

Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council

Minutes

March 15, 2015, 01:00 PM CST

5th Floor Conference Room, Lincoln Foundation Building,
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68508

Opening Comments

1. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Attendance
Mike	Foley	Lt. Governor	
Phil	Brazelton	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	
Tom	Nutt	Nebraska Association of County Officials	X
Pete	Peterson	North Central PET Region	X
Ray	Richards	Panhandle PET Region	X
Jon	Rosenlund	South Central PET Region	X
Ray	Ryan	Southeast PET Region	
Tom	Schwarten	Nebraska State Patrol	X
Jayne	Scofield	Office of the Chief Information Officer, Chair	X
Craig	Stover	Game and Parks Department	X
Bryan	Tuma	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	X
David	Webb	Nebraska Public Power District	X

Others in attendance: John Lemen, Peter Cranford, Jim Skinner, Nikki Weber, Dan Hiller, Sue Krogman, Kate Speck, Denise Bulling, Janell Walther, Jim Heine, Russ Stanczyk, Mark DeKraai, and Quinn Levandowski.

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

Bryan Tuma called the meeting to order at 01:03 PM Central Standard Time. A quorum of members was present.

4. Approval of Minutes

Tom Schwarten made a motion to approve the December 7, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by David Webb; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

5. Public Safety Communications Information and Reports

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

The extremely cooperative weather has allowed the contractors to put five crews out in the field to continue NRIN network installation. Some local dispatch centers are using NRIN as a backup path to connect to the SRS. The Department of Roads has shown a big interest in connecting to the NRIN network to play a key role for their intelligent transportation network.

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

Fifty-two counties and seven towns of seven PET regions have signed NRIN interlocal agreements. NRIN Governing Board elections were held in February, and two board representatives were elected by their region from each of the seven participating PET regions. The following individuals were elected as NRIN Directors and will serve on the NRIN Governing Board representing their respective Regions:

East Central:	Shelly Holzerland & Tim Hofbauer
North Central:	Caleb Johnson & Kevin Hood
Northeast:	Brian Kesting & Kevin Mackeprang
Panhandle:	Heidi Gillespie & Nan Gould
South Central:	Chip Volcek & Jon Rosenlund
Southeast:	Brad Eisenhauer & Carla Jones
Southwest:	James Brueggeman & Roger Powell

The NRIN Governing Board will hold its first meeting on May 19th, 2016 in Grand Island. Some of the issues that the newly elected board will be tasked with will be: monitoring the continued NRIN buildout; quality of service; monitoring, management and maintenance contracts; further determining total annual cost; and continuing system sustainability.

c. Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) Working Group report –Jayne Scofield, OCIO on behalf of Bob Wilhelm

FirstNet request for proposals (RFP) was released in January 2016 with proposals due on May 13, 2016. As FirstNet moves forward with the RFP they are asking each state to create a Consultation Task Team (CTT). The CTT will be a resource FirstNet and the successful bidder can consult with when they are seeking advice and state specific information regarding technical, operation and other areas as they are building the State plans and deploying FirstNet in our state. NPSBN are reaching out to the statewide associations of our public safety disciplines and other entities seeking volunteers to participate in this process. There will be a webinar and other information provided to educate the participants who volunteer for the CTT. It appears the first areas they will be seeking input on will be Priority and Pre-emption. As more information becomes available it will be provided to those who have indicated an interest to participate. Interested parties can contact Bob Wilhelm at Bob.Wilhelm@Nebraska.gov. The next Governance Working Group meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2016.

d. State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) – Jim Skinner, FOX 42 KPTM TV

The SECC has been continuing its work in writing a state plan for the Emergency Alert System for broadcasters. The committee has submitted revised and updated state plans over the past few years to the FCC, but have unable to get FCC approval or guidance. Admiral Simpson of the FCC has promised the SECC to get the committee guidelines for an FCC state plan that will help write a plan that will satisfy both the FCC and meet the needs of the State of Nebraska. SECC minutes and

