

**MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL**

January 31, 2023

Region 26 Council:

Present:

Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt  
Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz  
Loup Co: Dave Larson  
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  
Wade Neben  
Tri-Co Municipalities:  
Valley, Greeley, Sherman  
Jay Meyer, Chairman

Absent:

Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos  
Thomas Co: Joseph Smith

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director, Virginia Michalski/Office Manager, Stena Seamann/Deputy EM and Bailey Lurz/Dispatch Supervisor

Visitors Present: Ed Knott/Applied Connective

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 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 Tom Bandur to approve the agenda.  
Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Doug Pokorny and seconded by Dave Larson to approve the December 27, 2022 Minutes.  
Ayes (6) Nays (0) Abstain (2).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the December Financial Statement. Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Jack Van Slyke arrived at 6:35 pm

Alma reported to the board that Platte Valley discontinued their IT services for Region 26 due to losing personnel and were not planning to replace the IT department. Platte Valley would continue to service Region 26 for radios, paging, towers/equipment and console. Ed Knott from Applied Connective attended meeting with two proposals for the Region 26 IT services. One would cover the IT work for network, servers, surveillance and cyber security. The other proposal was managing our online email and security. Each had a one time set up with a monthly recurring charge that would have unlimited monthly calls for service. It would be reviewed at end of the year on work required for us as to what the renewal would look like. They would be able to have us ready to go by end of the month but would be able to help us in between if we needed their assistance. Alma reported on the other IT Service she had reached out to and what was received in. After board discussion on what would be the best service for Region 26, Doug Pokorny made a motion to accept both proposals from Applied Connective for both IT Services and Online Email security. Tom Bandur seconded the motion. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma reported on some of the towers that needed attention. The Arcadia radio repeater was needing moved off the existing tower location by summer. Alma showed the locations that she was working with Platte Valley on that would be a possibility. She was waiting to hear back from Viaero on how high we could get the antennas since it seemed the best location.

Platte Valley had given information on the trouble of getting in the power supply that was needed at the Greeley tower for the repeater. The power supply within the repeater is what had failed. Alma had Platte Valley get more than one power supply ordered since they were having troubles getting them shipped.

The same for the Garfield equipment that we were working on with aid of their ARPA funds. Platte Valley was trying to get equipment here and then make the final decisions where it will set.

Platte Valley was feeling positive that the Valley County Sheriff's Office console would be shipped this month.

Diana Hurlburt reported on the work at NACO that had done on getting something ready to reach out for a Senator to present as a Legislative Bill for 911 center funding. This last week Senator McDonnell presented LB646 to increase the 911 surcharge on cell phones across the state to \$1.00 per line. It is currently at 70¢ in 92 counties and 50¢ in Douglas County. This funding would be managed through the Public Service Commission. Diana had reached out to Senator McDonnell's office to discuss with Tim Pendrell, his aid and discussed the Bill. He had said we would need to send letters to the Transportation and Telecommunication Committee in support of the bill prior to March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The hearing for the Bill is Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. The online submission in support of the bill will be open 10 days ahead of the hearing. Alma and Stena had handed out sample letters that could be sent along with a printout of all the names and email address of the committee members. Stena gave a short demo on how easy it was to go onto the Legislative website to check a box showing your support. The site will ask for your email address to send you a notice that you made your submission and only allows one submission.

Diana had asked the board to please reach out to others to get them to help send their support by letters, emails or by doing the online submission. Mr. Pendrell had informed Diana that a very short letter of support or the online submission was best for the Committee to see and if they have any questions, they can contact Alma's office. The support we do now would help to get the Bill out of committee to the Floor. Diana explained that what they had been working on at NACO for a bill could possibly be amended onto a bill that has been presented. After discussion there was a consensus that we would put our support into LB646 this year and hold off on the other for now.

Alma had been in contact with GeoComm working on the point layers for the towns and getting them the information needed through gWorks. GeoComm pointed out that two of the counties did not have situs addresses in the parcel information. This would be needed to continue forward. The struggle with the addressing that Alma had brought to the board in the past was discussed with GeoComm. They are working toward the development of a "Contributor" app to use in streaming in roads and address locations that would be very helpful, however, this may be a while. The board discussed the house signage and how it could work for zoning to require new construction to pay for addressing and for signs for emergency services.

Confidentiality statements were handed out for the board to sign. It was in the bylaws for all new employees and board members to sign the statements to be kept on file due to the confidential information out of the 911 center.

Alma asked for another board member to be listed on the bank accounts for Region 26 to become a signatory as two signatures are required on checks. Region 26 has always had three board members along with the Director listed to have authority to sign checks. Dave Larson said that he would be willing to do that since he passes through Taylor on a regular basis. Doug Pokorny made a motion to have Dave Larson be listed on the accounts to sign checks with those currently listed; Alma, Diana Hurlburt and Jack Van Slyke. Jordan Foltz seconded the motion. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Jepsen stated that no meeting yet. Virginia said next meeting was scheduled February 10<sup>th</sup> for Law Enforcement.

Communications Center Report: Virginia Michalski reported on continuing to work on the phone calls that we had issues in the past with static and dropping calls and hoping we have it ironed out. Bailey Lurz reported on the training that she was doing with the two new dispatchers and also the week long training that Courtney had to complete through a zoom call as part of the new certification that was required by the State. Dispatch statistics for the previous month had been handed out and reviewed. They had 1349 Status, 353 Alarms, 389 Pages, 176 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 108 Burn Permits, 102 – 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 99 Messages, 85 Rescue Calls, 81 Gun Permits, 74 Minor Detail, 54 Traffic Violations, 49 Assist Citizen, 38 Assist Other Agencies, 29 Accidents, 20 Livestock Complaint, 16 Weather, 15 Animal Calls, 15 Check Welfare, 14 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 12 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 12 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 10 Reckless Driver, 9 Traffic Hazard, 8 Fire Calls, 8 Motorist Assist, 8 Suspicious Vehicle, 6 Theft, 5 Miscellaneous Tasks, 5 Siren, 5 Suspicious Events, 5 Transfer - 911 Calls, 4 Direct Traffic/Funeral/Escort, 4 Fraudulent Activity, 4 Prisoner Transport, 4 Property Lost/Recovered/Dispute, 4 Radio Test, 4 Utilities Complaint/Outage, 3 Abandoned Vehicle, 3 Civil Matters, 2 Death Investigation, 2 Gas Drive Off, 2 Mutual Aid, 2 Paper Service, 2 Parole/Probation/Protection Order/Violation, 2 Suspicious Person, 2 Trespassing and 9 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of December was 3,112 including 228 – 911 calls and 1307 Administrative calls into Dispatch.

Director's Report: Alma reported on the North Central PET meeting held here last week for the purpose of getting our Investment Justifications done for the 2023 Homeland Security Grant. The scene lights that had been shown last month were gradually getting passed out to Law Enforcement.

Alma had attended the Loup Valley Mutual Aid meeting in North Loup and both her and Stena had attended the Sandhills Mutual aid in Thedford last week.

The snow storm damages were discussed.

Alma reported on the Interlocal that had been signed this last year to join the East Central 911 for sharing 911 equipment. Last week Motorola had notified the dispatch centers of the additional amount that was for Lumen doing the "operational readiness testing" after the install of equipment. This would require an additional \$8,094.00 to Region 26. A new Interlocal agreement to be signed by next meeting would be sent out. This would not need paid until after complete install of equipment and the readiness testing complete which will probably be into the next budget year.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be February 28, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 8:29 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)