



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



MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council

July 16, 2015

FROM: SOA Executive Co-Chair

SUBJECT: April 16, 2015, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes

TO: See Distribution

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:

Mr. Del Smith	Operations Manager, ALMR (via teleconference)
Mr. Tim Woodall	DOD ALMR Program Manager
Mr. Scott Stormo	Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)
Mr. Bruce Richter	OEC Region X District Office
Ms. Sherry Shafer	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 1:30 p.m.

2. Opening Statements and Other Announcements. Deputy Commissioner Vrabec asked the group if there were any announcements.

Mr. Del Smith advised the council members that the Birch Hill Master Site at Fort Wainwright had taken a power hit. He stated, on top of the loss of commercial power, there was no immediate backup power because the batteries had failed. Del briefed it

took a total of three minutes before the generator came online and all of Zone 2 was affected.

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

Hearing no comments, Deputy Commissioner Vrabec requested a motion for their approval.

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

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

4. Old Business.

Codicil to the ALMR Cooperative Agreement. Deputy Commissioner Vrabec reviewed the status from the March meeting and requested an update.

Mr. Smith advised the council he was in possession of the fully signed document, which would be kept by the Operations Management Office. Del stated copies would be provided to the cooperative partners after the meeting.

5. User Council Update.

Vacancies. Mr. Smith was requested by Deputy Commissioner Vrabec to brief the Executive Council on behalf of Major Leveque who was unavailable.

Mr. Smith advised the council the Ms. Bev Fronterhouse, the current Federal Non-DOD Bureau of Land Management (BLM) would be moving on to focus on other areas and 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.

Mr. Smith offered the following proposed motion, on behalf of Major Leveque, 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.

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

Mr. Smith advised the council that vacancies still exist for Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) primary and alternate, SOA Department of Public Safety (DPS) alternate, Southeast-Municipalities alternate and the US Army-Alaska (USARAK) alternate representatives. He stated the proposed alternate for JBER had been in contact with him but a primary was yet to be identified.

Colonel Hoang briefed he would follow up with the Mission Support Group and Civil Engineering Squadron commanders, proposing one of the active first responder groups should be appointed to the primary position with the Communications Squadron as the alternate.

6. Operations Management Office.

a. Service Level Agreement (SLA). Mr. Smith advised the council the agreement was still with ALCOM to route to the service components for signature.

b. Infrastructure, Operations and Maintenance Services (IOMS) Contract. Mr. Smith briefed that proposed almost \$1M in reductions in the State's FY16 budget for ALMR must be paralleled by reductions somewhere within the current IOMS contract. He advised a State contract representative had met with the Bering Straits Information Technology (BSIT) contractors and the Department of Defense (DOD) contract office representative (COR) to discuss how to accommodate the next year's contract through reductions to services.

Mr. Smith stated he believed they had reached a tentative agreement whereas contract line item numbers (CLINs) 2 through 8 would remain the same and CLIN 1 tech support and board repair areas would see service reductions. He advised the reductions in tech support would result in long wait times for external assistance from Motorola™ for issues the System Management Office (SMO) could not immediately identify/resolve. Mr. Smith noted the reductions in board repair would result in parts being pulled from the spare inventory first and the bad part would need to be sent in by the State for repair or replacement, which meant money would still need to be set aside to cover any occurrences. He also briefed if the Quantars® from DOD became available it would mean additional spares in the inventory.

Mr. Smith pointed out that part of the \$1M reduction would have been allocated to cover the local agencies' portion of the proposed cost share, but they have long stated they would not pay to be on ALMR, so it's a moot point to try to charge them.

Deputy Commissioner Vrabec stated that he thought Mr. Smith was correct, and if ALMR could get by with no further reductions, it would probably manage okay.

c. March System Metrics. Mr. Smith advised the metrics were tracking as anticipated and busies were lower than previous years, which would be expected with the recent channel additions.

