



To: Bay Area UASI Approval Authority

From: Barry Fraser, Interim General Manager

Date: August 8, 2013

Re: Item #11: Report from the Bay Area Regional Interoperable Communications System Joint Powers Authority (BayRICS Authority)

Recommendations:

Receive and File Report

Action or Discussion Items:

Report from General Manager of the BayRICS Authority on the activities and progress of the BayRICS Authority for June-July 2013.

Discussion/Description:

1. BayRICS Administration

The BayRICS Board of Directors held two meetings since the last report, on June 13, 2013 and July 11, 2013. At the June 13 meeting, the BayRICS Board adopted a budget for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year. At its July 11 meeting, the Board approved a tentative spectrum lease agreement with FirstNet and re-elected Undersheriff Rich Lucia as Chair and State of California Director Karen Wong as Vice-Chair. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 12 at 1:30 PM at the Alameda County Sheriff OES in Dublin.

2. Staff Activities

Staff conducted meetings with several key stakeholders over the past month, including:

- Alameda County City Managers Association – General Manager Barry Fraser gave a presentation to the Alameda County City Managers on June 19.
- San Mateo County – GM Fraser met with San Mateo County staff and Motorola to conduct a review of San Mateo County radio sites and develop an update on site status.
- Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) – BayRICS and Motorola staff met with PG&E staff on to discuss PG&E participation in BayWEB.
- BART -- GM Fraser has met with BART several times over the past month to attempt to finalize a reciprocal use agreement for BART dark fiber and sites. We are also

discussing the possible expansion of BART usage of the BayWEB service, and looking at ways to extend the service into BART train tunnels.

- City of Charlotte, NC -- Staff held discussions with Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grantee City of Charlotte, NC to consider ways to develop volume pricing quotes for LTE user devices, particularly devices that currently operate on commercial data networks, but that can be upgraded to operate on BayWEB when it becomes available.
- FirstNet – GM Fraser met several times with FirstNet engineers and consultants and conducted site visits of several locations in the Bay Area.
- National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) -- GM Fraser spoke at NARUC’s summer conference in Denver, CO on July 22. NARUC is an organization representing state Public Utilities Commissioners.
- Northern California Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (NAPCO) – GM Fraser has been asked to speak at the August NAPCO meeting, to be held in Alameda aboard the USS Hornet on Friday Aug. 9 from 9:00 AM – Noon.
- Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Annual Conference – GM Fraser has been invited to speak on a panel at the APCO International Conference in Anaheim, CA on August 20.

BayRICS Staff are also working with commercial vendors to conduct testing and demonstrations of LTE technology and applications in the Bay Area:

- PureWave Networks – PureWave is a manufacturer of cellular technology based in Santa Clara that has developed a micro cell application for indoor use that may be beneficial for public safety LTE networks. GM Barry Fraser has met several times with PureWave management to discuss small cell technology and applications. PureWave is working with FirstNet, NTIA and FCC to perform limited testing of its LTE technology in the South Bay. GM Fraser has also had discussions with other small cell providers in the South Bay regarding testing small cell technology in urban scenarios.
- Harris Corporation – Harris will conduct a test of LTE equipment and technology in Livermore on August 14. FirstNet, PSCR and BayRICS have been invited to observe the demonstration.

3. First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Spectrum Lease Negotiations. At its July 11, 2013 meeting, the BayRICS Board of Directors authorized the BayRICS General Manager to execute a proposed Spectrum Manager Lease Agreement (“SMLA”) with FirstNet. The Staff Report with the proposed SMLA is available at http://www.bayrics.net/uploads/1/2/4/6/12466172/item_9_-_staff_report_spectrum_lease_final.pdf. Please note that this is a tentative draft agreement, which remains subject to final review and approval by the NTIA and the FirstNet Board of Directors. The BayRICS Board authorized the BayRICS General Manager, after first consulting

with the BayRICS Board Chair, to approve minor changes requested by FirstNet Board when it approves the lease.

BayRICS staff and FirstNet Board Member Sue Swenson negotiated the draft SMLA, pursuant to FirstNet's February 12, 2013 Resolution authorizing Ms. Swenson to negotiate spectrum leases with each of the seven BTOP grantees, including the BayRICS Authority. The lease is also the first step in the process of lifting the BayWEB project's BTOP funding suspension. After FirstNet approves the lease, Motorola must submit a request to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to lift the suspension. FirstNet will then submit a letter in support of that action. NTIA has the final decision as to whether to lift the funding suspension, necessary for the project to resume construction.

FirstNet Meetings and Activities. The FirstNet Board of Directors held a special meeting on June 27, 2013 to approve the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Authority (LA-RICS) Spectrum Lease and to review (in closed session) an acquisition strategy presented by FirstNet GM, Bill D'Agostino. The LA-RICS lease is the first such agreement between FirstNet and one of the seven public safety BTOP grantees.

On July 10, 2013, FirstNet issued 10 Requests for Information (RFIs) requesting detailed information regarding potential deployment options for crucial portions of the Long-Term Evolution (LTE) network, including the radio access network (RAN) and core network. The RFIs are available at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press-release/2013/firstnet-issues-rfis-technology-nationwide-wireless-broadband-network>. FirstNet has indicated that over 18 RFIs will be issued over the coming months to gather technical and operational information for the nationwide network. FirstNet had issued one RFI, related to user devices, earlier this year.