



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



MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council

March 9, 2016

FROM: SOA Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Bill Comer".

SUBJECT: March 17, 2016, Meeting Agenda

TO: See Distribution

1. **Call to Order.** Deputy Commissioner Bill Comer, State of Alaska (SOA) Co-Chair will call the meeting to order. The roll will be taken.
2. **Opening Statements and Other Announcements.**
3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** (DC Comer) Review of the draft minutes from the February Executive Council meeting. (Atch 1)

The following motion is offered to the council for consideration.

Motion: Approve February 18, 2016, Executive Council meeting minutes, as presented.

4. Old Business.

a. FY17 Contract Execution Action (IOMS contract). At the February meeting, Mr. Scott Stormo stated that he was working on the request for proposal (RFP) for the Infrastructure Operations and Maintenance Services (IOMS) contract and expected to have it out by the end of the month.

b. OMO FY17 Contract. At the February meeting, Mr. Woodall stated both the State and DOD were looking at changing the scope of work for the Operations Management Office (OMO) contract in an effort to prioritize some services and ramp down others. He noted they were looking at creating contract line item numbers (CLINs) that are independent and had a cost associated with them and it was incumbent upon them to re-state the scope in order to execute the contract based on the dollars they had.

5. User Council Update. (Mr. Ocie Adams)

a. SOA FY17 Budget Intent Language. The Legislature asked the Department of Administration (DOA) to look at any/all technologies to replace ALMR. A request for information (RFI) should be initiated immediately, as it takes approximately one year to complete.

The following motion is offered to the Executive Council..

Motion: The User Council shall seek Executive Council approval to prepare a response to address the FY17 Legislative budget intent language.

b. Vacancies exist for the alternate Southeast-Municipalities position, both the primary and alternate US Army-Alaska (USARAK) positions and for the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) alternate position.

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

6. Operations Management Office. (Mr. Del Smith)

- a. Annual subscriber inventory confirmations.
- b. FY17 SOA Budget.
- c. February System metrics (Atch 2)

7. New Business.

8. Next Meeting. (DC Comer) The next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2016, 1:30 p.m. at the Enterprise Technology Services Conference Room, 5900 E Tudor Road.

9. Adjourn Meeting. (DC Comer)


Bill Comer, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Public Safety
ALMR Executive Council

2 Attachments:

- 1. Draft February Meeting Minutes
- 2. February System Metrics

Distribution:

SOA/DPS, Deputy Commissioner Bill Comer
ALCOM/J6, Colonel Harold Hoang
FBI, ASAC David Condo
AML, Ms. Linda Murphy
MOA, Deputy Chief Ken Spadafora
SOA DOA, Mr. John Boucher
SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Steele
SOA ETS, Mr. Jim Bates
SOA ETS, Mr. Scott Stormo
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson
SOA DOT, Mr. Ocie Adams
OMO, Mr. Del Smith
ALCOM/J60, LTC Glenn Mellor

Current motion:

Motion: The User Council shall seek Executive Council approval to prepare a response to address the FY17 Legislative budget intent language.

Proposed motion:

Motion: The User Council requests the Executive Council recommend to the Department of Administration that they release a request for information (RFI) to industry in response to the FY17 Legislative Budget intent language regarding potential system replacement options for ALMR.



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



MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council

March XX, 2016

FROM: DOD Executive Co-Chair

SUBJECT: February 18, 2016, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes

TO: See Distribution

Executive Council Members Present:

Colonel Harold Hoang	Department of Defense – Alaskan Command (ALCOM)/J6
Deputy Commissioner Bill Comer	State of Alaska – Department of Public Safety (via teleconference)
Assistant Special Agent in Charge David Condo	Alaska Federal Executive Association /Federal Bureau of Investigation (via teleconference)
Deputy Chief Ken Spadafora	Municipality of Anchorage – Anchorage Police Department
Ms. Linda Murphy	Alaska Municipal League (AML)

ALMR Support Team Members and Guests Present:

Mr. Ocie Adams	User Council Vice Chair (via teleconference)
Mr. Jim Steele	Director, Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) (via teleconference)
Mr. Del Smith	Operations Manager
Mr. Scott Stormo	ETS SATS/ALMR Manager
Mr. Tim Woodall	DOD ALMR Program Manager
Mr. Trygve Erickson	Municipality of Anchorage AWARN Manager (via teleconference)
Mr. Matt Leveque	SOA, DPS SPOC/SWIC (via teleconference)
Mr. John Rockwell	SOA, DPS 911 Coordinator
Ms. Sherry Shafer	Operations Management Office (via teleconference)

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

2. **Opening Statements and Other Announcements.**

There were no opening statements or announcements.

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** Colonel Hoang asked the Executive Council (EC) members if they had reviewed the January meeting minutes and had any concerns.

Mr. Del Smith noted that Deputy Commissioner Bill Comer's title was incorrect in paragraph 2 and that it had already been corrected by the Operations Management Office (OMO).

Colonel Hoang requested a motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion: Approve the January 21 Executive Council meeting minutes with the correction, as noted.

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

4. **Old Business.**

a. Codicil to the Cooperative Agreement. Colonel Hoang stated General Handy had signed the agreement.

Mr. Smith advised he had the original and had scanned it and provided copies to Deputy Commissioner Comer and to Department of Administration (DOA) Deputy Commissioner John Boucher.

Colonel Hoang stated this item could now be **CLOSED**.

b. FY17 Contract Executions. Mr. Scott Stormo stated that he was working on the request for proposal (RFP) and had met with the User Council Working Group on February 17 to see if they had additional items to add to the proposed services document. He also advised he would be working with the State of Alaska (SOA) procurement office to finalize it. Mr. Stormo expected to have it out by the end of the month.

Colonel Hoang asked Mr. Tim Woodall from a Department of Defense (DOD) perspective, does the signed Codicil now pave the way to proceed with the State as the lead for the contract.

Mr. Woodall noted the Codicil does give the DOD authority to contract directly with the State but he still needed to craft a memorandum of agreement that outlines the relationship between the contract and the funding. He stated the preferred method would

be for the contractor to directly bill the DOD through wide area work flow. Mr. Woodall advised he still needed to work with the Contracting Office to execute a pseudo contract for the Defense Finance Accounting System (DFAS) so billing associated with specific contract line items (CLINs) could be accessed.

c. Cost Share Approach and Method. Deputy Commissioner Comer advised that he had spoken with Mr. Matt Leveque regarding the previous approach and method chosen and that all his questions had been answered sufficiently.

Colonel Hoang recommended this item be **CLOSED**.

5. User Council Update.

User Council Vacancies. Mr. Ocie Adams stated that since the last meeting TSgt Dennis Paniza had changed jobs leaving the DOD Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) alternate position vacant. He noted the Southeast-Municipalities alternate and both the US Army Alaska (USARAK) primary and alternate positions remained vacant at this time.

Mr. Adams noted the vacancies would remain on the UC Issues and Risks Log and continue to be tracked, as well as being briefed to the Executive Council.

Colonel Hoang stated he would take the vacancy for JBER as an action item and engage the 673rd Communications Squadron Commander to get it filled.

6. Operations Management Office.

a. Clear site. Mr. Smith advised that the Clear was now on permanent power after being on generator power for quite some time. He pointed out that as far as the OMO and System Management Office (SMO) understood, the site would remain at the current location. Mr. Smith advised the site had experienced an issue recently with the battery plant going down and American Power, who had installed it, was to check on what caused the issue.

b. Annual Subscriber Inventory. Mr. Smith reminded the council members this annual requirement stemmed from the Legislative audit that was performed several years ago. He stated the notification letters and confirmation forms had been mailed to the 123 member agencies on January 25 and, as of this morning, there had been 38 responses. Mr. Smith advised the council the agencies could respond by fax, email or via US Postal Service mail.

c. January metrics. Mr. Smith briefed that when he first saw the busies for the month of January he was concerned because although the voice calls were approximately the same, the busies were up significantly. He advised that after he had done some investigating and discussed the situation with the System Management Office (SMO), the majority of the busies were attributed to the Anchorage Wide Area Radio Network (AWARN), which they had been working on at the time. Mr. Smith noted that in the busy report for the week of February 7 – 13, there were no busies in Zone 1 and very few in Zone 2.

d. Impact Document. Mr. Smith advised the council members that back in September 2015 the User Council had created a document relative to ALMR and the impact of the budget regarding the reductions in funding. He stated it had been recently updated with the end of calendar year 2015 statistics and it was ready to be sent out to the council, the Enterprise Technology Services chain of command and the Department of Public Safety, if the council thought it would be useful and would send it out after the meeting.

Deputy Commissioner Comer stated he appreciated it and it would be helpful when discussions on ALMR pop up.