7. New Business.

a. System Upgrade Assistance (SUA) II funding. Lt Ken Spadafora stated he had heard the State was unable to secure its funding for the SUA for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Tim Woodall advised the group there would be no SUA II for the last year of the IOMS contract, but the System Upgrade Assistance (SUS) would be the only funding required. He stated the SUA II funding would be looked at in the following contract year. He briefed the SUS is critical because it covers the security patching and must be done to maintain the Department of Defense Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process (DIACAP) compliance, whereas the SUA II provides the technology upgrades.

b. Quantars®. Mr. Woodall stated, with regard to the Quantars®, the DOD would typically turn them in to the Defense Reutilization Marketing Office (DRMO) but this would risk another Federal agency taking them. He advised the DOD may hold on to them as spares for the time being and perhaps an agreement could be worked out with the State to loan them out, if needed, and then the State would be responsible for providing a replacement. Mr. Woodall noted he would have to check into the legality of this proposal first.

Lt Spadafora asked if there was any reason why the DOD couldn't co-own equipment in State sites, such as adding an extra channel in the Blueberry site in conjunction with the State's channels.

Colonel Hoang advised there would need to be a justification from a legal standpoint showing the DOD benefit of doing such an expansion. He stated if the numbers could be leveraged, then they would make a good case for such a venture.

Mr. Smith noted that the Site Summit site was a dual ownership site, which the DOD relies on heavily.

Mr. Woodall also briefed the council members Eielson Air Force base was working on funding to replace the Quantars® at their four sites in 2016 and the US Army-Alaska was also looking at replacing theirs.

c. Transportable Area South (TAS) deployment. Mr. Woodall offered that the TAS would be deployed to the Fort Richardson side of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson for an exercise May 26 – 29. He stated VIP tours would be available if any of the council members were interested.

Colonel Hoang added they would also have their Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) out there and would be demonstrating the interoperability between the two assets.

Mr. Woodall stated this deployment was a demonstration of their Defense Support to Civil Authorities mission capabilities.

Mr. Smith advised the group he had received a call last Friday from the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT) regarding the Sag river flooding and possible deployment of a transportable unit. Eventually, DOT was able to get a suitcase repeater from the Division of Forestry and that was working well. He stated he also received a call from Conoco Phillips asking about the transportable stating that DOT would need satellite connectivity during road repair work because of the limited availability of communications at the flooding site.

Mr. Smith stated he thought it would be overkill to use one of the transportables or even a Joint Incident Site Communications Capabilities (JISCC) package for this event, but it was good to know that people are aware of them.

Colonel Hoang noted there would also be two other suitcase systems that would be demonstrated with the ERV and TAS.

Mr. Woodall asked that all calls for use of the transportable be directed to him and if funding was available, and if an emergency situation could be utilized as a training mission, they might be able to support a deployment. He said unfortunately, Conoco Phillips didn't fall under the Stafford Act so they would not have been able to provide assistance.

Mr. Woodall pointed out for the group's edification that DOD was still looking at sending the Transportable Area North (TAN) to DRMO at some point in the future.

d. MotoBridge® gateways. Mr. Woodall noted he would be asking the User Council to look at the year-to-year funding for the MotoBridge®. He stated he was unsure it was being used or even tested on a regular basis for emergency use and if it was not a requirement, the DOD may reduce the number of locations where the consoles are available.

Mr. Woodall pointed out at many of the dispatch locations, they don't know where the consoles are located or what they are for. He briefed a lot of planning and effort went into ensuring adequate resources were available for System redundancy and patching in emergency situations. Mr. Woodall stated they are not being exercised, so DOD would have to look at continuing to fund the gateway system if it was not being used.

Deputy Commissioner Vrabec requested it be addressed at the May User Council meeting and the Executive Council would follow up on it at their next meeting.

8. Next Meeting. Deputy Commissioner Vrabec briefed the next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 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 April 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 2:12 p.m.



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

Distribution:

SOA DPS, Deputy Commissioner Terry Vrabec
ALCOM/J6, Colonel Harold Hoang
FBI, ASAC Dave Condo
MOA, Lt Ken Spadafora
AML, Ms. Linda Murphy
SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Bates
ALCOM/J60, LTC Glenn Mellor
SOA ETS, Mr. Scott Stormo
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall
OMO, Mr. Del Smith
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson