

**Southeast Nebraska Emergency Management Group  
Regional Governance Board  
MINUTES — Regular Meeting  
July 8, 2010 – 10 a.m.  
UNL Public Policy Center, Lincoln, Nebraska**

**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 July 8, 2010 at the UN Public Policy Center Fifth Floor, 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 James Gerweck (Richardson County), John McKee (Jefferson County), Mark Meints (Gage County), Gary Petersen (Seward County), Josh Groleau (Cass County alternate representative), Doug Ahlberg (Lancaster County), BJ Fictum (Saline County), Gregg Goebel (Otoe County), Donna Mainwaring (Fillmore County) and Mike Wilcox (Pawnee County). Guests present included 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; Dr. Denise Bulling and Kate Specht, NU Public Policy Center; Tom Hiser, Seward County Emergency Management; and Kate Specht, NU Public Policy Center; Evan Knight, NEMA Citizen Corps/MRC Coordinator; Jane Ford-Witthoff, Public Health Solutions District Health Department; Joe Grubbs and Eric Voss, Jefferson County/City of Fairbury; Capt. Joy Citta, Lincoln Police Department.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Goebel, seconded by McKee, to approve the agenda with the addition of "Approval of June 2010 Minutes" to the agenda. Voting aye were Gerweck, Petersen, McKee, Ahlberg, Goebel, Meints, Groleau, Fictum, Mainwaring and Wilcox; nays, none; motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Wilcox, seconded by Goebel, to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2010 meeting as corrected. Voting aye were Goebel, Gerweck, Petersen, Groleau, Meints, Ahlberg, Fictum, Mainwaring, McKee and Wilcox; nays, none; motion carried.

**Introductions & Reception of Visitors**

Guests were recognized and board members introduced themselves.

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received by the board.

**Funding Claims**

Ahlberg presented a claim from Gage County in the amount of \$15,113.28 for salary/benefits of Regional ETO Shawn Weise. After discussion, a motion was made by Petersen, seconded by Goebel, to approve the claim. Voting aye were Ahlberg, Fictum, McKee,

Goebel, Mainwaring, Gerweck, Petersen, Groleau and Wilcox; nays, none; Meints abstaining; motion carried.

### **Requests For Funding**

Mainwaring presented a request for funding from Fillmore County for a Live Scan fingerprinting system that would electronically fingerprint and submit those prints electronically to the Department of Justice as part of new hazardous materials and other federal regulations. She explained the system and the group discussed the request then decided to table the request pending a review of funding remaining in FY2007-09 by the Executive Board. Ahlberg asked Mainwaring to figure out the corresponding AEL number for the equipment.

John McKee and Eric Voss presented a training funding request from Jefferson County/City of Fairbury to allow three people to attend train-the-trainer classes on swift water rescue in Golden, Colo., June 2-13, 2011. The total cost per student was estimated at \$2,200. Voss said those trained would then return and train everyone in the region who requires training. The class meets NFPA and insurance requirements. Ahlberg noted the TTT training would benefit not only the Southeast Region but the entire state because currently there is only one certified instructor in the state. A motion was made by Meints, seconded by Mainwaring, to send up to four people to the instructor class. Voting aye were McKee, Mainwaring, Fictum, Meints, Ahlberg, Gerweck, Wilcox, Groleau, Goebel and Petersen; nays, none; motion carried. More discussion was held about possibly sending five to the class.

### **FY2007 Work Plan Changes**

Fictum explained several minor changes that need to be made to the FY2007 Work Plan due to moving communications projects between FY2007 and FY2008 funding years. The Thayer County and Johnson County tower projects were moved to FY2008 while funding for the microwave interconnect project, Thayer County West Region interconnect project and Johnson/Pawnee short tower project were returned to FY2007. Gerweck noted that this region has focused on being conservative with its spending, taking care of needs on a regional basis, yet there are many unknowns. Rod Hutt said NEMA will be using not only FY2007-FY2009 funding for the interconnect, but also FY2010 and FY2011 funds toward that system. The group discussed possibly using \$78,000 remaining in FY2007 for console IP gateways and modifications or computers for the Paraclete system. A motion was made by Petersen, seconded by Ahlberg, to approve the FY2007 Work Plan changes as presented. Voting aye were Gerweck, Fictum, Meints, McKee, Mainwaring, Ahlberg, Wilcox, Groleau, Petersen and Goebel; nays, none; motion carried.

