

NORTH CENTRAL PLANNING EXERCISE & TRAINING MEETING

Friday, May 12, 2017

Region 26 EOC Meeting Room – Taylor, NE

Present: *Alma Beland-Region 26 Emergency Management, *Doug Fox-Region 24 Emergency Management, *Mark Rempe-Custer County Emergency Management, *Deb Hilker-Holt County Emergency Management, Ashley Jeffres-Loup Basin Public Health Department, Quinn Lewandowski-Public Policy Center, James Rashilla-Nebraska Management Emergency Agency, Roger Conrad-Nebraska Emergency Management, Sue Krogman-Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Troy Harris-Nebraska Emergency Management, Gary Weaver-Cherry County Emergency Management, *Linda Lewis-Region 26 Emergency Management.

Via Zoom *Laurie Hood – Keith County Emergency Management, Heidi Hostert-North Central District Health Department and *Wynn Wiens – Hooker County Emergency Management.

*Depicts Voting Members

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Doug Fox at 10:07am. The “Open Meetings Act” was brought to everyone’s attention.
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Mark Rempe moved, seconded by Alma Beland to approve the March 10, 2017 minutes. All aye, motion carried.
3. Old Business
 - a. Grant Status Review
 1. 2015: Alma updated us on the 2015 grant stating there is \$2,936.22 under Tower Leases and 6,361.64 in uncommitted funds. This grant ends August 2018.
 2. 2016: Alma gave an update on the 2016 grant. Ag Training has \$38,000. She pointed out the CERT training classes that need to be scheduled to get these funds used. There is a line item called “Endpoint to CPPD-Tryon” under NRIN Project but no one seems to know what this represents.
 - b. Report on SME groups and IJ Workshops
 1. The general consensus was that more knowledge needs to be given to the Senior Advisory Council Group so they can make educated decisions. It was noted as well that the final decision makers did not attend the discussions and then at the final meeting, unless you were asked to speak, you could not defend any misunderstandings, or explain your project. Some other observations were that the projects are meant to benefit outer parts of Nebraska and not just a single region.
 2. Since NRIN is not New Business as shown on the Agenda this item was discussed at this time as it relates to this subject matter. The Towers for the NRIN project were discussed. The funds we asked for to complete the NRIN project for our area were rejected due inadequate support by local authority. When we ask for the towers in the following year we need to have land in place, funding set up through the local government it needs to be shovel ready. The problem with shovel ready is that if rejected the locals may lash back and will not be willing to work with the process again. We need to have a plan laid out of how the costs will get divided out and who is willing to take the responsibility of the tower once it is erected.

Sue requested some names of radio stations around the area that may have towers that we can get on. NETV Bassett, KBEAR Broken Bow, KNLV Ord were some to look into.

Doug needs to have a list of the equipment and costs that are in Ericson so he can contact NIRMA and get it insured. Sue will get that information to him.

- c. *Approve Amended By-Laws: Linda Lewis read Section VI Article 5. Mark Rempe moved, seconded by Deb Hilker to approve the amended By-Laws. Vote all Ayes, motion carried.
- d. *Report on NAEM Conference: Doug Fox was pleased with the conference and how the exercise at the end worked. The sessions were good but would have been nice to be able to attend more of them if they weren't running at the same time. Next year it will be in Grand Island on March 21-23, 2018. ERC's from the Health Department's are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- e. TCIP Update reminder: Troy Harris with NEMA let us know that our TICP has been updated but that there are some changes that need to be made. In working on the exercise for Logan County they have found some exclusions. The Mutual Aide Channels are not listed. Sharing channels should be notated who they are shared with. Therefore any usable information should be included. The TICP is what is used when outside help needs to come in and communicate with the responders in the situation. Troy also talked about the NIFOG, National Interoperability Field Operations Guide. They have just released an app for free on the IPHONE but the android version has some issues they are working on. Make sure it's the one connected to OEC Library.

Troy also talked to us about IPAWS. The state has a contract with Alert Sense, the North Central Region has CodeRed which is capable of doing the IPAWS. Before you can use IPAWS the Alerting Authority needs to be determined. This person can be the Emergency Manager(s), Dispatcher(s) and Sheriff Offices. They would need to take training and be authorized before they would be able to use the system. The application was given to the emergency managers along with explanation of what can be done. An Alerting Plan needs to be created which Richardson and Hamilton Counties have examples of a plan that can be used. CodeRED will need some information before a full setup can be done.

