

Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council

Minutes

September 3, 2015, 10:00 am CST

Lincoln Community Foundation Building, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68508

Opening Comments

1. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Attendance
Mike	Foley	Lt. Governor	X
Mark	Conrey	Tri-County PET Region	X
Roger	Foster	League of Municipalities	
Kevin	Garvin	Northeast PET Region	X
Pat	Gerdes	Southwest PET Region	X
Tim	Hofbauer	East Central PET Region	X
Adam	Matzner	State Fire Marshal	X
Tom	Nutt	Nebraska Association of County Officials	X
Pete	Peterson	North Central PET Region	
Ray	Richards	Panhandle PET Region	
Jon	Rosenlund	South Central PET Region	X
Ray	Ryan	Southeast PET Region	X
Tom	Schwarten	Nebraska State Patrol	X
Jayne	Scofield	Office of the Chief Information Officer	X
Craig	Stover	Game and Parks Department	
Ed	Toner	Office of the Chief Information Officer	X
Bryan	Tuma	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	X
David	Webb	Nebraska Public Power District	

Others in attendance: David Babcock, Denise Bulling, Mark DeKraai, Michelle Evert, Jim Heine, Dan Hiller, Shelby Holzerland, Pam Kemper, Sue Krogman, Quinn Lewandowski, James Lundsted, Joseph Rogers, James Skinner, Russ Stanczyk, Chip Volcek, Nikki Weber, Bob Wilhelm, and Rod Zeigler

2. **Open Meeting Law Information – verification of public notice, availability of copy of law in the meeting location – NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 84-1407 THROUGH 84-1414 (1999, Cum. Supp. 2006, Supp. 2007)**

3. **Welcome and Introductions**

Lt. Governor Mike Foley called the meeting to order at 10:01 am Central Standard Time. A quorum of members was present.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

Tim Hofbauer made a motion to approve the August 27, 2014 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ray Ryan; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

5. **Review and Approval of 2014 NPSCC Annual Report**

Tom Schwarten made a motion to approve the 2014 NPSCC Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Pat Gerdes; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

6. **Public Safety Communications Information and Reports**

a. **Update on NRIN installment status – Sue Krogman, NEMA**

Installation continues to move according to plan through the middle and eastern parts of Nebraska. Many of the Public Power Districts and local governments have allowed installation of equipment to support NRIN on their towers.

b. **Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) –Tim Hofbauer, East Central PET Region**

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The Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network proposed charter for approval:

“The Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) Committee is chartered by the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC) to develop the governance, management, maintenance, and monitoring of NRIN. The NRIN Committee includes representatives of the eight Planning; Exercise and Training Regions; the Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer; the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency; and the Nebraska Public Power District. Each organization shall appoint its representative to the NRIN Committee.

The NRIN Committee will elect a Chair, who will provide update reports at NPSCC meetings. The NRIN Committee will submit meeting minutes and produce an annual written report of its activities to the NPSCC.”

Tom Nutt made a motion to approve the adoption of the NRIN Charter. The motion was seconded by Jon Roselund; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

The committee has been working on developing an interlocal agreement to be signed by counties and cities in support of the NRINC. Elections for a governance board for NRIN will include votes from all entities that have entered into the interlocal agreement. The next NRIN meeting will be held on October 7 at 9:00 AM CST.

c. Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) Working Group report – Bob Wilhelm, OCIO

The Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Network Work Group has been collecting data for FIRSTNET. The OCIO sent out a survey to approximately 1200 public safety agencies and entities, and the response rate has already risen above 25%, with a few more expecting to be turned in before the 30th of September deadline. The survey asks for information such as the number of public safety units in the area, number of employees per unit, number of vehicles, current broadband usage, and broadband needs in the future. These measures will be reported to FIRSTNET.

FIRSTNET is requiring planning for public safety broadband deployment in Nebraska. The working groups met two weeks prior to the NPSCC meeting and appointed a subcommittee to make recommendations for the five phases of deployment. The subcommittee consists of Neil Miller (Buffalo County Sherriff), Russ Stanczyk (NSP), Colin Robins (Public Service Commission), and Lynn Marshall (Nebraska Association of Emergency Managers). This Working Group will be hosting Regional meetings in the coming month to meet with stakeholders and gather input on projected coverage of FIRSTNET.

Bob Wilhelm proposed that the NPSBN Working Group and appointed subcommittee be able to present information and findings directly to FIRSTNET without prior to any NPSCC approval so the project could proceed on schedule. The motion passed by consensus vote with no dissensions.

