

**Southeast Nebraska Emergency Management Group  
Regional Governance Board  
MINUTES  
March 31, 2010 – 10 a.m.  
Regular Meeting  
Pizza Kitchen Conference Room, Milford, Nebraska**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman James Gerweck called the regular meeting of the Southeast Regional Emergency Management Governance Board to order at 10:05 a.m. on March 31, 2010 at the Pizza Kitchen Conference Room, Milford, Nebraska. The meeting was held in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and a copy of the Act was available for inspection.

Present were board members Gary Petersen (Seward & York Counties), William Cover (Cass County), Mark Meints (Gage County), Doug Ahlberg (Lancaster County), BJ Fictum (Saline County), Gregg Goebel (Otoe County), James Gerweck (Richardson County), John McKee (Jefferson County), Dan Jantzen (Thayer County) and Mike Wilcox (Pawnee County).

**2. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Ahlberg, seconded by Goebel, to approve the agenda as presented. Voting aye were Wilcox, Meints, Cover, Gerweck, Goebel, Petersen, McKee, Jantzen, Ahlberg and Fictum; nays, none; motion carried.

**3. Reception of Guests/Visitors**

Guests included: Dr. Denise Bulling, University of Nebraska Policy Center; Capt. Steven Ayres, Nebraska State Patrol; Brian Daake, Beatrice Fire/HazMat Chief; Jim Wenzl, Johnson County Sheriff; Rod Hutt and Nikki Weber, NEMA; Lisa Bloss, Southeast District Health Department; Jim Prudhome, Otoe County Emergency Management; Rick Schreiner, Deputy Gage County Attorney; and Shawn Weise, Regional Training Officer.

**4. Correspondence**

No correspondence for the board was received.

**5. Funding Claims Approval**

Ahlberg presented a claim invoice from Gage County in the amount of \$18,334.75 for ETO Shawn Weise's salary & benefits plus travel expenses to the Exercise Planning Workshop in North Platte in late January. A motion was made by Jantzen, seconded by McKee, to approve the \$18,334.75 claim. Voting aye were Goebel, Petersen, Wilcox, Cover, Gerweck, McKee, Fictum, Jantzen and Ahlberg; nays, none; abstaining, Meints; motion carried.

**6. MOU/Agreement for PSAP Interconnectivity Funding (FY2007 PSIC)**

Gerweck and Fictum explained the MOU/Agreement for PSAP Interconnectivity Funding (Handout No. 1), noting that Al Berndt had sent a letter to Gerweck stating that he needed a signed MOU/Agreement for the equipment portion of the Paraclete system before he would issue a contract with vendor Interop Solutions. Rod Hutt said the statewide interconnectivity system has begun in the Panhandle and will be proven there first. Some of the PSIC funding will go to the North-Central Region for its ring topology then progress to the Northeast and Southwest regions. This way all the equipment does not need to be online before the June 30, 2010 grant deadline. Hutt said that in reality, it is not giving the region's money away...only allowing NEMA to temporarily utilize it in other regions. In response to a question by Ahlberg, Hutt said the region will have input into its portion of the system, which will reach here in about two years. Lt. Gov. Sheehy is dedicated to fulfilling this system objective and is NEMA's top priority. Petersen asked about bid deadline and Hutt said timelines for completion are September 2011. A motion was made by Meints, seconded by Cover, to approve the MOU/Agreement to allow NEMA to utilize \$481,525 in PSIC funds awarded to the Southeast Region for the project entitled "Investment Justification No. 3: Regional PSAP Interconnectivity. With no further discussion, voting aye were Meints, McKee, Fictum, Jantzen, Goebel, Petersen, Wilcox, Cover, Gerweck and Ahlberg; nays, none; motion carried.

