



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



**MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council**

**April 18, 2013**

**FROM: DOD Executive Co-Chair**

**SUBJECT: March 21, 2013, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**TO: See Distribution**

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**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)
Lt Ken Spadafora	Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) - Office of Emergency Management

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

Major Matt Leveque	User Council Chairman - Alaska State Troopers (via teleconference)
Mr. Del Smith	Operations Manager, ALMR
Mr. Adam Paulick	Acting Director, Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)
Mr. Jim Kohler	ETS Telecommunications Special Projects Administrator (via teleconference)
Mr. Tim Woodall	Department of Defense QA/QC
Mr. Bruce Richter	Office of Emergency Communications Region X Coordinator

Ms. Sherry Shafer

Operations Management Office (via  
teleconference)

Ms. Sharon White

Enterprise Technology Services  
(via teleconference)

1. **Call to Order.** Colonel Scott Moser, Department of Defense (DOD) Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

2. **Opening Statements and Other Announcements.** There were none.

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** Colonel Moser asked the Executive Council if they had reviewed the February meeting minutes and if they had any requested changes. Hearing no changes, Colonel Moser requested a motion be made.

**Motion: Approve February 21, 2013, Executive Council meeting minutes, as written.**

The motion was made by Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) Jones to accept the minutes with the proposed change and seconded by Commissioner Joe Masters. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

#### 4. **Old Business.**

a. State of Alaska (SOA) tower at Donnelly Dome. Colonel Moser asked Mr. Tim Woodall to provide the update on this issue. Mr. Woodall advised the council due to the length of time that had passed the package had to be re-accomplished. He stated it had already been sent to Pacific Air Force (PACAF) and from there it would go to Air Force Realty.

Colonel Moser advised he would contact PACAF tomorrow and check on the status.

Mr. Woodall briefed that the Alaskan Command (ALCOM) had asked for approval to move forward without the paperwork, but were not approved to do so.

b. Operations Management Office (OMO) FY14 contract. Mr. Woodall advised the council that the DOD was now outside of the contract completion window and could no longer pursue a sole source contract at this time. He stated DOD was looking at extending the current contract anywhere from one to three months but the difficulty with doing this is the different pricing based on the new cost share. Mr. Woodall briefed he had been in contact with Ms. Karen Morgan, Wostmann & Associates Inc., and she was going to provide him with the pricing. He also advised the council the State could also not extend their contract with the FY14 cost increases included. Mr. Woodall stated the final issue with the extension was that the current contract allocation of 50 percent was not projected with the services, only the 12 percent based on the new cost share.

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

Major Matt Leveque briefed the council that the State had uploaded their State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) application to FirstNet. He explained that FirstNet is charged with developing and deploying a public safety long-term evolution (LTE) interoperable data network across the United States.

Major Leveque advised that if accepted, the grant program will enable Alaska to tell the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and FirstNet what networks Alaska has currently and how we think FirstNet should deploy the LTE network in Alaska. Another objective of the SLIGP is to enhance Statewide Interoperability Governance Bodies (SIGB). He explained that currently the state's SIGB is the Alaska Interoperable Communications Committee (AKICC) which is kind of an orphan at the moment. Major Leveque advised that Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management has agreed to transfer the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) functions to DPS. Combining that responsibility with the State 911 Coordinator, who is already within DPS may allow for greater coordination. Commissioner Masters stated a lot of the responsibility for pulling these functions together had fallen on Major Leveque and requested he address the perception that FirstNet will take over voice communications.

Major Leveque advised the council this is absolutely not the case. Major Leveque explained that while LTE can support voice communications, FirstNet was intended to be a data network, first and foremost. Secondly, LTE doesn't currently offer 'mission critical' voice reliability and experts say that it could be many years before that capability is reached. Major Leveque briefed that we will need to maintain ALMR for the foreseeable future.

Commissioner Masters emphasized that it was important for council members to head off any discussions this would be a replacement for ALMR.

Mr. Smith advised the council he was at the International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) the previous week and there had been a lot of presentations regarding LTE. He briefed the council there would be an article in the April edition of the *Insider* newsletter to cover the point that it would not replace ALMR. Mr. Smith pointed out that currently the ALMR System has 83 sites to cover the current footprint. He stated with the LTE system, you would probably need a 100 more sites in between.

Colonel Moser asked if the idea was that this would be a state-owned system.

Major Leveque stated no; at this point the expectation is that while states will have significant roles in controlling system access and availability, FirstNet is the organization that will own the network(s) across all 56 states and territories. In addition, there was no business plan developed yet so there is no way to estimate what it might cost for agencies to participate once the network was established in Alaska. There are expectations that FirstNet will attempt to leverage existing infrastructure, including that

owned by cities, utilities, commercial carriers and the state, but that those might be difficult agreements to negotiate due to first responders' needs to preempt all (or most) non first responders during major emergencies.