Mr. Smith said the document contained some useful information of the impacts on a few of the various agencies on the system, including DPS.

7. New Business.

a. OMO Contract. Mr. Woodall stated that as they were looking at the maintenance contract and the funds available, both the State and DOD were also looking at the OMO contract, which is current. He advised there was a meeting next Wednesday with Wostmann & Associates and 5 Star Team to look at changing the scope of work in an effort to prioritize some services and ramp down others.

Mr. Woodall noted the DOD has to have a quality control program and personnel with the expertise to perform evaluations on the contractor. He advised that the DOD authorizes third-party, independent quality assurance, which is part of the OMO function, to go behind the maintenance contractor to ensure they are performing to spec. He pointed out the SOA does not have that requirement; therefore, that would have a lower priority in the scope of work.

Mr. Woodall stated they were looking at creating CLINs that are independent and have a cost associated with them. He pointed out just like any budget, you have so much money and you take your highest priorities first as you move down the CLINs and when reach the red line of your budget, the services below the red line cannot be funded. Mr. Woodall advised it is incumbent upon us to re-state the scope, so that we can execute the contract based on the dollars we have, prioritize the services we have and execute those in relationship to the dollars we have. He briefed that was the exercise they were going through with the new contract and the existing OMO contract.

Mr. Stormo advised the purpose of the initial meeting next week was to see if the contractors are willing to renegotiate the existing contract. He stated that's the first step to see if they are interested in that, then depending on how that conversation goes, we figure out what the next step is, whether we re-compete or continue with what we currently have.

Mr. Woodall added that it is an option year for the OMO contract coming up, so the potential to re-compete is always open to the State, but we (DOD) would prefer to

negotiate an appropriate solution with the limited funds available so they could execute the contract appropriately. He stated it was an on-going effort they have.

Mr. Woodall described the timeline for more contract activities and explained the process because the State does contracting different than the DOD. He briefed an RFP is sent out and the respondents respond, from there the responses are evaluated. Mr. Woodall advised if there were portions of one proposal that they liked, but they liked another proposal better, they could take those portions and go back to the contractor with the best proposal to see if they are willing to incorporate those additional portions. This continues until they reach a consensus.

Mr. Stormo stated the other path was to pick and choose from different vendors for different functions. He noted some of that would play out as they went through the process and they would have to see what makes the most sense.

Colonel Hoang asked, keeping in mind the timeline, where they were at with the new contract.

Mr. Stormo advised they were still fine although they may be two weeks behind in the process. He noted they still expected to award it 60 days before the end of the current contract and were not to the point where they are concerned yet.

Tim stated there should be no gap in the services.

b. Exercise Alaska Shield. Colonel Hoang offered for awareness of the council there was an upcoming SOA exercise called Alaska Shield (AS) 2016. He stated it was scheduled for April 1 – 3 and to be prepared for an increase in LMR usage because the scenario would drive a lot of first responder-type activity. Colonel Hoang noted it would be interesting to see, based on exercise, what the metrics would look like for April. He also stated, from the first responder standpoint, he would be looking to see how LMR facilitates, positively or any potentially negative impacts on the various scenarios.

Mr. Woodall added there were active shooter and cyber-type of situations.

Colonel Hoang pointed out the big event would be a bioterrorism event and as the State Emergency Operations Center responds to that there would be opportunities on the side in the cyber domain for causing headaches for local businesses, transportation potentially and banking with several active shooter-type scenarios driving several areas and boroughs to respond. Interesting to see how that would play out

Mr. Woodall advised the primary players were the SOA, the DOD, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), local governments, fire departments and Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Colonel Hoang stated when this occurs it will have been in planning for almost a year and a half, so it would be interesting to see what kind of calls they will get.

Mr. Woodall briefed that every AS, they have agencies that do not use their radios every day, like the National Guard, who will have problems. He noted most of their radios are cached and they pull them out for the exercise, so they have batteries not charged, radios where the programming is not correct, encryption keys are bad, and their techniques, procedures and protocols are not well known. We always find that to be true with the Guard and it's always an after action item that they need to utilize their radios more and get them out early; it seems to repeat.

