

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL
July 28, 2020

Region 26 Council:

Present:	Absent:
Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos	Thomas Co: Gary Eng
Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt	Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair
Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz	Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke
Loup Co: Jack Ruppel	
Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny	
Law Enforce: Dave Weeks	
Range Co. Municipalities:	
Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler	
Doug Reiter	
Tri-Co Municipalities:	
Valley, Greeley, Sherman	
Jay Meyer, Chairman	

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

Visitors Present: None

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

Roll Call was taken with eight (8) 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 Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the June 30, 2020 Minutes.
Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (1).

Alma asked for approval of Minutes with one correction of line item for Tower Grounds Maintenance be corrected for an additional \$350 that had been entered onto the wrong line at beginning of the fiscal year and wanted it corrected, which Dave Weeks asked for the correction in his motion and seconded by Roger Guggenmos in approving the June 2020 Financial Statement. Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma presented a budget report form for the upcoming fiscal year showing an inserted line for Page-My-Cell that would be included in the bottom gray area of the form just above the Law Enforcement Server line and Grants. It would be a cash pass through line to show the billing of the departments for Page-My-Cell and will start with July budget report. After discussion on how the Page-My-Cell was going to work here and that the billings would not start until probably March to allow for all the departments to start on same date, the board agreed this would work. The rest of the budget report also had Law Enforcement line item that will now show all pass through monies for both debit and credit. The 2020 Homeland Security Grant has not been finalized on the exact amount we will receive yet and will be added when the grant award is sent out.

COVID-19 Update: Alma reported on the latest information on COVID-19. Loup Basin Public Health went to Phase IV reopening which started on Friday, July 24th. They are the only Health Department at this Phase. All indoor gatherings raised to 75% capacity and outdoor for sports and rodeos was at 100% capacity. The social distancing and wearing of masks in large gatherings is recommended but not mandatory. At this time no new reports of positive COVID tests in our area. Loup Basin is going to only be notifying Emergency Managers on Tuesday and Friday of any new positives. Alma had ordered PPE

for Region 26 and was able to get a shipment in to have here for a cache not knowing what is yet to come. This will also allow some of the ambulances and Law Enforcement to have somewhere to fall back on for supplies in an emergency. There was also an order of NARCAN that Alma was able to get to replace outdated NARCAN that the departments had. Alma advised she would be on the road tomorrow to deliver both PPE and NARCAN. There was ongoing work of helping possible applicants with assistance on COVID losses and also working with the churches on what they needed to do.

Alma had sent out letters asking for a bid on the Region 26 annual financial audit. Since it went out late enough to get any feedback for this meeting, she put a deadline for the August 25th meeting. So far a couple of local agencies have called to get more information and to this point have received one bid.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Weeks had no report. Would be having the quarterly Region 26 Law Enforcement meeting the first week of August.

Communications Center Report: Co-Chief Dispatch Supervisor/Virginia Michalski, gave a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1822 Status, 288 Paging, 228 Alarms, 212 Traffic Violations, 200 Wants Warrants Registrations, 130 Weather, 129 Minor Detail, 118 – 911 Accidental Disconnect, 105 Messages, 91 Rescue Calls, 81 Animal Calls, 55 Miscellaneous Tasks, 38 Assist Other Agencies, 37 Burn Permits, 36 Citizen Assist, 35 Gun Permit, 30 Disturbance Harassment Assault, 27 Fire Calls, 25 Reckless Driver, 24 Accidents, 22 Motorist Assist, 15 Suspicious Person, 12 Criminal Mischief, 10 Check Welfare, 9 Direct Traffic, 8 Theft, 8 Traffic Hazard, 7 Siren, 6 Burglary, 6 Radio Test, 5 Gas Drive Off, 4 Driving Under the Influence, 4 Paper Service, 4 Suspicious Events, 3 Civil Matters, 3 Driving Under the Suspension, 3 Offenses to a child, 3 Prisoner Transport and 16 various other incidents. There was a total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of June was 3,859 which included 383 – 911 calls.

Virginia also reported on the personnel changes that we had and that one new person has been hired and started last week in training.

Director's Report: Alma reported that all Region 26 members had their Interlocal Signature page signed and returned for the Interlocal 5-year renewal.

The NRIN system equipment for our Region 26 towers to allow connection to Custer County was now in place and ready for any connection. Alma presented photos of equipment on towers and also reported on notifying NIRMA for insurance.

There were two Mutual Aid meetings this month. Alma attended Thedford on the 15th and had invited Arrow Aviation to attend to discuss fire suppression. Loup Valley Mutual Aid was at Elba on the 20th. Not many in attendance but allowed time for discussion and planning on different options for equipment in the Davis Creek area of Valley County.

Alma said she was doing more checking into possibilities and coverage area with Platte Valley communications on what would be the best route to take.

Alma reported on storm damages from this month with a lot in Thomas and Blaine counties. Numerous heavy rains have saturated Blaine County.

There were breakdowns in the Region 26 building this month with the dispatch air conditioner having an expansion valve replaced and the office AC having the blower motor replaced. Did have some concerns on other things electrical in the building with breaker being tripped and smell of something overheating. Not sure if connected to the blower motor. The board suggested Alma to get electrician in to go through the building and checking electrical system out.

There was lightning damage to tower lights at the Loup City tower that took out top and side lights and burned out capacitors. Alma will turn in on insurance.

Other items that Alma brought to the board was the moving of antennas on the Bartlett and Wolbach Viero towers. Viero had contacted Alma that the Region 26 antennas needed moved to make room for their new equipment and they would do the moving. The actual change then was only to Wolbach with our antenna dropping down 3-4'. Alma had contacted Platte Valley Communications and they did not think that would affect anything in Wolbach. Viero was able to work with the Bartlett antenna in its current location.

Alma done weather support for the Burwell Rodeo, Thomas and Valley County fairs. Discussion was held on how that went. Alma did attend Burwell City Council meeting to help in getting lit stop signs on one of the busy Burwell intersections that had some safety issues.

Alma reported on an additional amount received on her EMPG Emergency Management Performance Grant of \$15,000 which is a 50% matching grant to help with payroll.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be August 25, 2020.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

Acronyms:

APCO – Association of Public Communications Officials

CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch

CC – Communications Center

CERT – Community Emergency Response Team

COVID-19 – Coronavirus Disease 2019

C.R.I.M.E.S. – Calls & Records Information Management Software (part of Justice Data Solutions)

DR – Disaster Recovery

DOR – Department of Roads

E911 – Enhanced 911

ECW – Emergency Call Works (Mfg. of 911 Equipment at Region 26)

EM – Emergency Manager

EMD – Emergency Medical Dispatch

EMPG – Emergency Management Performance Grant

EMS – Emergency Medical Services

EMT – Emergency Medical Technician

EOC – Emergency Operations Center

FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency

FY – Fiscal Year

GAN – Grant Adjustment Notice

HSGP – Homeland Security Grant Program

ICS – Incident Command System

J.A.M.I.N. – Jail Administration Management Information Network (Part of Justice Data Solutions)

JDS – Justice Data Solutions (Law Enforcement Records Management & CAD software system)

LE – Law Enforcement

LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee

LEDRS – Livestock Emergency Disease Response System

LEOP – Local Emergency Operations Plan

MACH – Mobile Architecture for Communications Handling

NA911 – Nebraska Association of 911 Managers

NACO – Nebraska Association of County Officials

NEMA – Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

NENA – National Emergency Number Association

NESCA – Nebraska Emergency Services Communicators Association

NCR – North Central Region

NCTC – Nebraska Central Telephone Company
NIMS – National Incident Management System
NIRMA – Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association
NRIN – Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network
NX-Gen – Next Generation 911
PC – Police Chief
PD – Police Department
***PET** – Planning Exercise Training*
PPE – Personal Protective Equipment
PMC – Page My Cell
PSAP – Public Safety Answering Point (911 Communications Center)
PSC – Public Service Commission
PVC – Platte Valley Communications
SEAT – Single Engine Air Tanker
SO – Sheriff’s Office
SRS – State Radio System
TEPW – Training Exercise Planning Workshop
THIRA – Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment

*** North Central PET Region Includes:** Keith, Arthur, Grant, Hooker, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Holt, Region 24 (Cherry, Keya Paha, Brown, Rock, Boyd) and Region 26 (Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Greeley, Valley and Sherman)