



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



MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council

August 15, 2013

FROM: DOD Executive Co-Chair

SUBJECT: May 16, 2013, 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

Lt Ken Spadafora

Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) -
Anchorage Police Department

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. Tim Woodall

Department of Defense QA/QC

Mr. Tyrgve Erickson

Municipality of Anchorage (via
teleconference)

Ms. Sherry Shafer

Operations Management Office (via
teleconference)

1. Call to Order. Colonel Scott Moser, Department of Defense (DOD) Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Opening Statements and Other Announcements. Colonel Moser asked if there were any announcements. There were none.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes. Colonel Moser asked the Executive Council if they had reviewed the April meeting minutes and if they had any requested changes. Hearing no changes, Colonel Moser proposed the following motion.

Motion: Approve April 18, 2013, Executive Council meeting minutes, as written.

The motion to accept the minutes was made by Colonel Moser 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 update the group on the status. Mr. Woodall stated the package had been completed. Colonel Moser recommended the item be **closed**.

b. Operations Management Office (OMO) FY14 contract. Colonel Moser asked Mr. Woodall for an update. Mr. Woodall stated the contract was out for solicitation and that the original application period had been extended by two weeks until June 7. He advised this would cause complications for the DOD and put the plan to sole source to the State of Alaska (SOA) in jeopardy.

Mr. Jim Kohler asked if SOA could provide DOD with a not to exceed cost and Mr. Woodall advised him to contact Ms. Michelle Cameron at Contracting; she would provide the number DOD had. Mr. Kohler stated he would follow up with the SOA contracting officer in the morning. He stated it looked like there would be a number of proposals submitted.

5. User Council Update.

Major Matt Leveque advised the User Council (UC) had made their selections for the next sites to be upgraded/added with significant input from Mr. Adam Paulick. Major Leveque stated the council had made some suggestions to SOA on capital funds for new sites or enhancements.

Major Leveque briefed the UC guidance to the SOA Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) had been first to identify existing sites in Delta to improve coverage in the Jack Warren Road area or to consider adding a new green site and the second suggestion was to explore enhancements at Chena Hot Springs Road. He explained the issue with

adding green sites was the cost. Major Leveque advised the final option was to purchase repeaters to add to existing ALMR sites to reduce busies.

6. Operations Management Office.

a. 7.13 System Migration. Mr. Del Smith briefed the council that Motorola™ was in town and had met with the dispatchers from the Kenai Peninsula Borough, MATCOM and Anchorage on Tuesday and they had also spoke to Seward dispatchers on Monday. He advised there had been a GoToMeeting® this morning with dispatchers in Fairbanks; the Southeast had also been invited to participate but only Mr. Cory Dodd, Juneau Police Department, had attended. Mr. Smith and Motorola™ both thought it had been a good meeting and allowed the dispatchers to get a lot of their questions answered and the challenges of cutover during the Red Flag exercise at Eielson were also discussed.

Mr. Smith advised that Mr. Casey Borg, System Manager, had escorted Motorola™ to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) on Tuesday and they had met with Mr. William Mitchell, 673rd Communications Squadron, to visit the dispatch areas.

Mr. Woodall advised there were issues up North with the Army because they now wanted to not only move equipment, but also add more. He stated he was currently working on the contract modifications.

b. Clear Site. Mr. Smith advised he had spoken with Mr. Borg and the plan was still to remove the equipment at the end of the month and possibly utilize it at the Birch Hill site to do cutover testing, as well as pre-install one channel at the Nenana site.

Mr. Woodall advised he was also working with Clear Air Force Station (AFS) personnel investigating implementing a site on Clear proper. He advised they had been provided a rough order of magnitude (ROM) for moving the equipment, as well as maintenance costs including the System Upgrade Assistance (SUA). Mr. Woodall stated the DOD would hold four channels at Birch Hill to give them the opportunity to make a decision. If they decided against putting a site at Clear AFS, then the plan was to transfer the equipment to SOA for use in other North Zone sites.

Commissioner Masters stated he was confused as to why the equipment would be pulled out just to be put back in.

Mr. Woodall stated the DOD was currently leasing space in an AT&T shelter and on their tower and the equipment would be removed from there and moved onto Clear AFS. He briefed initially the plan had been to install it on Clear AFS in the beginning.

Colonel Moser emphasized it was Clear AFS leadership who made the decision to put it off site, not the Executive Council or the Project Team.

c. State of Alaska Audit. Mr. Smith briefed that the audit was completed to his knowledge. The Operations Management Office (OMO) had received no further questions in the past two weeks.

