

**Southeast Nebraska Emergency Management Group  
Regional Governance Board  
MINUTES — Regular Meeting  
August 17, 2011 — 10 a.m.  
UNL Public Policy Center Fifth Floor Conference Room  
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Doug Ahlberg called the regular meeting of the Southeast Regional Emergency Management Governance Board to order at 10:04 a.m. on Aug. 17, 2011 at the UNL Public Policy Center Conference Room, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was held in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and a copy of the Act was available for inspection in the meeting room.

Present were board members Renee Critser (Nemaha County); Doug Ahlberg (Lancaster County); Mark Meints (Gage County); Mike Wilcox (Pawnee County); Bill McPherson (Thayer County); Gregg Goebel (Otoe County); Gary Petersen (Seward/York County); John McKee (Jefferson County); Bill Cover (Cass County); Clint Strayhorn (Johnson County); and Jim Gerweck (Richardson County). Guests present included Shawn Weise, Regional ETO; Sandy Weyers, Cass County EMA; Janell Walther, Public Policy Center; Kim Plouzek, Public Health Solutions; Bill Moody, Bureau of Fire Prevention; Ray Ryan, City of Lincoln Radio Maintenance; Brendan Ourth, Midwest Card and ID Solution; Lindsay Scheer, Megan Ellis, and Sharon Codr of the Lincoln 911 Center; Mark Hosking, Lincoln/Lancaster County EMA; Steve Cody, Otoe County EMA; Richard Vlach, Nemaha County EMA; Roger Goos, Richardson County EMA; John Carrel and Craig Fischer, Beatrice Fire & Rescue. Absent was BJ Fictum, Saline County EMA.

**Introduction and Reception of Visitors**

Ahlberg welcomed the visitors and introductions were made.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Pawnee to approve the agenda. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Seward/York, and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Cass, seconded by Nemaha to approve minutes of the July 13, 2011 meeting. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Seward/York, and Richardson; nays, none; Thayer, Otoe, Pawnee, and Johnson abstained due to not being at the July meeting; motion carried.

**Claims and Requests for Funding**

- Request from Shawn Weise for Ice Rescue Equipment for Beatrice Fire and Rescue, Crete Fire and Rescue, Lincoln Fire and Rescue, Tamora Fire, Raymond Fire, and Hickman Fire for ice rescue suits (7), turtle fins (7), and ice rescue boards with cover (9) in the amount of \$6,625.00. This request is to equip departments who attended the Ice Rescue training funded by the region in February 2011. Motion made by Gage, seconded

by Johnson to approve request. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Seward/York; nays, Richardson; motion carried. Richardson states for the record they are not against the project, they just feel the need to make sure we can fund the interoperable communications needs before we fund other projects.

- Request from Lincoln 911 Center for the Southeast Region to fund two Nebraska TERT members to attend TERT Train-the-Trainer Nov. 11 in Chicago in the amount of \$718 per person (two people) for a total of \$1,436. Richardson County asked if the TERT team was made up of members statewide and if other regions funded training requests from TERT members. Sharon Codr from the Lincoln 911 Center stated she believed no other regions allocated any funds for TERT training. Motion made by Nemaha, seconded by Richardson to fund one TERT member to attend the training in Chicago in the amount of \$718 with other TERT members wishing to attend to ask the other regions for financial assistance. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Jefferson, Cass, Seward/York, and Richardson; nays, none; Lancaster abstained; motion carried. Fillmore County Sheriff William Burgess (Fillmore County Alternate) arrived at 10:15 a.m.
- Gary Petersen, Seward/York Emergency Manager submitted a request for \$1,000 partial funding from 2008 planning dollars to attend the International Disaster Conference and Expo being held in New Orleans Jan. 17-19, 2012. Seward and York counties will fund the majority of the conference costs. Motion made by Nemaha, seconded by Gage to fund \$1,000 for Gary to attend the conference. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Fillmore, and Richardson; nays, none; Seward/York abstained; motion carried.
- Doug Ahlberg requested funding for the Chairman and Exercise Training Officer to attend the Training & Exercise Planning Workshop in North Platte Sept. 29. The request would include two room for Sept. 28 and meals, amount of request unknown at this time, educated guess of \$500 or less. Motion made by Seward/York, seconded by Richardson to approve request. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Seward/York, and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.

