



ALMR User Council Meeting Minutes

Date: June 16, 2026

1. Attendance.

P = Present	T = Telephone/Teams	E = Excused	U = Unexcused	N/A = Not required
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User Council Members

Primary				
U	Adams	Nathan	Mr.	DoD USAF, Eielson AFB
T	Atkinson	Ross	Mr.	Federal Non-DoD DOI, BLM-Alaska Fire Service
U	Berrian	Keith	Deputy Chief	Muni-North, Chena Goldstream Fire & Rescue
T	De Hart	Kaitlyn	Ms.	DoD USAF, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
T	Goggia-Cockrell	Tammy	Ms.	Municipalities Central, Vice Chair
T	Kalwara	Erann	Ms.	Municipalities Southeast, Juneau PD
T	Kroona	Jon	Mr.	Federal Non-DoD DOJ, FBI
U	Nelsen	Scott	Mr.	SOA All Others, DMVA
T	Nelson	James	Officer	Federal Non-DoD All Others, US Forest Service
N/A	VACANT			SOA DPS, 911 Coordinator
Y	Shumpert	Amber	Ms.	SOA DOT
U	Smith	Eric	Mr.	DoD US Army - Alaska

Alternate				
U	Brown	David	Mr.	Fed Non-DoD DOJ, FBI
T	Carter	Bobby	Mr.	Federal Non-DoD All Others, TSA
U	Cole	Henry	Mr.	SOA DOT
U	Dante	Ray	SSgt	DoD USAF, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
U	Draves	Kayla	MSgt	DoD USAF, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
T	Edwards	Karl	Mr.	DHS, SOA All Others
P	Endres	Benjamin	Lieutenant	SOA DPS
T	Green	Kyle	Fire Marshal	Municipalities North, University Fire Department
T	Goodman	Jim	Mr.	Municipalities Central, MatSu Borough
U	Guetaloreto	Christian	SSgt	DoD USAF, Eielson AFB
N/A	VACANT			DoD US Army - Alaska
U	Roberts	Nathan	TSgt	DoD USAF, Eielson AFB
T	Barry-Garland	Eli	Mr.	Federal Non-DoD DOI, BLM-Alaska Fire Service
U	Overmyer	Zachary	Chief	Municipalities Southeast

Supporting Staff and Guests

T	Rogell	Pete	Mr.	BK Technologies
P	Fahnestock	Nikalus	Mr.	Systems Manager - SMO
P	Fussey	Paul	Mr.	Operations Manager - OMO
P	Reed	David	Mr.	Motorola
T	Richter	Bruce	Mr.	DHS CISA
P	Stormo	Scott	Mr.	SOA - APSCS Manager



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2. Meeting Minutes and Action Items.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 1:31 PM by Ms. Tammy Goggia-Cockrell	
Roll Call	Tammy asked Mr. Paul Fussey to read the roll call. Roll call was presented by Paul, and he stated that at this time, there was a quorum. Ms. Erann Kalwara joined the meeting after the roll was taken.	
Introduction of Guests and Special Announcements	Tammy asked if there were any special guests; hearing none, Tammy reminded everyone that only the User Council representatives or their alternates may make a motion. Tammy stated that the council could move on to the approval of the May meeting minutes,	
Previous Meeting Minutes	Tammy stated that hopefully everyone had a chance to review the May minutes and asked if anyone had any requested changes. She commented that, hearing none, she asked for a motion and a second to approve the May meeting minutes. Motion: Approve the May 6, 2026, monthly User Council meeting minutes. Motion: Lt. Ben Endres Second: Deputy Fire Marshal Kyle Green Tammy asked if there were any objections or further discussion. Hearing none, the motion was passed.	
Issues & Risks Log	Review	Resolution
	Tammy stated that she was moving on to the Issues and Risks Log and asked Mr. Paul Fussey if he could please review the Issues and Risks Log. Paul briefed that there were no changes to the Issues and Risk Log. He left UC97, and it will be removed for the next meeting. Chief Zachary Overmyer is the Southeast region alternate. Nothing new to add.	