Mr. Woodall noted that before, when the DOD was heavily involved with Arctic Edge, Arctic Shield, Alaska Shield exercises, they would create tactical interoperable communications plans for various scenarios. He stated they would get with local governments and do this, but they don't have the funds to do it anymore. Mr. Woodall pointed out when they did this, they had very few issues with radio operations. He also stated unless agencies are training and going over these protocols, and accessing the interoperable channels, he was expecting to see complaints about the System operation, but the problem is the operators not the System. Mr. Woodall recommend those agencies who don't use the radios could call the OMO for training and he advised there is an operating instruction available that explains how the interoperable channels are set up. He briefed this would be the word that he would give out to the UC. He also requested from Mr. Adams that the User Council reach out to the agencies playing in exercise to make sure their radios operate properly and they know how to use them.

Mr. Smith stated he was always surprised that the OMO never got calls beforehand from agencies to help them prepare. He noted the Army Guard had radios, for a long time, with no displays, which severely hindered them because they had no idea where they were supposed to be. Mr. Smith noted if anyone wants to know anything, that the OMO could steer them to the documents; that's what the OMO was there for.

Colonel Hoang asked if it would be worthwhile to share that type of messaging with the SEOC to alleviate the potential for those types of operator error situations and Mr. Smith concurred.

Colonel Hoang asked Mr. Woodall to give a quick summary of the 2014 deployment of the ALMR transportable deployment to Valdez and how that scenario was supported.

Mr. Woodall explained ALMR provided a continuity of operations restoral for Valdez in terms of their emergency operations center (EOC) after it suffered a tsunami. He noted that Valdez relocated their EOC to the transportable and it provided all their communications including telephone and internet. Mr. Woodall advised the transportables could also be used to augment existing sites with increased capacity, restore communications to a downed site and also extend the coverage area of ALMR by providing reach back in to the ALMR infrastructure from remote sites. He pointed out that the transportable could be operational with LMR services and with basic services (internet, MESH, radio) within four hours of arriving on site. Mr. Woodall noted the transportables were contractor deployed and are available to the State in an emergency, but there were costs associated with that. He briefed COMALCOM could allow the equipment to be deployed for 72 hours when there is the immediate risk of loss of life and property. Mr. Woodall pointed out after that time, COMALCOM he must gain Secretary of

Defense approval and that would be for a 21-day extension only. After that it requires re-approval for every additional 21 days.

Mr. Smith briefed regarding an exercise three or four years ago adjacent to the North Pole site and it was quickly inundated. He advised the TAN was deployed and provided an additional five channels, which is a one of the primary functions of the units, alleviating all busies.

Mr. Adams asked if the exercise was primarily in the Anchorage area or was it statewide.

Colonel Hoang stated it was statewide and Cordova would have a pretty significant level of play. He noted some agencies have a more mature/more involved roles and some agencies coming to it for the first time and are involved in more of an observer role.

Mr. Stormo stated he hoped it stayed sunny between Valdez and Cordova between now and April because the Heney Range site was running on temporary batteries to keep the microwave shot up.

Colonel Hoang asked if this could be used as a scenario to meet some training objective the State wants to achieve, if they knocked out one locations to see if there was a single point that would stress the System.

Mr. Smith advised that Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) had done an outstanding job working over the last several years to ensure there was added capacity for re-routing microwave paths for their sites, but places like Cordova are sort of the "end of the railroad" and there isn't a lot of opportunity for re-routing there.

Colonel Hoang stated he was glad to see the dialog was beginning to take place and people are looking at alternate means, whether it's recovery or humanitarian assistance, whichever it might be.

Mr. Smith briefed ALMR is always concerned about earthquakes, but he was particularly pleased there were no issues with ALMR with the most recent 7.1 earthquake. He stated he has always been concerned with shots getting out of alignment with the microwave, but they did not and none of the sites down on the Kenai Peninsula were overwhelmed with calls. Mr. Smith noted there were a couple busies, but nothing significant considering it was the biggest earthquake he'd felt since 1964.

Colonel Hoang advised this was one of the reasons they conducted tabletop exercises, walking through these types of scenarios and what is the response times if one was out of alignment and who is on standby and how quickly they can respond. Those are the types of things on the table just to walk through those discussions and highlight the potential gaps we need to shore up to ensure timely response.

c. New Director for ETS. Mr. Jim Steele advised the council that Mr. Jim Bates had resigned his position as the Director for ETS effective Friday and Commissioner Fisher had transferred those duties to him effective the same day. He noted Mr. Bates would still be around for three weeks to a month, but Mr. Steele stated he wanted to make

himself available for the meetings and the council. He advised that he had been in Alaska for several years and was familiar with ALMR and SATS and certainly could appreciate its importance.

