

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

February 22, 2011

Region 26 Council:

Present:	Absent:
Garfield Co: Jerry Mead	Blaine Co: Tracy Bradley
Greeley Co: Doug Wrede	Loup Co: Jack Ruppel
Thomas Co: Kevin Hood, Chairman	
Sherman Co: Vonnie Dzingle	
Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke	
Wheeler Co: Jack Poulsen, Vice-Chair	
Law Enforce: Dave Weeks	
Range Co. Municipalities:	
Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler	
Doug Reiter	
Tri-Co Municipalities:	
Valley, Greeley, Sherman	
Richard Anderson	

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director, Virginia Michalski/Co-Chief Dispatcher

Visitors Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Hood.

Roll Call was taken with seven (7) members present.

The meeting being duly posted and a quorum present, the Chairman proclaimed this meeting to be a legal meeting and acknowledged that the Open Meeting Act was posted in the meeting room.

Motion by Jack Poulsen and seconded by Vonnie Dzingle to approve the January 25, 2011 Minutes. Ayes (6) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Doug Wrede and Dave Weeks arrived at 7:32 PM.

Motion by Jack Van Slyke and seconded by Dave Weeks to approve the January 2011 Financial Statement. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma reported on the election results of the Municipality Board position for Greeley, Valley and Sherman. After a revote, Richard Anderson will retain the position on the board.

Alma asked to have approval for a line item adjustment to zero out the 2006 Homeland Security Grant. The total Grant amount of \$476,454.00 with a remaining balance of \$59,857.78 which was broken down by Alma showing that \$54,857.25 was moved forward to the 2009 Grant to allow time to install a new building at the Sargent tower site. \$2,588.85 was paid out of the General Account. \$2411.16 of the training funds was not used by grant deadline and was returned. The LETPP Grant (Law Enforcement Training and Planning Program) of \$57,050.00 was spent by the deadline of the Grant but was managed and paid out through the Grant Management System that NEMA has changed to and the money was paid direct to vendors and did not pass directly through Region 26.

Doug Wrede made a motion to approve both grant line items to be zeroed out on the budget report.

Vonnie Dzingle seconded the motion. Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma stated that the Logging Recorder has channels that are not being recorded. Some days it will record

all channels and then shut down. The WahlTec Company has made service calls on the system and said there was nothing more they could do to repair the system. Alma was able to get two companies to do demos and submit bids. Donna and Virginia were each able to set in on a demo. Alma presented both companies and bids to the board and the pros and cons of each system. After discussion on each of the systems, Jack Van Slyke made a motion to accept the bid of WahlTec with an Eventide Logging Recorder with a \$5000 down payment and the financing \$23,585.00 for four years. Doug Wrede seconded the motion. Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

The signatures for two checks were discussed. Alma said that currently she and Jack Ruppel can sign for the two required signatures. In the past there has been the Director and two board members appointed to sign checks. Alma said that she has changed the billing dates for some of the vendors to allow us to go to one pay period during the month. The next closest board members were discussed. Chairman Hood appointed Jack Poulsen and Jack Van Slyke to be the other two that can sign checks. Alma would get the signature paperwork ready by next board meeting.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Weeks reported on the Region 26 Law Enforcement meeting that was held in Burwell on January 18th. Alma and Virginia attended with five from Sheriffs Depts. and two PD officers. Discussion was on grants to include a possible forensics class and how CodeRED worked. Alma explained more on the Paraclete system as well as the planning to get the radios programmed for the mandatory narrow banding. The noise on the paging system was also discussed.

Communications Center Report: Co-Chief Dispatcher Virginia Michalski gave a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 15 Generator, 38 NAWAS, 15 Siren, 201 Alarm, 83 Office, 594 Page, 2429 Radio, 2051 Phone, 236 – 911 Calls, 75 Administrative, 636 Ambulance, 39 Bus, 370 Public, 17 Department of Roads, 427 Fire, 26 Guest, 27 Hospital, 3300 Law Enforcement, 711 Test, 34 Weather. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of January was 11,324. Virginia reported that the newest dispatcher, Jenny Eggert is currently at the Training Academy in Grand Island for two weeks of dispatch training. She also reported on the Paraclete system training that all the dispatcher received from NEMA earlier in the month.

Director's Report:

Alma gave a report on the Homeland Security Grants. The 2007 Grant was finished on December 31st with pagers for Loup City Fire and Region 26 Dispatch. The 2008 Grant deadline is on August 31, 2011. Alma listed the items already purchased by the grant for Region 26. Currently the North Central Region counties are working on a Debris Management Plan for the counties. A portion of the grant was to be used for the plan to be developed. A request for proposal has been advertised in February. A company will be selected and contracted by March to begin developing a plan. The 2009 Grant money is being finalized to begin purchases of equipment. The grant that was divided up in the North Central Region and for Region 26 will include the Sargent tower site building, generator, additional lighting unit and thermal imaging camera and the CodeRED weather warning. The grant also funds the regional training officer.

Alma reported on the January North Central Region Board meeting. The Board reviewed the remaining funds on the 2007 & 2008 grants as well as having the 2009 grant money allocated to begin equipment purchases. The 2010 Grant was just awarded to the North Central Region for \$388,000. Discussion on how to divide monies and was determined that we would bring a wish list to the next meeting in March. The board worked on the updates of the North Central Region Communications Plan. The update on the wireless connectivity for the communications centers was presented.

The telephone equipment in the dispatch center was discussed. Alma reported that the company where we purchased the equipment has been bought out by another company and they will not support our equipment past next year. Alma will be researching possibilities what it will take to upgrade equipment and the funding.

Alma showed the board the GPS mapping unit that she is now using that was purchased from GeoComm for the new points and to stream in any roads or driveways for new addresses. After points are taken on the unit it is uploaded to GeoComm for an address to be created in our system and a physical address for the new resident.

NEMA was here for two days doing audits on equipment Region 26 purchased with grant funds. Alma stated that she went with NEMA to each of the Sheriffs and Police Departments for the audit which was on all of the recent equipment that was purchased for Law Enforcement.

Alma explained the paging issues that had been happening with Scotia, North Loup and Greeley. Platte Valley had been out to reroute some of the paging to correct some of the interference.

Alma passed out a list of the severe weather talks that will be presented in each county and encouraged the board to attend. The state tornado drill will also be on March 16th that most of the towns are participating in.

Other items discussed were the Emergency Management basic academy which is open for any of the County/City Emergency Managers. Alma explained the 10-digit telephone numbers that will need to be used. The Interlocal Agreement still lacked a couple of signatures. Ord was not prepared to sign the agreement until it was reviewed further.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be March 29, 2011.

Chairman Hood adjourned the meeting at 9:25 PM.

Alma Beland
Director/Coordinator