



Alaska Land Mobile Radio

*ALMR User Council  
Meeting Minutes*

*Date: February 4, 2015*

1. Attendance.

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

Primary				
T	Adams	Ocie	Mr.	SOA DOT&PF
T	Fronterhouse	Bev	Ms	Fed Non-DOD, Bureau of Land Management
T	Goggia	Tammy	Ms.	Municipalities Central
T	Johnson	Brad	Chief	Municipalities Northern , Fairbanks PD, <b>Vice Chair</b>
E	Kaiser	Bill	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD, FBI
E	Lampshire	Chris	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD, US Forest Service
P	Leveque	Matt	MAJ	SOA DPS, AST, <b>Chair</b>
T	Martin	Chris	Mr.	DOD USAF, Eielson AFB
T	Sell	Kris	Lt	Municipalities Southeast, Juneau PD
U	Garrett	Rich	Mr.	DOD US Army, FGA DOIM
	VACANT			DOD USAF, JBER
	VACANT			SOA All Others, DNR Forestry

Alternate				
T	Arasz	Paul	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD, FBI
N/A	Boyle	Steve	Mr.	Municipalities Central, Assistant Chief KES
T	Eubank	Greg	Mr.	SOA All Others, DMVA
U	Flowers	Alvin	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD, TSA
N/A	Gibbs	David	Mr.	Municipalities Northern, Fairbanks North Star Borough Emergency Manager
T	Jones	Dave	Mr.	DOD USAF, Eielson AFB
E	Kain	Paul	Mr.	Fed Non-DOD, USFS
N/A	Patz	Greg	Mr.	SOA DOT
	VACANT			Fed Non-DOD, US Fish & Wildlife Service
	VACANT			DOD USAF, JBER
	VACANT			Municipalities Southeast
	VACANT			SOA DPS, AST

**Supporting Staff and Guests:**

P	Borg	Casey	Mr.	System Manager
T	Gale	Kent	Mr.	Alaska Fire Service
P	Leber	Rich	Mr.	Technical Advisor
P	Lynn	John	Mr.	SOA ETS
P	Richter	Bruce	Mr.	OEC Region Ten Coordinator
P	Rockwell	John	Mr.	DPS 911 Coordinator
T	Shafer	Sherry	Ms.	Document Specialist
P	Smith	Del	Mr.	Operations Manager
P	Stormo	Scott	Mr.	SATS/ETS Manager
P	Strid	Dean	Mr.	SOA ETS



2. Meeting Minutes and Action Items.

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items Assigned</b>
<b>Call to Order</b>	Major Matt Leveque called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.	
<b>Roll Call</b>	Roll call was taken and a quorum of User Council (UC) members was in attendance.	
<b>Introduction of Guests</b>	There were no special guests present.	
<b>Previous Meeting Minutes</b>	<p>Matt asked the council members if they had reviewed the minutes from the January meeting and if there were requested changes. There were none. A motion was requested for approval of the minutes.</p> <p><b>Motion: Accept the January 7, 2015, meeting minutes, as written.</b></p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Mr. Ocie Adams <b>Second:</b> Ms. Tammy Goggia</p> <p>There were no objections. The motion <b>passed</b>.</p>	
<b>Issues &amp; Risks Log</b>	<b>Active Issues</b>	<b>Action Items Assigned</b>
	<p><b>Item #57 remains open.</b> The DPS alternate, USF&amp;WS (alternate to BLM), JBER primary and alternate and the USARAK alternate positions are all vacant. <b>NOTE:</b> The Municipalities-Central nominations were approved by the Executive Council on January 15.</p> <p><b>Item #60 remains open.</b> <b>Opened 9/3:</b> The After Action Review (AAR) was held on August 21 at the Kenai Borough Emergency Operations Center (EOC); item to remain open until publication of the AAR report. <b>Update:</b> There was no change in the status.</p>	
	<b>Pending Issues</b>	
	There were no pending issues.	
	<b>Issues Closed at, or since, last meeting</b>	
	There were no issues closed.	
<b>Action Items Review</b>	<b>Opened Items</b>	<b>Resolution</b>
	<p>There was one June action item that continued to remain open through December:</p> <p>1. Mr. John Lynn to produce a straw man layout for the conventional frequencies/channels for programming into trunked radios and to set up a virtual working group/team for input. (Carry over from June 2014, <b>CLOSED</b>)</p>	



	<p>Mr. Lynn was present and discussed the paper and draft strawman he had prepared, which had been emailed to the council members prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> The discussion was covered during the SOA update portion of the meeting.</p>	
<b>Operations Management Office</b>	<b>Mr. Del Smith, Operations Manager</b>	<b>Action Items Assigned</b>
<b>Clear site</b>	<p>1. Del advised the council that Mr. Casey Borg had been up at Clear during the past week installing equipment in the racks. He noted he would let Casey provide more details during his update.</p> <p>Del also explained he had been speaking with Mr. Tim Woodall earlier in the day and the fifth channel that had been removed from the old AT&amp;T location would need new frequencies assigned before it could be installed at the Nenana site.</p>	
<b>Funny River Fire</b>	<p>2. Del stated the reason this was on the agenda because Chief Jeff Tucker had received information from Representative Olson complaining about ALMR not working this past summer. He surmised this was in regards to the Funny River fire.</p> <p>Del advised he provided Chief Tucker with the report prepared by ALMR referencing the inundation of the Pipeline Hills site and the performance of the surrounding sites.</p> <p>Del also informed the council he had heard that Representative Neuman had stated neither Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) nor the Department of Administration (DOA) had done enough to look for alternatives to ALMR.</p>	
<b>GTR8000s</b>	<p>3. Del reminded everyone that ETS has installed a GTR8000 "six pack" at Rabbit Creek last summer. He advised the Department of Defense (DOD) was going to be replacing the Quantars™ at R1 North and in both the transportable systems with GTR8000s in the near future and the surplus equipment would be made available through the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO).</p>	
<b>January Document Reviews</b>	<p>4. Del briefed the Operations Management Office (OMO) had reviewed and approved the New User Policy &amp; Procedure and the ALMR Concept of Operation. He also advised them the Executive Council had accepted the 2014 User Council Annual Assessment on System Maintenance and Operations.</p>	
<b>January System Metrics</b>	<p>5. Del noted since the additional capacity had been added at Tok, Glennallen and Tolsona, the busies were almost non-existent. He stated there were still occasional busies at the Cottonwood Creek site but that it was heavily utilized by the State Troopers and the Wasilla Police Department</p>	
<b>System Management Office</b>	<b>Mr. Casey Borg, System Manager</b>	<b>Action Items Assigned</b>