Bill Cover asked the Chairman about the status of a request he had sent to Communications Committee Chairman BJ Fictum a couple of months ago in the amount of \$21,000 for communications equipment for his EOC. Chairman Ahlberg said he had not seen a request from Cass County so Cover will send the request directly to Chairman Ahlberg.

### **IED Presentation**

Bill Moody with the Lincoln Bureau of Fire Prevention gave a presentation related to the four bomb squads in Nebraska consisting of the Nebraska State Patrol, Omaha Bomb Squad, Scottsbluff and Lincoln teams. Moody said the Lincoln team is willing to assist with any devices found in the Southeast Region and has worked with devices found in Crete and Beatrice in the past. The subject of how the teams are funded thru Homeland Security grants was discussed. The Lincoln team has been able to purchase equipment using MOU funds from the Southeast Region, but has never received funding from the state. He said the team is well equipped, but could use a new vehicle; their current vehicle is a 1983 Chevy that is overloaded. A new vehicle would cost

about \$90,000. Bill also offered to present a demo for the governance board with the new robot they have purchased.

### **TERT Presentation**

Megan Ellis from the Lincoln 911 Center gave a presentation on the TERT conference she attended funded by the region. She said 14 TERT members from Nebraska attended, eight from the Southeast Region. There were many presentation and educational tracks to choose from. She said the training was very useful and appreciated the region funding her attendance.

### **Fiscal Grants/Projects Progress Update**

Ahlberg said the Southeast Region has been given a six-month extension on the 2008 HSGP grant and all money from the grant must be allocated and spent by the end of February 2012. Jim Gerweck spoke on behalf of the Communications Committee, noting the communication committee has not met recently, but will before the next meeting to discuss the needs of all the counties in regards to the Mutual Aid, Paraclete and microwave projects. Ahlberg reminded the board that all requests for funding using grant money needs to benefit the region, not just individual agencies or counties. Clint Strayhorn gave an update on his tower project. He has been working on the EHP and is having some issues with the migratory bird regulations.

Gary Petersen passed around a list he had compiled of grant funds that have been allocated according to minutes of the governance board meetings. Chairman Ahlberg asked Gary to gather more information as to where these funds were allocated to, i.e. PET, Communications, etc.

### **FY 2008 Extension and Plan of Attack**

Due to the county needs assessments that need to be completed yet and the communications committee needing to meet, it was moved by Seward/York, seconded by Richardson to table this agenda item until the September meeting. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Fillmore, Seward/York and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.

### **FY 2010 IED/Fusion Center Funding Allocation**

Discussion was held as to how to handle the 2010 IED/Fusion Center funding. There is \$141,472.53 that the region needs to spend for this project. There are two options to spend this money. Option 1 is to MOU \$141,472.53 back to the state and let them distribute the funds as they see necessary. Option 2 is to MOU \$47,158 to the NSP Bomb Squad, \$47,158 to the Lincoln Bomb Squad, and \$47,156.53 to the IED/Fusion Center. Motion made by Nemaha, seconded by Richardson, to draft an MOU/Agreement with the state to give \$47,158 to the NSP Bomb Squad and \$47,156.53 to the IED/Fusion Center and to vote on the MOU at the September Governance Board meeting. Also included in the motion was for the region to keep \$47,158 to fund the Lincoln Bomb Squad with requests for those funds to be made to the Southeast Region Governance Board. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Fillmore, Seward/York and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.

### **Committee/Other Reports**

Executive Committee — Ahlberg He discussed the Secretary and Assistant Secretary positions and the fact that both are voting members of the Regional Board. He recommends that since these voting members need to be listening to all discussion regarding motions they are voting on that the board should have a recording secretary. Motion made by Cass, seconded by Richardson to have ETO Shawn Weise be the recording secretary for the Governance Board. Weise will take minutes, give to Ahlberg and Fictum for review, and Fictum will send minutes out to the Governance Board members. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Fillmore, Seward/York and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.

Communications Committee — Jim Gerweck reported the Communications Committee had not met recently and also noted that the NCOR Board will be meeting with Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy in September to discuss progress of the statewide communications system. He discussed a Paraclete guidebook that is being developed and the fact that someone will need to enter resource data into the Paraclete system once it is installed. The region needs to keep moving on the equipment needed for the Mutual Aid project. The equipment needs to be ordered and installed soon to keep in line with grant deadlines. The Southeast Region is having Paraclete boxes installed. The Communication Committee has discussed purchasing a computer for all 14 county Emergency Operation Centers and the 7 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) where the Paraclete system will be located to allow these areas the ability to access the Paraclete system. The cost would be \$800 to \$1,000 for each computer.

Gerweck also discussed the Mutual Aid project. The state funded the Mutual Aid project and now it is the local responsibility to figure out what is needed to access it. He talked about counties that have Zetron systems may need some extra equipment to use the Mutual Aid system. It was recommended by Chairman Ahlberg that the Communication Committee build a checklist of what equipment will be necessary for the Mutual Aid system and the region make that equipment a priority for future funding.

### **SCIP/Goal 2 Requirements**

Jim Gerweck and Janell Walther from the PPC gave an update on the State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) survey that needs to be completed by each county no later than Sept. 15. The Public Policy Center has sent out a step by step guide of how to complete the survey. Failure for the State and locals to complete the survey may result in a loss of future funding.

### **SEMRS Update**

Mark Hosking gave an update on SEMRS equipment committee progress. They will be looking into Patient Tracking systems. He will provide more information when it becomes available.

### **Sustainability of Current and Future Homeland Security Projects**

Motion made by Cass, seconded by Nemaha to have someone look into how to fund projects. There was no mention of who that would be. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Fillmore, and Seward/York; nays Richardson; motion carried.

### **County Needs Assessments for DHS Funding Prioritization**

Weise reminded the counties to get their needs assessments in soon. Motion made by Cass, seconded by Otoe to have needs assessments turned in by Sept. 1 or those projects will not be listed as a priority. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Fillmore, Seward/York and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.

### **Public and Board Comment**

Weise reminded everyone to complete the NIMSCAST (National Incident Management Capabilities Assessment Tool) soon. The regional NIMSCAST needs to be rolled up by Sept. 15.

Cover encouraged everyone to look at joining the International Association of Emergency Managers.

Lisa Bloss reported that the Health Departments will be required in their new contracts to conduct Hazard Mitigation Assessments.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Southeast Regional Governance Board meeting will be held Wednesday Sept. 14, 2011 beginning at 10 am at the Public Safety Building located at 16th Street and Central Avenue in Nebraska City.

Motion made by Cass, second by Nemaha to adjourn at 11:57 a.m. for lunch and to reconvene at 1 pm. Voting aye were Nemaha, Gage, Johnson, Pawnee, Otoe, Thayer, Lancaster, Jefferson, Cass, Fillmore, Seward/York and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.

Motion made by Lancaster, seconded by Cass to reconvene at 1 p.m. Present were board members Critser, Ahlberg, Wilcox, McPherson, Petersen, McKee, Cover, Strayhorn, William Burgess (Fillmore alternate and Gerweck. Guests present were Brendon Ourth from Midwest Card Solutions, Sandy Weyers (Cass County), Steve Cody (Otoe County), Roger Goos (Richardson County), and Nikki Weber from NEMA.

### **Lincoln/Lancaster County Purchasing Presentation**

Bob Walla and Britney Behrens talked to the group about the Lincoln/Lancaster County purchasing policy. They handed out 44 CFR copies and went over different sections. They talked about Independent Cost Estimate (ICE) forms and stated that if Lincoln/Lancaster County is going to write the check, we have to follow their rules. They also took email addresses of all Board members present so they can send out the packet of forms that needs to be completed in order to make purchases.

Ahlberg left at 1:20 p.m. McPherson left at 1:30 p.m. Mainwaring and Cover left at 1:50 p.m.

Motion made by Pawnee, seconded by Nemaha to adjourn at 2 p.m. Voting aye were Nemaha, Johnson, Pawnee, Jefferson, Seward/York and Richardson; nays, none; motion carried.