8. Next Meeting. Colonel Hoang briefed the next meeting is scheduled for March 17, at 1:30 p.m. at 5900 E Tudor Road in the Enterprise Technology Services Conference Room.

9. Adjourn Meeting. Colonel Hoang asked if there were any other items for the council's discussion.

Hearing no comments, Colonel Hoang requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Adjourn the February monthly Executive Council meeting.

The motion was made by Deputy Commissioner Comer and second by Colonel Hoang. There were no objections. **The motion was carried and approved.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

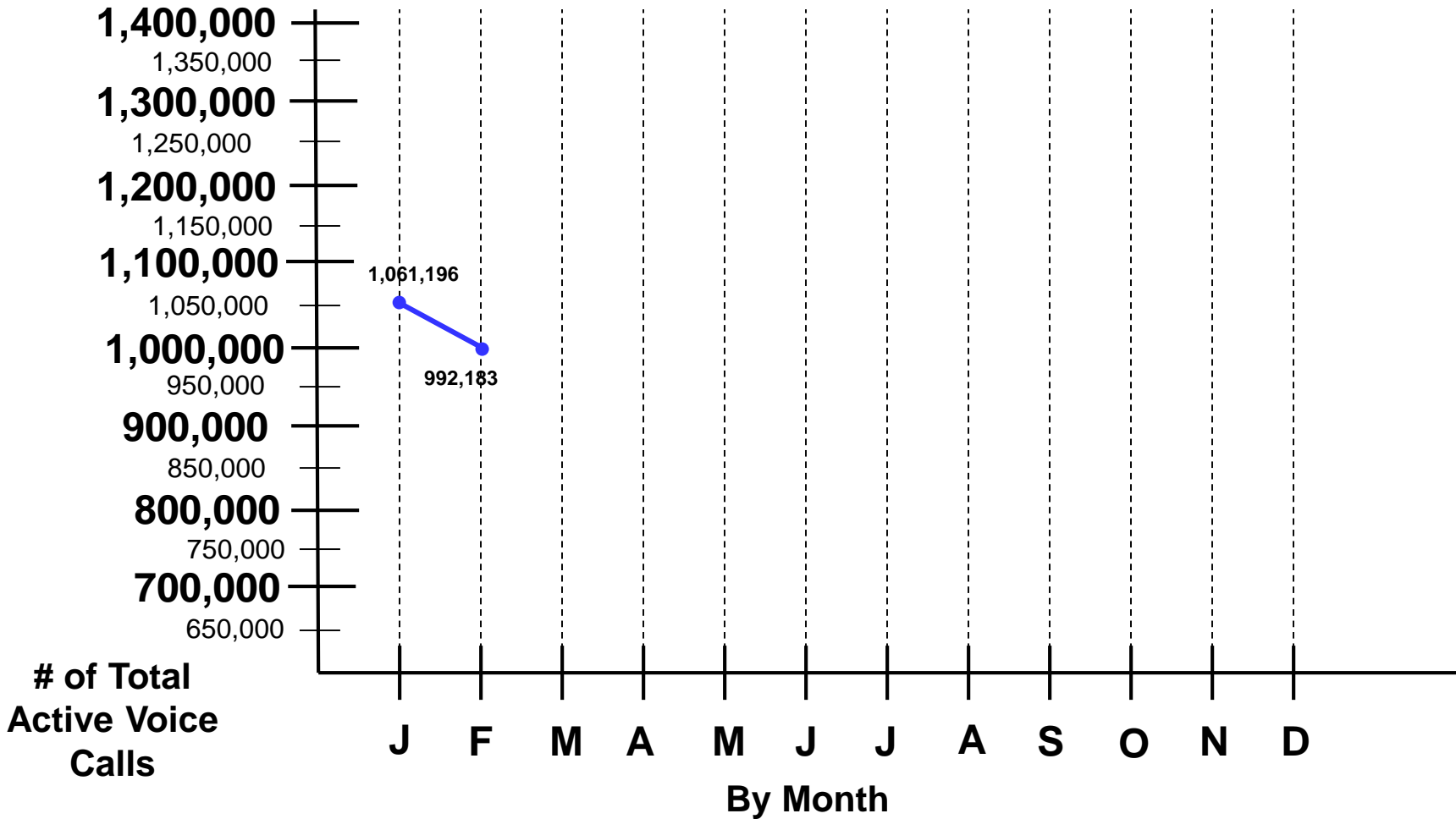
Harold Hoang, Colonel, USAF
ALCOM J6/Department of Defense Co-Chair
ALMR Executive Council

