

Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) Board

September 1, 2017; 10:00 AM CDT; 9:00 AM MDT

Business Meeting
Buffalo County EOC
1500 Central Ave.
Kearney, NE 68847

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum- 9 of 14 Directors attending meets the 8 (majority) required for a quorum.

| <i>PET Region</i> | <i>Director Name</i> | <i>Attendance</i> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Panhandle | Nan Gould | X |
| | Heidi Gillespie | |
| Southwest | Roger Powell | X |
| | Brandon Myers | |
| North Central | Caleb Johnson | X |
| | Alma Beland | X |
| South Central | Chip Volcek | |
| | Jon Rosenlund | |
| East Central | Shelly Holzerland | |
| | Tim Hofbauer | X |
| Northeast | Brian Kesting | X |
| | Kevin Mackeprang | X |
| Southeast | Brad Eisenhauer | X |
| | Carla Jones | X |
| <i>NEMA (Ex-Officio)</i> | Sue Krogman | X |
| <i>OCIO (Ex-Officio)</i> | Tracy Rocolo | |
| <i>NPPD (Ex-Officio)</i> | Matt Schnell | |
| <i>Tri-County (Ex-Officio)</i> | Phil Brazelton | |

Others in attendance: Mark DeKraai, Quinn Lewandowski, Robert Tubbs, Vanessa Zobeck

B. Open Meetings 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)

Tim Hofbauer called the meeting to order at 10:02am Central Daylight Time and verified public notice and availability of copy of law in the meeting location – NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 84-1407 THROUGH 84-1414 (1999, Cum. Supp. 2006, Supp. 2007)

C. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Carla Jones made a motion to approve the meeting minutes with corrections as indicated. Caleb Johnson seconded this motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

- **Yea:** Gould, Powell, Johnson, Beland, Hofbauer, Mackeprang, Eisenhauer, Jones
- **Nay:** None
- **Abstentions:** None

D. Review of Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

II. Subcommittee Meetings

A. Finance

- i. Regional 911 phone cost spreadsheet

The NRIN Finance Subcommittee met for a 15 minute session. The report is listed below.

B. Technical

- i. Regional 911 phone cost spreadsheet
- ii. Review the full Platte Valley Service Agreement and report back

The NRIN Technical Subcommittee met for a 15 minute session. The report is listed below.

C. Policy/Administration/Outreach

The NRIN Policy/Administration/Outreach Subcommittee was not present at this meeting.

III. Report Back from Subcommittees

A. Finance

The Finance committee continues to collect information on 911 center costs and still needs to obtain the trunk-line expenses. The committee will remind all Board Members to help collect these costs and gather contact information on the various carriers used in each county. The spreadsheet will be updated with the following additional information:

- There is an error on the spreadsheet under Keith County's costs that needs to be corrected.
- Population updates will be obtained from the Public Service Commission
- Shared dispatch connection costs in Region 24
- Nebraskalink coverage information

<https://decisiondata.org/coverage/nebraskalink-holdings-availability/>

CenturyLink costs have come down over the years from \$4000 a month to \$800 a month due to competition; charges are not regulated by tariff. Once the list is complete, it can be utilized to determine whether any particular carrier has higher costs over the others and which carriers are providing coverage in each county.

The committee received a quote for a Cisco router that would replace the MX5. The cost savings would be about \$26,000 per year but they may not replace other models. The quote requires purchasing the equipment through the OCIO.

B. Technical

Per Sue Krogman, the contract for NRIN was initially written to use Juniper routers. The State of Nebraska OCIO contract with Juniper has ended and the state is now working with Cisco. The OCIO has provided a quote to NRIN to use a Cisco router that will replace all the different types of routers currently used. The NRIN network will have to complete the build-out using Juniper routers due to the contract but Cisco can be used as replacements and can be integrated into the network one at a time. The Cisco routers would have to be purchased through OCIO because of the existing contract. Sue would like to take the Cisco quote to Juniper and ask for a price match. If Juniper cannot price match, a few Cisco routers could be purchased for testing purposes before switching the entire contract. If the test routers are successful and Juniper cannot price match, once the Juniper contract ends, the NRIN Board will consider switching to Cisco.

