASAC Jones stated he was prepared to send out a letter but needed verification it was okay to do so.

Mr. Jim Kohler stated that the bureaucracy involved prevented the DOD from collecting the funds. He advised that he had spent the previous week in Juneau with their administrative offices and believed they had a system in place to collect the money that the DOD was unable to collect, to be applied to the State FY13 shared costs. Mr. Kohler stated the State planned to utilize the Interagency Agreement format that was previously sent to the Federal Non-DOD agencies to collect the funds for Federal FY12, but would attach an execution sheet specific to each agency. He advised the State would deal with one agency at a time. Mr. Kohler advised that he should know from the State Administration office whether this system would work by the next week.

The Operations Management Office was requested to disseminate the information on behalf of the State once received from Mr. Kohler.

b. Army Site Equipment Divestiture. LTC Brown requested Mr. Woodall provide the update to this item.

Mr. Tim Woodall advised that the Memorandum of Agreement for the radio frequency (RF) equipment at the remaining 28 sites had been signed at US Army-Pacific (USARPAC) and sent to Mr. Pat Shier for signature. He stated the inventory of all the

equipment was completed in May and all equipment had been re-tagged and photographed.

LTC Brown stated that final formal approval would need to come through the Defense Logistic Agency.

c. ALMR System Life Cycle and Update. LTC Brown requested Mr. Woodall also provide the update to this item.

Mr. Woodall advised the council that the statement of work had been submitted to the headquarters at Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) for review and approval. He stated he expected it to be awarded by June 30.

Mr. Woodall advised the update kickoff meeting was being planned for August, but they were considering delays to allow the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) to search for funding to update the Anchorage Wide Area Radio Network (AWARN).

LTC Brown asked Mr. Kevin Spillers if he had any updates on the funding.

Mr. Spillers stated that they were still seeking funding, but there was nothing concrete. He stated that the MOA may have to rely on MotoBridge® console patches between ALMR and AWARN in the interim.

Mr. Del Smith stated he had spoken to Police Chief Mark Mew and was advised the Mayor intended to approach the Governor to put the request in the FY13 supplemental budget. However, this would not occur until early in CY13. Mr. Smith advised that, like Mr. Spillers had pointed out, the MotoBridge® connectivity was the interim solution and there were already discussion underway regarding the use of the F Regional Zone.

Commissioner Joe Masters offered that this year the Governor had signed the FY12 supplemental and the Capital Budget at the same time. Commissioner Masters requested clarification on if both ALMR and AWARN had to start the update at the same time or otherwise they would have to put a patch in place for the MOA, and Mr. Woodall stated that was correct.

Major Matt Leveque asked if this scenario would require more funds and Mr. Woodall stated there would be no financial impact to the DOD or the State of Alaska (SOA).

LTC Brown expressed concern that the MOA would be required to reconfigure AWARN to separate and then reconfigure to connect back to ALMR after upgrading and that this would have associated costs. He stated one of the primary issues regarding any delay of the update was that all pre-tested software solution (PTSS) activities cease as of 1 July 2012 and no updates or patches would be completed from that date until the upgrade was completed.

Commissioner Masters asked what the risk was in the ten months delay, if ALMR waited until the MOA was able to obtain funds.

Mr. Woodall advised that the DOD would need to meet with the System Management Office, the SOA Security Manager and Motorola® to do a risk assessment, which would be presented to the Designated Approval Authority (DAA) and the Federal partners. Mr. Woodall advised that acceptance of the risks would be required from all the partners.

Commissioner Masters asked if the SOA and DOD moved forward with the update, and the MOA had to look to MotoBridge® as its only connectivity to ALMR, where does the MOA anticipate finding the funding to separate.

Mr. Spillers stated he would have to talk to his "smart guys" for that answer.

LTC Brown asked what the implications and impact of the separation would be at the user level.

Mr. Smith stated connectivity would be greatly limited from what they had today. He advised that he would be meeting with Mr. Casey Borg, the System Manager, and Mr. Jason Beach, MOA, in July to discuss the option of utilizing patches through the MotoBridge®. Currently, the SMO was trying to identify 32 available ports, which would provide 16 talkgroups that could be made available.

Major Leveque stated this was a huge step backwards from what ALMR has been able to establish in terms of interoperability.

LTC Brown requested the Operations Management Office (OMO) have something pulled together by the July Executive Council meeting and Mr. Smith stated they would look at the implications of the risk assessment data, patching through the MotoBridge® and deferring the updates. LTC Brown also asked that OMO or SMO provide regular updates to the Executive Council on what patching is being deferred as a result of the loss of PTSS until the upgrade is completed.

Major Leveque stated this meeting might also be a good venue to discuss the System Upgrade Assistance (SUA) II and the impact regarding the cost of replacing the Gold Elite consoles. He stated he had heard costs ranging from \$100K to \$150K per console.