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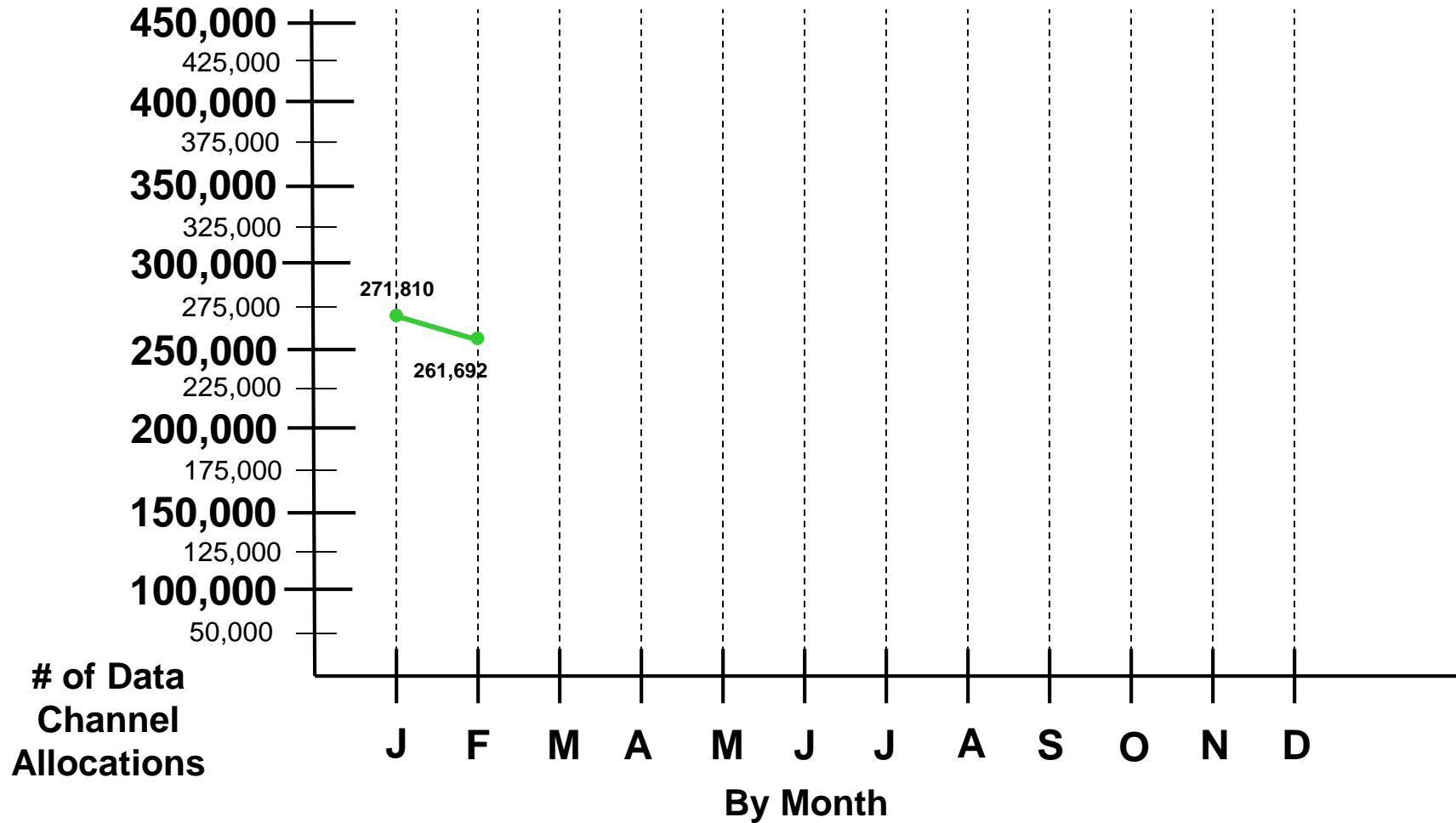
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SOA ETS, Mr. Scott Stormo
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson
OMO, Mr. Del Smith

2016 System Performance

Active Voice Calls



2016 System Performance Data Channel Allocations



2016 System Performance Busy Voice Calls

