

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

March 29, 2022

Region 26 Council:

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

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director and Virginia Michalski/Dispatch Supervisor & Office Manager

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 and seconded by Joseph Smith to approve the agenda.

Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Jack Van Slyke to approve the February 21, 2022 Minutes.

Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (1).

Motion by Jack Van Slyke and seconded by Tom Bandur to approve the February 2022 Financial Statement. Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Legislative Update on LB 1194: Diana Hurlburt explained what she had found out on the Legislative Bill and there was no funding approved from the Appropriations Committee. Discussion was held on the lack of Senators that actually set in and listened at the hearing to the testimonies. Diana had watched a lot of the Legislation that went on with Appropriations and where the funding was going to and stated that 40% of the bills were not funded. We will need to continue on with our next plan for a bill for 911 Center funding with looking into next steps and Diana is continuing to make contact with Senators regarding funding.

Alma presented the Nomination form for a seat on the NRIN Board to represent the North Central Region. She currently serves on the governance board and her four-year term is up for election in June. Diana Hurlburt made a motion to nominate Alma to continue this position with a second from Joseph Smith. Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma had information from Applied Connective regarding the cameras for the Greeley Tower site for allowing them to have space at the site. The information was difficult to totally understand and Alma would reach back out to them for more clarity on what they are thinking they can do for just Greeley at this time. Also, Alma had received communication back from the State OCIO (State Communications) regarding the Merna tower that they would be interested in taking that over. After board discussion, Alma will reach back to them to get more details to bring back to next board meeting.

Alma presented a preliminary budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal year. She stated it is early in the budget process to have everything worked out on billings that might change before July but had worked on payroll to allow the board to see what that would look like for next year and also to allow discussion on assessment formula. Alma asked that it has been difficult to adjust formula that would make it seem fair to everyone unless each member could see it in their favor. She felt we were at a time to consider a consultant to look at our formula and the situation to see what is the fair and best way to divide the budget among the members. Board discussed other avenues of funding as in an ordinance for 911 funding and possibly checking with our attorney on how that could happen. Alma had said she reached out to the Public Policy Center and they were available to help for consulting on assessments. Joseph Smith made a motion for funding for a consultant with a cap amount and for Alma to ask the UNL Public Policy Center if they could give us some direction with this by next board meeting for that amount budgeted. Doug Pokorny seconded the motion. Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Weeks reported on training coming up in Burwell for Law Enforcement and Dispatch for Justice Data Solutions on April 14th. Alma stated they had been taking the reservations and had approximately 34 attendees signed up so far.

Communications Center Report: Dispatch Supervisor/Virginia Michalski, handed out a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1237 Status Checks, 260 Alarms, 252 Pages, 229 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 125 Traffic Violations, 121 Minor Detail, 77 Rescue Calls, 64 Messages, 63 Gun Permits, 53 Assist Citizen, 52 – 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 28 Assist Other Agencies, 27 Livestock Complaint, 23 Accidents, 16 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 13 Fire Calls, 12 Miscellaneous Tasks, 11 Reckless Driver, 9 Animal Calls, 8 Check Welfare, 7 Mutual Aid, 7 Radio Test, 7 Traffic Hazard, 6 Siren, 6 Standby For Events/Fire/.Training, 5 Burn Permits, 5 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 5 Suspicious Vehicle, 4 Arrest, 4 Direct Traffic/Traffic Control, 4 Paper Service, 3 burglary, 3 Civil Matters, 3 Death Investigations, 3 Suspicious Events, 3 Suspicious Person, 3 Trespassing, 2 Abuse/Neglect – Adult/Child, 2 Motorist Assist, 2 Theft, 2 Transfer 911 Call and 8 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of February was 2774 including 209 - 911 calls and 1272 Administrative calls into Dispatch.

Virginia reported on this month's staff meeting with guests from the National Forest at Halsey-Bessey Ranger District. District Ranger Julie Bain, Fire Manager Tedd Teahon, Law Enforcement Loren Eaton came to meet with staff to go over their procedures and call down list for the Forest for fires and if campers need assistance.

The Geo-Comm mapping has been pushed back due to there lack of help getting it pushed out. Platte Valley have delivered the new computers for the workstations to handle the mapping.

Director's Report:

Alma reported on activating the Sandhills Task Force for the first time for the North Platte fires and how it worked. Have had approximately 16 fires for the last couple of weeks in the Region last week having three larger ones on the day of the highest winds at the same time with three in dispatch working them. There has been a couple fires in Custer that Alma has assisted with on calling for planes.

She reviewed with the Board on Disaster Declarations for the counties if one should be needed and

wanted the Commissioners/Supervisors to know that when she requests one that any of them can sign it to get it started and if having to do one later with more signatures will work. It would be needed when County/Village resources have been exhausted or we see that they are going to be and it would require a signed Declaration before any State Resources could be requested. Alma would rely a lot on the County Emergency Manager to help in getting that done and she would be in touch with them. During the fire last week near Arcadia, we were unsure how large it was going to get knowing how strong the wind was. Alma had filled out Declaration for Valley County and sent to Scott Philbrick/County EM Deputy to get signature and return it to have in case needed.

There was a North Central Meeting last week working through the CodeRED contract that we have together with all these counties and trying to work out the billing since the breakup of Region 24.

Alma used CodeRED last week to do an All-Call to test the system during the State Tornado drill and also tested town storm sirens. The question came up about the CodeRED call showing up as a Spam call, Alma was going to check with CodeRED on solutions.

Alma attended Loup City EMT meeting this month to discuss possible exercise for the Schools there with EMS, Fire and Law. Also, attended fire meeting at Litchfield last week with Hazard fire and Litchfield fire and rescue to discuss communications and handling Hazard fires.

There were Storm Spotter talks in Taylor, Thedford and Ericson with tonight in Ord. Alma had taken two of the newer dispatchers to Ericson Spotter talk with a trip to Lake Ericson, Pibel Lake and Herd Co. and through Bartlett to get a better understanding of the area.

Scott Philbrick/Valley County helped Alma this last Saturday to deliver 29,000 sandbags out to Ord, Loup City, Litchfield and Arcadia.

Alma did report that the Emergency Management conference was next week and she would be gone part of the week to attend.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be April 26, 2022.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 10:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

ACRONYMS

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

*** North Central PET Region Includes:**

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