Mr. Adam Paulick advised that he thought the consoles cost approximately \$67K each.

Major Leveque stated that if the possibility existed to get a better price if they were purchased in quantity, it would be worth approaching Motorola® with the total number of consoles required, rather than one or two at a time

LTC Brown requested Major Leveque socialize that idea with the User Council representatives.

Mr. Smith stated this update was at the 7.9 software version with the election to implement to 7.13. The replacement of the Gold Elite consoles, which would no longer operate at the 7.15 software version, was not anticipated for approximately four years out.

Mr. Jim Kohler advised the council, with regard to the SOA contract for the update, they were lagging behind and it was expected to be executed by mid July.

d. Cost Share Approach and Method. LTC Brown reminded the council members that the formal approval of the approach and method was tabled at the April meeting in order for the DOD and the SOA to meet and vet out those proposed shared costs that the DOD might not contractually be able to execute. He request Mr. Woodall brief the council on the outcome.

Mr. Woodall advised the council that DOD had met with Mr. Pat Shier, Director of ETS, and the contracting officers. The FY14 Cost Share proposal was totally feasible and from the Federal acquisition perspective it was legal to enact. The DOD would sole source to the SOA for services. Additionally, he advised that contracting was also open to all the Federal agencies being included in one contract, but under separate task orders. Mr. Woodall proposed that if the council agreed on the approach, as briefed in April, the DOD would take it to their services for formal approval and bring it to the council at the September meeting. Mr. Woodall also asked why the State could not just use a sole source method based on service provided.

Mr. Kohler stated they were still working on a fair and equitable method from the State's perspective, because the State cannot bill agencies differently. The mix of the different "colors" of money presented an issue.

Major Leveque asked if the concern with different billing methods was because the State was not willing to take the heat in case of an audit.

Mr. Kohler advised that the energy focus was on the issue of 'can we get there from here.'

LTC Brown requested a motion be made to accept the Cost Share approach and method as presented at the April meeting so the partners could take it forward to their agencies for review and approval.

**Motion: Accept the Cost Share Approach and Method for FY14, as introduced at the April meeting by the Cost Share Working Group, to move forward for coordination and acceptance by the member agencies for an anticipated vote of acceptance at the September Executive Council meeting.**

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

e. Operations Management Office Contract. Mr. Woodall advised that the DOD portion of the OMO contract had been awarded.

Mr. Kohler stated the State had the documents completed and they were currently sitting on the contract administrator's desk. He anticipated their execution by July 1.

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

User Council Priority Site List. Major Leveque reminded the council that at the May User Council meeting he had provided them the names of four sites within the ALMR footprint that had been identified for additional capacity and expansion. He stated for the time being, the Goose Creek site had been deleted but the Kenai site was to receive two additional channels and the Kasilof and Peger Road sites would each get one additional channel.

Major Leveque advised the council that the frequencies had been identified by the State and were now in coordination and de-confliction, and once this was complete the equipment could be programmed.

LTC Brown asked if the System Change Request (CR) forms had been submitted yet.

Mr. Smith advised they had not been received yet, but that the assigned frequencies for each site would be required on the CRs and once they were approved the forms could be produced.

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

a. May and June System Statistics. Mr. Del Smith briefed that the busies remained high on the Kenai Peninsula due to the number of new agencies entering into agreements with ALMR. He also stated that although a site at Goose Bay was not currently being addressed, discussions were on-going with the State regarding possibly moving the Fire Station 12 site.

b. Annual Membership Renewals. Mr. Smith advised the council that per the Cooperative Agreement and the OMO contract, all agencies must be contacted annually to renew their membership. He stated that out of the 113 agencies on the System, 65 had responded thus far.

c. ALMR Insider newsletter. Mr. Smith advised the council that the newsletter would resume mid July once the new contracts were finalized, funded and in place.

## **7. New Business.** There was no new business introduced.

**8. Next Meeting.** Due to a conflict with council member schedules, the next meeting was re-scheduled on July 18, 2012, 1:30 p.m. at the Enterprise Technology Services Conference Room, 5900 E Tudor Road.

**9. Adjourn Meeting.** LTC Brown adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m.



JOSEPH MASTERS, Commissioner, DPS  
State of Alaska Co-Chair  
ALMR Executive Council

**Distribution:**

ALCOM/J60, LTC Mike Brown  
SOA DPS, Commissioner Joseph Masters  
AFEA, ASAC Darrin Jones  
AML, Chief Jeff Tucker  
MOA, Mr. Kevin Spillers  
User Council, Major Matt Leveque  
SOA ETS, Director Pat Shier  
OMO, Mr. Del Smith  
SOA ETS, Mr. Adam Paulick  
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall  
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson