

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

October 25, 2022

Region 26 Council:

| Present: | Absent: |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Garfield Co: Korey Johnson (Alternate) | Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos |
| Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz | Thomas Co: Joseph Smith |
| Loup Co: Jack Ruppel | Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair |
| Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke | Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny |
| Law Enforce: Mike Jepsen | |
| Range Co. Municipalities: | |
| Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler | |
| Doug Reiter | |
| Tri-Co Municipalities: | |
| Valley, Greeley, Sherman | |
| Jay Meyer, Chairman | |

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director, Virginia Michalski/Office Manager and Stena Seamann/Deputy Emergency Manager

Visitors Present: Mike Epley/Platte Valley Communications

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

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.

Alma asked for approval of Amended Agenda to include Valley County Console.

Motion by Jordan Foltz and seconded by Mike Jepsen to approve the Amended Agenda.

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

On September minutes Jay asked to have a correction made to include that payment he had asked about was for his mileage only for generator maintenance.

Motion by Jack Van Slyke and seconded by Jay Meyer to approve the September 2022 Minutes with correction. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Jack Van Slyke and seconded by Mike Jepsen to approve the September 2022 Financial Statement to include corrected amount of Interest on Law Enforcement Account.

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

Jack Van Slyke made motion to approve the audit report by Lammers, Abel & Kaps with a second from Doug Reiter. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma reported on the towers starting with Merna Tower. She had tried to contact the head of the State OCIO, Dave Collett to look at the Merna tower to sell to them for their use for State Radio System and would continue to work on that.

The fencing for the Sargent Tower has arrived. Grant was received from the NIRMA Assist program to pay for half of the original cost of fencing. The cost at this time increased by \$539.06.

On the Greeley Tower the lease agreement with Applied Connective for space on the tower was signed and returned to us with the changes we had requested. Chairman Meyer asked that a copy be sent out to the board to review before next meeting and approve at that time. Repeater had been needing to be rebooted at times. Jay had been doing that at monthly maintenance trips. Platte Valley had said this

model of repeater would continue to need that and suggested we replace. Platte Valley was going to place one on order and then we would determine at that time if we replace this repeater or the Ord site. For the Thedford Tower during the Bovee fire the repeater also was needing rebooted. Platte Valley took out a used repeater and installed there. Mike Epley commented on options of what could be done at Thedford when we are ready to look at replacing that one.

The Garfield County repeater that we were looking at installing at the radio tower north of town, Platte Valley had suggested better options that we need to look at the new NRIN tower across the border into Holt County. This would give better coverage to both Garfield and Wheeler and we would not get too much of an overlap as close as it is to Burwell.

Mike Epley reported on the Valley County console that is at the Sheriff's office. The Zetron console UPS Power Supply had went down a couple of weeks and bringing the system back up required Platte Valley to come up to reconfigure the screen to put channels back on. The console is using an XP Computer which has aged out. The console died when the UPS went out and in bringing it back up the configuration would not reload, program came back up but Platte Valley had to reprogram. Zetron informed Platte Valley to take off software, wiping system clean and reloading it. The concern Platte Valley had of there being only one position and if they try to reload the system it might not work due to age and they would have nothing. Equipment is taking longer to get here when ordering new. Update to current Windows 10 would require approximately \$25,000 for computer, software, firmware, cards etc. If they have it go down again Platte Valley would have to go back to Ord to reconfigure screen again. To upgrade system from scratch would be \$50,000 that would upgrade everything and would give us approximately 10 years of life. Discussion was held on the best route to move forward and to talk to Valley County about helping to cover cost of upgrade since that is their daily use system. Alma and Jay planned to go to Valley County Supervisor meeting to explain the situation.

PSAP funding updates: Diana Hurlburt had asked for this on agenda. Korey Johnson was filling in for her as alternate and reported that she was still working toward a legislative bill and was not able to attend tonight.

Region 26 December Board meeting: Region 26 does not have a December board meeting. There had been past discussion that there is enough work to be done to not skip December for having a meeting. The board agreed to include December back into schedule for a monthly Region 26 meeting. The date for this year will be Tuesday, December 27th.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Mike Jepsen had no report. In discussion we set Law Enforcement meeting for November 10th.

Communications Center Report: Virginia Michalski, handed out a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1455 Status checks, 382 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 329 Pages, 327 Alarms, 130 Messages, 126 Minor Detail, 102 Rescue Calls, 93 Traffic Violations 81 – 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 47 Livestock Complaint, 47 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 46 Assist Citizen, 41 Gun Permits, 37 Assist Other Agencies, 31 Accidents, 22 Reckless Driver, 18 Fire Calls, 15 Animal Calls, 15 Check Welfare, 14 Suspicious Activity, 14 Theft, 13 Disturbance/Harassment/assault, 11 Burn Permit, 9 Transfer 911 Call, 8 Direct Traffic/Escort/Funeral, 8 Paper Service, 7 Motorist Assist, 7 Property Incidents/Lost/Found/Dispute, 7 Siren, 6 Radio Test, 6 Suspicious Person, 6 Suspicious Vehicle, 6 Traffic Hazard, 5 Miscellaneous Tasks, 4 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 4 Missing Person/Juvenile, 4 Parking Violation, 3 Abandoned Vehicle, 2 Arrest, 2 Auto theft, 2 Prisoner Transport, 2 Utilities Incidents and 11 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of September was 3505 including 251 - 911 calls and 1504 Administrative calls into Dispatch.

Virginia reported on advertising for more help in dispatch in this coming week's newspapers and getting the word out on Facebook. She gave a training update from dispatch that three of the dispatchers had been through their teletype training at the Law Enforcement center last month and passed, some are

working on the new knowledge-based certification requirement on-line that we have to have done by end of year. Bailey Lurz will be gone for several days for a supervisor course in York in November. Alma reported on the East Central 911 Meeting that was in Grand Island to meet others in the that Region and go over an updated time line of install for the Next Gen Motorola equipment. The time frame for the East Central 911 Region is January to June.

There was a 911 trunk line that was down that Virginia had found with continued work with Lumen and Hamilton the local phone company to trace down the problems we were having on a few calls that did not map or that the caller could not hear us. Virginia had found a pattern to the problem and she also reported on other glitches that she continues to work on with the equipment vendors from mapping to 911 hang-ups to make sure there are no problems. She had found a problem recently with the new Equature recording unit that was being worked on.

Alma presented a maintenance agreement from Equature that had been discussed at time of equipment purchase that we would consider an agreement once warranty had run out. Due to additional time it took to get equipment installed, Equature marked off \$1000 for the annual agreement for a total of \$2423.00. Alma listed off what would be covered under the service agreement including labor, mileage and monitoring of system. After discussion of the importance of having agreement, Mike Jepsen made a motion to purchase the agreement with a second from Jack Van Slyke. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Director's Report: Alma reported on the Municipal election process that we do out of the office for the two board member positions representing the municipalities on the board. The nomination forms were mailed out to each village/city council and then the ballots will be sent out to each municipality board in mid-November to be returned by end of December.

The audit for the use of the Wireless funding had been submitted to the Public Service Commission. The EMPG grant application came due while Alma was out of the office. Virginia was able to get everything submitted by deadline.

The Bovee/Halsey fire that started on Sunday, Oct 2nd was reported on by Stena and Virginia since they had worked on this. 50 fire departments were on scene with 18,000+ acres burned. Stena will continue working on paperwork to try to get funding back for the Volunteer Fire Departments.

Stena had attended some education courses on 911 equipment in Lincoln. Other training that she was scheduled for was missed due to working with the fire situation.

Alma and Stena had attended both Loup Valley Mutual Aid in Spalding and Sandhills Mutual Aid in Thedford last week.

T-Mobil had put in 6 sites on Verizon towers in Region 26 and had done 911 testing. They had told Alma they would continue to add sites in our Region.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be November 29, 2022.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9:53 pm.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

ACRONYMS

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| 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)