



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



**MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council**

**April 8, 2015**

**FROM: SOA Co-Chair**

**SUBJECT: April 16, 2015, Meeting Agenda**

**TO: See Distribution**

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1. **Call to Order.** (5 min) Deputy Commissioner Terry Vrabec, State of Alaska (SOA) Co-Chair will call the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The roll will be taken.
2. **Opening Statements and Other Announcements.** (5 min)
3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** (5 min, Deputy Commissioner Vrabec) Review of the draft minutes from the March Executive Council meeting. (Atch 1)

The following motion is offered to the council for consideration.

**Motion: Approve March 19, 2015, Executive Council meeting minutes, as presented.**

4. **Old Business.** (10 min)

ALMR/AWARN Codicil to the Cooperative Agreement.

**Update 3/19:** Colonel Hoang advised the group that he had the hard copy signed by the Governor in hand and that he was preparing a Talking Paper and hoped to get it signed within the next week. Mr. Tim Woodall was putting together the staffing documents for it to go to the General.

5. **User Council Update.** (5 min, Major Matt Leveque)

Vacancies. Ms. Bev Fronterhouse, the current Federal Non-DOD Bureau of Land Management (BLM) advised, a few months back, that she would be moving on to focus on other areas. A letter of nomination was received from the Department of Interior –

BLM for her replacement and to appoint an alternate to the position vacated by Mr. Mike Lewis, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS), when he moved to a new position.

The following proposed motion is offered for consideration:

**Motion: Approve the nomination for the appointment of Mr. Kent Gale, Bureau of Land Management-Alaska Fire Service, and Mr. John Wolfe, US Fish and Wildlife Service, as the respective primary and alternate Federal Non-DOD Department of Interior representatives to the ALMR User Council.**

Vacancies still exist for Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson primary and alternate, SOA Department of Public Safety (DPS) alternate, Southeast-Municipalities alternate and the US Army-Alaska (USARAK) alternate representatives.

**NOTE:** This item will remain **OPEN** on the agenda until resolution.

**6. Operations Management Office.** (15 min, Mr. Del Smith)

- a. Service Level Agreement
- b. Infrastructure Operations and Maintenance Services (IOMS) contract
- c. March System metrics (Atch 2)

**7. New Business.** (20 min)

**8. Next Meeting.** (5 min, Deputy Commissioner Vrabec) The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2015, 1:30 p.m. at the Enterprise Technology Services Conference Room, 5900 E Tudor Road.

**9. Adjourn Meeting.** (5 min, Deputy Commissioner Vrabec)



Terry Vrabec, Deputy Commissioner  
State of Alaska, Department of Public Safety  
ALMR Executive Council

2 Attachments:

1. Draft March Meeting Minutes
2. March System Metrics

**Distribution:**

SOA DPS, Deputy Commissioner Terry Vrabec

ALCOM/J6, Colonel Harold Hoang

AML, Ms. Linda Murphy

MOA, Lt Ken Spadafora

SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Bates

SOA DPS, Major Matt Leveque

SOA ETS, Mr. Scott Stormo

ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall

OMO, Mr. Del Smith

MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson

MOA, Mr. Jason Beach



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



**MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council**

**April XX, 2015**

**FROM: SOA Executive Co-Chair**

**SUBJECT: March 19, 2015, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

**TO: See Distribution**

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**Executive Council Members Present:**

Deputy Commissioner Terry Vrabec

State of Alaska (SOA) – Department of Public Safety (DPS) (via teleconference)

Colonel Harold Hoang

Department of Defense (DOD) – Alaskan Command (ALCOM)/J6

Lt Ken Spadafora

Municipality of Anchorage – Anchorage Police Department

Ms. Linda Murphy

Alaska Municipal League (AML)

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

Major Matt Leveque  
Mr. Del Smith

SOA DPS and User Council Chair  
Operations Manager, ALMR (via teleconference)

Mr. Tim Woodall  
Mr. Trygve Erickson

DOD ALMR Program Manager  
Municipality of Anchorage  
Communications Manager (via teleconference)

Mr. Dean Strid  
Mr. Rich Leber  
Mr. John Rockwell  
Ms. Sherry Shafer

Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)  
Technical Advisor, ALMR  
SOA Department of Public Safety  
Operations Management Office  
(via teleconference)

**1. Call to Order.** Deputy Commissioner Terry Vrabec, State of Alaska (SOA) Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

**2. Opening Statements and Other Announcements.** Deputy Commissioner Vrabec asked the group if there were any announcements. There were none.

