

## MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

May 30, 2023

### Region 26 Council:

#### Present:

Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos  
Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt  
Loup Co: Dave Larson  
Thomas Co: Joseph Smith  
Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair  
Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny  
Range Co. Municipalities:  
Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler  
Wade Neben  
Tri-Co Municipalities:  
Valley, Greeley, Sherman  
Jay Meyer, Chairman

#### Absent:

Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz  
Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke  
Law Enforce: Mike Jepsen

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

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 Hurlburt and seconded by Tom Bandur to approve the agenda.

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

Motion by Joseph Smith and seconded by Wade Neben to approve the April 25, 2023 Minutes.

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

Motion by Joseph Smith and seconded by Tom Bandur to approve the April 2023 Financial Statement.

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

Alma reported on the Merna Tower that nothing had come in yet from the State on the sale of tower. She had received a check from Country Partners on tower rent. Applied Connective has been having troubles with the camera connection with the Greeley tower and still working on it with the camera company. Discussion was held. Alma to send copies to the attorney regarding the Merna tower lease.

Hamilton Telephone Company met with Alma, Stena and Virginia last week regarding our telephone system we have for admin lines. The current system is no longer supported and there has been phone problems that has not been resolved. There is concern of it being compatible with the next 911 system upgrade that will be going in soon. They had discussed phone system vs hosted internet system with monthly cost and will be sending a quote. The board discussed other bids for us to look at also.

Alma handed out the preliminary budget for 2023-2024 for the board to review along with a copy of the letter just received in from NIRMA for the insurance premium for the new year that is due in June. The insurance was discussed on why the huge increase. The budget was reviewed and discussed. Jay Meyer

stated he felt additional increase in insurance should be divided equally among the member counties/city due to that being a base cost for all. Insurance to be reviewed. No decisions were made.

Criminal Justice Board: Sheriff Jepsen was absent. Alma reported that the Law Enforcement quarterly meeting was held here on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The State Patrol gave a presentation on the helicopter they have in North Platte and what they can do to help the counties when called upon.

The meeting broke up early due to the tornado warnings and reports from the counties as well as from water coming into the office from the heavy rain.

#### Communications Center Report:

Office Manager/Virginia Michalski, handed out a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1448 Status Checks, 268 Pages, 224 Wants/Warrants/ Registrations, 156 Messages, 139 Minor Detail, 131 - 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 92 Traffic Violations, 73 Rescue Calls, 71 Assist Citizen, 64 Burn Permits, 49 Gun Permits, 49 Mutual Aid, 48 Assist Other Agencies, 43 Fire Calls, 38 Livestock Complaint, 37 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 21 Animal Calls, 17 Disturbance/ Harassment/Assault, 16 Reckless Driver, 13 Radio Test, 11 Accidents, 10 Check Welfare, 10 Weather, 9 Arrests, 8 Paper Service, 8 Siren, 8 Suspicious Events, 8 Suspicious Vehicle, 8 Traffic Hazard, 8 Transfer 911 Calls, 7 Miscellaneous Tasks, 6 Alarms, 6 Motorist Assist, 5 Abandoned Vehicle, 5 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 5 Suicidal Threats/Attempts, 4 Burglary/Attempt, 4 Property Lost/Recovered/Damage/Dispute, 4 Suspicious Person, 3 Civil Matters, 3 Direct Traffic/Funeral/Escort, 3 Theft, 3 Utilities Complaints/ Outage, 3 Vandalism, 2 Parole/Probation/Protection Order Violation, 2 Prisoner Transport, 11 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of April was 3161 including 371 – 911 calls and 1724 non-emergency calls into dispatch.

Alma reported they had set in on a virtual meeting of State 911 Working group committee to hear what the plans were for Emergency Medical Dispatch and T-CPR to know what training will be mandatory. Dispatch has been looking into costs for any of the T-CPR training and have not found costs for EMD at this point.

Alma also reported on the telephone issues they were still having with some admin calls going to dial tone. Hamilton/NCTC has replaced a couple different things to see if it worked but the problem still comes up occasionally. The NAWAS phone had been having problems where we could not hear the State or Weather Service trying to contact us directly. FEMA had been contacted and as of this week it appears to be working okay.

#### Director's Report:

Alma reported on the four tornados that happened in the Region 26 counties on May 12<sup>th</sup> with one in Greeley that was an EF-0, two in Wheeler being classed as an EF-1 and EF-2 and one on the eastern side of Garfield rated at an EF-0. The winds in Thomas and Blaine were listed as straight-line winds. Hastings Weather had followed up with the Greeley tornado path the day of the storm and North Platte Weather Service met with Alma the next day to view the tornado paths in Wheeler and Garfield to help them with wind speed to determine the EF rating.

The North Central meeting was held last week virtually as well as in person here at Region 26. The trainings listed on our grants was discussed and determined what we were getting in for training and training venues. The Public Policy Center consultant is assisting with facilitating the trainings.

Alma stated that the State Patrol had come out with drones to fly over the areas of grass fires to map the burn scars in Garfield and Blaine and did take pictures as well.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be June 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Alma Beland, Coordinator/Director

## 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)