



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



MEMORANDUM FOR ALMR Executive Council

September 29, 2016

FROM: SOA Executive Co-Chair

SUBJECT: August 17, 2016, ALMR Executive Council Meeting Minutes

TO: See Distribution

Executive Council Members Present:

Deputy Commissioner Bill Comer	State of Alaska – Department of Public Safety
Colonel Harold Hoang	ALCOM/J6
Assistant Special Agent in Charge David Condo	Alaska Federal Executive Association /Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ms. Linda Murphy	Alaska Municipal League (AML)

ALMR Support Team Members and Guests Present:

Mr. Ocie Adams	User Council Chair (via teleconference)
Deputy Commissioner John Boucher	SOA Department of Administration (via teleconference)
Mr. Del Smith	Operations Manager (via teleconference)
Mr. Scott Stormo	Enterprise Technology Services
Mr. Tim Woodall	DOD ALMR Program Manager
Mr. Trygve Erickson	Municipality of Anchorage (via teleconference)
Ms. Sherry Shafer	Operations Management Office (via teleconference)

1. Call to Order. Deputy Commissioner Bill Comer, State of Alaska (SOA) Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. and the roll call was read.

2. Opening Statements and Other Announcements.

a. Mr. Del Smith advised the group that one of the Federal Non-DOD User Council (UC) representatives, Mr. Chris Lampshire, had been killed in a plane crash at the Birchwood Airport on Saturday. He stated that Mr. Lampshire had been a member since August 2013 and is a great loss for ALMR.

b. Colonel Harold Hoang announced there had been a recent change of command at Alaskan Command and the new commander was Lieutenant General Kenneth Wilsbach. He advised that they were in the process of bringing the General up to speed on his roles and responsibilities with ALMR.

c. Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) David Condo announced this was his last meeting as he was being transferred to Cincinnati, Ohio. He stated his interim replacement would be Kurt Ormberg and he would attend the next meeting.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes. Deputy Commissioner Comer asked the Executive Council (EC) members if they had reviewed the June meeting minutes and if they had any changes. Hearing none, he requested a motion for their approval.

Motion: Approve the July 22 Executive Council meeting minutes as written.

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

4. Old Business.

a. FY17 Infrastructure Operations and Maintenance Services (IOMS) Contract Execution. Mr. Scott Stormo advised there were a few last questions from Motorola® to be addressed, but nothing else had changed since the last meeting update. He also pointed out that there would be more services offered under the new contract, but would cost less.

Mr. Tim Woodall stated the Department of Defense (DOD) was fine with the contract. He noted there were two outstanding issues for the State, but he believed they were more of a legal issue than a contractual issue.

Mr. Stormo explained there was a clause in the contract that Motorola® used which was different than what the State prefers to use.

Deputy Commissioner John Boucher stated this would be something that would need to be run by legal because he couldn't change it.

Mr. Stormo clarified it was in regard to whether or not the use of the consumer price index (CPI) is allowed in a contract and Mr. Jim Steele needs to talk to the Commissioner's office.

Colonel Hoang briefed that ALCOM hosted a teleconference two weeks ago with both the Army and the Air Force side and talked through the venue and the proper form for funds transfer from DOD to the State and they had come to a resolution. He also noted the legal office was there to walk them through the legality piece of it. Colonel Hoang stated the main concern for the services is that they are coming to the end of the DOD fiscal year and how quickly they could obligate the funds. He noted they had figured that out and both US Army-Alaska (USARAK) and Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) were moving forward with transferring the funds. Colonel Hoang advised that there was a follow-up teleconference tomorrow to provide the services with an update, but he expected September 1 would be the startup of the performance period for the new contract.

Mr. Woodall stated they had also worked out the invoicing solution this morning, so that an invoice could be provided to the State. He stated he would pass that on to the resource managers (RMs) and to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) to ensure it was suitable. Mr. Woodall advised he believed this was the last hitch which would keep them from passing funds was resolved and that everything else was in place.

b. Municipality of Anchorage Executive Council Appointee. Mr. Smith noted the Operations Management Office (OMO) had received an appointment letter last week appointing Captain Dave Koch.

Mr. Trygve Erickson confirmed this was correct.

5. User Council Update.

User Council Vacancies. Mr. Ocie Adams noted with the passing of Mr. Lampshire there was now a vacancy in the US Forest Service primary position. He advised the vacancies still existed for the Southeast alternate position, both the USARAK primary and alternate positions, the JBER alternate position and the Central Municipalities alternate position.

6. Operations Management Office.

a. FY18 OMO/SMO Budget. Mr. Smith stated the OMO should be able to finish this when they get the final numbers on the IOMS contract.

b. July System Metrics. Mr. Smith briefed the push-to-talks (PTTs) were down approximately 100K from the previous month and busies were down by about half. He noted there was still no satisfactory explanation from the System Management Office (SMO) and Motorola® regarding the anomaly in the busy count at Hill 3265 a couple months ago.

Deputy Commissioner Comer requested an explanation of the data channel allocations.

Mr. Smith stated it was information from the control channel and also updates for encryption.