Mr. Woodall advised the auditor had been previously been requesting information regarding the DOD from the OMO and System Management Office (SMO) and those offices had forwarded the questions to him. He stated he directed the auditors to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) process.

d. FY14 Membership Agreement. Mr. Smith advised the council that the UC had approved the new draft of the Membership Agreement, which now contains cost share language specific to each of the entities. He stated both Mr. Kohler and Mr. Woodall had seen and approved the language changes.

Mr. Smith advised the council the agreements needed to be completed by the end of June so the OMO would like to get them out as soon as possible.

Commissioner Masters asked why there were no areas to add calculated amounts for the DOD.

Mr. Woodall explained the contracts were not awarded yet so the amounts could not be entered. He advised based on budgetary constraints, the amounts could not be changed once they were provided to the agencies; therefore, the DOD would notify the agencies directly of their cost share once the contracts were awarded.

Colonel Moser stated he would like all the DOD membership agreements sent to him and he would work with the agencies on getting the signatures after the contracts were awarded and the cost share amounts were determined.

Mr. Smith asked the council if they were comfortable approving the new Membership Agreement or would they prefer more time to review it. All present stated they were comfortable approving it at this time.

Colonel Moser requested a motion be made to approval the revised Membership Agreement as presented.

Motion: Approve the revised Membership Agreement, as written.

The motion to accept the Membership Agreement was made by Commissioner Masters and seconded by Colonel Moser. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

e. April Metrics. Mr. Smith advised the council the large increase in busies was due to an exercise on JBER. Mr. Mitchell, who is the JBER representative on the UC, had done some research into it and found it was largely attributed to operator error.

f. Operations Management Office/System Management Office Budget. Mr. Smith advised the council the OMO was currently working on the FY15 Budget and intended to have it to the UC in June and the Executive Council in August for their approval. This timeframe syncs the submission with the SOA budget process.

7. New Business.

a. Site Upgrades. Mr. Adam Paulick advised the council that ETS would not move forward with adding a site at North Pole. He explained the issues with the area were more focused on portable coverage not mobile coverage to which the ALMR System is designed. Mr. Paulick stated the UC had made the decision.

Mr. Smith advised the UC had individuals who live and work in the area were involved in the testing and the decision.

b. New ETS Director. M. Paulick advised the council that the new ETS Director was Mr. Jim Bates, who had asked him and Mr. Kohler to continue to work with both the UC and the Executive Council on his behalf.

c. Parks Highway Microwave Outage. Mr. Paulick explained ETS is currently doing a lot of work along the Parks Highway to establish alternate communications paths. He advised during a recent incident the one set up for the Parks Highway area did not pick up all the paths and there was a cascading outage in the North Zone. Mr. Paulick stated Motorola™ had been replacing switches in the area but that they were not at fault and he wanted to make that clear. He briefed that ETS was essentially doubling the bandwidth capability between Anchorage and Fairbanks and they would be doing their best to ensure this type of incident does not occur again.

Mr. Smith stated ETS efforts over the past couple years had made vast improvements to the System reliability.

d. System Upgrade Assistance (SUA). Mr. Woodall advised the council he had briefed the UC at their May meeting regarding the decisions to be made on how to approach the financing of the upgrades over the long term by utilizing operations and maintenance (O&M) versus capital funds.

He stated the current SUA ends in June 2014 so a new contract will have to be put in place. Mr. Woodall briefed the decision must be made as to whether they want to go beyond 7.15 or freeze the System. He advised the drawback to moving forward is some of the infrastructure will be at its end-of-life if they move beyond 7.15 and that will entail additional cost to replace the equipment and would also present a Defense Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation (DIACAP) control issue. He stated a decision needed to be made by the UC in the next 60 days.

Mr. Woodall advised that Motorola™ would be presenting a detailed life cycle management briefing at the June UC meeting. He stated he had requested Motorola™

prepare a SUA contract which offers not only the SUA costs, but also includes the costs to upgrade of equipment over a number of years. Mr. Woodall briefed the Quantars reached their end of life in 2012, although they are being supported for two years beyond that then must be replaced by GTRs. He stated the System could be frozen and no updates applied until 2022, but this creates the DIACAP issue once again.

Colonel Moser advised the council they planned on doing a cost analysis.

Mr. Smith stated with the implementation of 7.15 update, the Gold Elite consoles would require replacement and this is a major concern to many of the agencies; consoles are not cheap and they have no funds to replace them.

e. Transportable Area North (TAN) Deployment. Colonel Moser advised the council the DOD planned to deploy the TAN for an exercise this summer to Valdez and utilize it in conjunction with the city in preparation for Arctic Shield 2014.

8. Next Meeting. Colonel Moser briefed the next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 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 proposed a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Adjourn the May monthly Executive Council meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:06 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
SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Bates
User Council, Major Matt Leveque
OMO, Mr. Del Smith
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall
SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Kohler
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson
SOA ETS, Mr. Adam Paulick