Bob Wilhelm proposed the following amendment to the Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Network Working Group charter:

- 6.5 Meeting Attendance requirement – If a member and/or their designated alternate misses two consecutive meetings, the agency/organization/entity they are representing will be asked to remove the member and appoint a different representative to the Working Group.

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Ray Ryan made a motion to approve the addition of the amendment to the NPSBN Working Group charter. The motion was seconded by Tom Schwarten; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

d. State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) – Rod Zeigler, KRVN

The SECC proposes a revision in the SECC charter to reflect a change from the Nebraska Council of Regions (NCOR) to NPSCC as the umbrella entity.

Pat Gerdes made a motion to approve the revised SECC charter. The motion was seconded by Jon Roselund; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

e. Statewide Radio System (SRS) – Jayne Scofield, OCIO

Since last NPSCC meeting, an upgrade was completed for Statewide Radio System. The SRS is currently working on getting a new site up and running by end of September in the Verdigre area. The SRS has also been working in Pawnee County and with Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD) in Omaha for potential enhancement. The SRS has been working with Nebraska State Patrol and NPPD to mitigate site noise. Planning has begun with NEMA on formalized exercises to test areas of the SRS and respond to coverage and training gaps discovered within those exercises. Functional exercises also will be developed to test SRS and other communications especially in the panhandle area where they have had issues with communication coverage in the past.

f. Paraclete project – Bryan Tuma, NEMA

Bryan Tuma reviewed the history of using Paraclete as an interoperability solution beginning in 2007. Technology has changed since then and the state is currently reviewing the need to continue supporting use of Paraclete statewide. The cost to renew the Paraclete license approximately \$200,000. Bryan will reach out to PET regions and gather input to find out how each region is using Paraclete to determine if we need to restructure the contract with Interop-Solutions.

g. Regional updates

Tri-County: Douglas County is upgrading its radio system to give each subscriber GPS capabilities which will allow officers to share their location even if they are outside of their car in an emergency situation.

Washington County is upgrading to TDMA, which will expand coverage into Fremont, and move them up to 6 channels with 3 sites.

East Central: The Region has mutual aid base stations in Platte County, South Saunders, Butler, Polk, and Howard County. Those stations monitor V-Calls and U-Call frequencies, as well as tactical channels and interface those back to emergency response dispatch centers using NRIN.

Southeast: Several southeastern counties in this Region have come together to create a regional 911 phone system this anticipated active this Fall.

h. Member Comments

NACO: Tom Nutt reported that NACO is interested in staying up date with the communications projects, particularly with FIRSTNET planning. He noted that it is important that rural counties get at

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least get some sort of coverage in case of an emergency. Portable radios purchased approximately 10 years ago through the homeland security grants are about to go out of service, and replacing those today without any available grant funding looks to be a significant cost for the counties.

NSP: Tom Schwarten reported that Captain Lance Rogers is replacing Captain Howard Coffey. Captain Lance Rogers and Investigator Steve Rasnersheck have been appointed to focus on the statewide radio system and address any problems that occur immediately. They have been working with Pam Kemper, OCIO's office, to make sure any temporary patches put up were done properly and people knew about them. Another big focus of the NSP has been working with SRS radio coverage in the capitol area complexes to ensure there is complete portable coverage around the capitol area. The NSP continue to test, and improve the system. The NSP also recently participated with the military and NEMA at the joint operations center exercise. This helped everyone better understand what they need to do as they work toward disaster recovery using the statewide radio system.

7. Public Comments

The State's Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Analysis Workshop (THIRA), State Preparedness Report Workshop (SPR), and Training Exercise, & Planning Workshop (TEPW) will be held on October 21-22 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NPSCC is scheduled to take place: December 3rd, 2015 in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Lincoln Community Foundation Building (215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68508) at 10:00 AM.

9. Adjourn

Jon Rosenlund made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded Tom Schwarten; the motion passed by consensus. The meeting adjourned at 10:52 am CST.

Acronym	Meaning
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
EAS	Emergency Alert System
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
IP	Internet Protocol address
NACO	Nebraska Association of County Officials
NCOR	Nebraska Council of Regions
NEMA	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
NPPD	Nebraska Public Power District
NPSCC	Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council
NRIN	Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network
OCIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
PET	Planning, Exercise, and Training
RFP	Request for proposals
SECC	State Emergency Communications Committee
SPR	State Preparedness Report
SRS	Statewide Radio System
SUG	Statewide Radio System Users Group

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TDMA	Time division multiple access
TEPW	Training, Exercise, & Planning Workshop
THIRA	Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
UHF	Ultra high frequency
VHF	Very high frequency

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