#### **7. Performance- and Occupational-Based Standards for Regional PET Program**

Mark Meints discussed the situation with the Regional ETO program and incorrect statements allegedly made by NEMA involving back paperwork. Meints said he was called to Al Berndt's office one afternoon to hear that Gage County was to return \$40,000 back to state on funding because reports and/or claims had not been filed or completed. After several conversations, Meints said they discovered some things NEMA had missed and they notified the state, but the Gage County Board Finance Committee chairman requested him to set up a meeting with NEMA. Present at the meeting were NEMA, Gary Petersen, Doug Ahlberg and Meints. Paperwork was compared and it was discovered that some information was entered incorrectly, which appeared to provide funding for the ETO position through June 30, 2010. Meints said NEMA has met with them only once since 2005 to evaluate the program and give direction. He presented a handout (Handout No. 2) with a flowchart involving the overall ETO program, the Regional ETO job description/duties and a report of the North Platte EPW.

It was noted that no contract or interlocal agreement exists between the region and Gage County for ETO. Dr. Bulling noted NEMA will be assigning someone from the Training Division to work with Weise as mentor and coach even though Meints is his immediate supervisor. Weise falls underneath Gage County personnel policies and Meints said the county is willing to continue the process, but is requesting an interlocal agreement. NEMA wants Weise to go out to EMI for a master trainer class and then conduct a training needs assessment for each county. A motion was made by Cover, seconded by Wilcox, that develop an interlocal agreement for the regional ETO position. Fictum and Deputy County Attorney Schreiner said they would work on an agreement and present it before June 30. Voting aye were Goebel, Petersen, Wilcox, Cover, Gerweck, McKee, Fictum, Jantzen and Ahlberg; nays, none; abstaining, Meints; motion carried.

The board recessed at 11:06 a.m. and reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

## **9. FY2008 and FY2009 Work Plans**

Fictum presented updated copies of the FY2008 and FY2009 work plans (Handout Nos. 3 and 4) to the board members and with help from Bulling, Gerweck and Hutt, explained each of the projects listed. Board members discussed suggested changes with Bulling and other guests and changes were made to each of the projects' milestones and beginning and end dates. A motion was made by Ahlberg, seconded by Goebel, to approve the FY2008 and FY2009 work plans as amended. Voting aye were Wilcox, Goebel, Cover, Gerweck, Petersen, McKee, Fictum, Meints and Ahlberg; nays, none; abstaining, Jantzen; motion carried.

The board recessed for lunch at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 12:32 p.m.

## **10. FY2010 Investment Justifications**

A list of the region's thoughts on investment justifications for FY2010 was distributed to the board and reviewed (Handout No. 5). Denise Bulling said the first draft of the state investment justifications is posted on the Homeland Security Planning Web site. The IJ workshop is April 6 in Lincoln and will be attended by Ahlberg, Petersen and Gerweck. Results of that will be sent to DHS April 17. A motion was made by Goebel, seconded by Cover, to recommend the regional IJ narratives to NEMA. Voting aye were Gerweck, Wilcox, Jantzen, Goebel, McKee, Cover, Petersen, Fictum, Meints and Ahlberg; nays, none; motion carried.

## **11. Committee Reports**

- **Communications** — Gerweck, Fictum and Hutt explained the FY2007 PSIC PSAP Interoperability Project MOU/Agreement (Handout No. 6) and the FY2008 HSGP PSAP Interoperability Project MOU/Agreement (Handout No. 7) for the purchase of the Paraclete system equipment and installation. The proposed plan for seven Paraclete interfaces in the Southeast Region was discussed and a map showing the proposed locations and possible coverage patterns was handed out (Handout No. 8). Fictum noted that the \$226,950 from the FY2007 PSIC Grant would cover about 4 of the sites so additional monies could be allocated from the FY2008 HSGP communications equipment allotment for the additional three interfaces. A motion was made by Cover, seconded by Wilcox, to approve the FY2007 PSIC PSAP Interoperability Project MOU/Agreement with NEMA in the amount of \$226,960. Voting aye were Jantzen, Goebel, Meints, McKee, Petersen, Wilcox, Cover, Gerweck, Fictum and Ahlberg; nays, none; motion carried. A second motion was made by Jantzen, seconded by McKee, to approve the FY2008 HSGP PSAP Interoperability MOU/Agreement with NEMA in the amount of \$86,794.25. Voting aye were McKee, Cover, Wilcox, Gerweck, Jantzen, Goebel, Petersen, Fictum, Meints and Ahlberg; nays, none; motion carried.
- **Hazardous Materials (HazMat)** — Meints reported that Beatrice is hosting a HazMat Technician refresher course in August and Daake is awaiting word from NEMA on using some money for overtime/backfill for the class.

