

**Southeast Nebraska Emergency Management Group
Regional Governance Board
MINUTES — Regular Meeting
June 2, 2010 – 10 a.m.
Lancaster County Extension Office, Lincoln, 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 June 2, 2010 at the Lancaster County Extension Office, Lincoln, 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 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) and Mike Wilcox (Pawnee County). Guests present included Donna Mainwaring, newly appointed Fillmore County EM Coordinator; Lisa Bloss, Southeast Health Department; Shawn Weise, Regional ETO; Rod Hutt, NEMA; Mark Hosking, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department; Tom Jensen, Nebraska Department of Agriculture; Jim Wenzl, Johnson County Sheriff and Interim EM Coordinator; and Kate Specht, NU Public Policy Center.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Introductions & Reception of Visitors

BJ Fictum introduced Donna Mainwaring, the newly appointed EM Coordinator for Fillmore County, who began work June 1. The remaining guests were recognized and board members introduced themselves.

4. Correspondence

There was no correspondence received by the board.

7. Foreign Animal Disease Planning/Discussion

Tom Jensen, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, highlighted FAD awareness training programs NDA has put on during 2004-05 that were extended to producers and emergency responders and three recent update workshops in Richardson County, Dawson County and the Panhandle. He explained that NDA is receiving some funding from NEMA as is the LEDRS (Livestock Emergency Disease Response Specialist) veterinarians program. A multi-state partnership for security in agricultural also brings many programs to the state, including those taught by Kirkwood Community College.

Jensen said that if there are funds the region wishes to commit to more training and equipment for FAD response, NDA needs to know soon because they are writing the RFP now. NDA would also like to integrate more information on FAD and response into the local LEOPs

and the region could utilize some of its agroterrorism response dollars to fund that effort. The group consensus was to support that concept because it will benefit all counties.

Doug Ahlberg arrived at 10:21 a.m.

Jensen explained the upcoming Kansas-Nebraska drill concerned animal movement on June 17, 2010 and asked for assistance in locating a county along the border that would host the drill which will involve a roadblock and checkpoints. Shawn Weise volunteered Gage County to host the drill along Highway 77.

Mark Meints arrived at 10:30 a.m.

5. Funding Requests

a. Association of Threat Assessment Professionals — Ahlberg explained to the group that personnel from the Lincoln Police Department had requested funding to attend the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals conference and training later this summer at an approximate cost of \$6,760. After discussion, a motion was made by Cover, seconded by Meints, to approve the funding request through the region with the stipulation that the LPD attendee(s) give a presentation to the board upon returning from the conference/training. Voting aye were McKee, Gerweck, Wilcox, Cover, Goebel, Meints, Ahlberg and Fictum; nays, none; motion carried.

b. Public Information Officer Training — Ahlberg explained to the group that personnel from the Lincoln Fire Department (Jeff Hatcher) had requested funding to attend the national Public Information Officer training in August at an approximate cost of \$2,023.53. After discussion, a motion was made by Ahlberg, seconded by McKee, to approve the funding request through the region with the stipulation that the attendee gives a presentation to the board upon returning from the conference/training. Voting aye were McKee, Gerweck, Wilcox, Cover, Goebel, Meints, Ahlberg and Fictum; nays, none; motion carried.

Further discussion was held on the need for Memoranda of Understanding/Agreements between entities receiving training funding through the region and the Southeast Region itself requiring said individuals to return and (1) brief the board on the training received, and (2) provide reciprocal training to emergency responders within the Southeast Region. A motion was made by Ahlberg, seconded by Cover, to acquire MOUs from the three entities that have received training dollars from the region to date. Ahlberg said he would get those MOUs signed and delivered. Voting aye were Meints, Wilcox, Cover, Gerweck, Goebel, McKee, Ahlberg and Fictum; nays, none; motion carried.

8. Requesting Additional Proposals From Counties

Gerweck and Fictum discussed the need for another survey of individual counties to see what regional needs they might have dealing with interconnectivity and interoperability. Cover noted that PSAPs, sheriff's offices, etc., also need more information concerning where the Region intends to place Paraclete systems, Mutual Aid base stations, etc. Fictum noted that when the Johnson County and Thayer County towers are constructed, that will change the outlook. Cover noted there must be some buy-in on the part of the local jurisdiction when regional/state equipment is placed in a county. After further discussion, John McKee, Donna Mainwaring and Doug Ahlberg were added to the Communications Committee (Mainwaring filled the Fillmore County spot formerly held by Terry Marshall).

9. Committee & Other Reports

9a. Reports/Discussion on HSGP/PSIC Projects — Discussion was held on the lack of information being provided to the Region and to NEMA on the PSIC IJ1-Tower Project by the project manager, Todd Beam, despite repeated requests from both the region and NEMA. Rod Hutt reported that NEMA has asked for coordinates and other information required to begin the EHP (Environmental & Historical Preservation) paperwork for DHS to no avail. A motion was made by Ahlberg, seconded by McKee, that the Regional Board author a letter to Lincoln Police Chief Tom Cassidy with a copy to NEMA Assistant Director Al Berndt asking that Cassidy remedy the information flow problem and requesting reports in regular intervals. Voting aye were Goebel, Meints, McKee, Cover, Gerweck, Wilcox, Ahlberg and Fictum; nays, none; motion carried.

9a-1. IED Funding — Meints reported that he met with Loren Uden, Adams County EM, at Nebraska Fire School and that Uden said the South-Central Region used its PET funding to purchase light trailers and the HSGP money to upgrade repeaters to narrowband. Gerweck said the NCOR board had discussed the South-Central situation and noted those regions may not have enough funding remaining to handle their interconnectivity and/or Mutual Aid purchasing. McKee also noted that he had heard from others in the South-Central Region that they had used IED money to purchase light trailers for approximately \$11,000 each while the Southwest Region used PET money for the same purchases.