### **Foreign Animal Disease MOU & Drill Report**

Tom Jensen, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, talked about NDA receiving some funding from FY2008 Homeland Security for its Foreign Animal Disease and other programs. He added that the funds were already allocated; all the region had to do was issue an MOU/Agreement for their use. A motion was made by Petersen, seconded by Meints, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement between NEMA and the Southeast Region for NEMA and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to provide staff for contract oversight and administration of funds for planning, training and exercise activities and equipment purchases based upon Investment Justification No. 5 in the amount of \$24,650. Voting aye were Petersen,

McKee, Gerweck, Ahlberg, Goebel, Meints, Groleau, Fictum, Mainwaring and Wilcox; nays, none; motion carried.

Meints and Weise reported on FAD Stop Movement Drill held in southern Gage County in June. The drill, which took about 90 minutes, showed a major shortage of resources from Marshall and Riley counties in Kansas. He said the Kansas region was issued 800 MHz radios on the state system for communications.

### **FY2007 PSIC Grant Report**

Gerweck reported on a meeting he attended with Rod Hutt and Al Berndt concerning the status of the PSIC regional tower project in southern Lancaster County. Capt. Joy Citta, Lincoln PD and immediate supervisor of project manager Todd Beam, said the Environmental and Historical Preservation paperwork deadline was July 15, the tower site lease is completed and the bid specifications are done and awaiting EHP approval. She said their plan is still to be complete by the Sept. 30, 2011 deadline, noting that one thing that delayed the project was the EHP. Hutt requested the coordinates for the tower so NEMA could begin work on the EHP and Citta said she would provide them that afternoon.

### **Regional Interconnect/Interoperability System Reports**

Rod Hutt reported on the status of the Regional Interconnect Project (microwave network between PSAPs, EOCs, etc.). The State chose CSI of Omaha as the project contractor and expects to have a signed contract shortly. Buildout will be Panhandle first, then North Central, Southwest, East Central, Northeast and Southeast regions in order. They are in the process of equipping the Panhandle with portable radios currently and met with Hal Bassett, InterOp Solutions, to figure out how Paraclete, the Mutual Aid system and the interconnect system will all mesh together.

Denise Bulling noted that the regional TICPs (Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan) are back from DHS and will eventually come back to the region so it can formulate a plan for continuous updating; the PPC will be working with the region to complete that and also work on CASM. Hutt said there would be a statewide TICP/CASM meeting scheduled in August for additional training for the personnel completing the TICPs such as law enforcement, dispatchers, etc.

### **Mutual Aid System Report**

Hutt reported that interconnect system (microwave data) and the Mutual Aid system will be built out simultaneously beginning in the Panhandle. He said the State Patrol is very concerned how they will communicate with local agencies via the state P25 digital trunked system and the Mutual Aid system. Mutual Aid will not be a secured (encrypted) system; just plain language as per federal regulations. Hutt added that the biggest obstacle will be tower space because there are many old and overloaded towers statewide so the Mutual Aid system may not be able to utilize the same sites as the state radio system.

### **FY2007/FY2008 Project Updates**

Fictum and Gerweck updated the group on the status of FY2007- and FY2008-funded communications projects. Thayer County has signed its project manager agreement with D&D Communications and is nearly complete with identification of possible sites. Gerweck reported that Johnson County will sign its project manager agreement on Tuesday (July 14); they have a

site tentatively identified. Hutt commended both counties and the regional Communications Committee for jumpstarting the two projects.

Hutt also reported that NEMA is considering purchase of a communications trailer that would have all Mutual Aid channels, IP gateways, a generator and a crank-up tower much like Lancaster County's trailer.

### **Committee Reports**

The Hazardous Materials/Training Committee had no report.

Doug Ahlberg reported that the regional Capabilities Assessment workshop was scheduled for Sept. 1 in Lincoln. More information will be mailed out to every county.

### **Sustainability Report**

Gary Petersen reported that he had emailed Denise Bulling on sustainability issues and ideas. They discussed some concepts of who would pay, the formula for figuring out contributions, agreements and other issues.

### **Comments from the Board/Public**

Dr. Bulling requested that Evan Knight, NEMA Citizen Corps/MRC Coordinator, be put on a future meeting agenda to speak on the Medical Reserve System and Medical Reserve Corps.

The next regular meeting of the board will be Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010 at 10 a.m. with a location to be announced.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Groleau and seconded by Meints to adjourn the meeting at 12:27 p.m. All voted aye, nays none, motion carried.



B.J. Fictum, Secretary

APPROVED:



James Gerweck, Chairman  
Sept. 8, 2010