**3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** Deputy Commissioner Vrabec asked the Executive Council (EC) members if they had reviewed the February meeting minutes and had any comments.

Hearing no comments, Deputy Commissioner Vrabec made the following motion for approval.

**Motion: Approve the February 19 Executive Council meeting minutes, as presented.**

The motion was seconded by Colonel Harold Hoang. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

**4. Old Business.**

Codicil to the ALMR Cooperative Agreement. Deputy Commissioner Vrabec stated the council had been working on this for some time and asked if there was an update on the status.

Colonel Hoang advised the group that he had the hard copy signed by the Governor in hand and that he was preparing a Talking Paper and hoped to get it signed within the next week.

Mr. Tim Woodall stated he was putting together the staffing documents for it to go to the General.

Mr. Del Smith advised the council that once the General signed the document, the Operations Management Office (OMO) would get it to the Mayor for signature.

**5. User Council Update.**

a. Budget discussions. Major Matt Leveque briefed the group he was unsure what the current proposed budget cuts would mean for the Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR) Communications System. He stated he had recently spoken to Department of Administration Deputy Commissioner Boucher and there was a \$1.2M deficit in the current proposed budget documents split between the State of Alaska Telecommunications System (SATS) and ALMR.

Major Leveque also advised the group that the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP) had written a letter to the Governor and Legislators regarding their concerns over the funding for ALMR.

b. Vacancies. Major Leveque updated the council that the Deputy Commissioner Vrabec had received a nomination to fill the SOA All Others primary User Council (UC) position

and was in support of the candidate. Therefore, Major Leveque offered the following motion for the council's consideration.

**Motion: Approve the nomination for the appointment of Mr. Nathan Skinner as the primary SOA-All Others representative to the ALMR User Council.**

Deputy Commissioner Vrabec asked the council members if there was any discussion regarding the nomination and there was none.

The motion was then made by Deputy Commissioner Vrabec and seconded by Colonel Harold Hoang. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

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

a. Service Level Agreement (SLA). Mr. Smith advised the council the agreement had been sent to ALCOM to route to the service components for signature.

b. GTR8000s. Mr. Smith stated the new GTR8000 equipment was in place at R1 North and in both of the transportable communications systems. He explained the new equipment replaced 20 Quantars® and that Mr. Scott Stormo, ETS SATS Manager, had expressed interested in obtaining them from the DOD if no other Federal agencies requested them.

Mr. Smith noted if ETS was able to obtain the Quantars®, they would be utilized to add capacity to a list of prioritized sites developed by the UC and ETS and as spares.

c. Clear AFS Site. Mr. Smith briefed the site was installed a couple weeks ago and he had participated in a teleconference with the installation commander and staff regarding ALMR. He explained the System Management Office (SMO) technicians would be going to the site to do some in-building testing, as well.

d. February System Metrics. Mr. Smith explained there was a lull in the push to talks but this was normal for this time of year and also February being a shorter month, contributes to the lower numbers.

e. International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE)/FirstNet Discussions. Mr. Smith advised the council members he was currently attending the IWCE and during the session on FirstNet it was briefed they had added comments to their web page making it clear that FirstNet would have no mission-critical voice for some period of time. FirstNet members strongly emphasized that land mobile radio (LMR) for public safety communications would be required for a long time to come and that existing LMR systems must be maintained and updated, accordingly.

Deputy Commissioner Vrabec stated that DPS was very concerned about what was happening in the Legislature regarding funding cuts for ALMR and SATS and had testified several times on the importance of it. Deputy Commissioner Vrabec also expressed his appreciation to Major Leveque regarding his efforts toward this, as well.

