

Nebraska Council of Regions (NCOR)
Minutes
FRIDAY – October 28, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.
Eisley Public Library, Lincoln, NE

Opening comments

1. Roll Call

First	Last	Organization	Attendance
Mark	Conrey	Tri-County Region	x
Patrick	Foust	Northeast Region	x
Pat	Gerdes	Southwest Region	x
Jim	Gerweck	Southeast Region	x
Tim	Hofbauer	East Central Region	x
Pete	Peterson	North Central Region	x
Ray	Richards	Panhandle Region	
Larry	Thoren	South Central Region	
Thomas	Schwarten	Nebraska State Patrol	x
Dave	Webb	Nebraska Public Power District	x

2. Open Meetings Law information- verification of public notice, availability of copy of law

3. Approval of Minutes—Patrick Foust made a motion to approve the minutes from the joint meeting on September 30, 2011 meeting. Jim Gerweck seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Discussion Items

1. Governance/Network Subcommittee Report: Tim Hofbauer, Columbus/Platte Emergency Management
 More information about governance and inter-local agreements will be available in November; inter-local agreements are pending with NPPD’s legal staff. Buffalo County has completed some redesign and is using NPPD for their microwave network. Rod Hutt and Lon Renner will work together on progress of the project.

2. Regional Interoperability Network Project Update – Sue Krogman, NEMA
 NEMA, NPPD, and the Regions are working together. Rod Hutt is working with the regions to get the towers in place for the Southwest and South Central regions, moving into the Southeast region. Equipment was ordered for the Panhandle. CSI is working with US Cellular on one tower issue. More storage will be needed for antennas, dishes, and other equipment, than originally expected. When equipment is delivered, 24 hour notice will be provided. A local representative must be on site and a fork lift and loading dock will need to be arranged.

3. Mutual Aid Project update – Bob Wilhelm, NEMA and Mike Jeffres, OCIO
 NEMA is accepting the EHPs (Environmental Planning & Historical Preservation Applications) until Nov 1, 2011. If a work plan or EHP is not in by Nov. 1, the region cannot use PSIC funds for mutual aid. However, SHGP funds are available for Mutual Aid Projects. Most regions have completed Mutual Aid Plans. OCIO will install the first dispatch center to hook up to the State Radio System in Buffalo County.

This dispatch center will connect through the State Radio System through a patch to inter-government frequencies. Regions may begin ordering equipment for the Mutual Aid Projects once approved for EHPs and budgeting; the equipment is the same equipment as the pilot region. NEMA will organize a conference call to discuss funding for interoperable projects.

4. Interop Solutions/Paraclete Project Update – Sue Krogman

Nikki Weber, Sue Krogman, and Alisia LeMay presented information on Paraclete to the Southeast PET Regional Meeting that was well received. Training on Paraclete continues throughout the state. Interop Solutions will provide notice on when equipment will be arriving and installed.

5. Sustainability Summit – Tim Hofbauer

It is important for the Emergency Managers and County Boards to work on sustainability together. The tower costs are known, and anticipated costs include insurance, liability, maintenance and parts, and other possible expenses. A “per hop” cost will be examined so numbers can be plugged in per county. The original technology committee will work to prepare a summit of key members and stakeholders to discuss sustainability issues. The Public Policy Center will facilitate and assist with agenda work. The tentative date is Tuesday, December 13. One potential outcome of the summit could be the development of a spreadsheet of costs per project, both current and anticipated.

6. Public Safety Communications Stakeholders Training – Pete Peterson

A one-day training class is in development to train the elected official on interoperable communications and radio topics. There are 78 dispatch centers in the 93 Nebraska Counties. The initial instructor guide and curriculum has yet to be approved. The North Central PET Region offered to spend \$40,000 of its Homeland Security Grant funds for the education of elected officials in interoperable communications. This training will be held before Feb. 28, 2012. Two assessment tools will be built in to the training: an assessment of the current communications system and an assessment of sustainability county by county. There will be modules for different topics including, but not limited to: Paraclete, Inter-local agreements, Narrowbanding, Two-Way Radio basic functions, etc. Pete Peterson will submit this training draft to Dave Riesen.

7. SECC Update – Janell Walther, PPC

The first ever national EAS test will be held on Nov. 9, 2011 at 1 PM Central. The test will run for 3.5 minutes on cable, broadcast, radio, etc. Emergency Managers should make sure local Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) are aware of the test. All law enforcement and public safety personnel should be aware of the test.

