

## MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

December 27, 2022

### Region 26 Council:

#### Present:

Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos

Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt

Loup Co: Jack Ruppel

Thomas Co: Joseph Smith

Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke

Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny

Tri-Co Municipalities:

Valley, Greeley, Sherman

Jay Meyer, Chairman

#### Absent:

Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz

Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair

Law Enforce: Mike Jepsen

Range Co. Municipalities:

Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler

Doug Reiter

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

Visitors Present: Wade Neben/Thedford Village Board

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 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. Joseph Smith introduced Wade Neben from the Thedford Village Board in Thomas County.

Motion by Jack Van Slyke and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the agenda.

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

Motion by Roger Guggenmos and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the November minutes.

Ayes (5) Nays (0) Abstain (2).

Alma presented Financial Statement showing no entries for July/August/September under the EMPG grant reimbursement. Those entries will come through in December due to grant award and funds being released late this year. All reimbursement request is done quarterly. Motion by Joseph Smith and seconded by Diana Hurlburt to approve the November 2022 Financial Statement. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Diana Hurlburt reported on work done through NACO in assisting with writing a Legislative Bill request for funding for 911 dispatch centers. She will keep us informed on what they will come up with and to get a Senator to submit for Legislative Bill.

Alma explained to the board the concerns on the Silent Knight alarm system. There has been a large amount of alarms that were starting to come in with corrupt data and dispatchers were having to sort through that and it could happen when on other calls. Platte Valley had informed Alma that many of facilities are using VoIP phones that our system is not designed to handle. The alarms that are coming through are adding additional stress to those on duty in the center. Alma had given an example of a recent alarm test that created 32 alarms in 11 minutes. Alma asked that we discontinue the alarm monitoring services and that we keep the system only for our tower alarms as long as the unit still

worked. In the future Region 26 would also need to utilize an alarm monitoring company for the tower sites but could use this system for now. We would still serve the facilities that are within the Region 26 counties with emergency services, but the actual monitoring of their alarms would be done through an outside alarm monitoring company. After discussion on how this would be handled and the related loss of revenue from this service, Doug Pokorny made a motion to discontinue the Silent Knight alarm system for our current clients effective April 1, 2023 with letters to be sent out to them immediately. Diana Hurlburt seconded the motion. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Jepsen was not in attendance.

Communications Center Report: Office Manager/Virginia Michalski, handed out a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1434 Status Checks, 319 Alarms, 286 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 282 Paging, 105 Traffic Violations, 101 Messages, 93 Minor Detail, 74 Rescue Calls, 68 Gun Permits, 61 – 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 42 Livestock Complaint, 40 Assist Citizen, 26 Accidents, 22 Assist Other Agencies, 17 Reckless Driver, 15 Assist Fire/Rescue, 15 Burn Permit, 14 Check Welfare, 13 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 13 Fire Calls, 10 Radio Test, 10 Standby for Fire/Events/Training, 8 Animal Calls, 8 Suspicious Vehicle, 7 Theft, 6 Direct Traffic/Escort, 6 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 6 Suspicious Events, 5 Miscellaneous Tasks, 5 paper Service, 5 Siren, 5 Traffic Hazard, 5 Trespassing, 4 Transfer 911 Calls, 4 Utilities Complaint/Outage, 3 Abandoned Vehicle, 3 Damage To Property, 3 Motorist Assist, 3 Suspicious Person, 2 Death Investigation, 2 Missing Person/Juvenile, 2 Mutual Aid, 2 Prisoner Transport, 2 Terroristic Threats, 2 Weather and 7 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of November was 3,165 including 199 – 911 calls and 1207 Administrative calls into Dispatch.

Virginia reported on the personnel changes with new dispatchers and the training they were doing. She reported on the phone line issues that she had been working with through the telephone company to get problems resolved.

Director's Report: Alma reported on the North Central PET meeting working on the next round of Investment Justifications for the Homeland Security grants. They were working with the consultant through Public Policy Center to assist with the grants.

The portable lights that were awarded from the last grant just arrived with 50 units were setting in the hallway and meeting room to be dispersed to Law Enforcement in the North Central Region. Stena gave a demo on how the lights worked and extended to work on tri-pod or hand held and are rechargeable.

Alma explained to the board on the County emergency plans that were completed through the new BOLD planning online were complete to this point other than the changes that election created. The plans need to be approved through each County Board with a signed resolution. Alma stated she would be sending out letters or have County Emergency Managers assist in getting these resolutions done. NEMA was requesting this by end of January to be returned.

Alma stated that some of the counties belonging to the North Central PET Region was considering going with a different alerting system other than CodeRED which would cause the agreement with CodeRED to be broken by July 1<sup>st</sup>. As fiscal agent Alma said she would be researching other companies and discussing possible changes with CodeRED.

The Orion company will be doing a training on our damage assessment tool on January 11<sup>th</sup> that is going to be for all the County Emergency Managers and would be in the evening here at Region 26.

Alma reported on the notice she received from NEMA for the possibility of additional funds for operation expenses for Emergency Management through the ARPA funds NEMA received. The notice gave a week to have requests submitted to NEMA which has been sent in.

Alma did report to the board that as of meeting time the municipal election results for the positions on the Region 26 board resulted in Jay Meyer remaining on the board as the Tri-County Municipal

representative with twelve votes from the thirteen towns and Wade Neben would be the Range-County municipal representative with five votes from the eight towns in the Range Counties.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be January 31, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 8:33 pm.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

## ACRONYMS

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