



STATE *of* NEBRASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LINCOLN

EXECUTIVE ORDER
No. 08-04

ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS – Local Communications Regions

WHEREAS, Nebraska recognized the importance of public safety and protection of public and private property throughout the state: and

WHEREAS, efficient emergency response is paramount to the safety of Nebraska’s citizens and visitors, and for the protection of public and private property throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, emergency responders commonly rely upon radio frequencies and technologies that are often not planned or configured to be interoperable with other systems; and

WHEREAS, interoperable public safety communications between and within jurisdictions is critical to the mission of public safety; and

WHEREAS, the attainment of interoperable communications requires statewide coordination and leadership,

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Nebraska, I Dave Heineman, Governor of the State of Nebraska, direct that the Nebraska Council of Regions (hereinafter “NCOR”) be established and authorized to function in compliance with the following sections of this order:

1. The name of the Council is the Nebraska Council of Regions. The NCOR shall report to the Lt. Governor as Nebraska Homeland Security Director and to the Governor’s Homeland Security Policy Group.

2. The NCOR is created to provide oversight and integration for the eight local public safety communications regions of Nebraska and to coordinate with the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network. The NCOR is responsible for developing and implementing the State Communications Interoperability Plan.

4. The ten-member Council shall be comprised of one member of each of the eight local communications regions, who shall be appointed by each region; one representative of the Nebraska Public Power District, who shall be appointed by the NPPD Chief Executive Officer; and one member of the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network, who shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Network.

5. The NCOR shall foster collaboration among stakeholders at the local, federal and state level. The Nebraska Council of Regions shall:

- Provide policy level direction and coordination related to the planning and decisions regarding regional integration with the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network (N-WIN).
- Adopt bylaws for the operation of the NCOR.
- Develop strategies and recommendations to improve operations of the Nebraska wireless communication network, including the use of new technology as it becomes available.
- Promote interoperability for public safety communications within Nebraska.
- Provide for the development of protocols, standard operating procedures and guidelines for use of the local Nebraska wireless communication network.
- Establish the terms of agreements and enter into agreements for public safety entities to operate with the Nebraska Wireless Interoperability Network (N-WIN), in conjunction with the Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO), when such arrangements are practical and in the best interests of the State and the regions.

6. The NCOR may establish sub-committees and temporary working groups to address operating procedures and special projects.

7. The NCOR will be administratively and technically supported by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency ("NEMA") and the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

8. Representatives appointed to serve on the NCOR shall serve for a term of two calendar years at a time. No members serving in any capacity on the Nebraska Council of Regions shall be entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred pursuant to Council duties.

9. The NCOR shall prepare an annual report for the Governor and the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group. Such report shall contain a current assessment of the Nebraska Regional wireless communication networks, including recommendations regarding the further development and operation of the system.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 17th day of December, 2008.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dave Heineman".

Dave Heineman
Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John A. Gale".

John A. Gale, Secretary of State
State of Nebraska