9b. Communications: NWIN/Interconnectivity/NCOR Reports — Hutt reported the second RFP for the statewide microwave system had gone out and a letter of intent to award had been issued to CSI of Omaha. The contract will be awarded in about 15 days. Work will begin in the Panhandle on the microwave ring topology. Hutt said there are many issues with the microwave and Mutual Aid systems, the biggest of which is tower availability and lack of towers/information, except in the Southeast Region where a large amount of data was collected on towers and capabilities. As a result, NEMA had all regions except the Southeast contract with local radio repair shops to determine tower loading, building space availability, etc.

Mutual Aid — Progress is being made on the Mutual Aid system and Hutt said \$150,000 of FY2007 money will be spent on Mutual Aid equipment so it can be delivered before June 30, 2010. In the SE Region, each MA system will consist of a VHF base station with five channels and separate receiver; a UHF base station, a UHF repeater, an 800 MHz base station and an 800 MHz base station. There may be problems placing six antennae plus two 4- to 6-foot microwave parabolic antennae. Hutt has met with the Motorola engineering staff to discuss console interoperability with VoIP and the MIP5000 systems purchased by Johnson, Richardson and Nemaha counties will be compatible. He feels other console can be connected through gateways. Gerweck reported he has discussed the Zetron interface issue with Cindy Sorum of Racom.

Paraclete — Hutt noted that Paraclete will be an alternate means of patching through for counties. Some counties where they have been installed are not pleased because they were just thrown in with very little training with no written manuals. As a result, NEMA has contracted with the UNPPC to have a manual and training developed for the counties. Fictum noted that the Region Communications Committee had discussed

the need for a dedicated computer at each access point and the possibility of funding those purchases, but that no sites have been officially chosen because there are no draft MOU/Agreements available and the committee felt those are necessary whether it is Paraclete, a new computer, the interconnectivity system or whatever the region places in a county. Hutt said the state is looking toward Nebraska Public Power District for system management expertise. He reported that the statewide radio system has been turned on in the Panhandle and has been built out in the next tier of counties. Some Phase 2 sites will be turned on this summer while Phase 3 and Phase 4 will basically be completed simultaneously with a target completion of the state microwave system of Dec. 31, 2010.

9c. HazMat/Training Committee — Meints reported that Brian Daake has used up all the funding for FY2007 and FY2008 allocated to the HazMat regional response team and the proposed FY2009 work plan is in NEMA's hands now. A motion was made by Meints, seconded by Ahlberg, to accept the report. Voting aye were Meints, Ahlberg, Fictum, McKee, Gerweck, Cover, Wilcox and Goebel; nays, none; motion carried.

9d. Exercise/Planning Committee — Ahlberg said a document will be forthcoming to the counties from the Bureau of Fire Prevention involving IED training and possible dates. TERREX 2010 is being held at the gas distribution station near Greenwood and the state is hosting TERREX 2011 at UNL with an Active Shooter theme. Target Capabilities Training Workshop is July 7 in Lincoln. A motion was made by Cover, seconded by Meints, to accept the report. Voting aye were Wilcox, Goebel, Cover, Gerweck, McKee, Fictum, Ahlberg and Meints; nays, none; motion carried.

9e. Sustainability — Ideas for future sustainability of regional and county equipment were discussed. Kate Specht (UNPPC) reported that one region is budgeting a line item of \$1,000 from each participating county and not utilizing it unless necessary. Another idea discussed was having each county allocate a percentage of its EMPG funds. The biggest issues include collection of funds, from where, deposit locations and responsibility for maintaining it. Further discussion will be held at the July meeting.

11. Comments from the Board/Public

Shawn Weise reported that Henry Tamasi, NEMA Training Division head, has requested Weise to complete a training assessment for each county in June. Meints noted that Weise is trying real hard to meet the guidance put forth by the state and in getting reports completed.

6. Project Manager Proposals

A motion was made by Meints, seconded by Fictum, to enter into executive session at 12:38 p.m. to discuss project manager proposals for the Thayer County and Johnson County tower projects. Voting aye were Fictum, Meints, Wilcox, Goebel, Ahlberg, McKee, Cover and Gerweck; nays, none; motion carried.

A motion was made by Fictum, seconded by McKee, to exit executive session at 12:47 p.m. Voting aye were Wilcox, Goebel, Fictum, Meints, Ahlberg, McKee, Cover and Gerweck; nays, none; motion carried.

Fictum reported the members had discussed one proposal received for Tower Construction Project Management services from D&D Communications/First Wireless Inc., Omaha, Nebraska.

A motion was made by Fictum, seconded by Ahlberg, to recommend to the Thayer County Board of Commissioners and the Johnson County Board of Commissioners to accept the Tower Construction Project Management services contract from D&D Communications in the amount of \$22,815 for Thayer County and \$22,815 for Johnson County, noting that those costs will be funded through the Region's PET FY2007 funds. After a short discussion, on roll call vote, voting aye were Fictum, Wilcox, Goebel, Ahlberg, McKee, Meints, Cover and Gerweck; nays, none; motion carried.

12. Set Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the board was set for Thursday, July 8, 2010 at the Lancaster County Extension Office, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln, Nebraska.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Wilcox and seconded by Cover to adjourn the meeting at 12:51 p.m. All voted aye, nays none, motion carried.



B.J. Fictum, Secretary

APPROVED:



James Gerweck, Chairman
July 8, 2010