

Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network
October 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

I. Welcome & Meeting Overview

Name	Organization
Mark DeKraai	University of Nebraska Public Policy Center
Sue Krogman	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
Pete Petersen	Keith County Emergency Management
Ray Richards	Scotts Bluff County
Tracy Rocolle	Office of the Chief Information Officer
Raymond Ryan	City of Lincoln
Jayne Scofield	Office of the Chief Information Officer
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

II. Update on NRIN implementation

Cornerstone and Platte Valley will serve as the master service contractors for the remainders of the grant program. A Request For Proposals (RFP) is being written. Currently, the vendors are trying to connect the East Central Region and are finishing up at the Saunders County location and the Wahoo Water Tower; these should be complete by the beginning of November. After these are complete, the contractors will begin work on the Schuyler elevator followed by the Midland Telecommunications tower, which will connect to the Howard County tower and the Howard County Courthouse. Next, the contractors will begin work in Greeley and the Spaulding grain tower; some Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) still need to be signed. Boone County is going through the process to build their own tower that they will own and put the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) equipment on. The Northeast Region is waiting on structural analyses and mapping to be completed before they sign MOUs. Tracy has been reconfiguring the routers and working on site issues. Invoicing through the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) has been working smoothly. A significant portion of the grant is currently unspent; however, Cornerstone now has 17 locations ready for mapping or structural analysis, has hired an additional crew, and is ready to begin working on multiple locations. It is believed that the current grant will be sufficient to build out across the state; the biggest cost has been equipment and 90% of the equipment needed has been purchased. The most expensive items moving forward will be mapping and installation. Sue is currently unaware of the funding NRIN will receive from the FY2015 State Homeland Security Grant; some of the Regions investment justifications were heavily influenced by the NRIN project and expect most of their funding to be allocated to the NRIN Project.

III. Update on NSP and potential for using NRIN for teletype

Teletype is critical for dispatch centers, which are on a public network due to cost and availability; shift commanders and other personnel have access to the Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System (NCJIS). A pilot may need to be implemented first with NSP in order to ensure the NRIN system will work properly.

IV. Update on costs estimates

Management and Monitoring

The OCIO has provided a cost estimate for management and monitoring of NRIN.

Maintenance

If NRIN is to go on a statewide maintenance system, it was recommended that training and standardized procedures are implemented; further, the State should have a statewide agreement with a company indicating minimum education requirements to do maintenance on the system. Those with management responsibilities for the system need to ensure that configurations and repairs to the system do not cause issues with another hop down the line. The location for spare parts has become an issue and a plan should be developed to prevent long repair delays when spare parts are needed. The committee discussed the need for the state to have three depots setup statewide to house the spare equipment; the state should have at least two spares, three was recommended. Multiple spares allow for the system to be quickly repaired if a major storm, or similar event, affects multiple towers along the ring. Eventually the current routers will be obsolete and will need to be replaced with new juniper routers.

Tracy Rocolle from OCIO recommended the following for spare parts to have on hand to help maintain and support the NRIN network.

3 SRX 210's/router

3 SRX 240's/router

3 MX5 -T's/router

3 SRX 550's/router

3 EATON UPS's and Management cards

3 EATON Backup battery packs

3 Rectifiers and Management cards

On the Radio side of the spares, we might want to ask Cornerstone Tower or Platte Valley Communications for their recommendations. Listed below is what I think would be important to have on hand.

3 IDU's

? RFU's

On the RFU's there are different frequencies ranges, for example 6Ghz, 11Ghz etc....so the number of spares would be 3 of each frequency.

Updated Tower Cost Estimates

The previous rental estimate for the towers is \$2250 per year per county. The cost estimate for the 50 eastern counties is \$1,500 per county; the rent estimate for the 43

western counties is \$2,250 per county. If the cost is split equally between the 93 counties, the cost would be much lower than the original estimate of \$2,250; per Sue's estimate, the cost will likely be less than \$2,000 per county. Cost is considerably lower in the eastern part of the state as more water towers, NET towers, and state towers without leases were chosen over towers with expensive rent. The Knox County tower issue is being resolved but the solution has not been finalized. The Panhandle is currently paying rent to NPPD; however, once NPPD comes on the system, they will no longer require rent payment for usage of their towers. NRIN equipment will be on NIRMA insurance. Insurance costs are still unknown; however, it should be less than maintenance costs.

V. Update on Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) participation proposal

Tim and Matt have had initial discussions about NPPD participation. A single governance structure will need to be in place for NPPD to participate on the network.

VI. Participation of Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO)

NACO will serve as the financial agent; however, there will be a fee for their services. NACO has not provided a cost estimate yet for fiscal agent services; Tim will contact them. 81 Counties currently pay NIRMA for their insurance so this will not be a major change. NACO may also assist NRIN in obtaining interlocal agreements and county support. NACO provided feedback on the interlocal agreement; Mark will revise based on their input and send out the draft.

VII. Show and Tell / Success Stories

Once the system is fully build out in the East Central Region, Mark and Tim will collect stories from stakeholders about their experience with it and how it has integrated into their 911 system. These success stories will include uses in North Central, Panhandle, and other locations as well.

VIII. Regional updates

a. Panhandle

Serving as the teletype pilot is a major priority for the Panhandle Region and they are ready to begin the pilot as soon as the Eastern portion of the state is ready. They have a list of how they intend to use NRIN but currently use teletype for connection. All equipment in the Panhandle Region is brand new, including four machines and two printers.

b. North Central

One side of NRIN recently went down in the North Central Region and the full redundancy did not work. The issue has since been fixed; however, it highlighted the North Central's dependence on the network.

c. Southwest

No update.

d. South Central

Work on the South Central Region is currently on hold pending Joe and Sue's resolution. Cornerstone took some replacement parts but have yet to provide a list of what was taken.

e. Southeast

The Southeast Region is waiting on Cornerstone to install equipment on all towers. The Southeast Region is meeting on November 13 and will discuss FY2015 grant funds.

MOUs have been received from David City and Dunbar; Viaero is waiting to sign as the Region will be charged for rent as soon as the MOU is signed.

f. East Central

Site surveys are being conducted and mutual aid base stations are being put in; the East Central has three hops they want to install. A new hop between David City and Saunders County was recently brought onto the system. The East Central does not yet have a complete ring, but does have a number of spokes and work is progressing.

g. Northeast

The Northeast Region will likely be the last region to be completed. The Northeast Region may be moving their equipment out of the Lancaster County warehouse and into a free warehouse closer to their region. The region is free to move the equipment at their convenience; however, they will need to do so before the Southeast Region is completed as once it is the Lancaster County warehouse will no longer be used to house any NRIN equipment.

h. Tri-County

No update.

IX. Next Steps and Next Meeting

Mark will update the cost estimates and send the updated spreadsheets out to everyone. Jayne will update the monitoring and management cost estimates.

X. Adjourn

The next meeting is set for Monday, December 8 at 1:00 pm. Updated spreadsheets will be available prior to the meeting.