- f. Other Old Business:
 - 1. Mark Rempe requested NEMA to ask Chad Boshart to send maps. Deb and Doug also requested maps. Sue sent Chad an email.
 - 2. Alma reminded everyone that the CodeRED invoices will be split up. They will be due July 1, 2018. Howard County has been included in the service under North Central Region at no extra charge. However splitting the invoices this will cause some problems which Alma has already talked to their emergency manager. Alma also brought up ORION and if anyone had thought about this program any further. It was suggested to talk about the new Portal that FEMA is implementing and find out if ORION is compatible with this system.
 - 3. Linda had some questions for Roger Conrad on the credentialing system which he will assist her before he leaves.

4. The "G" Courses were discussed and the option was presented for NEMA to come out as instructors instead of out sourcing. Even if Grant funds weren't available each region would be willing to help fund a class to have NEMA personnel as instructors because of the advantage of the personal experience and investment NEMA has in our counties, regions and state.

Chairman Doug Fox suspended the meeting for lunch at 11:50.

Chairman Doug Fox reconvened the meeting at 1:24pm.

4. New Business

a. *Public Health Report:

Ashley Jeffres reported that nursing home and hospital facilities have a new directive reference conducting an exercise at their facility. They have known about this since November and will need to be completed to be within the rules and regulations for reimbursements for Medicaid and Medicare. The TRIMRS and ROMRS have resources to assist these facilities.

Heidi Hostert mentioned that on May 17, 2017 the hospitals are doing a statewide exercise which Doug and Debs hospitals will be involved in.

b. Sue Krogman NRIN was moved to Old Business under b.2.

- c. *Report from Public Assistance Workshop: Mark Rempe reported on a workshop he attended. (Quinn sent the notes in Dropbox where we can have access to them) FEMA has created a portal strictly for disaster reporting. One thing to note is you have to use "FIREFOX" for it to work. This new system will eliminate conference calls and create a friendlier user system. FEMA has also made some changes in that the people that come out for your disaster will be specialized in the area they are coming out for such as bridge damage; someone with knowledge of how bridge repair is handled, not someone that has only driven over a bridge. The system, ORION that was presented at a prior meeting will have to be approved to work with this system. One of the things that needs to be worked on is the limit of 50mg upload for photos, this will need to be increased which they are aware this is not sufficient. In order to gain access to this system each user will need to go through NEMA to set it up.

- d. *Deuel County: Discussion was held and was decided to table this item until July 14, 2017. Doug Fox will contact Ron Leal to call into the meeting and make a motion for Deuel County to be removed from the North Central PET Region as per his request.

- e. *EM101 for County Officials: Mark Rempe is planning an EM101 class for Custer County but thought there may be interest to have it regional. This class would be for city and county officials and make it a one day class instead of two days. Others in the group thought there may be more participation if there were three to four sites around the region instead of one where they'd have to travel a long distance. This will be tabled until emergency managers can talk to their elected officials to get a feel for what they would be willing to attend.

f. *Other New Business

1. Alma brought up the five year calendar and commented that some emergency managers adhere to whatever is written and others use it as a guide. It's hard to know what the regions needs are in five years, things can change so quickly. Doug and Gary shared about the exercise they just completed with a neighboring county in South Dakota reference communications. Was very simple and was a good exercise.

2. Quinn reported on the NRIN Governance Board meeting. We can expect to see this spring the continuation of the buildout. The educational video that will be sent out is being made at this time and should be done by fall as the script is at the marketing agency. At one time the creators of this video were seeking \$1,000 from each region to be applied to the cost of making the video. Contact Chip Volcek about making that donation. The NRIN Board is actively looking at the maintenance cost per county and NACO has agreed to be the fiscal agent and is working with NIRMA on insurance coverage.
3. Quinn wanted to clarify the time of the North Central PET Region starting time to be 10am instead of 1pm. He will make changes on all documents on the internet that have the 1pm starting time.
4. Quinn wanted to remind the board of the THIRA which is two years old. We will set aside time after the September meeting to work on it.
5. Linda reminded everyone about updating the TICP and sending it back to her to make the changes so they can be sent to Troy Harris. She is to send an email reminding everyone to do so.

5. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:19pm. Next Regular meeting will be July 14, 2017 at 10am at Region 26 EOC in Taylor, Nebraska.

*Denotes items that were moved to after lunch to accommodate NEMA and Hooker County EM with time limitations.

Submitted by
Linda Lewis
Secretary

Board Chairman

Date