The Platte Valley Service Agreement is pending review from the Technical Committee.

C. Policy/Administration/Outreach

There were no Policy/Administration/Outreach Board members in attendance today.

IV. Action Items

A. NRIN Use Approval

Otoe County submitted a request to connect to SRS through NRIN and will access it from Nebraska City PD (the access information needs to be added into the comments on the PSAP).

Brad Eisenhauer made a motion to approve the NRIN Use request from Otoe County. Caleb Johnson seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote with no abstaining votes and no dissensions.

- **Yea:** Gould, Powell, Johnson, Beland, Hofbauer, Kesting, Mackeprang, Eisenhauer, Jones
- **Nay:** None
- **Abstentions:** None

B. Nomination and election of officers

i. Secretary:

Brad Eisenhauer nominated Caleb Johnson for a second term as Secretary to the NRIN Board. Roger Powell seconded the nomination; the nomination passed with one abstaining vote and no dissensions. Caleb Johnson accepted the position.

- **Yea:** Gould, Powell, Beland, Hofbauer, Kesting, Mackeprang, Eisenhauer, Jones
- **Nay:** None
- **Abstentions:** Johnson

ii. Vice Chair:

Brad Eisenhauer nominated Chip Volcek for a second term as Vice Chair to the NRIN Board. Carla Jones seconded the nomination; the nomination passed with no abstaining votes and no dissensions. Chip Volcek was not present to accept the position.

- **Yea:** Gould, Powell, Johnson, Beland, Hofbauer, Kesting, Mackeprang, Eisenhauer, Jones
- **Nay:** None
- **Abstentions:** None

iii. Chair:

Caleb Johnson nominated Tim Hofbauer for a second term as Chair to the NRIN Board. Nan Gould seconded the nomination; the nomination passed with one abstaining vote and no dissensions. Tim Hofbauer accepted the position.

- **Yea:** Gould, Powell, Johnson, Beland, Kesting, Mackeprang, Eisenhauer, Jones
- **Nay:** None
- **Abstentions:** Hofbauer

V. Updates and Discussion Items

A. Update and Discussion on NRIN Sustainment and Financing

i. Geocom discussion on connectivity prices and descriptions

Tim will request a proposal from Stacen Gross to consult NRIN on connectivity pricing.

ii. Input from each region on current costs for connection – All

The Board will reconvene on this topic once the proposal from Stacen is received.

iii. *Fee schedule conversation – All*

Currently, counties are connecting to SRS for their PSAPs for free; this should be considered when creating the fee schedule. A \$150-\$200 per month base fee was suggested as well as a different fee for each type of connection. The Board needs to make a final decision no later than the November Board meeting. Prior to NRIN presentations and marketing, a provider needs to be in place to make the connections to the network in order to avoid delays.

There are consulting companies who can be hired to build pricing structures for the NRIN network. Tim will talk to Stacen Gross and get a proposal on his consultant fees. Sue will ask Julie if monitoring and maintenance funds can be used to pay Stacen. The Board will continue this discussion once the proposal is received from Stacen Gross.

iv. *Public Service Commission funding – Chip Volcek*

Chip was not present at today's meeting. This agenda item will carry over to the next meeting.

v. *Monitoring and Maintenance Agreements – Technical Committee Recommendations*

The committee will review the Platte Valley Agreement in full prior to the next Board meeting.

vi. *Regional points of contact and process for monitoring outages – each region*

Each region is tasked with sending this information to Sue Krogman so she can compile a master list. The information needs to consist of: the point of contact for the region (this can be one person for each site or one person for all sites), whether or not the Board representative is also a contact person. This information needs to be sent to Sue prior to the next meeting. Solar Winds is beginning installation after October 1st, 2017.

vii. *Liability and insurance coverage and potential legal representation – Caleb Johnson and Tim Hofbauer*

Caleb has been researching liability insurance options and spoke with firm Cline Williams regarding legal representation. Cline Williams is the oldest law firm in Nebraska and is willing to work on an hourly basis, instead of a retainer, for approximately \$300 - \$330 per hour for public entities. Some legal issues may require the use of County attorneys but liability and contract reviews may need other representation.