Action Items

1. MOU NCOR to State of Nebraska \$2.4 M 2011 Homeland Security Grant funds for continued construction of NRIN

\$2.4M was awarded to NCOR for the continuation of the NCOR project. NEMA requested that NCOR MOU the money back to NEMA to continue the build out of the Regional Interoperability Network Project. Previously, NCOR MOU'ed money back: \$371,000 (2008), \$744,000 (2009), \$3.1M (2010), and now there is a request for \$2.4M (2011). The total project estimate was \$8M, but new anticipated costs are \$9.1M.

Jim Gerweck made a motion to authorize the chairman to sign the letter to MOU \$2.4M to NEMA from the 2011 SHGP money for the continued construction of NRIN. Tim Hofbauer seconded the motion; the motion passed by roll call vote.

First	Last	Organization	Vote
Mark	Conrey	Tri-County Region	No
Patrick	Foust	Northeast Region	Yes
Pat	Gerdes	Southwest Region	Yes
Jim	Gerweck	Southeast Region	Yes
Tim	Hofbauer	East Central Region	Yes
Pete	Peterson	North Central Region	Yes
Ray	Richards	Panhandle Region	
Larry	Thoren	South Central Region	
Thomas	Schwarten	Nebraska State Patrol	Yes
Dave	Webb	Nebraska Public Power District	Yes

Information / Reports

1. Office of Emergency Communications – Jim Lundsted

The OEC released an analysis of NECP Goal 1 for the 60 participating UASIs. The report and comments are available online. Nebraska is on schedule for Goal 2 compliance, due October 30, 2011. The National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG) is available online, and a smart phone version was developed. Printed versions are available by request, but there is a wait for printed versions. SCIP implementation reports are due by Oct. 31.

The OEC posted the IComm technical assistance program that provides training and exercise support. The SWIC is responsible for submitting requests for technical assistance from the OEC through the SAFECOMM.gov website. Requests are due by December 15, in order to provide recommendations to the SWIC. Kansas is offering a Comm-T class for December 6-9, 2011 in Colby, KS. Future Comm-T Class opportunities will be posted via the website.

The FCC this week hosted the first of the narrowbanding waiver request. St. Louis Urban area has entered a request for an extension since they are doing an 800 build out. Each of the requests will be posted for public comment on the website. Grant funding for narrowbanding work is unknown until new federal budgeting is complete.

2. NEMA – Nikki Weber

PSIC is viewed as a one-time grant, so Paraclete boxes originally funded through PSIC may be sustained using Homeland Security Grant funds. The 2007 grant closed. The 2008 grant we extended until February on a case by case basis. The 2009 Homeland Security Grant funding expires July 2012 and carries a 25% requirement for PET. The Lt. Governor has mandated that the state will just hold a 2-year grant cycle rather than preparing extensions.

3. Public Policy Center (PPC) – Mark DeKraai

The PPC will facilitate a meeting on the State Preparedness Report with NEMA. The PPC is assisting in the planning and facilitation of the November 18, 2011 Joint NCOR and N-WIN Council meeting and the Sustainability Summit in December. The PPC is also assisting in the completion of the SCIP with Bob Eastwood, NEMA

4. OCIO – Mike Jeffres
No report.

5. N-WIN council

State Radio System Update – Matt Schnell, NPPD

Elgin tower is near completion; antennas will be shipped to Platte Valley. Humboldt is up and running, though there was some difficulty with the weather station interference at the same site. Window filters were installed. Mike Jeffres updated the site frequencies. The Craig tower site will be up once the site license is complete. Jones Creek and Plattsmouth antennas are unexpectedly delayed in delivery from Motorola; NPPD will look into the delay. Final frequencies for Cedar Bluffs and Sterling are nearly set. Omaha just received frequencies; however, OCIO proposed a revision to the frequencies to prevent shuffling. Nebraska City is working on lease agreements. One major issue is garbled, constant talk on the State Patrol frequency at several sites, especially Grand Island. NPPD is looking into the cause of the issue.

Comments:

1. Member Comments

Jim Gerweck: Jim Gerweck and Janell Walther, PPC, attended the Southeast Medical Response System Meeting with neighboring state hospitals. Information on radios available for narrowband programming was shared. The compliance site is available online.

Mike Jeffres: OCIO is continuing work with Fish & Wildlife officers to get them onto the State Radio System.

2. Public Comments

Sue Krogman, NEMA, thanked everyone who helped push to get Goal 2 complete; Nebraska will have 100% of counties reported.

The next meeting will be held in joint session with the N-WIN Council on December 9, 2011 in Lincoln, NE.