<p><b>Clear Site</b></p> <p><b>Departure</b></p>	<p>1. Mr. Casey Borg briefed the council the new Clear site should be finished sometime in the last week of February or the first week of March.</p> <p>2. Casey advised the council members this was his last User Council meeting. He explained he had taken another position and was moving to Colorado; his last day would be the 27th.</p>	
<p><b>State of Alaska</b></p>	<p><b>Mr. Scott Stormo, SOA</b></p>	<p><b>Action Items Assigned</b></p>
<p><b>Statewide Conventional Frequency/Channel Lineup</b></p>	<p>Mr. Scott Stormo asked Mr. John Lynn to brief the council regarding his paper on the shared mutual aid conventional frequencies.</p> <p>John stated the idea was for State of Alaska (SOA) to get the conventional resources, both within and outside of the ALMR footprint, into their radios. He clarified that the Interoperability (IOP) Zone should already be in all the radios, but the strawman he prepared offered other suggestions, one being the Alaska Truckers Association (ATA) who the State had signed a frequency sharing agreement with.</p> <p>Ocie asked if DOT needed to do sharing agreements with the agencies listed on the strawman and John advised him the State already held the licenses, so DOT did not need to do separate agreements.</p> <p>Deputy Chief Brad Johnson stated he could see the benefit in this across state agencies and for local/NGOs but he was not in favor of making it mandatory in all ALMR codeplug programming.</p> <p>Matt agreed many agencies would not have the space for it in their codeplugs.</p> <p>John explained it was not his intent to make it mandatory but to offer it up as a solution to assist agencies. He advised another initiative they were working on was going through the codeplugs with a fine-tooth comb.</p> <p>Matt noted that in many conversations with other organizations, they often referred to the frequency rather than calling it by the name; he suggested including the frequencies would be very helpful.</p> <p>John advised they could include the frequencies but they could also put together a quick reference card if that would be helpful, and list the associated repeater, as well.</p> <p>Matt asked if the users would be able to identify the where the repeaters were and John stated he had a Google Earth™ capture that had all the names associated with the repeater. He reiterated, he thought the quick reference card was the best</p>	



	<p>answer.</p> <p>Mr. Kent Gale asked if the agreement with the ATA and the SOA was a reciprocal agreement and Ocie advised anyone outside of DOT would require a separate agreement, but they could discuss it offline.</p> <p>Mr. Greg Eubank applauded John for what he was doing but asked what happened to the Command and Control (CnC) channel because DHS&amp;EM utilized it for their incident command.</p> <p>John briefed the channel lineups were listed in 2011 and again in 2014 in the Insider newsletters and that there was no longer a statewide license for the CnC.</p> <p>Greg stated no one coordinated with them and they were unaware.</p> <p>John pointed out the list of frequencies was directly from the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG), but they could take it offline for further discussion.</p> <p>John stated the list he provided was just a way to float the concept and nothing was set in stone.</p> <p>Everyone thanked John for the outstanding effort in creating a cornerstone document to address this long standing issue.</p>	
<b>Department of Defense</b>	<b>Mr. Tim Woodall, ALMR DOD Representative</b>	<b>Action Items Assigned</b>
	Mr. Tim Woodall was not in attendance. No update was provided.	
<b>Old Business</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items Assigned</b>
	There were no Old Business items.	
<b>New Business</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items Assigned</b>
<b>ALMR Outreach Fact Sheet and Trifold</b>	1. Del briefed the group that the OMO in conjunction with Motorola® and the SOA Department of Public Safety had worked together to create an ALMR fact sheet brochure and a trifold. He stated it could be used in conjunction with the outreach video on the web site, which could be burned to CD and utilized however the members saw fit.	
<b>Capital Budget</b>	<p>2. Matt advised the council that if the budget is finalized as it was recently presented then all the requests for the consoles, software updates get tabled and ALMR gets closer and closer to a crisis.</p> <p>He encouraged the members to talk to their lawmakers and influential citizens they may know because if the State doesn't show an interest in maintaining ALMR it creates doubts among</p>	



	<p>the municipalities, non-governmental organizations and federal partners who can all walk away.</p> <p>Matt stressed this was not the time to be bashful and that the groundwork must be laid if they don't move it forward this year that they will be open to a capital budget next year. He stated he was headed to the Fire Chiefs Association conference tomorrow and he would be advising them the same.</p>	
<b>Next meeting</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	
	<p>Matt announced the next two regularly scheduled meetings were March 4 and April 1.</p>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	
	<p>Matt asked if there were any other comments or any further business the council wished to discuss.</p> <p>Hearing none, he requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.</p> <p><b>Motion: Adjourn the February monthly User Council meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Ocie <b>Second:</b> Deputy Chief Brad Johnson</p> <p>There were no objections. The motion passed.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.</p>	