## **7. New Business.**

a. Meeting with the Governor. Major Leveque advised the group he was scheduled to meet with the Governor for approximately a half hour to discuss “all things communications related.” He noted he had his presentation laid out regarding what the State needed to do with regard to FirstNet and statewide interoperability governance.

b. MatSu Borough. Mr. Woodall stated he had a concern, more than an action item, to present to the council. He advised them the spectrum agreement was up for renewal with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and that ALMR needed to show their commitment.

Mr. Woodall briefed that one thing the FCC had requested during the approval of the waiver was that the Executive Council be recognized as the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) because there was no SIEC appointed by the Governor. He advised one of the responsibilities of the SIEC is to look at the spectrum from a usage perspective and he had discovered the MatSu Borough was adding sites that were not associated with ALMR.

Mr. Woodall stated his concern in this area was that MatSu was obtaining spectrum within the spectrum given to ALMR and the National Coordinator had not worked with ALMR on this, which would make it difficult for ALMR to add channels in the future. He advised if there was an SIEC appointed by the Governor, they would have been allowed to look at the requested spectrum by MatSu and weigh in.

Mr. Dean Strid noted that the FCC waiver granted SOA the priority but the National Coordinator was not respecting that authority. He emphasized that there was an urgent need to ensure the spectrum assignments were made according to the waiver.

Major Leveque advised that he was preparing a briefing for the Governor regarding this issue and if the Governor signed off on it, it would establish an SIEC.

Mr. Woodall stated it was critical that ALMR do something because this was an encroachment on the band of spectrum given to ALMR and no one else was supposed to use it. He advised it would not be a bad idea if the Executive Council reached out to the MatSu Borough and communicated their concerns and also asked MatSu what their intentions were because the system they were building was not interoperable like ALMR.

Colonel Hoang stated that would probably be a conversation with Mr. George Hays and Mr. Woodall advised it could also be the borough manager, as well.

Mr. Strid briefed it appeared they were interested in staying within the VHF band but they wanted to build their own system rather than expand ALMR into the MatSu Valley.

Mr. Woodall briefed they could do something similar to what the Municipality of Anchorage had done and still share controllers with ALMR. This would mean they still owned and operated their system just like with AWARN.

Colonel Hoang stated it was worth a discussion to see how far down that path MatSu had already gone.

Mr. Trygve pointed out that MatSu had reached out to them. He stated Mr. Dennis Brodigan, Borough Manager, realized that ALMR is where they need to be but they are uncertain until they receive clarity on the cost of being on ALMR.

Mr. Smith advised that every conversation he had ever heard with the MatSu Borough staff was that there was no assurance on the cost and also the budgets being put forth from Juneau just amplified their concerns. Mr. Smith briefed that the speaker from Wyoming at IWCE emphasized one of the biggest bars to interoperability is charging agencies to be on a system. Wyoming and a couple of other statewide systems similar to ALMR don't charge and they don't have these issues.

Deputy Commissioner Vrabec stated that after Major Leveque's meeting with the Governor, the council should set up a meeting with MatSu. He noted this should also be readdressed at the next meeting.

c. User Council Vacancies. Colonel Hoang advised the members he was engaged with the 673<sup>rd</sup> Communications Squadron (673CS) regarding filling the UC vacancies for Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) and the Communications Squadron was committed to filling one of the positions. Colonel Hoang briefed he was also enlisting the Mission Support Group (MSG) and the Civil Engineers (CE) commanders to get their assistance in filling the other position from a first responder position. He stated hopefully they would be filled in the near future.

Mr. Woodall noted the primary position would be a public safety responder and Mr. Smith agreed the technical person should be the alternate.

**8. Next Meeting.** Deputy Commissioner Vrabec briefed the next meeting is scheduled for April 16, at 1:30 p.m. at 5900 E Tudor Road in the Enterprise Technology Services Conference Room.

**9. Adjourn Meeting.** Deputy Commissioner Vrabec asked if there were any other items for council discussion.

Hearing no comments, Deputy Commissioner Vrabec made the following motion for approval.