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	Tammy thanked Paul and asked if there were any questions regarding the Issues and Risk Log. She stated that she was moving on to the Action Items.	
Action Items	Updates	Action Items Assigned
	Paul briefed that the only action item right now is the FCC regulations for the Alaska Power Association. Paul briefed that since the last meeting, he had been contacted by Homer Electric. He had a good conversation with them and Mr. Buckley Clark. They are looking to come over to ALMR, and they are trying to get more information for him. Paul stated that they would have to get their radios upgraded for one, and two, the ALMR towers cover more than theirs. Paul also said he received an email from Copper Valley Electric Association. They have been sending each other emails, but he has not set up a meeting with them yet. Paul said that it seems like things are starting to move forward, and when it does, he will send everything over to the User Council and Executive Council for approval. He said that he has been very specific with them that it is only a preliminary authorization at this time. Everything would have to go to the full User Council and Executive Council before they would be allowed to come on board to ALMR Tammy thanked Paul and she asked if there were any questions concerning the Action Items. Hearing none, she asked Paul to please provide the ALMR updates at this time.	
Operations Management Office (OMO)	Mr. Paul Fussey, Operations Manager	Action Items Assigned
Training	1. Paul briefed that for everyone's situational awareness, Ms. Rachel is not at the meeting today, so he is running everything and to please bear with him and be patient. He is working both laptops and running everything at the meeting. Mr. Nelson completed a training video on APX radio programming and it is posted on both the ALMR website and YouTube. Paul stated that they had some questions from the field on that topic. He wanted to say thank you to Mr. Nelson and Mr. Fahnestock for putting the video together.	



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Outreach	2. Paul briefed that he attended the FEMA training at the State Emergency operation Center. It was a really good session on how they are helping the state and what they can bring to the table. Paul also attended the Alaska Municipal League on June 9th. They discussed some grants for water projects but nothing for radios. Paul said that they are still working to get the Tait radios tested for the system. Nik and him have been busy lately but they will get them up and running and they are ready to go. Paul stated he is going to be attending the Municipality of Anchorage Quarterly Emergency Management meeting. That will be on June 17th, and he will be there along with the AWARD team. This will be his first meeting with this group. Paul and Nik conducted ALMR training with the Fairbanks PD. It was about an hour and a half long. They went through the whole ALMR system, some of the new features since the FedRAMP approval, inventory, membership agreements, and stuff like that. He thinks it went pretty well with the Fairbanks PD team. Paul asked if there were any questions before he went to the system upgrade, there was none.	
System Upgrade	3. Paul briefed that the BDA installation at the Rabinowitz courthouse in Fairbanks is being worked on or almost completed. The BDA installation at the Palmer courthouse is almost completed. He is working on the change request paperwork on that one. The last couple of days, Nik and him have been extremely busy along with Erica Bishop in Fairbanks along with Lt. Endres and his team. He wanted to say thank you to Erica and her team and Lt. Endres and his team. Paul and Nik worked with the Department of Public Safety to activate TDMA for D dispatch, D NCIC, AST Delta, AST Tok, D traffic, D TAC, and C dispatch. They have been watching the radio traffic and did not see any issues. The other agencies that were using or do use those talkgroups, he could seem them talking on TDMA. There were some folks that still have FDMA radios and he asked them to conduct some radio checks to make sure they could still talk to Fairbanks AST dispatch, they did not report any issues.	



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	Paul asked Lt. Endres if he could provide any feedback on the TDMA activation in Fairbanks. Lt. Endres said that he did not get any negative reports whatsoever. It went so much smoother than when they turned on A dispatch. Endres said he knew the radio team had been up in Fairbanks getting the radios ready with updates. Endres also said he had told Paul earlier in the day that he was monitoring D dispatch on the push to talk app and it was coming back loud and clear as well. Paul thanked Lt. Endres for his addition.	
May Document Reviews	4. Paul briefed that the Risk Management plan was completed, the Channel naming policy and procedure, the organizational structure chart, and the technology policy and procedure. Paul asked if there were any questions before he proceeded to the system metrics. There were none.	
May System Metrics	5. Paul briefed that the group and individual calls were 2,040,787. The monthly push-to-talks were 3,112,545. Paul added that Rachel actually had to adjust the grid for the push-to-talks due to the higher level then was previously allotted. The highest number has always been 3.1 million and it was the first actually going over that amount. The chart and graph were updated for 3.2 million. There was a lot of usage last month. Paul briefed the monthly busies were 583 and the sites below three 9s were 12. He briefed that there was bad weather and a commercial circuit issue at Heney range. Nik and his team were out doing PMIs at Donnelly Dome, Hope, R-1 North, Sterling, Summit Lake, and Sunnahae. There is still a tower failure at Auke lake, and everyone knows what happened there. There was a failed microwave card that had to be replaced at Cooper Mt, which affected Mosse Pass, Seward, and Wolcott. Paul briefed that looking at subscribers, they did go up a little last month. ALMR is currently at 31,995 subscribers. The State of Alaska has 9,484, The Department of War has 8,641, The Alaska Municipal League/AWARN has 12,017, and Federal non-DoW has 1,853. Paul asked if there were any questions or if anyone wanted to look at a slide. There were none.	



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Other Items	6. Paul briefed that he is working with Mr. Scott Stormo and his team to complete the ALMR budget, and he is hoping to have it ready for the July UC meeting for discussion. It would then go to the board for a vote. And then if it is approved by the User Council, then it will go to the Executive Council for the July 15th meeting. Paul briefed that later on in the agenda, the August User Council meeting right now is to be determined (TBD). Paul and possibly members of Scott's team will be at the APCO/MTUG conference at the same time. He just has a placeholder for the meeting under TBD. Paul said he needs to get with all of the board members to see what date will work for them. Paul reported that completed his report, pending any questions. Tammy thanked Paul and asked if there were any questions for the OMO office. She stated the council could move on to the System Management Office.	
System Management Office (SMO)	Mr. Nikalus (Nik) Fahnestock, System Manager	Action Items Assigned
	Nik briefed that as everyone is aware, it is the summer season, and they are hitting the PMIs pretty hard. He appreciates all the patience everyone has with him getting through those. Nik briefed that it is a busy season for all of them. With the increases in temperatures, fire season, which is overall raising the workload for everyone exponentially during the summertime. There was a site that got to feel the heat as well. He was not going to list the site but said that the internal temperature reached 135 degrees Fahrenheit. Luckily, nothing went down but the site definitely yelled a little. Nik added that no coverage was lost during the issue. Tammy thanked Nik and asked if there were any questions for the SMO office. She stated the council could move on to the State of Alaska (SOA) and Department of War (DoW) overviews. Tammy then turned it over to the SOA..	



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State of Alaska (SOA)	Mr. Scott Stormo	Action Items Assigned
	Mr. Scott Stormo briefed that he would pass on a couple of high-risk situations that he is dealing with at the moment. The power line up to the Reindeer site along the Parks highway has faulted somewhere. He had an electrician look at it from the bottom yesterday. The electrician changed out a fuse and a switch down at the bottom to see if that was the problem. That did not fix it, so he is working on the next step, which is probably getting some high-voltage lineman to take a look at the line. Scott stated he is going to try to refill the generator tomorrow. He will see if there is anything tripped at the top; if not, then it is high-voltage line type work, and he will have to contract for that. Funding could be a problem; he will have to wait and see. The Divide microwave dish will hopefully be replaced in the next few weeks. The dish blew off over the winter. Scott is looking at getting somebody to look at the fiber he has running to the site in Haines. The slide that happened a few years ago, the fiber run got caught in it. It didn't break it, but it got caught up in some fallen trees. He is looking at getting some information on putting in a run in a different direction, away from the slide. And the Auke Lake tower, as everybody knows, collapsed last month during this meeting. Scott stated that he is still waiting. The lawyers and investigators are involved at the moment, and he is waiting to see what the way forward is to remedy that situation. Luckily, the coverage impact was not significant. The Juneau airport seems to be about the most obvious place that lost portable coverage. Scott stated that mobile coverage wasn't impacted too badly, just because of the other sites that have overlapping coverage. The biggest loss from a system perspective is that being down is not the coverage, it's the fact that there was microwave going through that site that was connected to another site. If another site fails, like if all of Saddle Mt. goes down, then Saddle and Lena Point, the other two sites down there besides the Diamond courthouse, will all be disconnected. Scott said that was all he had at the moment, unless there were any questions.	



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	Tammy thanked Scott and asked if there were any questions. There were none.	
Department of War	Mr. Timothy Woodall	Action Items Assigned
	Mr. Timothy Woodall was not in attendance, but Mr. David Reed, the ALMR security manager, gave a report. David said that right now we are in the process of having the ALMR security package signed off again at the J6 level for our risk management framework (RMF) approval. He is awaiting the final signature on it now, and this should be a one-year extension to the current package. That is going to tide us over until we can get an update through and get off of the end-of-life systems. He said that it should be signed off in the next week. David said that was all he had. Tammy thanked David and asked if there were any questions. There were none. Tammy stated that the council could move on to the User Council representative updates and that she would start with the SOA component.	
User Council Representative Reports	Represented Areas	Action Items Assigned
SOA DPS	1. Lt. Ben Endres stated they are continuing to work on some talkshare agreements. They are working on one with the Nome police department and also the Anchorage Airport police and fire. They are trying to increase connectivity.	
SOA DOT	2. Paul stated that Amber Shumpert put in the chat that she had to leave as another emergency came up, and she was not available.	
SOA All Others	3. Mr. Scott Nelsen was not present. Mr. Karl Edwards, with Public Health, stated he had nothing else.	



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DoW US Army Installations DoW JBER DoW Eielson	1. No representatives were available to give a report. 2. Paul stated that MSgt Kayla Draves had put in the chat that she had nothing new. 3. No representatives were available to give a report.	
Federal Non-DOW DOJ Federal Non-DoW DOI Federal Non-DoW all Others	1. No representatives gave a report. 2. No representative gave a report 3. Mr. Bobby Carter stated he had nothing for the good of the order. 4. Mr. James Nelson stated that the Forest Service Law Enforcement is looking at acquiring new Motorola radios at this time. James said that they are still in the process of trying to get them from the Washington office. He should have more updates on that coming up in the next couple of weeks. So, he should know if they are getting modernized radios. Tammy said that was great news and she looks forward to those updates	
Munis-Central Munis-North	1. Tammy said that she did not have anything for the good of the order. 2. Paul stated what Mr. Goodman had put in the chat, and that was that they are working on the Palmer dispatch upgrade. 3. Mr. Kyle Green started by saying he wanted to thank Paul and Nik for supporting the Fairbanks police department and their inquiries as they are learning about the system and how they are going to plan out their future infrastructure or their future communications upgrades. Kyle wanted to add for everyone that most of their, at least on the fire side, talk groups that they use for their tactical channels, for instant operations are under the control of the borough as far as the talk group	



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Muni-Southeast	agreements are concerned. Recently working with the borough, both the area fire chiefs and the central dispatch center that they contract with, Fairbanks Emergency Communication Center. There was a readjustment on how those channels are assigned during incidents to accommodate mostly Fairbanks FD, increasing calls for service. Last year, they were sitting at just under 7,500 calls for service. They are ticking upward toward 8,000. Kyle said that there is a lot of traffic on some of those other channels that are monitored and recorded. And so the channels have been further bifurcated out, and the talk groups have been bifurcated out between agencies. So, a little bit of shifting is going on. The assignment of frequencies here in Fairbanks has not changed for 20 years, and they are all kind of watching to see how it will work. Kyle said that so far, it's been going well to make sure that they are able to share all the different talk groups that they utilize for emergencies in Fairbanks. Other than that, where he can, he has been inserting himself to remind folks that they must continue to upgrade their radios to be TDMA compliant. Kyle said that agencies are chipping away at it as they can find funds to do so. Tammy thanked Kyle for the update. 4. Ms. Erann Kalwara reported she did not have any Southeast updates. Her Juneau update is that they are continuing to roll out new mobile radios and expect to be for the police departments about 80% done. The fire department is, she thinks, about 24% done. They still have quite a few radios left to install, and that is going pretty well. Erann stated that they expect to be using the ALMR system a little bit more once all of their responders have that capability.	
New Business	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
	Tammy thanked the area representatives and stated she was moving on to New Business.	



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CISA Briefing	Tammy stated that the floor is open for New Business, any other topics that any member or anybody online would like to bring up. Paul read from the chat that Bruce Richter from CISA had nothing to add.	
Next Meeting	Discussion	
	Tammy noted that the next meetings are currently scheduled for July 1 st and August TBD .	
Adjournment	Discussion	
	Tammy asked if anyone else had anything and stated that at this time she would entertain a motion to adjourn the June 16th meeting. Motion: Adjourn the June 16th, 2026, User Council meeting. Motion: Mr. Kyle Green Second: Lt. Endres Tammy stated that the meeting was now adjourned and thanked everybody. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.	