

# Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network Council (N-WIN)

July 22, 2011, 1:30 PM

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

## Opening comments

### 1. Roll Call

First	Last	Org	Attendance
Al	Berndt	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	(Dan Hiller)
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	absent
Owen	Yardley	Chair, UNL Campus Police	x

- Open Meetings Law information – verification of public notice, availability of copy of law in the meeting location
- Review of meeting minutes – Tom Schwarten made a motion to approve the June 24, 2011 meeting minutes. Jayne Scofield seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.

## Discussion Items

### 1. Updates of Projects

#### **SRS Project Update: Matt Schnell, NPPD**

The written report discussing each phase in more detail will be made available. Highlights include that several phases are nearly complete. The start date for the Motorola coverage study will likely be pushed back due to some illegal carrier issues and new antennas going in at several sites. Motorola released noise readings last week, and now OCIO will attempt to cut down the noise at sites with high readings before coverage testing begins. The FCC plans to have a list of federal frequencies for those sites that are still waiting on them by next week. The Users Group continues to meet on the first Friday of the month and is currently working on fleet mapping. At the next meeting they will discuss code plugs. The issues with the Garden County generator are being investigated, and an email will be sent out once more information is found. The North Platte antenna was replaced, and Elgin should receive a new antenna soon. White Clay is no longer having problems interfering with South Dakota or Wyoming. More minor issues will likely arise with Iowa since many groups have not narrowbanded and the new frequencies sometimes interfere with wideband frequencies. The sites have been okay during the heat wave except where air conditioners have failed.

#### **NCOR / Mutual Aid: Mark Conrey**

Equipment will be ordered for the pilot regions. As the Lt. Governor assumes his role as SWIC, NEMA will be handling Goal 2 compliance and the OCIO will take the lead on the narrowbanding project. NCOR voted to recommend that the nomenclature for frequency names be switched to federal standard per the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG).

## **Action Items**

### **1. Approval of the NWIN Application**

There is not an NWIN application.

### **2. Approval of Intent to Participate**

It was suggested that one standard point of contact be designated on the Intent to Participate and the SRS New User Checklist. Mark Conrey suggested that the agency profile be expanded to ask how many dispatch consoles are needed and what are the numbers of expected subscribers.

*Tom Schwarten made a motion to adopt the Intent to Participate form with the correction that lead orientation coordinator is listed at the end of the document. The motion was seconded by Jayne Scofield; the motion passed by consensus.*

### **3. Approval of SRS New User Checklist**

It was suggested to use consistent contact information for the lead orientation coordinator on both documents.

*Mark Conrey made a motion to adopt the SRS New User Checklist with the correction of the lead orientation coordinator information be made consistent in the document. Tom Schwarten seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.*

The committee discussed polling potential users of the NWIN system to see which organizations thought they would join the system and when to assist in long-term planning. The committee is interested in adding a tagline in the PPC newsletters which asks people to contact the group if they are interested in joining. It needs to be determined if the N-WIN Council or NCOR would have the authority to make these contacts. The Council discussed the need to define what the system is before trying to convince people to sign up, including the costs & benefits. It will be important to ensure these marketing efforts are targeted to decision makers like county officials and municipalities.

Mark Conrey suggested using equipment updates and narrowbanding as opportunities to offer up the SRS as a good option. The committee decided to discuss this further at the next meeting, but that it would be best to get the pilots and new users active first and once some of the issues have been worked out, approach potential users. There is a sheriffs' conference in October and another conference in September which could be good opportunities to share information about the system and its benefits.

## **Information/Reports**

### **1. Office of the Chief Information Officer –Jayne Scofield**

The Public Policy Center hosted a meeting with the Lt. Governor, NEMA, and OCIO to discuss the Lt. Governor's new role as SWIC and how the agencies can support him. Meetings with the Lt. Governor will be held monthly in the future. Lincoln County has signed the contracts and is proceeding successfully.

### **2. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency – Rod Hutt**

NRIN has ordered equipment and is about three weeks into a 6 to 8 week cycle in the pilot region. NEMA is proceeding with tower mapping, structural analysis, and grounding reviews. The Southwest and South Central regions are nearly complete and we are making progress in the other regions. construction will progress in August with the majority of construction taking place in September and finishing up in October.

### **3. University of Nebraska Public Policy Center- Janell Walther & Denise Bulling**

There is a webinar geared towards first responders on interoperability on July 26 at 12:00 pm Central and another webinar on Aug 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. They will cover the same information. Archives will be available online, but participating live lets you ask questions.

The NRIN group will hold an all-day meeting at the Public Policy Center to discuss technical and governance issues. The group will work on creating an inter-local agreement using the template that was already successful in Douglas County. If you would like to attend please let us know so you can be added to list. Participating by phone with an online meeting room to share documents is also available.

4. **Nebraska Public Power District- Matt Schnell, NPPD**

The Columbus area installations are complete. NPPD met with OCIO on Tuesday and discussed some of the technical issues with the consoles that are in operation with the State Patrol. NPPD is looking at secondary circuits to help deal with issues in splitting the system.

5. **NCOR representatives– update on NCOR activities and implications for NWIN- No report**

**Comments**

1. **Member comments-** The Portable Communications Trailer is going well. Invoices need to be submitted on the grant. Once HVAC is complete, the trailer will be moved to the area for usable vehicles.

This will be Owen Yardley's last meeting; thank you for your work.

2. **Public comments-** Banner County and Warren Air Force Base are interested in becoming guest users on the system. They already have Motorola radios and need to know how to start the process of getting added to the system. Forms are available on the website and once they have sent these in the lead orientation coordinator will assist them in moving forward.

**Next Meeting**

The Lt. Governor would like to hold a joint meeting between NCOR & NWIN to discuss his new role as SWIC for the State of Nebraska. Tentatively, the N-WIN Council Meeting will be held on August 26, 2011.