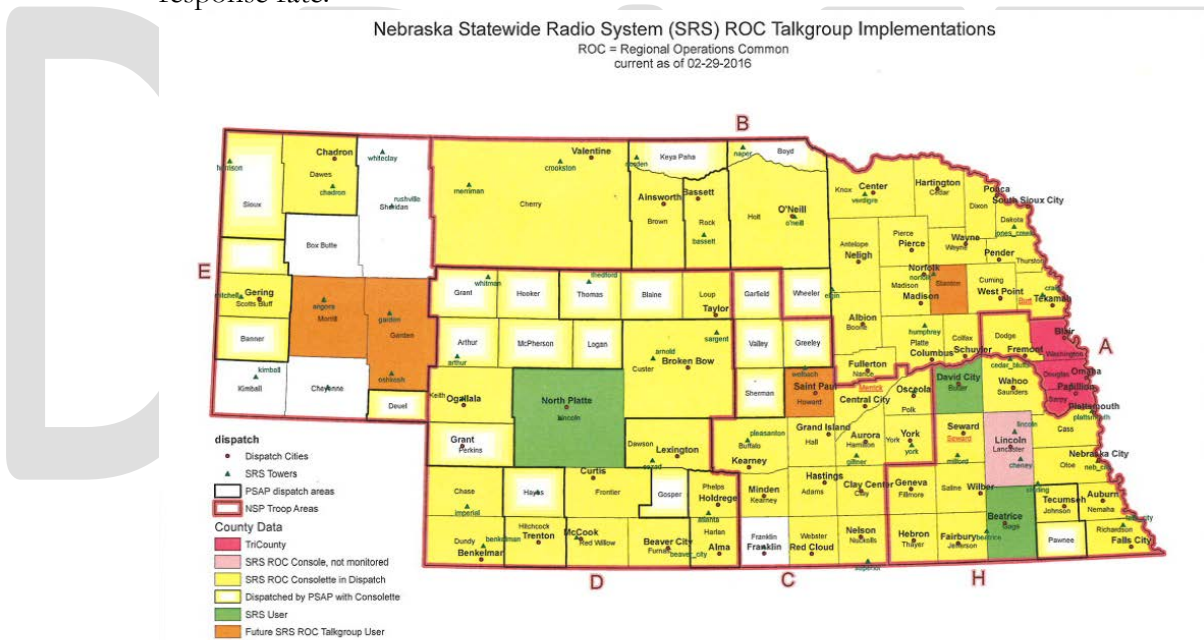
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updates are posted online at <http://ne-eas.org>. The next meeting of the SECC will take place on June 9th at 1:00 PM via conference call.

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

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED REPORT AND SRS MAP FOR MORE UPDATES AND INFO

- i. SRS updates - The SRS project is completed and is moving into Phase II of the project to focus on enhancing and tweaking the system.
- ii. NSP Report on Jan. 27 drill - Tom Schwarten, NSP –The drills with the SRS systems have provided the necessary feedback to help continue to improve the system and make recommendations for enhancements.
- iii. Radio Reuse Program - The reuse program will allow the state to grow the SRS to grow by reissuing SRS capable radios. If the program is given the budget approval, the reuse program will be able to roll out the program on July 1st, 2016.
- iv. OCIO Report on ROC talk group implementation (Jon Lemen) - Of 93 counties, 84 have ROC interoperability with SRS users. Weekly ROC roll call exercises averaging nearly 100% response rate.



f. NEMA, Bryan Tuma

- i. *Prioritization of 2016 Communication Investment Justification priorities – facilitated by the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center – PLEASE SEE ATTACHED REPORT FOR THE LIST OF PROPOSED PROJECTS
 1. Discussion on project ratings – The only unranked project (NEMA/NRIN) was recommended to be placed at the top of the prioritization to help continue the NRIN buildout and facilitation of the project. The Communications SME group determined that their basis for ranking the projects would be classified into two tiers. The first, and most important tier, would be anything related to the NRIN system. If there are any funds left after funding the NRIN projects, the second tier would be everything else (SRS radio system, CodeRED, etc.) in its provided rating rank order.

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The NRIN – Statewide Monitoring/Maintenance project would be at the bottom of the NRIN tier to help earmark the funds to assist all regions obtain a statewide monitoring and maintenance agreement for the NRIN system.

2016 Communications Proposed Projects Final SME Ranking Submission

Jon Rosenlund made a motion to approve and adopt the reordered proposed communications projects subject matter expert ranking list (SEE BELOW). The motion was seconded by Pat Gerdes; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

Rank	Project	Amount
1	NEMA/NRIN	\$ 550,000.00
2	EC Region - NRIN	\$ 108,700.00
3	Panhandle Region - NRIN	\$ 16,900.00
4	NE Region - NRIN	\$ 138,000.00
5	SE Region Communications	\$ 33,500.00
6	NC Region - NRIN	\$ 135,000.00
7	SC Region - NRIN	\$ 120,000.00
8	SW Region - NRIN	\$ 154,240.00
9	NRIN - Statewide Monitoring/Maintenance (Go to Bid not directly to OCIO undisputed; placeholder for funds but entity it goes to not yet determined; send to a region rather than NRIN board at this time)	\$ 279,484.00
10	Panhandle Region - Cheyenne Co SRS Console	\$ 11,534.00
11	NE Region - Interoperable Repeater	\$ 15,000.00
12	SW Region - SRS mobile radios	\$ 32,500.00
13	TC Region - Cybersecurity Program	\$ 115,000.00
14	NC Region - CodeRED	\$ 25,000.00
15	Panhandle Region - CodeRED	\$ 42,650.00
16	Panhandle Region - Morrill Co EOC	\$ 10,200.00
17	Panhandle Region - Dawes Co 911 phone upgrade	\$ 42,000.00
	TOTAL	\$ 1,830,300.00

- ii. Paraclete - The statewide Paraclete contract will expire in May 2016. Based on the results of the Paraclete usage survey, Paraclete is currently only being used in a limited fashion within only a few regions. Ray Richards made a motion to not renew the state contract for Paraclete, but still allow entities to negotiate independently to continue their Paraclete service. The motion was seconded by Kevin Garvin; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions. Motion carries.

- iii. AlertSense – The AlertSense application is most commonly used for sending out internal group text messages and notifications. NEMA has begun discussions for using AlertSense as the backbone for the IPAWS network since Paraclete will not be a renewed statewide application. The intent for AlertSense is for it not to replace CodeRED or any other applications. Entities can utilize AlertSense for things such as GEO fencing and other unique ways to distribute

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important communications out to the public. NEMA is currently looking at a state license with AlertSense so they can distribute it throughout the state and vastly improve the IPAWS network.

- iv. TERREX 2016 – The 2016 TERREX exercise will be held on April 24th, 2016 near Chadron and Crawford. The exercise objectives are still being developed, but the exercise will test the abilities and limits of the SRS to communicate in that area.

g. Regional updates

i. Southeast – Peter Crawford representing Ray Ryan

A new phone system project is in the negotiation stages with Windstream. The NRIN continues to be built out in the Southeast Region. Negotiations are also underway with Motorola for 800 MHz new radio system.

ii. Tri-County – Phil Brazelton –

Washington County upgrade of the Orion system has finished. The city of Fremont police and fire department are building a 4th simulcast to help improve communications, and the installation will also help improve communications on the western portion of the Tri-County region.

iii. Northeast – Kevin Garvin

Several dispatches looking into new consoles as several consoles are near their end-of-life date. The Northeast Region conducted a three day exercise that included a portion that tested how well equipment and radios functioned in cold weather.

iv. North Central – Pete Peterson

The North Central region also has radio consoles nearing their end-of-life date that they are looking to replace. The region still remains involved in the buildout of NRIN in the eastern portion of the region.

v. South Central – Jon Rosenlund

The southern portion of the NRIN buildout is coming together and nearing completion. After NRIN buildout is completed, the South Central would like to get more SRS equipment into their supervisor and sergeant vehicles to improve communication and coordination.

vi. Panhandle – Ray Richards

Working with Cornerstone to patch up some issues with the Angora site that includes equipment originally installed for NRIN pilot project. Getting the Panhandle into the NRIN ring. Lots of end of life notices and meeting with entities. Contacted by the city of Alliance to assist with dispatch, currently working on connectivity to assist them with nights and weekends.

vii. Southwest – Pat Gerdes

NRIN in the Southwest region is currently working on getting out of McCook and beyond. The Southwest region is currently in talks with the Public Health Coalition and the OCIO's office in putting five hospitals and two public health districts into a talk group for a jump start to bringing healthcare onto the SRS system. The group would consist of both public health districts, Ogallala, Grant, Imperial, North Platte, Benkelman hospitals.

viii. East Central – Tim Hofbauer (NRIN PRESENTATION)

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NRIN is currently being used in the East Central Region for the EC-911 Regional 911 Telephone System, as a mutual aid base station, and as a pilot for counties to connect to SRS servers. The EC-911 system is used by seven of the ten regional counties. The cost for the EC-911 system to be linked was \$1,166,093 (Emergency Callworks - vendor), which includes seven years of end-to-end support and maintenance. The counties share cost based on console positions/population, and went through one RFP process. Advantages of the shared 911 system include: cost, ability to back each other up, system wide upgrades – text to 911, and future consolidation if counties choose. East Central also uses NRIN sites a co-locations for mutual aid base stations, which all tie back to one or multiple dispatch locations. East Central Region worked with OCIO to connect two new Motorola Consoles in two separate counties to the SRS servers in Lincoln and Kearney to pilot SRS Servers. As counties in the East Central Region install Motorola Consoles, 911 calls and radio traffic can be transferred/connected to each other for true interoperable communication to: villages/cities, counties, regions, and state entities.

h. Member Comments

Jayne Scofield - Pat Gerdes will be taking a new position and the Southwest Region will have to appoint a new representative to represent the Southwest on the NPSCC.

6. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the NPSCC will be held at a TBD date and location.

8. Adjourn

Jon Rosenlund made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded Phil Brazelton; the motion passed by consensus. The meeting adjourned at 02:55 PM 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

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SECC	State Emergency Communications Committee
SPR	State Preparedness Report
SRS	Statewide Radio System
SUG	Statewide Radio System Users Group
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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