

Bylaws of the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network

Article I. Name

The name of the Council is the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network (hereinafter "N-WIN"). N-WIN shall report to the Lt. Governor as Nebraska Homeland Security Director and to the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group as established by Executive Order No. 08-03.

Article II. Purpose

NWIN is created to provide leadership regarding the development of public safety communications within Nebraska. N-WIN shall:

1. Provide for governance and policy level direction related to the planning and decisions regarding development and operation of the N-WIN.
2. Adopt bylaws for the operation of N-WIN.
3. Develop strategies and recommendations to improve operations of the N-WIN, including consultation with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) regarding the use of new technology as it becomes available.
4. Promote interoperability for public safety communications within Nebraska, and with Border States.
5. Provide oversight for the development of protocols, standard operating procedures and guidelines for use of the N-WIN.
6. Coordinate and provide planning, training and exercise opportunities related to communications interoperability for all necessary and authorized public safety practitioners.
7. Establish the terms of agreements and enter into agreements for public safety entities to operate on the N-WIN, in conjunction with the Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO), when such arrangements are practical and in the best interests of the State and the regions.
8. Develop recommendations and strategies for best utilization of public funds, including grants, to improve public safety communications in Nebraska.

N-WIN shall prepare an annual report for the Governor and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. Such report shall contain a current assessment of the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network, including recommendations regarding the operation of and enhancements to the system.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Voting membership of N-WIN Council shall be comprised of a Chair appointed by the Governor and a representative who has been vested by the appointing authority of the following agencies: Nebraska State Patrol; Nebraska Game and Parks Commission; Nebraska Fire Marshal; Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer; Nebraska Emergency Management Agency; and Nebraska Public Power District.

Section 2. Two non-voting, ex-officio members shall be appointed by the Chair of the Nebraska Council of Regions.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. The chairperson of N-WIN is appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Governor.

Section 2. The vice-chairperson is appointed by the Lt. Governor and serves as an ad-hoc non-voting member of the N-WIN Council and performs governance duties of the chairperson in his/her absence.

Section 3. N-WIN will be administratively and technically supported by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Article V. Voting

Section 1. Only appointed members of N-WIN present in meetings either in-person or, as authorized, by videoconference have the right to participate in forming final decisions of the N-WIN Council.

Section 2. Decision will be made by consensus whenever possible.

Section 3. When the chair or vice-chair determines that consensus is not possible, he/she may call for a motion and second to frame a vote. Members may abstain from voting or vote aye or nay. All votes for action items will be recorded by roll call vote. Five of the seven voting members (5 of 7) is required for a motion to be pass.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. N-WIN meetings will be conducted in accordance with provisions in the Nebraska "Open Meetings Law", § 84-1408 through 84-1414.

Section 2. Agendas will be established 15 days prior to the meeting date when possible to allow representatives ample time to circulate action items among their stakeholders. Publication of agendas will follow guidelines set forth in the Open Meetings Law as referenced in Article VI, Section 1.

Section 3. N-WIN will meet as often as needed to accomplish the goals set forth in Executive Order No. 08-04.

Section 4. A quorum for conducting business shall be five of the seven voting members (5 of 7).

Section 5. Public participants at N-WIN meetings may speak on agenda items outside the public comment period when determined appropriate to assist in resolving the agenda item or when properly identified and recognized by the chairperson.

Section 6. Meeting notes will be provided to all N-WIN members and posted according to the Open Meetings Law.

Article VII. Committees

N-WIN may establish sub-committees and temporary working groups to address operating procedures and special projects.

Article VIII. Amendments of Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of N-WIN by an affirmative roll call vote of 5 of 7 voting members, provided the amendment has been placed on the agenda as an action item.

Article IX. Adoption of Bylaws

Adopted by the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network Council this 26 day of June, 2009:

By: _____ Owen Yardley, Chairperson