



ALMR User Council Meeting Minutes

Date: July 1, 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.	DoW USAF, Eielson AFB
U	Atkinson	Ross	Mr.	Federal Non-DoW DOI, BLM-Alaska Fire Service
T	Berrian	Keith	Deputy Chief	Muni-North, Chena Goldstream Fire & Rescue
T	De Hart	Kaitlyn	Ms.	DoW 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-DoW DOJ, FBI
T	Nelsen	Scott	Mr.	SOA All Others, DMVA
U	Nelson	James	Officer	Federal Non-DoW All Others, US Forest Service
	VACANT			SOA DPS, 911 Coordinator
T	Shumpert	Amber	Ms.	SOA DOT
U	Smith	Eric	Mr.	DoW US Army - Alaska

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

Supporting Staff and Guests

U	Rogell	Pete	Mr.	BK Technologies
E	Fahnestock	Nikalus	Mr.	Systems Manager - SMO
P	Fussey	Paul	Mr.	Operations Manager - OMO
E	Reed	David	Mr.	Motorola Solutions
T	Richter	Bruce	Mr.	DHS CISA
P	Stormo	Scott	Mr.	SOA - APSCS Manager
P	Woodall	Timothy	Mr.	ALCOM
T	Farrell	Kevin	Mr.	Motorola Solutions
T	Wiley	Naomi	Ms.	Motorola Solutions



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T	Summers	Peter	Mr.	UAA PD
T	Marlow	Ryan	Mr.	SOA
T	Thometz	Tim	Mr.	iCom America

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 Cindy Black to read the roll call. Cindy took the roll and advised Tammy that at this time, there was a quorum.	
Introduction of Guests and Special Announcements	Tammy asked if there were any special guests; after 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 June 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 June meeting minutes. Motion: Approve the June 16, 2026, monthly User Council meeting minutes. Motion: Lt. Ben Endres Second: Mr. Jim Goodman	



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	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 reported that, as the User Council cleared out the Southeast Representative after the June 16 meeting, there were no items on the Issues and Risks Log. 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 he and Mr. Nik Fahnestock met with Homer Electric and Copper Valley Electric about their interest in joining ALMR, but both electric companies would need to update their radios beforehand. Those are the only two electric companies that they have been talking with. 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 OMO updates at this time.	



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Operations Management Office (OMO)	Mr. Paul Fussey, Operations Manager	Action Items Assigned
Training	1. Paul briefed that for training, he and Dan Nelson will be creating training videos on TAS and TAN since they were updated this summer. They are working on a day that will work for Dan to drive up from Soldotna	
Outreach	2. Paul briefed that OMO has been working with Seward PD and Seward Troopers on the TDMA upgrade and troubleshooting some of their radio issues. The OMO activated two more of the Seward PD channels for TDMA in the past week. Paul stated that some of the issues Seward PD may be having may be due to increased cruise ship traffic after the cruise ship dock expansion. They now have three ships at a time at the dock near the ALMR tower. Paul briefed that Ms. Black has been working on the membership agreements and returning the completed ones to the members. Paul stated that the emails come from Ms. Pasag's account, but Ms. Black has added her name. Paul said he appreciates everyone who has been signing the agreements and getting them back to the OMO. Paul apologized to the members who signed their agreements and sent them in a while ago. Paul briefed that the OMO is in a transition and they are working to get the membership agreements back as quickly as they can. Paul briefed that the next newsletter will be out on July 15 and that he has one more article to write. They will do the final proofread and then send it out to everyone and have it posted on the website.	



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System Upgrade	Paul briefed that Nik and him have been helping the Nome PD and the State Department of Public Safety (DPS) with encryption sharing agreements. Paul briefed that it was a work in progress for their two different types of radios with two different key loaders. Paul briefed that he attended the monthly Alaska Municipal League meeting 3. Paul briefed that Nik and Scott Stormo's team have been performing PMI and preventative maintenance work on the towers and equipment. Paul said that due to the good weather windows, they have been really busy. Paul briefed that Patrick is conducting acceptance testing on the Palmer Courthouse BDA today. Patrick is on Scott's team and the go to expert on BDA systems. Paul briefed that Wildwood Prison completed an upgrade on their internal system during the week of June 22.	
June Document Reviews	4. Paul briefed that there were no document reviews for June to allow OMO to focus on membership agreements. Paul said the OMO is already working on the July document reviews.	
June System Metrics	5. Paul briefed that the group and individual calls were larger than ever seen and he had to adjust the graph for the higher number of 2,122,284. The monthly push-to-talks were 3,259,240. He had to raise the number in the chart last month due to the increase in numbers and had to raise it again this month.	



