

Nebraska Council of Regions (NCOR)

March 25, 2011- 10:00a.m.

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department Training Center, 3140 N St, Lincoln, NE 68510

Opening Comments

1. Roll Call

First	Last	Org	Attendance
Mark	Conrey	DouglasCo.911Center	X
Patrick	Foust	Cedar County EMA	x
Pat	Gerdes	Region 15 Emergency Management Agency	x
Jim	Gerweck	Richardson Co. Emerg. Management	x
Tim	Hofbauer	Columbus/Platte Co Emr. Management	x
Larry	Thorne	Buffalo County Emergency Management	X
Pete	Peterson	Keith County Emergency Management	x
Ray	Richards	Scottsbluff Co. 911 Director	x
Thomas	Schwarten	Nebraska State Patrol	x
Dave	Webb	NE Public Power District	x

2. **Approval of minutes-** Jim Gerweck made a motion to approve minutes from the February 24, 2011 meeting. Pat Gerdes seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Discussion Items

1. Governance/Network Subcommittee Report-Tim Hofbauer, Columbus/Platte Emergency Management

The Subcommittee met and discussed management and costs, specifically the costs of network management. The subcommittee will continue to look at options and statute issues that might affect this group in the future.

2. Regional Interoperability Network Project Update, Pete Peterson summarized for the group

a. South Central Pilot Project- Written report from Darrin Lewis (absent)

Almost all the structural work is done for the South Central Pilot Project. The site visit and/or grounding was completed for the Thedford site, and Sioux Falls Tower completed one additional Tower Mapping at Oconto location. The pilot project has been successful at uncovering issues so they can be addressed now.

b. Other Regions

The Panhandle and Southwest region are still finalizing lease agreements. CSI will be visiting 40 sites this week in the Southwest region.

3. Mutual Aid Project Updates

The system in the Tri-County area will not be up until July. There has been great progress on interoperability between fire, police, state patrol, county, and the Iowa side. The group is developing the plan for response to larger incidents in the Tri-County region.

The South Central project held a pilot test using Paraclete. Each county in the South Central region would like access to the network in every dispatch center. Quotes to accomplish this

have come in a little bit higher than expected. Mike Jeffres, OCIO, recommended installing PIM-rated antennas, which are more expensive than the antennas budgeted for the project.

4. Interop Solutions/Paraclete Project Update- Sue Krogman, NEMA

Paraclete training was held in Valentine and Ainsworth last week. More trainers with computer and radio expertise will be added to the training cadre starting next week with Fremont and Osceola. Paraclete in the Southeast Region is pending installation.

NEMA has paid for a two-year contract for internet connectivity related to Paraclete operation. After that period, this cost will need to be covered at the local level.

5. TICP/SCIP Revision Project Update- Bob Eastwood, NEMA

All TICPs are considered complete with the exception of North Central. If regions have additional changes, they should work with Bob Eastwood.

6. Information sharing with local government officials about ongoing NCOR projects- Denise Bulling, Public Policy Center

The first issue of the Nebraska Interoperable Communications Newsletter was emailed and can be forwarded on to local officials. The number of forwards will be tracked to gauge impact. The newsletter will be sent out regularly in the future; contact Janell Walther, PPC, to request inclusion of particular information. The newsletter will be archived online so people can view it later. Kate is doing an Emergency Managers Webinar on March 31st on working with local officials. It is the first of four webinars meant to share information about the Interoperability project and will discuss the best way to communicate what is happening with this project to the local officials.

Action Items

1. Election of Officers

Mark Conrey made a motion to nominate Pete Peterson for Chair. Pat Gerdes seconded the motion. Mark Conrey withdrew the motion after Patrick Foust's motion was entered.

Patrick Foust made a motion to suspend rules and continue with current officers and chairs. Pat Gerdes seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Information/Reports

1. NEMA- Al Berndt

Al reported that Congressional representatives spoke to state emergency managers at a recent conference. He noted they emphasized the need to expend grant funds appropriately and in a timely manner. Future homeland security funding is expected to decrease for 2011.

2. Public Policy Center – Denise Bulling

Investment Justification workshop will be held April 14, 2011 in Lincoln, NE. Quick turnaround is expected when federal guidance is released for the homeland security program grant.

3. OCIO – Matt Schnell

Users' group meetings are held regularly; the next meeting will be held April 19 at the NPPD office in York, NE. Matt gave an update on the state radio system installation: There are about

15 sites left to install. Elgin and Kimball are still pending. Omaha, Plattsmouth, Craig, Jones Creek, Fall City, Nebraska City, and Sterling are waiting on federal frequency approval ; Hartington, Humphrey, Osceola, Superior, and Franklin will be done by April 4th. Some completed sites experienced interference during storms, but OCIO is working to fix these issues.

4. NCOR representative to N-WIN – Mark Conrey

The N-WIN Council is expected to adopt the Council Procedures today. The Council Procedures will be posted on the website in the future.

Comments

1. Member comments

Ray Richards- Switching to analog signal enables Paraclete use in Scottsbluff County. This issue should be resolved by the end of April.

Larry Thorn- Chief Thorne is now officially a member of NCOR.

2. Public comments

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 28, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in Lincoln, NE.