Mr. Woodall advised the number should correspond with the active voice calls because it is the data that sets up the control channel to route each call and record a busy.

c. McHugh Creek Fire. Mr. Smith advised there were no busies at the Hope site even with DNR Forestry utilizing it. He noted he talked to a Forestry representative and they were pleased with how it went.

d. ALMR Twitter Account. Mr. Smith briefed there is an active link and explained the shortened name was because there wasn't enough room for the full name. He pointed out that although the State flag was there he wanted to ensure that anyone viewing it would know that ALMR is a partnership and the statement on the page explains that.

Mr. Smith noted the intent of the account was to put out tweets regarding things happening that are good about ALMR. He pointed out he is fairly new to Twitter® so Mr. Steele set it all up. Mr. Smith also advised that the OMO had utilized the Department of Transportation's social media policy and guidelines as a format and there were two documents provided with the meeting materials for the council to consider.

Mr. Smith stated the intent would be the OMO would be the ones to put out the information since the office is the closest to what is going on. He noted the OMO would also respond to appropriate comments and delete inappropriate comments.

Mr. Smith advised he was not sure how Mr. Steele wanted to proceed today, but generally speaking the User Council (UC) normally looks at any policies or guidance documents for ALMR and approves them first before they are approved by the Executive Council. He pointed out the UC would not be meeting again until October.

Ms. Linda Murphy asked who would manage the account and posting information and Mr. Smith stated his intent was that the OMO would, because they work with the System every day and would be the most knowledgeable to put out information about it.

ASAC Condo asked Mr. Smith what he meant regarding the deletion of negative comments from the general public. Mr. Smith stated it was our account and we should be able to delete things that have nothing to do with ALMR or that are using inappropriate language, but he needed to educate himself further.

Ms. Sherry Shafer noted that there were things addressed in the terms and conditions on what was disallowed.

Deputy Commissioner Comer requested this be tabled until everyone had a time to read the documents and digest them, Mr. Steele would be available to discuss the account, and the User Council approved the documents in about a month.

Mr. Smith stated he was fine with that and wanted to make sure it worked as intended.

Colonel Hoang requested the User Council also take into consideration, while they are reviewing the documents for approval, if there was a DOD-specific question both the legal office and public affairs (PA) would have to coordinate the response before it could be posted on behalf of DOD.

Mr. Woodall requested that if there was an inquiry that applied to all parties, it might have to be clarified in the response statement that a follow-on statement from the Federal agencies would be provided or that the response excludes the Federal agencies.

Mr. Smith stated his intent would generally be that a statement like “DNR really happy with ALMR radio System during fire” would be the type of things being posted. He noted if a query was specific to the State or DOD, they would be contacted for the appropriate response.

Deputy Commissioner Comer requested this be kept as a discussion item for the next meeting or so.

Mr. Woodall stated he would push it to Legal and PA for their comments, as well.

e. Donnelly Dome Batteries. Mr. Smith advised the council that the battery bank at the Donnelly Dome site was non-functional and possibly a Hazmat situation. He noted Mr. Andy Strait from the SMO had travelled to the site and disconnected it from the rest of the equipment to prevent any further damage and they were working on a replacement.

Mr. Smith stated his concern was that not too long ago the Birch Hill battery plant also had failed and had to be replaced and luckily the site, which is the North Zone Controller, was only down for a short time to switch to the new batteries during the repair. He pointed out there is no maintenance contract for the batteries and there never has been, plus at the Fort Greely site, there is no backup battery plant. Mr. Smith advised that he thinks the Army is talking to Bering Straits Information Technology (BSIT) about doing some maintenance and he would strongly suggest this course of action as they have not done a good job at all in maintaining the batteries.

7. New Business.

There was nothing presented.

8. Next Meeting. Deputy Commissioner Comer briefed the next meeting is scheduled for September 15, at 1:30 p.m. at 5900 E Tudor Road in the Enterprise Technology Services Conference Room, but he would be unavailable until after the 20th.

Mr. Woodall proposed the meeting be held at the Transportable demonstration for Lieutenant General Wilsbach on September 29 at 1:00p.m.

Colonel Hoang agreed that this would be a tremendous opportunity for those council members who had never seen the Transportable System. He agreed to take the lead to make the necessary arrangements.

Deputy Commissioner Comer asked Colonel Hoang if he would run the meeting that day and Colonel Hoang stated he absolutely would.

9. Adjourn Meeting. Deputy Commissioner Comer asked if there were any other items for the council’s discussion.

Hearing no comments, Deputy Commissioner Comer requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Adjourn the August monthly Executive Council meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.



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

Distribution:

SOA DPS, Deputy Commissioner Bill Comer
ALCOM/J6, Colonel Harold Hoang
FBI, ASAC Dave Condo
AML, Ms. Linda Murphy
MOA, Captain Dave Koch
SOA DOA, Deputy Commissioner John Boucher
SOA ETS, Director Jim Steele
SOA ETS, Mr. Scott Stormo
ALCOM/J64, Mr. Timothy Woodall
MOA, Mr. Trygve Erickson
OMO, Mr. Del Smith