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	The system is very robust, and there has been a lot of usage in the last two months. Paul briefed that the monthly busies were 1,480, and there were no concerns with that number due to the larger amount of push to talks. The total busies came out to .0010%. Sites below three 9s were 7. There was a power line failure on Reindeer Hills; Scott's team relocated all equipment to the new shelter at Trims. Nik and his team did PMI work at Beaver Creek, Hill 3265, and Pole Hill. They also did troubleshooting at the transmit and receive antennas on Pole Hill. There is still a tower failure at Auke Lake. Paul briefed that the subscriber count is currently at 31,916, which is down a little bit. The State of Alaska has 9,007, The Department of War has 8,539, The Alaska Municipal League/AWARN has 12,512, and Federal non-DoW has 1,858. Paul asked if there were any questions on the metrics or if there was anything anyone wanted to go back and look at. There were none. Paul briefed that for the ALMR website, there were 1,125 page views, and the total number of users was 598. Out of the 598 users, 571 were brand new viewers to the website. Paul said he is trying to figure out if the number of new viewers is because Dan Nelson put more training videos on YouTube, or if people are looking at the site more.	
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Other Items	6. Paul briefed that he received a diagnostic recalibration report the morning on July 1, then explained that Scott's team has eight machines they rotate around towers to identify radios that are starting to come out of compliance. Agencies should expect emails from Paul asking agencies to look at their radios and get them bench tested. Paul advised that there are 360 radios on the list to be recalibrated. When the members look at the total number of subscribers at 31,916, it is a small number of radios. Paul wants to make sure that every radio is performing optimally Paul briefed that the next Executive Council meeting will be held on Jul 16. The FEMA RECCWG meeting will be on July 30th. Paul briefed that he has talked with Mr. Scott Nelson, and he noticed that there is an Alaska EX exercise for 2027. He read the statement directly off the DHS-EM web page. (Jurisdictions interested in applying for the Alaska EX series of full-scale exercises may apply as an additional project. The 2027 Alaska Ex exercise is tentatively scheduled for May 2027 and will be focused on Southeast Alaska communities. This regionally focused, operations-based exercise addresses local threats and hazards, including community infrastructure impacts, distribution management, and mass evacuation and sheltering. The program consists of three dedicated weeks of in-community support, conducting planning, training, and run-up exercises, culminating in the conduct of a full-scale exercise that validates regional agencies' plans, policies, and procedures. For more information, please contact the	
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	DHS-EM exercise team. Mr. Riley at 907-478-7024. Paul asked Scott Nelson if he had covered everything correctly for the DHS-EM, and Scott confirmed he did. 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. Paul Fussey (OM) on behalf of Mr. Nikalus (Nik) Fahnestock, System Manager	Action Items Assigned
	Paul briefed that all PMIs were completed last contract year, and they finished a new one that morning. Paul briefed that the SMO has a one-year contract extension. Paul stated that completed his report, pending any questions. Tammy thanked Paul 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.	
State of Alaska (SOA)	Mr. Scott Stormo	Action Items Assigned
	Mr. Scott Stormo briefed that the Auke Lake tower collapsed while a tower crew was working on tensioning guide wires. The investigator and insurance companies will decide if there is going to be funding put towards a new tower. Scott said he does not	



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	have any quick answers as to whether that site is going to be put back up anytime soon. Scott said there is overlapping coverage and some redundancies to minimize the impact of a single site failing. The risk is that he no longer has any redundancies with the Auke Lake site down. Scott briefed that if they have another tower problem in Juneau, then it would be bad for ALMR coverage. Scott said there are things he can try to try and bring back connectivity, if that happens. Scott is recommending putting the Auke Lake tower on the IRL list, Scott briefed that Motorola gave SOA a one-year extension to allow time to develop a follow-on contract. This will allow all billpayers sufficient time to get the increases in their budgets. Scott, they will be having more meetings this month with Motorola, potentially, separate from Bering Straits, with the SOA and DoW to discuss that follow-on contract that would start in June of 2027. Scott said that was all he had at the moment, unless there were any questions. Tammy thanked Scott and asked if there were any questions. There were none.	
Department of War	Mr. Timothy Woodall	Action Items Assigned
	Mr. Timothy (Tim) Woodall thanked Mr. Stormo for working on the extension of the contract and for working with DoW extensively on the Motorola contract extension. Tim said he looks forward to getting that finalized and going forward.	



