

Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network
August 27, 2014; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sandhills Conference Room, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center
215 Centennial Mall South, Ste 401
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0228

DRAFT

1. Welcome & Meeting Overview

Name	Organization
Mark DeKraai	University of Nebraska Public Policy Center
Brian Dixon	Richardson County Emergency Management Agency
Tim Hofbauer	Platte County Emergency Management Agency
Sue Krogman	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
John Moon III	Richardson County Emergency Management Agency
Ray Richards	Scotts Bluff County
Tracy Rocolo	Office of the Chief Information Officer
Raymond Ryan	City of Lincoln
Matt Schnell	Nebraska Public Power District
Jim Sheets	Office of the Chief Information Officer
Hayley Sutter	University of Nebraska Public Policy Center
Robert Tubbs	Buffalo County Sheriff's Office
Chip Volcek	Adams County Emergency Management Agency

2. Updates

a. Update on NRIN implementation – NEMA

The contract with CSI was cancelled; Platte Valley Communications and Cornerstone Towers were eligible to be the main contractors on the project due to a master contract they have with the OCIO, and will carry out the project until a new RFP is released when the current grant finishes in February 2015. For every site, the contractor goes out to a site, submits a quote for the OCIO, once approved by the OCIO, the contractor completes the work and invoices the OCIO, the OCIO then bills NEMA; in total, the process from initial quote to invoicing NEMA is 30 days. Cornerstone Towers is focused on equipment hanging, structural analyses, mapping, and tower climbing; Platte Valley Communications is focused on adjustments and equipment configuring; the OCIO is working on configuring the Juniper routers and is working closely with both companies. Platte Valley Communications has completed all of the realigning and adjustments on the towers from Columbus Heartland to Grand Island; the tower at Osceola NPPD is hung and ready; the routers to the east and west of the Columbus Heartland tower are being reconfigured. The current goal is to have the East Central Region operational by the end of September; the north end of the Southeast Region is ready to be hung and MOUs have been finalized in that area. Cornerstone is working with ERI to do a tower assessment on the KBBX tower; Cass County plans to put all their communication equipment on the tower if it passes the structural analysis. The south portion of the Northeast Region has MOUs signed. Kimball County, which was previously on the NRIN system, is ready to rejoin the system. Once the grant funds are spent or the grant extension runs out in

February 2015, an RFP will need to be put out to finish the project; once the RFP is released, it will take about 3 months for a contractor to be selected and work to resume.

Work on the RFP will begin in late September. Current visible hops are: Silver Creek to Fullerton, Osceola NPPD, Columbus Heartland, Dispatch, OCIO, Columbus water tower (except for Platte Center and Schuyler), Columbus Dispatch, David City water tower (except going to Saunders County), David City Dispatch, Clarks water tower (except to Central City, which needs to be realigned); the next focus is the Wahoo water tower, which is in legal with the OCIO.

b. Update on NSP and potential for using NRIN for teletype – NEMA & OCIO

The Nebraska State Patrol and potential users are in favor of using NRIN for teletype; the next step is to meet with NSP and OCIO financial stakeholders and determine a payment scheme, including if they will pay a maintenance fee for the NRIN system. Currently, the total telecommunication cost for the statewide system is \$13,000 a month; counties with a terminal pay a flat rate of \$450 per month for use of the statewide teletype system. If the counties switch to NRIN, their current monthly fees would be shifted to pay for and maintain the NRIN system; counties will save money by not paying for maintenance separately, as is the current procedure with the statewide teletype system. The switch to NRIN can be done at the county or regional level.

c. Update on costs for management and monitoring state-level agreement – OCIO & NEMA

An annual quote of \$279,484 was given in 2013 and does not need to be updated. The East Central, North Central, and Southwest Regions have current agreements with the OCIO in place; the Panhandle is close to having an agreement. The vision is to eventually have one statewide agreement.

d. Update on estimated NRIN annual costs based most recent tower cost information – NEMA

The estimated annual cost will be considerably lower than originally expected due to the utilization of water towers in which no rent is required. The cost spreadsheet has not been updated; however, Sue will work to oversee it is updated. Current annual cost per county is estimated \$3,000; this includes management, monitoring, and tower fees but not hardware replacement. As long as grant funds are available, the regions can pay for repair cost through the HDP funds.

e. Update on NPPD participation proposal

Dave and Tim will be meeting to discuss statewide issues including tower locations, rent charges, regional dispatch, and NPPD participation and use on NRIN.

f. Update on NACO becoming fiscal agent and helping to draft interlocal agreement – East Central and PPC and NACO