Colonel Moser briefed the council there were cases he recalled where commercial carriers had solicited the DOD, but were turned down. He stated they don't understand the complexities of public safety networks.

Major Leveque briefed that the future costs are unknown but it had been sold to Congress highlighting the function of streaming video.

ASAC Jones stated the Federal Bureau of Investigation had paid significantly more for something like it and it was not economically feasible.

Mr. Smith stated he could not foresee Verizon putting sites where it was not economical.

## **6. Operations Management Office.**

a. System Metrics. Mr. Del Smith presented the February System metrics to the council. He stated they were about where they would normally be expected for this time of year.

b. Kenai and Kasilof sites. Mr. Smith advised the council that both the Kenai and Kasilof sites had capacity upgrades the previous week. Kenai received two new channels and Kasilof received one new channel. Mr. Smith briefed that both sites saw zero busies over the weekend immediately following the upgrade but he was anxious to see the metrics after a week's time.

c. Clear site. Mr. Smith advised the council that the Clear AFS personnel's radios were prohibited from accessing the Clear site and the effect of increased traffic on the other sites in the area was being monitored.

d. 7.13 Migration. Mr. Smith briefed the council that the project teams and the OMO are soon to start meeting via teleconference every Tuesday with Motorola® and the system cutover is expected to occur August 5 - 20.

Colonel Moser asked when the migration was expected to be finished.

Mr. Woodall explained that the migration would be completed by the end of August but after that there would still be an Acceptance Test Procedure to do, as well as an information assurance scan which takes approximately two weeks. He advised the current Motorola® contract runs into October but this could not and would not occur; everything had to be finalized prior to the end of the current Federal fiscal year.

Mr. Smith advised he had been in touch with the dispatch centers finding out what they intended to do during outages. He stated he also understood Motorola® was up to do some pre-testing with the Anchorage Wide Area Radio Network (AWARN) and they had been unable to get past 7.5, although AWARN has the latest equipment installed. Mr. Smith briefed the council that all the project teams are working together to mitigate the impacts to the users to the greatest extent possible.

Mr. Woodall stated the one thing that everyone cannot predict is the number and length of the outages.

e. Service Level Agreement (SLA) change. Mr. Smith briefed the council that recently the User Council had approved the new System Key Management Procedure and the language in the new procedure is the most up-to-date processes required for System security. However, he advised that these new procedures make a section of one of the SLA attachments obsolete. Mr. Smith stated the OMO proposes to do a change as a SLA attachment to correct this, which would cover only those affected pages and they would be marked accordingly. He advised the front cover would also be annotated to reflect the change, the same as it was when the service response times were changed by the State for their sites. Mr. Smith stated it was not a substantial change requiring a new SLA be signed.

Colonel Moser asked if those individuals doing the work had seen the new procedure.

Mr. Smith briefed that the new procedure had been sent out and also posted to the web site. He advised there is no timeline to change the SLA, but it is currently in conflict.

Colonel Moser asked the other council members to review the changes and be prepared to vote at the next meeting.

## **7. New Business.**

a. System Change Requests (CRs). Mr. Smith advised the council members there were a number of CRs for approval and with the council's permission; he would get signatures after the end of the meeting. There were no objections to this request.

b. State Budget. Mr. Jim Kohler requested to provide a short overview of where the State budget process was at. He stated at the last meeting the House Finance Sub-committee had hacked out significant dollars from the budget; however, the House Finance Committee had returned the \$500K back in general funds to cover municipal contributions toward the cost share. Mr. Kohler briefed the House Finance Committee let the Department of Administration increment request for \$600K reduction by the Finance sub-committee stand. He stated the Senate Finance Sub-committee was much friendlier toward the budget as a whole and he was very optimistic the Senate budget version would have full funding included. Mr. Kohler advised it should be released next week after the Senate passes their version. He stated, as a whole, it looks a lot better than a month ago.

Commissioner Masters advised there was a lot of participation by key stakeholders including the Department of Administration, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Safety and the Alaska Municipal League, which was in sharp contrast to the years prior.

c. State Legislative Audit. Mr. Smith advised the council that the OMO was still dealing with the State audit providing information and documents as they were requested. He stated auditors had requested all the information be provided by April 3

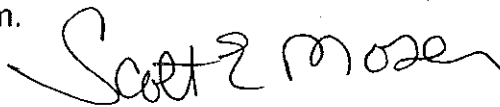
**8. Next Meeting.** Colonel Moser briefed the next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2013, 1:30 p.m. at the Department of Public Safety Training/Conference Room, 5700 E Tudor Road.

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

**Motion: Adjourn the March monthly Executive Council meeting.**

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:14 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, Lt Ken Spadafora  
User Council, Major Matt Leveque  
OMO, Mr. Del Smith  
SOA ETS, Mr. Adam Paulick  
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall  
SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Kohler  
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson