



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



MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council

August 16, 2012

FROM: DOD Executive Co-Chair

SUBJECT: July 18, 2012, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes

TO: See Distribution

Executive Council Members Present:

Colonel Scott Moser	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)

ALMR Support Team Members and Guests Present:

Major Matt Leveque	User Council Chairman
Mr. Pete Murphy	User Council Vice Chairman
Mr. Pat Shier	Director, Enterprise Technology Services
Mr. Del Smith	Operations Manager
Mr. Tim Woodall	Department of Defense QA/QC
Mr. Trygve Erickson	Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) (via teleconference)
Ms. Sherry Shafer	Operations Management Office
Ms. Sharon White	Enterprise Technology Services

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

2. **Opening Statements and Other Announcements.** Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) Darrin Jones welcomed Colonel Moser to the Executive Council on behalf of all the Co-chairs.

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

Motion: Approve June 21, 2011, Executive Council meeting minutes, as written.

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

4. **Old Business.**

a. Army Site Equipment Divestiture. Mr. Tim Woodall offered to provide the updates on behalf of the DOD. He stated that the Memorandum of Agreement had been signed between the U.S. Army-Alaska and the State of Alaska (SOA), but he advised the council there was one step remaining. Mr. Woodall informed the council members that the Defense Logistics Agency must provide a final acknowledgement of the transfer of the equipment and that process was underway. He stated it was expected to be completed by the end of July.

b. ALMR System Life Cycle and Update. Mr. Woodall briefed the council the DOD contract was completed on July 8 and that a Notice to Proceed had been issued to Motorola®. He also advised that the kickoff meeting was currently scheduled for mid August. Mr. Woodall stated that the date of the kickoff meeting was contingent upon the SOA completing their contract with Motorola®; otherwise the kickoff would have to be delayed until the SOA actions were finalized.

Mr. Del Smith advised the council with regard to the update and the ongoing issue of the split from the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Anchorage Wide Area Radio Network (AWARN), there had been a meeting on July 12 with many of the key players who would be affected by this separation of systems. He stated the discussions revolved around possible mitigation actions to ensure some level of interoperability would still be available. Mr. Smith advised of the possibility of utilizing the Statewide Region F Interoperable Zone as one of the possible solutions. However, he stressed the fact that the available talkgroups for interoperability would go from 124 talkgroups and 19 simplex frequencies down to 5 or 6 talkgroups total. Mr. Smith stated this would result in a priority usage structure having to be established.

Mr. Smith also advised the council that the Division of Forestry (DOF) had offered the use of their MotoBridge® to provide more available assets.

Mr. Woodall advised there were MotoBridges® in each of the Transportable Communications Systems that might be able to be loaned out. He stated that Motorola® could begin the installation up to version 7.13, which isn't due to be released until December. Mr. Woodall also advised the council that the implementation could be extended/delayed into FY14 pursuant to positive contract actions by the MOA to secure funds for their portion of the update. However, Mr. Woodall pointed out every day of delay puts the System at risk. He explained that the pre-tested software service (PTSS) was on hold. The current contract for PTSS ended on June 30, 2012 and until the System update occurs there is no installation of security patches. Mr. Woodall explained that because of these factors, Colonel Moser, as the Designated Approval Authority (DAA), must either accept the risk to the System or proceed with the update as scheduled to mitigate the risk.

Commissioner Joe Masters stated for clarification purposes, so he understood, that the partners have between this time and when 7.13 goes into effect to worry about the MOA obtaining funds.

Mr. Woodall stated that was correct. He advised that ALMR was one of only two systems still utilizing software version 7.1.1, which was no longer supported by Motorola®. He explained that if the System could be brought up to version 7.4, there were hundreds of other systems still utilizing this software version. This would allow the PTTSS to resume and close the current vulnerabilities.

c. Cost Share Approach and Method. Mr. Pat Shier, Director ETS, volunteered to brief the council on this agenda item. He stated the SOA had examined System usage by the agencies from the 2011 calendar year based on air time. He reminded the council that at the last meeting they were advised the Cost Share Working Group had agreed on an 88/12 Cost Share based on percentage of infrastructure ownership. The State was now examining how to allocate some of their cost share portion to the user agencies.

