

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

November 30, 2021

Region 26 Council:

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

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director, Virginia Michalski/Dispatch Supervisor & Office Manager and Mitch Lamb/Deputy Emergency Manager.

Visitors Present: None

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

Roll Call was taken with nine (9) 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.

Diana Hurlburt asked to make an addition to the agenda to go over the email from NACO and what she has prepared regarding funding for dispatch centers. Motion by Joseph Smith and seconded by Roger Guggenmos to approve the agenda including the addition by Diana. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Dave Weeks to approve the October 26, 2021 Minutes. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (2).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the October 2021 Financial Statement. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma presented the Financial Audit done by Lammers, Abel and Kaps and asked for approval to sign the resolution and acceptance of audit and understanding of segregation of duties and internal control. Doug Pokorny made a motion to sign the resolution with a second from Joseph Smith. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma asked for the board to approve Mitch Lamm as a voting alternate on the North Central PET Region governance board. Joseph Smith made a motion with a second from Doug Pokorny to approve Mitch to be a voting alternate on the NCR PET board. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

The Orion project had been approved on the North Central PET Region grant which is a damage

assessment tool for all of the North Central Region. Included in the Software package is training for each County to have members within the county use the tool to take before and after assessments of disaster damages (Roads Departments/Emergency Managers). Alma has been working with contact with Orion (now Futurity IT) to pay for the software with the grants and set up training. Each County or Region has to sign the Work Statement contract. Alma asked for approval to sign the Region 26 portion of the contract. Tom Bandur made a motion to approve contract with second from Dave Weeks. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

With new dispatchers coming on, Donna Steckel/Chief Dispatcher has been training constantly and Virginia Michalski is now Dispatch supervisor and not able to be in dispatch to assist with training. Alma asked for approval to make Bailey Lurz a dispatch trainer along with Donna. Joseph Smith made the motion with a second from Doug Pokorny to approve the request. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

The employee IRA renewal of company match was due. Jack Van Slyke made a motion to keep the same at the maximum match allowed. Tom Bandur seconded the motion. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma asked for Executive Session to discuss employee benefits. Jack Van Slyke made a motion to enter into Executive Session with a second from Diana Hurlburt. Executive session entered into at 8:05 pm. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

A motion was made by Tom Bandur and seconded by Dave Weeks to return to regular session at 8:22 pm. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0). After executive session it was determined by board to give bonuses to the employees in December.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Weeks had nothing to report.

Communications Center Report: Dispatch Supervisor/Virginia Michalski, handed out a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1517 Check Status, 303 Pages, 229 Alarms, 204 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 156 Traffic Violations, 154 Minor Detail, 116 Messages, 80 Rescue Calls, 68 - 911 Accidental/Disconnect Calls, 47 Livestock Complaints, 43 Assist Citizens, 43 Gun Permits, 34 Standby for Event/Fires/Training, 25 Burn Permits, 23 Accidents, 16 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 15 Animal Calls, 15 Assist Other Agencies, 10 Fire Calls, 10 Miscellaneous Tasks, 9 Reckless Drivers, 8 Welfare Checks, 7 Suspicious Activity, 6 Civil Matters, 6 Motorist Assists, 5 Siren, 5 Theft, 4 Arrests, 4 Burglary, 4 Direct Traffic/Escort/Funeral, 4 Prisoner Transport, 4 Radio Test, 3 Fraudulent Activity, 3 Gas Drive Off, 3 Suspicious Person, 3 Traffic Hazard, 2 Criminal Mischief, 2 Death Investigation, 2 Drug Violation, 2 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 2 Missing Person/Juvenile, and 11 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of October was 3207 including 255 - 911 calls and 1575 Administrative calls into Dispatch.

Virginia reported on a new employee that started yesterday in dispatch and we feel very hopeful. She then gave information on the Public Service Commission approving the training standards for dispatchers that their committee had turned in. She will be working with the Public Service Commission to plan our next steps of what we need to do at Region 26 to meet the standards they have set. The Public Service Commission will be doing a cyber security audit of all dispatch centers in the state that they will be paying for and will have Mission Critical do an onsite visit and be testing our equipment to know how secure we are before they add us to the Next Generation network. They will be giving us a report of how we rate and what can be done to improve security. They have a date set for mid-December.

Alma reported that the Service Tech was currently in dispatch from Equature replacing our old logging recorder and had been onsite most of the day. Install was delayed due to COVID.

Alma reported on increased hours for dispatchers that she had approved to pick up the slack on being short on employees. This would cause hours to be covered when dispatch has the usual busy time of afternoon and evening hours on days that there is only one on duty. This will create some overtime.

Director's Report:

Alma reported on the North Central PET Meeting that was held November 18th. The work on the next round of grants is beginning. A meeting is scheduled here for December 3rd for the North Central Emergency Managers along with our Consultant from the Public Policy Center to work on our investment justifications for the grant application.

At the PET meeting there were five individuals including State Veterinarians that came from the State Department of Ag and USDA which represented three of their five Agriculture zones to discuss with the North Central Region things that could impact Emergency Management and make us aware of livestock disease currently happening and also the new stop movement orders in Nebraska. They also gave us maps of the areas each covered along with their contact information.

Alma gave a report on the Lower Loup Mitigation Plan and the Round II meetings. She is planning times to set up meetings for face-to-face work to be done in Valley and Sherman counties.

On the Municipal point layer meetings, Alma had attended Loup City board meeting and is scheduled in December to attend the Ord City council meeting to explain the need for the point layer to be done for the 911 mapping.

Other Business: Diana Hurlburt read email received from NACO regarding the funding the State of Nebraska is receiving in ARPA funds and what was brought up at the NACO Legislative meeting. Diana was asked what was needed at that meeting and they set a figure at \$10 million to be distributed to 911 centers across the state. Diana then came up with email that she is going to send out to Senators regarding the funding request. She stated that NACO Director, Jon Cannon and Attorney, Beth Ferrell would be at the NACO Conference in December if we wanted to meet with them. There was a time slot at end of conference sessions on December 8th in Kearney. The board determined this would be a good time to have as many as possible from the Region 26 board meet in Kearney at the Conference Registration desk at 5 pm. Diana would set it up with NACO and Alma would send reminders.

Next regular meeting date will be January 25, 2022.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

ACRONYMS

APCO – Assoc. of Public Communications Officials	LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee
ARPA – American Recovery Plan Act (COVID)	LEDRRS – Livestock Emergency Disease Rapid Response System
CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch	LEOP – Local Emergency Operations Plan
CC – Communications Center	MACH – Mobile Architecture for Communications Handling
CERT – Community Emergency Response Team	NA911 – Nebraska Association of 911 Managers
CNMRC – Central Nebraska Medical Reserve Corp	NACO – Nebraska Association of County Officials
COADs – Community Organizations Active in Disasters	NAEM – Nebr. Association of Emergency Managers
COOP – Continuity of Operations Planning	NEMA – Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
COVID-19 – Coronavirus Disease 2019	NENA – National Emergency Number Association
C.R.I.M.E.S. – Calls & Records Information Management Software (part of Justice Data Solutions)	NESCA – NE Emergency Services Communicators Association
DEE – Depart. of Environmental & Energy (State)	*NCR – North Central Region*
DHHS – Department of Health & Human Services (State)	NCTC – Nebraska Central Telephone Company
DHS – Department of Homeland Security	NIMS – National Incident Management System
DR – Disaster Recovery	NIRMA – NE Intergovernmental Risk Management Association
DOR – Department of Roads	NRIN – Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network
E911 – Enhanced 911	NX-Gen – Next Generation 911
EAS – Emergency Alert System (FEMA)	PC – Police Chief
ECW – Emergency Call Works (Mfg. of 911 Equipment at Region 26)	PD – Police Department
EM – Emergency Manager	*PET – Planning Exercise Training*
EMD – Emergency Medical Dispatch	POD – Points of Dispensing (Immunization)
EMPG – Emergency Management Performance Grant	PPE – Personal Protective Equipment
EMS – Emergency Medical Services	PMC – Page My Cell
EMT – Emergency Medical Technician	PSAP – Public Safety Answering Point (911 Centers)
EOC – Emergency Operations Center	PSC – Public Service Commission
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency (Federal)	PVC – Platte Valley Communications
ERG – Emergency Response Guide (Orange Book – Hazardous Materials)	RFP – Request for Proposal
FAA – Federal Aviation Admin. (Report tower light outages)	SEAT – Single Engine Air Tanker
FADD – Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician	SHSP – State Homeland Security Program
FCC – Federal Communications Commission (for Radio Frequency Licenses)	SO – Sheriff’s Office
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency	SRS – State Radio System
FMD – Foot and Mouth Disease (Livestock)	TEPW – Training Exercise Planning Workshop
FY – Fiscal Year	THIRA – Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
GAN – Grant Adjustment Notice (aka Grant Award)	UPS – Universal Power Supply (workstation backup power supply until generator starts)
GIS – Geographic Information System	VFD – Volunteer Fire Department
GPS – Global Positioning System	VOAD – Volunteer Organization Aiding Disasters
HAZMAT – Hazardous Materials	VOIP – Voice over Internet Protocol
HHS – Health and Human Services (Federal)	V-TAC – Mutual Aid VHF Frequency Channels
HSGP – Homeland Security Grant Program	WEA – Wireless Emergency Alert
ICS – Incident Command System	WCDHD – West Central District Health Department (covers Thomas County)
IPAWS – Integrated Public Alert Warning System	W.H.O. – World Health Organization
J.A.M.I.N. – Jail Administration Management Information Network (Part of Justice Data Solutions)	WPC – Weather Prediction Center – Norman, OK
JDS – Justice Data Solutions (Law Enforcement Records Management & CAD software system)	WIRAT – Wildland Incident Response Assistance Team (State Fire Marshalls)
LBF – Lee Bird Field – North Platte (Airport) Weather Service Location	WMD – Weapons of Mass Destruction
LBPHD – Loup Basin Public Health Department (covers Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Greeley, Valley, Sherman)	
LE – Law Enforcement	