- **Exercise/Planning** — Ahlberg said the committee had not met recently, but that the TEREX 2010 functional exercise at the Greenwood pipeline terminals is Sept. 22, and he attended a meeting on TEREX 2011 at UNL, a functional exercise on Active Shooter. It was suggested that each EM coordinator contact local law enforcement to establish a base of evaluators and controllers. Ahlberg also said that the stateside TERC group was requesting funding to send personnel to the APCO International conference in August at a cost of \$1,875 per person. The item was tabled and will be placed on the May meeting agenda.

Gary Petersen reported that the Planning Academy will be April 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Lincoln. Discussion will center around data derived from the SWOT meetings and will include a SERC presentation on LEPCs, a panel discussion by NEMA, and an overview of handling federal disaster declarations. Most board members said they had not received any notice of the workshop and Petersen said he would forward the information to the secretary for dissemination.

- **NCOR/NWIN** — Gerweck reported on the updated Statewide Mutual Aid Plan and the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan workshop. He reviewed some new requirements and information from the Mutual Aid plan, including a required Ethernet interface and continuous-duty rating for base stations.
- **Executive Committee** — Gerweck explained that weather and lack of agenda items were among the reasons that there were no meetings over the December-January-February time frame, but there were also no specific agenda requests. He stressed to everyone that if meetings need to be held more frequently, then requests for agenda items must be submitted to any member of the Executive Committee.

## **12. IED/Earthquake/FAD & Other Planning**

Gerweck talked about IED planning for schools, courthouses, etc. along with earthquake and foreign animal disease planning efforts. Bulling noted that the Public Policy Center can do what contractor ICF did in previous years as far as helping complete tasks, looking at big projects and helping evaluate the best places to use PET dollars. Additional discussion will be held in future months.

## **13. Funding Mechanism For Regional Sustainability**

Gerweck expressed the hope that the board would start seriously examining and developing a sustainability plan for the region for equipment, installation, maintenance issues, etc. Meints said that if help was needed that all the Executive Committee needs to do is let the board members know and they will help.

## **14. Public and Board Comment**

- Denise Bulling noted that the SCIP and the TICP will both be updated soon and NEMA will be unveiling some new requirements which will require local response within the next year to update information, inventories, etc. She also said that the CASM will now populate the TICP.

- Gary Petersen asked about section chief training and Weise said the state is trying to get its training completed then will give guidance to the regions. The state is also attempting to set up its own Incident Management Team. There is a radiological update training from 6 to 10 p.m. April 6 and 8 in Utica at the high school cafeteria.
- Ahlberg noted that the lease has finally been signed for Todd Beam's tower project, the EHP is complete and footings were being poured the following Friday. It is located at the southeast corner of Hallam where the co-op anhydrous ammonia tank farm was formerly located.
- Weise reported that the SEMRS functional exercised to evacuate the Madonna facility in Lincoln will be April 29. They will be calling down to hospitals in every county to see if they can take patients and some EM directors may also be contacted for information.

### **15. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. at the Lancaster County Emergency Operations Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

### **16. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ahlberg, seconded by Wilcox, to adjourn the meeting at 14:27. Voting aye were Gerweck, Cole, Wilcox, Cover, Fictum, Goebel, Jantzen, Meints, McKee and Ahlberg; nays, none; motion carried. Meeting adjourned.



B.J. Fictum, Secretary

APPROVED



James Gerweck, Chairman  
May 5, 2010