

**Southeast Nebraska Emergency Management Group
Regional Governance Board
MINUTES — Regular Meeting
December 21, 2011 – 10 a.m.
Johnson County EOC, Tecumseh, Nebraska**

Call to Order

Chairman Doug Ahlberg called the regular meeting of the Southeast Regional Emergency Management Governance Board to order at 10:10 a.m. on Dec. 21, 2011 at the Johnson County EOC, Tecumseh, 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 Bill Cover (Cass County), Donna Mainwaring (Fillmore County), Mark Meints (Gage County), John McKee (Jefferson County), Clint Strayhorn (Johnson County), Doug Ahlberg (Lincoln/Lancaster County), Renee Critser (Nemaha County), Gregg Goebel (Otoe County), Mike Wilcox (Pawnee County), Jim Gerweck (Richardson County), BJ Fictum (Saline County), Gary Petersen (Seward/York County), and Bill McPherson (Thayer County). Guests present were Shawn Weise (Regional ETO), Mark Hosking (Lincoln/Lancaster County EMA), Lisa Bloss (Southeast District Health Dept.), Steve Cody (Otoe County EMA), Kim Plouzek (Public Health Solutions), Mindy Mangus (American Red Cross), Aaron Cather (American Red Cross), Raymond Ryan (City of Lincoln Radio Shop), Mark Bartak (City of Lincoln Radio Shop), Shelia Peterson (Cass County EMA), Captain Kevin Knorr (Nebraska State Patrol), Lt. Jon Kraii (Nebraska State Patrol), and Jerry McNich (Department of Homeland Security).

Introduction and Reception of Visitors

Ahlberg welcomed the visitors and introductions were made.

Approval of Agenda

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

Agenda Item Change

A motion was made by Richardson, seconded by Gage to move agenda Item No. 7 (Nebraska Information Analysis Center Update) to the next item on the agenda. Voting aye were Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward/York, and Thayer; nays, none; motion carried.

Nebraska Information Analysis Center Update

Captain Knorr and Lt. Mark Kraii of the Nebraska State Patrol gave the Board an update on the Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC). Discussion items focused on how regional funding has been used, the Homeland Security Information Sharing (HSIN) network, ACAMS, and how the NIAC and the website can be useful to Emergency Managers.

Information was passed out on how to sign up for access to the NIAC. Anyone wishing to sign up can contact the NIAC at nefusioncenter@nebraska.gov or by calling 1 -888-580-6422.

The board took a break at 10:57, reconvened at 11:07.

Claims and Requests for Funding

No new requests were made. Ahlberg stated that all claims and invoices that have been turned into his office have been entered into GMS and are awaiting approval.

Fiscal Grants/Projects Progress Update

Ahlberg gave an update on the FY 2008 and 2009 grant funds. He also spoke about the 2012 grant funding proposal and the possibility of having 41 percent less funding in 2012 than 2011.

American Red Cross Program

Mindy Mangus with the Central Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross and Aaron Cather of the Heartland Chapter were present to discuss some of the changes Red Cross is going through. Mindy explained that the changes were necessary due to donations being down and the need to be fiscally responsible. Mindy also stated that she expects growing pains with the changes but is excited with the future possibilities of the Red Cross including better collaboration in the State among all Red Cross employees and volunteers. There were some questions from the board as to why some counties are members of the Central Plains Region and others are members of the Heartland Region. Mindy did not know why the counties are divided the way they are but she will meet with all six Emergency Managers in her region for planning.

Approval of FY 2011 Work Plan

Ahlberg thanked Petersen for his work on creating the 2011 work plan. Petersen sent the work plan electronically to all board members and asked if there were any questions. Motion made by Saline, seconded by Richardson to approve the 2011 work plan as presented.

During discussion, Petersen noticed an error in the fiscal figures for the IED and fusion center funding. Petersen also asked if the region would control one-third of the IED-Fusion Center funding to purchase equipment for the Lincoln Bureau of Fire Prevention Bomb Squad as was done in previous work plans. Ahlberg stated he had spoken with Bill Moody and Moody stated they are set for equipment right now. Motion by Saline, seconded by Fillmore, to amend 2011 work plan IED/Fusion Center funding to state that the Southeast Region will MOU \$84,117 from FY2011 HSGP funds to NEMA to be distributed equally between the Nebraska State Patrol Bomb Squad, Fusion Center, and the Lincoln Bureau of Fire Prevention Bomb Squad. Voting aye were Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward/York, and Thayer; nays, none; motion carried.

The FY 2011 IED/Fusion Center Funding MOU/Agreement was postponed until the Jan. 11, 2012 meeting.

Communications Committee Report

Fictum spoke on behalf of the communications committee. He stated that due to grant deadlines and the fact that the region cannot fund the same project out of 2 different grants; the

communications committee has identified the mutual aid project as priority No. 1. This project would use \$136,000 from the PSIC grant to fund the mutual aid project at 4 sites in the west half of the region. That would leave 2 sites on the east half to be completed and it is recommended that the east project be moved to the FY09 grant.

The committee's No. 2 priority is the State Communications System Access project. Gerweck spoke on behalf of this project. He stated that when the state agencies start using their new communications equipment and get rid of low band, county dispatch centers and EOCs will not be able to communicate via radio with state agencies. Each county will need a separate radio at their dispatch center and it is recommended at each county EOC to be able to communicate with state agencies. The cost of this project would be about \$20,000 per county if two interface radios were purchased.

The question was asked if Paraclete would take care of the county/state access problem. Gerweck said Paraclete does not have the ability to access the state's trunked digital radio system so the separate radio is needed.

Discussion/Approval of 2008/2009 Work Plan Updates and Reallocations

Ahlberg handed out an email he received from Mardell Hergenrader stating that NEMA will not approve the region spending \$90,000 on an ID credentialing system. NEMA will allow \$3,300 per county to upgrade or purchase ID and credentialing equipment/systems. The region will have to reallocate the previous 2008 money that was to be used for the ID credentialing project. Some suggestions for the region to spend their remaining 2008 funds on are as follows:

- Nebraska State Patrol- Transition their helicopter to have a digital downlink camera system. Minimum price would be \$161,643.28.
- Communications on Wheels (COW) – Aluma-Tower Company quote is \$119,895. This project will not be done due to lack of funds.
- Regional Backup Dispatch Center in Lincoln — \$225,777. The region decided they do not have the funds for this project.
- Update ID and Credentialing systems in the region from Claritus — Quote was \$89,450. This project will not be funded due to reasons stated in NEMA Hergenrader letter.
- Southeast Nebraska Medical Response System — Computers at 22 sites to connect with the existing 2-meter amateur transceivers at to be used to convert raw digital data input to paper documents in an emergency for hospitals. Cost would be \$13,596. The region cannot purchase computers so this project cannot be funded.

McPherson asked about purchasing light trailers in the region. He stated that he had received a quote for a light trailer about 1 month ago and the cost was around \$8,500.

Mainwaring asked why the requests made to the region have not been documented on the proper forms. It was discussed that since the requests were just for discussion, the forms were not filled out and if the Board would decide to fund a project, the proper request for funding form would need to be completed. Ahlberg said that if you do not include the AEL number on funding requests, they will not be funded.

Motion by Cass, seconded by Fillmore to use remaining 2008 grant funds to purchase equipment for dispatch centers and EOCs to be able to access the statewide radio system. The remaining 2008 funds will be used to purchase equipment for this project until 2008 funds are spent or expire.

Ahlberg asked Fictum and Gerweck if this project could be installed, operational and paid for by the end of February 2012. Fictum made some calls to vendors and the vendors assured him that the project will be completed by the end of the 2008 grant cycle which is Feb. 29, 2012. Voting aye were Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward/York, and Thayer; nays, none; motion carried.

Motion by Lancaster, seconded by Cass for the Regional Governance Executive Board to meet in the next week and for the Executive Board to have the ability to approve remaining 2008 grant funds for the Statewide Communications System Access project once the appropriate paperwork is filled out to complete the project. This needs to be done to ensure completion of this project in a timely manner. Voting aye were Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward/York, and Thayer; nays, none; motion carried.

Reports of Committees

Executive – Has not met.

Communications — NCOR/NWIN: Gerweck stated that the statewide system is gathering frequencies from the feds and will begin testing the frequencies soon. He also said that state agencies are completing training on the new statewide radio system.

PET — HazMat operations in Nebraska City April 13-15. Ten openings left in the class. Contact Otoe County EMA if interested.

- Mass Casualty Incident Management class being taught by A.J. Heitman at the Cass County Fairgrounds April 7 from 0800-1630. Cost is \$15 for non-Cass County Mutual Aid members. Register on the Cass County EMA website.
- Nemaha County IS-400 class is Feb. 11, 12, 18 & 19 from 13:00-17:00.
- Ahlberg passed out a training schedule for Lancaster County in 2012.
- Gage County has Ice Rescue Training in Beatrice 09:00-17:00 on Jan. 14 and is also hosting a Resource Management Training course March 1 from 0800-1700 at the Beatrice Army Training Center.
- Nebraska Public Safety Interoperable Communications Projects Training in Kearney February 7 and 8.

SEMRS — Hosking gave a brief report. No meetings were held in December.

Homeland Security Project Sustainability Discussion

Motion by Lancaster, seconded by Richardson to postpone discussion until after the February Interoperable Communications Training in Kearney. Voting aye were Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward/York, and Thayer; nays, none; motion carried.

Public and Board Comment

Renee Critser reminded everyone there is a cake for Bill Cover's retirement.

Shawn Weise is working with the State to find some HSEEP training for our region. HSEEP is going through a revision right now so it is hard to find a contractor willing to do the training.

Meints reported Brian Daake is looking to use his HazMat funding to pay for IS-300 & 400 classes. He is also planning to purchase a light trailer. Meints also stated that the Homestead National Monument of America is having a 150th anniversary of the signing of the Homestead

Act. There is a chance that President Obama may be coming on May 20. If this happens, he may ask for some help.

Mainwaring asked about the new NIMS document that stated who needs what training. Shawn will look for the link and send it to the regional board members.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 11, 2012 at the Lancaster County EOC beginning at 10 a.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Saline, seconded by Richardson to adjourns at 12:45 p.m. Voting aye were Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward/York, and Thayer; nays, none; motion carried.

Shawn Weise, Recording Secretary