



East Bay Regional Communications System Authority



Participating agencies include Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and the following cities and special districts: Alameda, Albany, Antioch, Berkeley, Brentwood, Clayton, Concord, Danville, Dublin, El Cerrito, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Hercules, Lafayette, Livermore, Martinez, Moraga, Newark, Oakley, Pinole, Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill, Pleasanton, Richmond, San Leandro, San Pablo, San Ramon, Union City, Walnut Creek, East Bay Regional Park District, Kensington Police Community Services District, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, Moraga-Orinda Fire District, Rodeo-Hercules Fire District, San Ramon Valley Fire District, California Department of Transportation, Ohlone Community College District, Contra Costa Community College District, Dublin-San Ramon Services District and University of California, Berkeley

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

DATE: August 15, 2025

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Alameda County Office of Emergency Services
Room 1013
4985 Broder Blvd., Dublin, CA 94568

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair King called the meeting to order at the hour of 10:00 a.m.

Present: A. Averiett, R. Filice, J. King, D. McNaughton, M. Nichelini

2. Public Comments: None.

3. Approval of Minutes of May 9, 2025, Operations Committee Meeting

On motion of Bm. Nichelini, seconded by Bm. Filice, and by unanimous vote, the Operations Committee approved the minutes.

4. Receive System Status Report and Discuss Impacts of System-wide Law Enforcement Dispatch Capability

Executive Director Swing reported that the system has functioned well over the last three months. There was a PSPS event in early June that resulted in three generators running including the generator at Patterson Pass that ran the entire weekend. A generator issue set off an alarm that alerted the radio shops and was appropriately mitigated with coolant and re-fueling.

The switch for police primary talk groups was made in early July with no appreciable difference in system demand after switching over to systemwide. Users have not experienced issues to date.

The Committee asked if the system would sustain operations if for example there was an event in Oakland and Contra Costa County units came into Oakland. Executive Director

Swing replied that based on comparator agency scenarios (e.g., the Palisades fire) that it should not result in an issue, but has not had a live test for the EBRCSA system.

The Committee asked about potential for Fire talk groups to be expanded systemwide. Executive Director Swing replied that he is not sure what that will look like at this time.

5. Discuss Walton Lane Radio Shelter Purchase

Executive Director Swing provided a status update that the land lease agreement has been received but does not support the EBRCSA Board of Director's requested amendments. The City of Antioch is proposing a 30-year lease term instead of the Authority's requested 40-year term. Executive Director Swing believes that the Antioch site has enough power (there is a transformer for the radio shelter) and the Authority wouldn't be charged for power. Should the land lease with Antioch not be finalized, he has engaged in conversation with EBRPD to see if that site is a feasible alternative however, the Walton Lane location is ideal for the Kregor prime site.

Executive Director Swing outlined the primary and alternative proposals for radio shelters by vendor, Cell Site. The proposed larger (approximately 12'x30') comprehensive shelter purchase would require securing a letter of intent. Operationally, that shelter uses a 48-volt power supply that is a different vendor from those used by EBRCSA's other shelters (La Marche and Lorain) and cannot share parts for maintenance.

The Committee provided feedback that generally, equipment consistency is ideal unless the new equipment is more efficient. They asked whether the Authority's radio shops would be able to manage the repairs and servicing of the larger shelter with different parts. Executive Director Swing said that the radio shops currently service EBRCSA's 48-volt power supply units and does not anticipate that this will pose a problem in the immediate future especially if it is a newer unit, but he will check with the radio shops.

The Committee asked how this will impact project timelines and whether the Authority would be able to lease out the larger shelter. Executive Director Swing said it is unlikely that the space will be rented, and that Contra Costa will have a rack in the shelter because there's a shared microwave.

The Committee had shared concerns that the refurbishment of the alternative smaller shelter will likely require an additional A/C unit that will bring the cost similar to the newer larger shelter proposed.

On motion of Bm. Filice, seconded by Bm. Averiett, and by unanimous vote, the Operations Committee recommended purchase of the proposed approximately 12'x30' comprehensive shelter for the cell site.

Executive Director Swing will confirm maintenance capabilities with the radio shops before bringing this item to the next Board of Directors meeting.

6. East Bay Regional Communications System Authority Updates

- Encryption Implementation Plan

The planned encryption cutover dates are September 3-4 and will occur in sequential phases as each talkgroup will have to move one at a time. Radio technicians from each county will be collaborating with each of the cities to help communications supervisors and managers with any challenges. There will be a conference call bridge in order to allow successful open and closing of the Elite application. On August 28, there will be a test run on the consoles at OES with radio technicians so they know the process.

There will be an update at the Board of Directors meeting in September. Agencies that are pending new radios will be implemented later.

- Walton Lane Area Radio Site

Updates provided in previous agenda item.

- Pearl Radio Site Shelter

The Site plan is still in progress.

- Portable Radio GPS

In current testing, the portable radios are not communicating GPS to the site so it will continue to be tested. Updates won't be available until testing is completed. GPS features shouldn't impact capacity as it is only on when push to talk is activated, and is not a continuous transmittal.

The Committee asked if there is possibility for Z-axis enabling. Executive Director Swing said currently Z-axis capabilities are not available on Motorola Aware.


- Migration Assurance Program

Executive Director Swing has met with Motorola's team about their recommended transition plan and expects to discuss at the December Board of Director's meeting with a recommended timeline for replacement in alignment with EBRCSA's funding strategy.

7. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a. 2026 Meeting Calendar – Venue and Remote Option

8. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.



Jocelyn Kwong
Authority Secretary