B. *Updates on NRIN Uses*

i. *Spreadsheet to track NRIN use – Sue Krogman and Quinn Lewandowski*

Quinn has created a spreadsheet that contains the information from the NRIN Use Form. The spreadsheet is missing users that were connected to NRIN prior to creation of the form. Sue will send this information to Quinn. Quinn will have an updated spreadsheet for the next meeting.

ii. Update on negotiations with NPPD on two proposals – Tim Hofbauer

This negotiation is regarding tower site pass-through and eliminating rent. Matt with NPPD was going to contact us after conversing with the NPPD lawyers. This issue needs to be resolved before January 1, 2018 so the two regions do not get billed again. Sue Krogman will remind Matt to complete this task.

iii. Update on Department of Roads – Sue Krogman

There was no update on this topic.

iv. Update on teletype – Sue Krogman

Sue is waiting on the OCIO to determine the equipment needed on each PSAP in order for NRIN to pass the security needed for teletype usage.

v. Update on other regional or state uses – All

There is currently no money in the bank account so it will be closed if something is not deposited. Julie with South Central and Larry with NACO may be asked to attend an NRIN Board meeting in the future. The Board would like to include a standing agenda item regarding a financial report from the Vice Chair for every meeting. Tim will contact NACO to resolve the checking account issue prior to next meeting.

In early November, the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council and the Homeland Security Policy Group will meet to decide priorities for public safety communications and other projects. The NRIN Board will identify priorities for NRIN funding at the next meeting that will then be forwarded to NPSCC.

C. Update on NRIN Build-Out – Sue Krogman

i. NEMA Update – Sue Krogman

Sue provided new NRIN build out maps. Work is being done at the following locations:

- The KUTT Tower in Jefferson County
- The KSOU Tower in Northeast Madison County
- The line from Fremont to Fort Calhoun which will connect the East Central region into the Orion Network
- Elm Creek to Lexington
- Fiber for NPPD and extra dishes in McCook and North Platte as well as the NPPD tower at Axtell which will finish the Southwest Region and connect it into the South Central region
- The line from Deshler to Pawnee in the Southeast region is waiting for the KUTT tower to come online and will then be complete.
- The line from Ogallala to Benkelman is unstable. Platte Valley should have this fixed by next week.

The following was recently completed and is pending connection:

- Cass County has had multiple installations completed and will be using NRIN for SRS and their 800mghz radio system.

Sue and Carla met with Heidi last Tuesday in Sidney and replaced a NIC Card in the Sidney tower. The three then went to Alliance and met with Nan and 28

representatives from Emergency Management, Sheriff, Police Chiefs, Fire Department, and county commissioners to discuss regionalizing the PSAPs. Regionalization means that the PSAP has the ability to roll over to the next county if one county is not available. The consolette will show which area the call is originating from so the dispatch can answer appropriately. The roll over options can be customized. Panhandle representatives have been in contact with Carla regarding the Southeast Regions use of regionalization. Sue provided a map which shows where NRIN overlays with the PSAPs.

ii. *Event to connect east to west – Sue Krogman*

This event is on hold until water tower painting, the Otoe agreement, and testing from Chadron to Nebraska City is completed.

iii. *Panhandle – Nan Gould & Heidi Gillespie*

Nan and Heidi hosted Sue and Carla with 28 regional representatives for a meeting to discuss regionalization. Alliance/Box Butte dispatch were receptive to the concept. Casey wants to move the equipment to an area where it will be accessible 24/7.

iv. *Southwest – Roger Powell & Brandon Myers*

The Southwest region continues to have trouble with air conditioners on the grain elevators. Platte Valley is fixing these a lot so Sue is looking into relocation options.

v. *North Central – Caleb Johnson & Alma Beland*

Sue will be attending the next North Central regional meeting. Alma and Sue are looking at a tower in Thomas County so the contract can be moved to Custer Public Power and is determining if stored equipment can be moved. The Panhandle, Custer County, and Region-26 911 equipment was failing so the three regions collaborated to purchase new hardware but the NRIN connection is needed to make this work. The area will need a new tower between Taylor and Broken Bow and will request this in the Investment Justification process. Sue would like to rebuild the Custer and Comstock towers.