Tim, Larry Dixon, NACO staff and the PPC held a conference call to discuss whether NACO would be able to be the fiscal agent for NRIN; if they become the fiscal agent, a contraction agreement would be reached between NRIN Governance and NACO. After researching it, NACO has indicated they are interested and are willing to help promote NRIN and can help develop the interlocal agreement. A call is being scheduled for the first or second week of September to discuss next steps.

g. Update on compilation of NRIN success stories

Tim will begin working to format NRIN success stories; the Public Policy Center can assist with the packaging.

h. Regional updates

i. Panhandle

Equipment is back online and being pinged; there is not currently anything in it, but they are getting closer. A meeting with Kimball was held recently and they are interested in being part of the system; they have a new tower and their propagation looks good toward both Scottsbluff and Sidney. A meeting with Dan Johnson will be held in September to discuss four new teletypes. In the next three months, new computers and switches will be built to be in compliance with the new Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System (NCJIS). The northern Panhandle is connected and has some cameras running; the Chadron Dispatch wants to come online but is not sure how they can connect.

ii. North Central

The Greeley MOU was signed. Sue will be attending the next regional meeting.

iii. Southwest

Cornerstone Tower is currently working on the hop between the Trenton Ethanol and McCook NPPD towers; the Trenton tower has a bad ODU on the Trenton side and the McCook site does not have the necessary spares. The North Sterling Tower in Ogallala has spares; however, the spares will need to be replaced and can cost up to \$8,000 each. The estimated NRIN cost sheet did not include anticipated costs (including spare equipment and equipment upgrades); funding may be built into the NRIN user fee to be used on equipment replacement or upgrades. It was suggested this amount be \$500 per county per year.

iv. South Central

Work on the South Central has been put on hold but will resume shortly following a meeting with Sue to check routes. The South Central region will be filled-in as the contractors have downtime.

v. Southeast

The Southeast Region is waiting for the installers to come to the area. Several MOUs have been signed; an estimated 10 still need to be signed.

vi. East Central

East Central is working on the 911 network and is holding weekly conference calls. The only current issue is the Wahoo water tower; installations will not be made until the Saunders and Columbus water towers can also be installed. Once

these three towers are running, the contractor will begin working on the smaller dispatch centers. Mutual aid radio base stations will be tied to the NRIN network. Environmental monitors have been bought for all the shelters installed by the tower sites.

vii. Northeast

Sue and Mark will be meeting with the Northeast PET region next week. The Northeast Region has a few of their MOUs signed. A structural analysis is being put in for the Hartington NPPD Tower and agreements have been given to Lon; a couple of water towers still need mapping and one tower owner in the region still needs to be contacted. Norfolk is tearing down their water tower and has not signed an agreement whether they will let NRIN use their tower for equipment; Norfolk does not plan to be a user of NRIN. Wayne is in the process of getting an agreement with the college to use their building. Dixon County and Knox County are planning to build a new tower; coverage in Center continues to be an issue due to their low lying geographic location.

viii. Tri-County

The Tri-County is already hooked together; it will link in from Cedar Bluffs into Tri-County and then go north.

3. OCIO presentation on how to change license information – OCIO

The number of licenses in Tim's region are construction only; Platte Valley has been tasked with going through each county's licenses and doing the necessary changes. The licenses will need to be transferred over to the counties where the equipment is located. The Panhandle will require assistance with the licenses as they have 32 of them.

4. Next Steps

a. Teletype

b. Jim will meet with the financial representatives; the NSP technical staff has already expressed their support of NRIN. All traffic across the network can be encrypted, thus complying with the new CNCJIS rules.

c. Management/monitoring state level agreement & standards for maintenance

The cost estimates will be updated to include the estimated management/monitoring costs.

d. Further refinement of cost estimates

Sue will provide the NRIN Governance Committee with updated tower costs before the next meeting; Mark will incorporate the updated tower costs and service level agreement into the broader cost estimate spreadsheet.

e. NPPD participation

Matt and Tim will hold a meeting to discuss NPPD participation.

f. Interlocal agreement

Tim and Mark will work with NACO to fine tune the interlocal agreement; NACO may also assist with NRIN's marketing and finances.

g. Show and tell/success stories

The Public Policy Center will work with Tim to package success stories and set a date to hold a show and tell presentation.

h. Other

Regional representatives should communicate with their regions that it is important for the entire network to be managed and monitored by a single company.

5. Adjourn

At the end of September, Mark will request updates from those assigned with next steps and will send out the midpoint updates, regional changes, updated cost spreadsheet, and NACO discussion summary. The next meeting will be Monday, October 27 beginning at 10:00 AM CST at the Public Policy Center (215 Centennial Mall South, Ste 401, Lincoln, NE 68508) or via conference call (1-866-244-8528; when prompted, enter 368830 as the participant passcode).