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	Tim said that the DoW did initiate an IGSA with the SOA. Tim described the agreement structure, stating that the SOA provides all the operations management and infrastructure maintenance services in support of DoW infrastructure. Tim said that the main IGSA is the parent agreement. Some sub-agreements need to be further worked out between the SOA and DoW member agencies that participate in the IGSA. Tim stated that he is looking forward to getting those established and put in place, and hopefully that will lead to a much smoother contract payment and contract execution on the part of DoW and the SOA. 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 DPS has been working on radio issues as usual, trying to make sure they have connectivity for troopers to the local PD dispatches. DPS has been working with Nome PD on this issue. Lt. Endres said DPS is working with Bristol Bay Borough PD set up with troopers on the portables and they just need to get their vehicles compatible. DPS is also continuing to ensure trooper radios are updated to avoid any TDMA issues. 2. No representative from DOT was still on the call.	



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SOA DOT	3. Mr. Scott Nelsen reported he did not have anything for the good of the order.	
SOA All Others		
DoW US Army Installations	1. Major Joe Stribrny, Army alternate to Eric Smith, introduced himself and said he would reach out to the ALMR OMO with questions.	
DoW JBER	2. Kaitlyn De Hart said she had nothing new.	
DoW Eielson	3. No representatives were available to give a report.	
Federal Non-DOW DOJ	1. Mr. James Kroona said the FBI had nothing to report.	
Federal Non-DoW DOI	2. Mr. Ross Atkinson reported that DOI is making good progress on upgrading to TDMA, with all fire handhelds replaced and all law enforcement vehicles upgraded. The fire mobiles should be done by the end of the summer. Ross stated that he wanted to thank the ALMR folks for their support in helping them get Smart Connect rolled out. The officers are extremely pleased with their improved capability to communicate. No additional Federal Non-DoW representatives spoke. Tammy thanked the agencies for their updates.	



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Federal Non-DoW all Others		
Munis-Central Munis-North Muni-Southeast	1. Tammy said that Municipalities Central did not have an update for the group today. 2. Mr. Berrian reported nothing to add for Municipalities North today. Tammy thanked Mr. Berrian for the update. 4. Ms. Erann Kalwara reported no significant updates for Municipalities Southeast.	
New Business	Discussion	Action Items Assigned
CISA Briefing	Tammy thanked the area representatives and stated she was moving on to New Business. Tammy asked if anyone had any new business to offer up. Mr. Bruce Richter states that he shared two significant and interesting cyber updates from the CISA website in the chat. In the chat, he shared two of what he thinks are significant and interesting cyber updates from the CISA website. In particular, the first one is about the foreign targeting of commercial messaging applications. In that alert, they share two examples of the kind of phishing messages people are being sent.	



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	Bruce said that the other one has to do with one of the larger commercial vendors of cyber protection services and devices in the country, Fortinet. They have great information on their website, but CISA just updated the alert that they shared in June. Bruce has shared it with the four states that he works with, and he heard back from one of the firefighting teams in Idaho. They were putting together kits and using Fortinet devices. They were not aware of the potential exposure. The links Mr. Richter provided were: Russian Intelligence Services Continue to Target Commercial Messaging Applications: https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/russian-intelligence-services-continue-target-commercial-messaging-applications (CISA, June 26, 2026) CISA Urges Hardening Fortinet Devices After Reports of Credential Exposure: https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/alerts/2026/06/18/cisa-urges-hardening-fortinet-devices-after-reports-credential-exposure (CISA, June 22, 2026) Tammy thanked Bruce and asked if there was any more new business. She did not hear any and moved to the next meeting calendar.	
Next Meeting	Discussion	
	Tammy noted that the next meetings are currently scheduled for August 12 and September 2.	



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Adjournment	Discussion	
	Tammy asked if anyone else had anything and stated that at this time she would entertain a motion to adjourn the July 1st meeting. Motion: Adjourn the July 1st, 2026, User Council meeting. Motion: Lt. Ben Endres Second: Mr. Keith Berrian Tammy stated that the meeting was now adjourned and thanked everybody. The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 PM.	