

Nebraska Council of Regions (NCOR)

July 30, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.

Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department Training Center – 3140 N Street – Lincoln Nebraska

Or via phone at:

1825 10th Street, Gering, Nebraska

Opening comments

1. Roll Call

First	Last	Org	Attendance
Mark	Conrey	Douglas Co. 911 Center	x
Patrick	Foust	So. Sioux City/Dakota Co. EMA	x
Pat	Gerdes	Region 15 Emergency Management Agency	
Jim	Gerweck	Richardson Co. Emerg Management	x
Tim	Hofbauer	Columbus/Platte Co Emr. Management	x
Darrin	Lewis	Buffalo County Emergency Management	x
Pete	Peterson	Keith County Emergency Management	x
Ray	Richards	Scottsbluff Co. 911 Director	x
Thomas	Schwarten	NSP Major	x
Dave	Webb	NPPD	x

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

3. Minutes – June 25, 2010 meeting

Pat Foust made a motion to approve the June 25, 2010 minutes. Tim Hofbauer seconded the motion; the motion passed by voice vote.

Discussion Items

1. Regional Interoperability Network Project

Communications Services Inc. (CSI) Representatives, Mark Higgins and Roland Guardhouse, attended the meeting though no contract had been signed prior to the meeting date. As soon as the contract is executed, the next steps in the process include coordinating a pre-design meeting in each region beginning in the Panhandle to review tower information. The pre-design meetings will include representatives from the region, CSI, the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Nebraska Council of Regions (NCOR). Rod Hutt will be providing additional information to CSI. At the meetings, CSI will collect any additional information needed such as ASR (antenna registration numbers), any existing call signs for each tower/site, and FRN numbers. Once the towers are approved based on analysis, mapping, and engineering structure, the building may begin. CSI will license all subcontractors. CSI will prepare a bill of materials and review the current regional tower conditions. Environmental requirements are listed in the RFP. CSI can prepare basic timelines for the project to share with NCOR.

2. Regional TICP Update/Revision

NEMA and the Public Policy Center (PPC) are working on updating Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICPs). The PPC has done a preliminary analysis. Rod Hutt from NEMA is developing standard language for TICPs. Bob Eastwood from NEMA will be scheduling a meeting in Grand Island in August for TICP development and CASM training.

3. CASM Tool usage
Bob Eastwood, NEMA, and Mark DeKraai, PPC, are preparing a CASM Refresher Training and TICP meeting to be held at the end of August.
4. Mutual Aid Project
Mutual Aid must be built from a local level focus that is unique for each region. Each region and county will need to assess individual communication needs to make sure communications will not be interrupted in a major event.
5. Interop Solutions/Paraclete Project Deployment and Operations
Paraclete will begin to be implemented where appropriate and where training has been completed. A user's manual and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be prepared by Interop Solutions for 911 dispatch. It was suggested that the use of Paraclete be logged to maintain a record for future troubleshooting. It is important to consider a sustainability budget and plan for maintaining Paraclete and Mutual Aid systems.
6. Sustainability of Regional Projects
Sustainability and maintenance are important aspects for the regional projects. It was recommended that the state and regions work with the contractors to acquire more clarification on continued maintenance of equipment and software after project completion. Other funding sources, such as the PSIC Grant Funds, may be considered to pay for continued maintenance. Insurance may cover some incidents, such as lightning. Sustainability plans and/or costs will need to be considered at the county and regional levels.
7. Standard Operating Procedure/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Development Process
NEMA will be conducting a Mutual Aid SOP/MOU Planning Meeting in the fall.
8. Statewide Interoperable Communications Plan (SICP) 2010 Revision
The SICP revision must identify the new technology as it is implemented, such as the statewide radio network and Paraclete. NEMA is currently working on this plan; regions must submit any changes to Bob Eastwood.
9. Report from NGA SWIC Summer Meeting
Pete Peterson attended the National Governor's Association SWIC Summer Meeting. Some highlights included:
 - Narrow-banding (complete VHF/UHF) will be a federal requirement on Dec. 31, 2012. The state may request a technical assistance request to the Office of Emergency Communications to help assess which agencies need narrow-banding and which agencies already have narrow-banding. Some re-licensing is necessary with narrow-banding.
 - There is a collective concern regarding creating good resources for training and exercise which teaches a basic understanding of technical and radio operations.
 - For sustainability and interoperability with the state, it was suggested that training be combined with meetings.

Action Items

Information/Reports

1. NEMA – No additional update at this time.

2. University of Nebraska PPC

The PPC is working with NEMA on updating TICPs. Luke Bonkiewicz is a new research specialist with the PPC who will be assisting with this project in the future.

3. OCIO

Further information is pending a contract signature from State Purchasing with CSI.

4. NCOR representatives to N-WIN

Dave Webb, Nebraska Public Power District, met with the Chief Operating Officer to explore the benefits, downfalls, and legal issues of combining networks. There are many issues to review. The N-WIN Minutes are published on the Homeland Planning Website.

Comments

1. Member comments

Pete Peterson: The North Central Region bought \$95,000 of lighting equipment. However, Keith County is being reprimanded for not using competitive bidding.

Pete Peterson met with Lt. Gov. Sheehy and Owen Yardley, NWIN Council Chair, to discuss the NWIN and NCOR Council processes and had a productive meeting.

2. Public comments

Future meetings will likely be the last Friday of the month in Lincoln.

Next Meeting: August 27, 2010, Lincoln, NE (Location TBD).