

Nebraska Council of Regions (NCOR)
April 23, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.
Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department Training Center
3140 N Street – Lincoln Nebraska

Opening comments

1. Roll Call

First	Last	Attendance
Mark	Conrey	x
Patrick	Foust	x
Pat	Gerdes	x
Jim	Gerweck	x
Tim	Hofbauer	absent
Darrin	Lewis	x
Pete	Peterson	x
Ray	Richards	absent
Thomas	Schwarten	x
Dave	Webb	x

2. Open Meetings Law information – verification of public notice, availability of copy of law in the meeting location

3. Minutes – February 26, 2010 meeting

Pat Foust made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of one typo and changing Action Item #6 to “Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network.” Pat Gerdes seconded the motion; the motion was passed unanimously by all members present.

Discussion Items - No Discussion Items.

Action Items

1. Mutual Aid Standard Operating Procedures – Bob Eastwood, NEMA

Bob Eastwood from Nebraska Emergency Management Association (NEMA) is working on getting a technical assistance request for interoperable Communications Planning for Nebraska.

2. Guidance to Regions on development and deployment of Regional Networks – Rod Hutt, NEMA

NEMA has asked the local governments for detailed information on tower sites and console plans. Feedback is being received on the consoles; information is still being collected on towers. NEMA will send a request to each NCOR representative and each regional chair to aid in the submission of information. Rod Hutt and Steve Cass, NEMA, will examine the towers beginning on the Panhandle and working eastward. Money for travel and measurement of towers may come out of the 2006 PSIC Planning dollars, which must be obligated by June 30, 2010.

Project Briefs, developed by OCIO on April 1, 2010, for each of the projects were distributed. OCIO will handle contract issues and the coordination of state-owned towers in regards to the Regional Interoperability Network. The state is not making decisions on local towers, but OCIO and NEMA will continue work with the regions as they identify local assets for use with the regional network. The Project Briefs will be clarified to reflect that the project control will rest with local and regional authorities.

Concerns from local public safety officials about not being able to communicate with the state patrol after the installation of the state radio system in the Panhandle are being addressed. The state patrol cars still have the old radio equipment and can be reached if needed. The radio traffic for the state patrol can no longer be heard by local officials without a scanner, but communication between them is

still possible. Messages will be sent from the State of Nebraska to local law enforcement to quell fears and concerns regarding state/local communications.

The Mutual Aid Project is moving forward. VTAC1 can only be used in mobile transmitters, which are limited across the state. Mike Jeffres of OCIO will share frequency scheme information from other states with NCOR members by the next meeting.

3. Statewide Interoperable Communications Plan 2010 Revision Update

The TICPs will be shared with everyone to examine how the TICPs reference the Mutual Aid Plan. The Public Policy Center will create a crosswalk to see where the TICPs overlap across regions. The State SCIP will collaborate with the regions' TICP.

4. MOU for Communications Planning Activities

NEMA has authorized spending Local FY06 money to help gather information by utilizing local/region service shops up to 15 hours of bench time and mileage as needed. Anything above the 15 hours (per region) will need to be approved by NEMA. FY06 money has to be obligated and spent by June 30, 2010. NEMA is going to use the pre-existing MOU to get work done.

Jim Gerweck moved that NCOR approve of the decision by NEMA to use the Local FY06 dollars MOU'd back to NEMA for 15 hours of work and mileage pre-approved per region for tower examination. Pat Gerdes seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously by all members present.

5. MOU Templates – Denise Bulling, Public Policy Center

The Public Policy Center prepared a template Memorandum of Understanding based on CNRI's work with the Nebraska State Patrol. Standard language for local-to-local MOUs should include frequency information, whether it is sharing frequencies or authorizing use only through Paraclete. Some areas may opt to insert language in existing Mutual Aid Agreements rather than enter into new MOU's. Anyone can program any frequency to receive and transmit a radio, but one cannot use a radio without proper authorization, which is a strong reason for MOUs. MOUs should be developed for emergency usage, basic communications, and other usage situations. Sustainability must be examined at each level of the plan. The Public Policy Center will prepare standard language options and send to NCOR for review via email.

Information/Reports

1. NEMA

a. Administration – No Additional Updates.

b. Grants/Programs – Nikki Weber, NEMA

Many regions have submitted 2009 work plans which include high ticket items. With the Mutual Aid system installation, that there may be some big projects in 2010 that may not be figured in to the budgets at this time. Please keep the future costs in mind.

c. Wireless Network Coordinators – No additional updates.

d. RFP – Rod Hutt, NEMA

Eight vendors responded to the current RFP for the regional network. The evaluation committee is in process of reviewing the RFP submissions. The Technical Review committee will meet May 3, 2010.

2. University of Nebraska PPC – Denise Bulling, Public Policy Center

The Western Policy Academy will be June 10, 2010 in North Platte, NE.

3. OCIO – Mike Jeffres, OCIO

Mike Jeffres will meet with NEMA for additional follow-up on towers and analysis on April 27, 2010.

4. NCOR representatives to N-WIN

- a. N-WIN is meeting April 23, 2010 and will review their procedures agreement.

Comments

1. Member comments

Darin Lewis: Kearney had a full-scale exercise recently which included a test of communications through the Mobile Response Unit and Paraclete.

2. Public comments

No comments.

Next Meeting

Friday, May 28, 2010, 10:00 AM, Lincoln, NE. Specific location TBD.