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

The motion was seconded by Colonel Hoang. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

Terry Vrabec, Deputy Commissioner DPS  
State of Alaska Co-Chair  
ALMR Executive Council

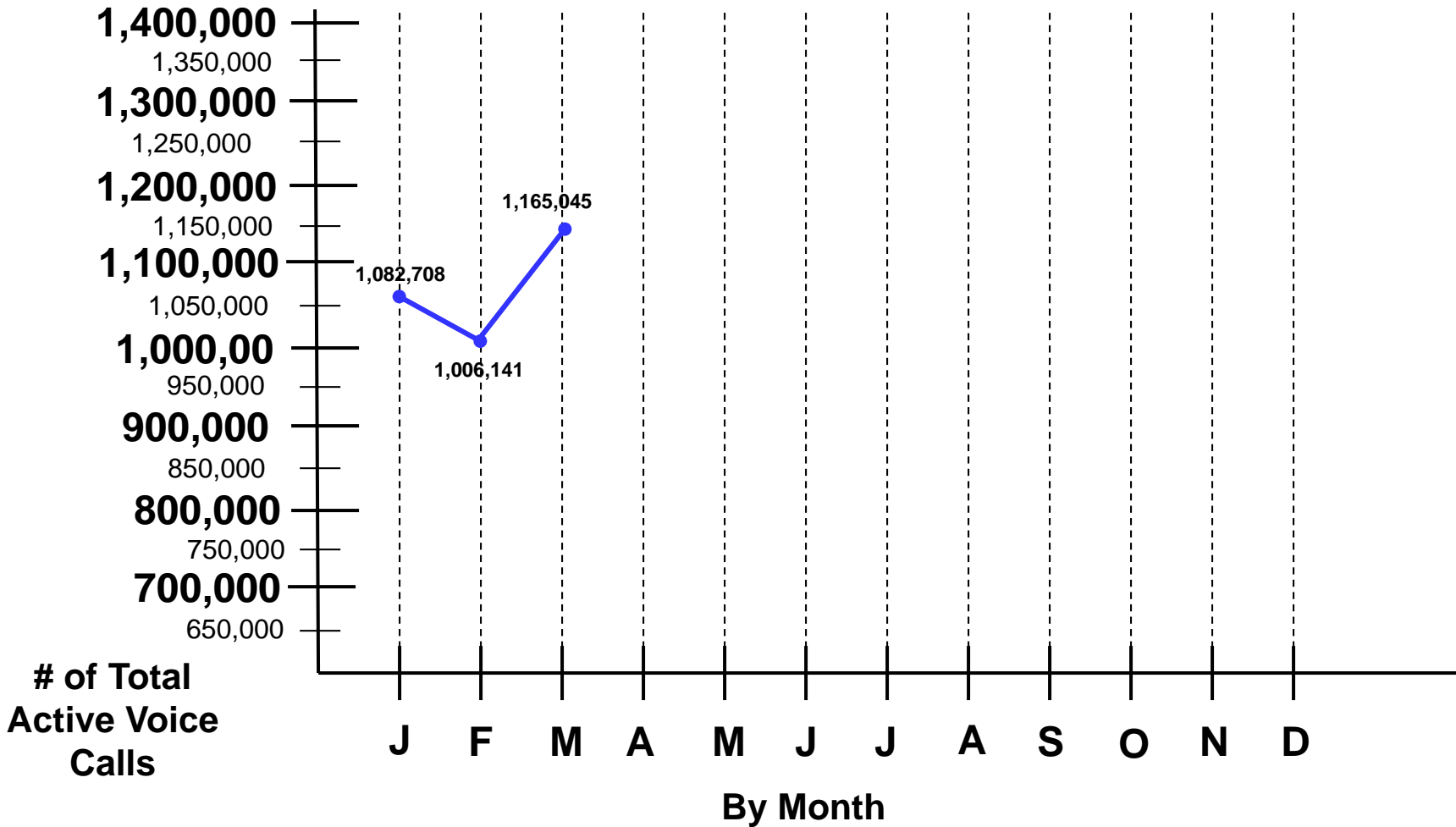
**Distribution:**

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FBI, A/ASAC Steve Forrest  
MOA, Lt Ken Spadafora  
AML, Ms. Linda Murphy  
SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Bates  
ALCOM/J60, LTC Glenn Mellor  
SOA DPS, Major Matt Leveque  
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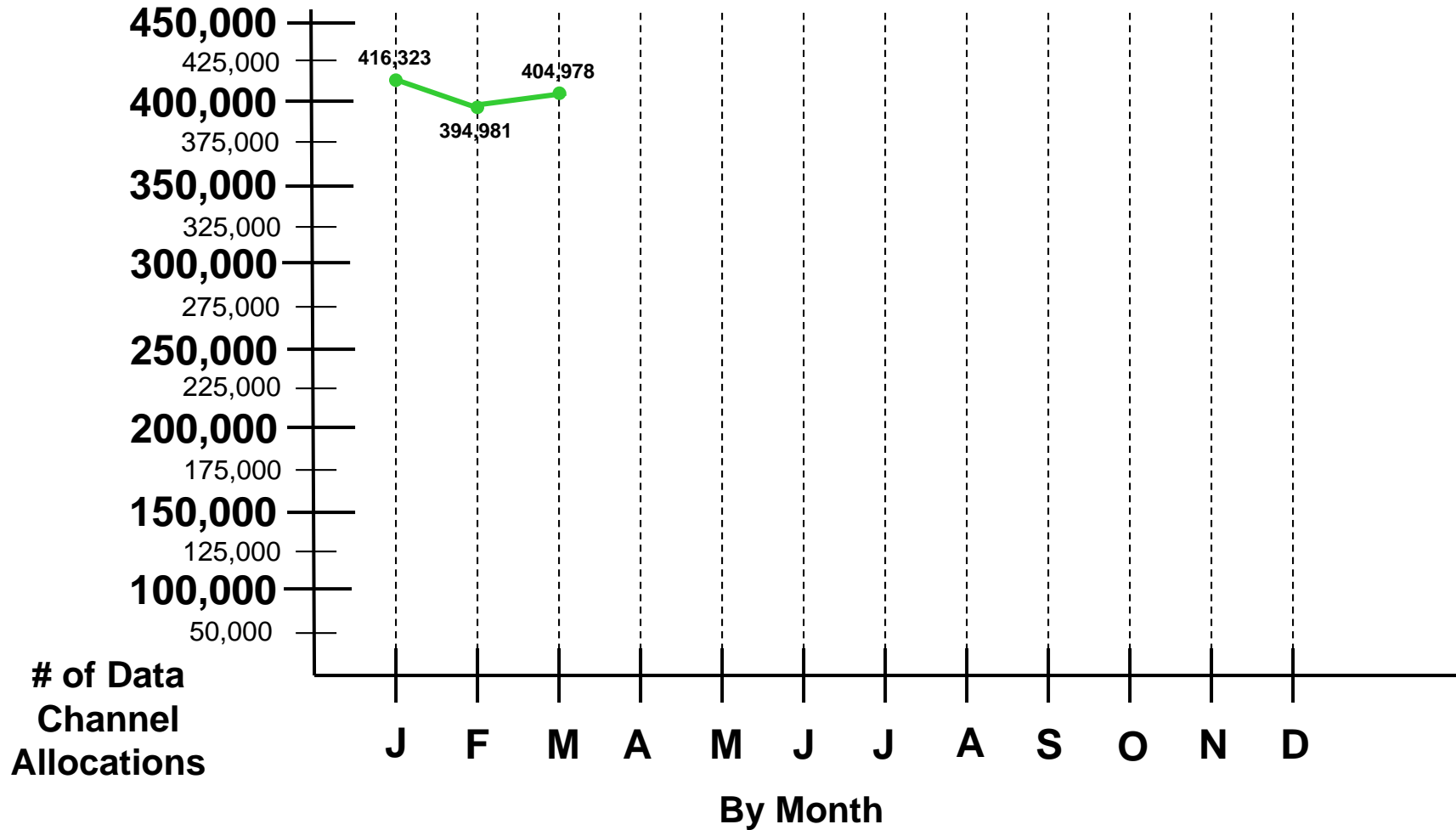
# 2015 System Performance

## Active Voice Calls

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# 2015 System Performance Data Channel Allocations



# 2015 System Performance

## Busy Voice Calls