Keith County is having dependability issues with NRIN between Arthur, Mullen, and Sandhills. Sue explained that this is not an NRIN connection and is instead repeaters at Hooker County. Sue will explain this at the next North Central regional meeting.

The Sterling tower may be replaced with a water tower on the north end of Ogallala. This may be a viable option to end the Sterling tower contract because of the 3 mile difference. Games and Parks may be the owner of a tower north of Ogallala that could be a viable option; Sue will research this option.

North Central is still looking for an Emergency Manager.

vi. *South Central – Chip Volcek & Jon Rosenlund*

The South Central region was not present at today's meeting.

vii. Southeast – Carla Jones & Brad Eisenhauer

The KUTT Tower is under construction. The Southeast region had their first NRIN outage but the failover was so quick that dispatch did not notice. The outage was due to a bullet hole through the cable.

viii. East Central – Shelly Holzerland & Tim Hofbauer

The East Central region ordered spare fans for the radios from Cornerstone. These spare parts, and others, will be sent to Tracey at OCIO to keep in stock. Four NIC cards will be pre-programmed at OCIO to avoid onsite programming. The KSOU tower is almost ready to come online. The region has had significant lightning and rain storms but NRIN has been stable.

ix. Northeast – Brian Kesting & Kevin Mackeprang

The Northeast tower is down and cement may be used to stabilize the footings.

x. Tri-County – Phil Brazelton

The Tri-County region was not present at today's meeting.

D. Other Updates and Discussion

i. NRIN Board Vacancy Update

The Panhandle and Southwest vacancies have been filled. The North Central interim appointee is Alma Beland. The election for North Central will be completed by the next NRIN Board meeting.

ii. Updated election policies

A new packet with the most current version of all NRIN policies, Bylaws, and the Interlocal Agreement was distributed to the Board Members in attendance today.

iii. Other updates from regions or state agencies

There are no other updates from regions or state agencies today.

VI. Executive Session (if needed)

No Executive Session was needed today.

VII. Comments and adjourn

A. Next steps and agenda for next meeting

- i. Next meeting** –Friday, October 13th, 2017 at 10:00 AM CDT in the Buffalo County EOC in Kearney, NE. Future meetings: November 17th, December 8th, January 12th, every 2nd Friday there-after. An RSVP will be sent for each meeting going forward to determine quorum.

1. Action steps (complete prior to the next meeting):

I> All Regions:

- i.** Gather carrier information and current costs for 911 centers and send to Finance Committee
- ii.** Send regional Point of Contact information to Sue Krogman.
- iii.** Review the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network brochure and bring any requested changes to the next meeting.

II> Tim Hofbauer:

- i.** Contact Stacen Gross for a consulting proposal.
- ii.** Talk to NACO regarding the checking account balance.

- III> **Sue Krogman:**
 - i. Contact Julie to verify if monitoring & maintenance funds can be used to pay Stacen Gross.
 - ii. Send Quinn the information for all users currently connected to NRIN.
 - iii. Ask Matt with NPPD about the tower site pass-through/rent issues.
 - iv. North Central tower replacement option.
 - v. Contact Juniper regarding Cisco price match.
- IV> **Technical Committee:** Review the Platte Valley Agreement in full
- V> **Mark DeKraai:** Notify Cline Williams about status of legal representation.
- VI> **Finance Committee:** Continue to research costs for trunk lines and carriers with each region. Obtain current PSAP call data.
- VII> **Quinn Lewandowski:** update NRIN use spreadsheet and provide completed version at the next meeting.
- VIII> **Chip Volcek:** Prepare financial report for next meeting.

ii. **Agenda items to add**

1. **Platte Valley Service Agreement discussion**
2. **Investment Justification process preparation discussion for presentation to NPSCC**
3. **Public Service Commission funding – Chip Volcek**
4. **Financial Report – NRIN Vice Chair (Chip Volcek)**

B. **Member Comments**

There is no provision in the Bylaws for a Treasurer. This may need to be considered in the future.

C. **Public Comments**

None.

- D. **Adjourn** Tim Hofbauer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:14pm CT. Caleb Johnson seconded this motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote with no abstaining votes and no dissension.