

East Central Region Governance Meeting

March 6, 2014

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

MINUTES

Location: Map Room – Platte Co. Courthouse (basement), 2610 14th Street, Columbus, NE

Chair: Bob Carey, *Polk County Sheriffs Office*

Co-Chair: Terry Miller, *Saunders County*

Secretary/Treasurer: Tim Hofbauer, *Platte County*

- i. **Review of the Open Meeting Law** – the Open Meetings Law is present at the meeting and available for review. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.
- ii. **Roll Call of Counties Present** – Colfax, Howard, Boone, Platte, Butler, Merrick, Nance
 - a. Not Present: Dodge, Polk, Merrick, Nance, Saunders
- iii. **Approve February, 2014 Governance Board Minutes** - Motion made by Howard and seconded by Colfax.
- iv. **Public Health Report**
 - a. The Flu outbreaks have been across the region.
 - b. There have been 2 suspicious deaths (Columbus and Albion). The common link is food related.
 - c. Laura reports that 4 Corners Health Department attended a pandemic planning event and stated that it was helpful. She also reports that there is planning underway for a Full Scale exercise with Polk and Butler in April as part of the medical response system.
- v. **2013 Homeland Security Grant**
 - a. **Status of projects** –
 - i. **2013 - (\$50,000)** - there are several projects such as tower rent for NRIN and other smaller projects that fall under this grant.
 - ii. **2011 and 2012 grants have all been spent.** Tim is in the process of dealing with changing rules and policies (i.e. location of packing slips). There is approximately \$200 left and this may go back to NEMA.
- vi. **Regional Projects**
 - a. **Mutual Aid Base Stations** –, They will begin installation in Butler within the next week with a UHF and VHF mutual aid base station installation that ties back to Butler and Polk, and perhaps Platte. The other site is in Humphrey that ties back to Platte and Colfax and Boone is in process of being inspected due to tower structures. The third one to go up will be in Howard County, and that is yet to be determined – this one will tie into NRIN and NRIN will be on this same tower. Payment has been made on this one.
 - b. **Consolette Install** – Colfax and Polk are in the process of being installed. Butler, Nance and Merrick Counties are complete. Boone County is complete as well.
 - c. **NRIN** – This process is moving fast and is being driven by the EC911. CSI has given the go ahead to have this be a priority in this area to get as much done as possible in the region. The big issue is getting Saunders County connectivity. The water tower in Wahoo will be used to complete this part of the project. The issue is to get a connection to the Wahoo water tower to then to the courthouse. Now Boone County needs to be sorted out to get up and running. A tower in Howard County is being considered that passes under Class 2 and state wants to have Class 3 approval based on the severity of the location of this tower. NEMA is working with Dept. of Roads and OCIO to classify it as a Class 2 tower. One extra hop would save significant

amount of funds not using the Viero tower. Polk County is working on this issue and will need some assistance with copies of the quotes that have been done.

- i. **Tower lease/agreement** - Industrial Engineering is the contractor. There is nothing new on the leases.
- ii. **System Build Out** - This is occurring in the East Central region currently.
- iii. **Governance** – EOC operations course interfered with Tim attending this meeting. They are working on the promotion and the Inter local agreements. There is a workday scheduled to work on the MOU's and the approach that would work best to move forward. Tim and Todd met with OCIO to discuss how EC 911 system, and there is support for the EC 911 Project.

- d. **EC-911** – Todd reports that all hardware has been shipped and delivered to Call Works. The 2nd invoice from Electronic Engineering is out for processing. The next 30% of the costs will be billed later and the last part of the bill (10%) will not be paid out until assurance that everything working is complete. Some counties have paid 100% of their share. This is a flagship for the NRIN. Southeast region is also looking at this project. Todd is working on building these relationships.

vii. Update on NEMA and NPSCC Meetings

a. NEMA Update

- i. Tornado season is getting underway.
- ii. Investment Justification - dates will be set in the next few weeks for this meeting.
- iii. THIRA – most regions are underway to complete their plan and assessment.
- iv. School threat assessment is up for consideration.

viii. Nebraska Resource Accountability Team

- i. This is moving along and policy has been developed. Multiple Teams will be a part of this exercise. All team members will need an authorization letter (already developed) in order to be part of the process. It requires at least four activations annually. A call usually lasts 7 days, however the group is making concessions for those who cannot.
 - 1. All meals, travel, and lodging will be paid for teams by NEMA upon deployment.
 - 2. The Wayne Tornado was a “trial by fire” informing new areas of operation.
 - 3. This is an excellent way to get on scene learning and put the Emergency Management principles and training into practice.
 - 4. This requires 4 deployments annually. NEMA pays expenses for activation of team.
 - 5. Logo and other resources are being developed.

ix. Regional Planning/Training

a. Regional Planning/Training in East Central – Subcommittee Report

- i. The group has completed the training assessment and EOC training.
- ii. There are several free classes available from NEMA and other places. PIO training is one that has been suggested, and Michelle will work with the college to schedule this if possible. Michelle will send out a link for the group for them to look at the available training.
- iii. June is being scheduled to have all first responders in counties attend county specific Railroad training to brush up to the industry. Disaster drills will also be planned based on the needs of each region.

b. Family Assistance Center

- i. This has been considered as a part of the Active Shooter exercise. The group decided that this is a part of what needs to be sorted out in order to have it function properly. Red Cross was a big part of this planning process. Emergency Managers, while responsible for the FAC need to rely on others to manage the process due to the

large amount of other duties. Red Cross has been a large part of this operation in the past. Volunteers are the best option to run the FAC.

c. Functional Needs

i. It may be that Lincoln is not doing this anymore. East Central has had a low response for registration.

d. **Regional/Local Exercises** – Active Shooter exercise is nearing the planning on March 27th at CCC beginning at 9:00 AM. All are invited to attend this exercise and Tim needs to know if anyone wants to become an observer.

e. Regional/Local Training

i. **ATAP** – April 30 - May 2 in Omaha at Embassy Suites.

ii. **DBH** - July 24 – Exercise and the Conference will be held July 25th.

iii. **NAEM Conference** – April 3-4, 2014 in Grand Island at the Midtown Holiday Inn. This will mean that the next Board meeting will need to be moved. The Red Cross will be a part of the presentations to discuss the new revisions in the organization. Social Media, 211, Standard Response Protocol are a few things on the agenda.

iv. **Nebraska Infrastructure Protection Conference** - this is a costly conference and since this one may not continue, it may be joined into the NAEM conference.

x. State Update

i. **IJ** – this will be coming up – plans are being formulated.

ii. **First Net** – Bob Wilhelm has been visiting counties to discuss First Net.

iii. **School Threat Assessment** - the Public Policy Center has developed a program for School Threat Assessment. It has been piloted and is available.

xi. Public Comment

a. Thomas Smith will be the new EM for Region 44.

xii. Upcoming meetings

a. **East Central Governance** - next meeting April 10, 2014.

b. **Adjourn** – Howard motions to adjourn the meeting and Colfax seconds. Motion carries.