Director Shier advised that he had attended a meeting in Kenai, along with Mr. Leon Morgan, with the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the municipalities. The purpose was to discuss the lack of use of ALMR on the peninsula. A practical demonstration was provided to the Central Emergency Services (CES) chief on the capabilities ALMR offers.

Director Shier advised that, when the subject of cost share was broached, some of the agencies were not opposed, but that Seward specifically voiced that a per-handset approach was not viable. Director Shier advised that the Alaska Municipal League was also at the meeting and stated they would not participate in ALMR if there was a cost share. Director Shier advised that there was still work to do with these groups and they

would re-look at the approach before it was provided to the third floor. However, he stated the Department of Administration (DOA) had approved it as of yesterday.

ASAC Jones asked if he could get a list of the Federal Non-DOD agencies that the cost share had already been discussed with.

Director Shier stated he had spoke with Ms. Bev Fronterhouse at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and he had gotten sufficient feedback from her to realize that they needed to go back to the table and rework the approach.

ASAC Jones asked if the final decision would be implemented through a contract or through billing, and Director Shier advised the State would use billing. ASAC Jones asked if the mechanism would be the same as the State agencies utilize so that the Federal Non-DOD agencies would have some predictability in future years and Director Shier stated that this same issue had been discussed with Bev.

Mr. Del Smith stated that the Operations Management Office had spoken to a number of the agencies, and most were willing to pay something, but not a per subscriber fee.

d. Operations Management Office Contract. Mr. Woodall stated that the DOD contract had been awarded on July 1, but he did not know the status of the SOA contract.

Mr. Smith advised that the SOA contract had been awarded on July 8. He stated that the State had also included funds to provide training this year and there was a session scheduled at the Department of Corrections next week. Mr. Smith also briefed that the Bear Creek Fire Service Area had also inquired.

Director Shier advised that while he was in Kenai with Mr. Morgan, there was one very vocal person opposed to ALMR, but by the time they left this individual had begun to turn his attitude around and a real-time radio demonstration call at the meeting by the Kenai Peninsula School District demonstrated the reach back capabilities of the System.

5. User Council Update.

User Council Priority Site List. Major Matt Leveque updated the council on the four sites identified for additional capacity and expansion. He reminded the council members that the Goose Bay site had been put on hold, but the frequencies had been identified for the Kenai, Kasilof and Peger Road sites and were currently in coordination. Major Leveque advised the council that once the frequencies were approved, the necessary equipment could be ordered.

Mr. Smith briefed the council that there were on-going discussions between the OMO, Systems Management Office (SMO) and ETS about moving Fire Station 12 (FS12) to Goose Bay. He advised that the OMO was going to perform some different types of

testing to see if other sites in the area would provide the same coverage for the area that FS12 currently provides. Mr. Smith stated the OMO would first exclude the site from the OMO subscribers to prevent them from looking for it and then they would take the site offline completely. He advised these tests should provide adequate information regarding any coverage issues created by removing the site. Mr. Smith briefed that FS12 is a ten-channel site and by removing the site, six channels could be utilized to increase capacity at some of the other three-channel sites, which get overloaded during events, and the other four channels could be utilized for the new Goose Bay site.

6. Operations Management Office (OMO).

a. June System Statistics. Mr. Smith briefed there were no surprises with the June statistics but that the System had once again exceeded a million push to talks. He stated this proves ALMR is a valuable asset to public safety first responders in Alaska and that it is being utilized daily.

b. Annual Membership Renewals. Mr Smith advised that the Membership Agreements for all 113 agencies on the System had been renewed for FY13.

7. New Business.

Mr. Smith advised the council that the OMO was preparing the draft FY14 OMO/SMO budget document and that the plan was to get it approved by the User Council at their August 1 meeting and then present it to the Executive Council at their August 16 meeting. It would then be ready to provide to the State for their budget cycle.

8. Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2012, 1:30 p.m. at the Department of Public Safety Training Conference Room, 5700 E Tudor Road.

9. Adjourn Meeting. Colonel Moser asked if there were any other items for discussion. Hearing none, he requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Adjourn the July monthly Executive Council meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.



SCOTT E. MOSER, Colonel, ALCOM/J6
Department of Defense Alaska Co-Chair
ALMR Executive Council

Distribution:

ALCOM/J60, Colonel Scott Moser
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