

Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network Council (N-WIN)

May 27, 2011

Lincoln- Lancaster County Health Departments Training Center, 3140 N St, Lincoln, NE 68510

Minutes

Opening comments

1. Roll Call- Owen Yardley presided.

First	Last	Org	Attendance
Al	Berndt	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	absent
Ted	Blume	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	absent
Mark	Conrey	Tri-County Region	x
Jim	Gerweck	South East Region/NCOR Rep.	x
Adam	Matzner	State Fire Marshal's Office	x
Tom	Schwarten	Nebraska State Patrol	x
Jayne	Scofield	Office of the Chief Information Officer	x
Dave	Webb	Nebraska Public Power District	x
Owen	Yardley	Chair, UNL Campus Police	x

2. Open Meetings Law information – verification of public notice, availability of copy of law in the meeting location.

3. Review of meeting minutes – March, 25, 2011 & April 21, 2011

Tom Schwarten made a motion to approve the March 25, 2011 minutes. Jayne Scofield seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

Tom Schwarten made a motion to approve the April 21, 2011 minutes noting that “OCIO recommends keeping the statewide radio system comment as an open NITC enterprise project” under OCIO’s report in the minutes. Adam Matzner seconded the motion, the motion passed by consensus.

Discussion Items

1. Updates of Projects –Matt Schnell

a. Phase 1: All sites for Phase 1 are up and running, including Kimball. White Clay will receive a generator soon. OCIO met with Motorola on Wednesday to discuss coverage testing. Due to the preparation needed testing will likely start on August 1st and will take approximately 2-3 months to complete.

Phase 2: All sites for Phase 2 are up, but Whitman still needs a generator. OCIO talked extensively with Motorola last Wednesday about the illegal carrier issue. To address this issue they will test at the sites having the most issues to see if they can find the source of the problems. Surrounding states do not seem to have the same problems, so the testing will help diagnosis the issue.

Phase 3: Hartington is now online. Jones Creek & Ceder Bluffs are waiting for federal frequencies and may be turned up in late June. Cedar Bluffs is also waiting on antennas. The Elgin lease has been okayed. OCIO is waiting for Platte Valley to put up their antenna and Motorola to bring out the equipment, but there are no other issues and the equipment will be in place by end of June.

Phase 4: Humphrey, Osceola, Franklin, and Superior are all turned up as of May 19 and are operational. The master test splitting the system in two was successful. Nebraska City is still working on lease. Frequencies are still needed for Falls City, Sterling, Omaha, Craig, and Plattsmouth.

b. NCOR / Mutual Aid- Mark Conrey

Tri-County is making progress on placing appropriate equipment at dispatch centers. Raven estimates the IP box will be delivered to Motorola at the end of June. Once delivered Motorola will do the configuration and testing, then Tri-County will work with state patrol and OCIO to get the equipment installed.

2. Requests to join SRS- Dave Webb & Matt Schnell

While the official application to join the SRS is not yet complete, certain organizations have been working on their application to join the system, including LES and Lincoln County. While these organizations are eager to be a part of the SRS they have expressed concern about moving forward until some sort of official action is taken by N-WIN to assure them that they are likely to be approved. At this point both LES and Lincoln County need to spend money to move forward but would like reassurance before they do so. The council would like LES and Lincoln County to know that they are generally supportive of their applications; an official vote will be at the next N-WIN Council meeting. NPPD noted the funding model seemed to work well as it was applied to these two organizations.

Action Items

1. Funding Model Proposal

The proposed funding model is intended to be a general document. Jayne Scofield noted that the funding model has already been successfully tested with two groups. Dave Webb made a motion to insert the funding model into the N-WIN procedures. Tom Schwarten seconded this motion; the motion passed by consensus.

2. New Definitions for the Council Procedures

The current draft specifically lists Paraclete as the integration system, but we are capable of switching systems if necessary. To avoid having to amend and reapprove this document in the future because of this specific language we could add the phrase “or an equivalent integration system” after any mention of Paraclete.

Dave Webb made a motion to insert the glossary into the N-WIN procedures with the phrase “or an equivalent integration system” inserted after any mention of Paraclete in this definition. Jayne Scofield seconded this motion; the motion passed by, consensus.

Information/Reports

1. Office of the Chief Information Officer – Jayne Scofield

Nothing additional to report.

2. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency – Dan Hiller

The federal Homeland Security Grant has allocated \$5.1 million to Nebraska. This money is split 80:20 between the state and local governments. 33% of the funds must go to law enforcement/IED. The Omaha area will no longer be a UASI. They will instead join the regions to become the eighth region

3. University of Nebraska Public Policy Center- Janell Walther

The 2011 Investment Justification guidance for the Homeland Security grant came out. The drafts created at the IJ workshop in April are available online for review and comments. These will be transitioned to the 2011 format and be sent to NEMA for approval, then reposted on the website. The next draft of the newsletter is available for comments. Please continue to forward the newsletter on to anyone you think would find it useful or let Janell know directly if you would like someone to be added to the subscription list.

Kate Speck hosted an Interoperability webinar for local officials. The next webinar focusing on emergency responders is scheduled for July 26th at 12pm. The final webinar in this series will be held in September for all interested parties to discuss the build-out. The Public Policy Center is looking for other ways to reach local officials including attending some of their meetings in the future.

4. Nebraska Public Power District- Dave Webb

To help determine the role of the NRIN network whether it can join the system based on state statutes, Dave Webb has scheduled a meeting with the new CEO and the legal team.

5. NCOR representatives– update on NCOR activities and implications for NWIN- Mark Conrey

A SCIP workshop will be held 6/22 and a Goal 2 workshop will be held 6/23. It will be beneficial to have someone representing the interests of the state at these events and that as many people get involved as possible. Flyers are available today and interested persons can talk to Bob Eastwood if you would like to sign up and if you need hotel stay for the event. Jim Lundstead of the Office of Emergency Communications will participate.

Comments

1. Member comments

There have been fairly consistent issues with some of the phone company vendors providing less than adequate services to the radio system. This has caused gaps and inconsistency in coverage. Lt. Colonel Tom Schwarten suggests that the N-WIN council make an official statement to the phone companies to help them understand how vital their services are to emergency communications and the necessity of their prompt service to minimize loss of coverage. Motorola's coverage study scheduled for August will help highlight some of the problem areas and members of this council and OCIO are already searching for some alternative ways to ensure strong coverage. The letter should give a timeline, describe the purpose of N-WIN and the source of its authority, what problems have been experienced, and why inconsistency is problematic. Jayne Scofield, OCIO, will draft the letter. The goal is to prepare this letter by early next week.

2. Public comments

There were no public comments

Next Meeting

June 24th, 2011 at 1:30PM location TBD.