

## MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

July 25, 2023

### Region 26 Council:

Present:	Absent:
Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt	Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos
Loup Co: Dave Larson	Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz
Thomas Co: Joseph Smith	Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair
Valley Co: Theresa Petska (alternate)	Law Enforce: Mike Jepsen
Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny	Range Co. Municipalities:
Tri-Co Municipalities:	Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler
Valley, Greeley, Sherman	Wade Neben
Jay Meyer, Chairman	

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

Visitors Present: Bronson Myer

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

Roll Call was taken with six (6) 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 Joseph Smith to approve the agenda.  
Ayes (6) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Joseph Smith and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the June 27, 2023 Minutes.  
Ayes (6) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Joseph Smith and seconded by Diana Hurlburt to approve the June 2023 Financial Statement.  
Ayes (6) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Towers & Equipment: Alma reported on the Merna tower, still waiting for purchase from the OCIO office and paperwork showing the purchase. Alma will contact them by phone. The cameras are now connected and working at the Greeley site. The Arcadia tower was in discussion with the Arcadia fire department and also waiting to hear from Jack Van Slyke on paying for moving equipment. The Loup City tower appears to have had a lightning strike that took out the lights, Platte Valley is working at having them replaced.

Funding Updates: Alma and Diana Hurlburt both reported on meeting with Gov. Pillen at a town hall meeting to discuss funding for rural 911 centers. He asked that we contact his office to set up something through policy and research. They were going to set a meeting to discuss. Board discussed the Game and Parks working on increasing park permits and what the influx of people has caused for emergency services.

Out of Region Paging: Alma reported on a request for Region 26 for doing dispatching for their department that is out of the Region. Alma explained to the board what it would require for equipment

and staff. After discussion the board had questions to take to them and would table it at this time.

Financial Audit: Alma was waiting to hear back from Lammers, Abel and Kaps to do the annual Financial Audit.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Jepsen was not present to report. Alma stated the next Region 26 Law Enforcement meeting was scheduled for Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Communications Center Report: The Communications Center stats for both May and June were handed out. A breakdown of the statistics for May was 1411 Status Checks, 352 Paging, 246 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 236 - 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 189 Messages, 172 Minor Detail, 131 Traffic Violations, 126 Burn Permits, 91 Rescue Calls, 81 Weather, 65 Assist Other Agencies, 59 Livestock Complaint, 45 Assist Citizen, 35 Accidents, 35 Gun Permits, 32 Animal Calls, 30 Reckless Driver, 23 Fire Calls, 20 Standby For Event/Fire/Training, 13 Alarms, 12 Check Welfare, 12 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 12 Miscellaneous Taks, 12 Siren, 12 Suspicious Events, 12 Suspicious Person, 11 Direct Traffic/Funeral/Escort, 10 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 9 Motorist Assist, 9 Transfer 911 Call, 8 Mutual Aid, 8 Radio Test, 8 Theft, 7 Traffic Hazard, 6 Suspicious Vehicle, 6 Utilities Complaint/Outage, 5 Abandoned Vehicle, 5 Arrests, 5 Fraudulent Activity, 4 Prisoner Transport, 4 Suicidal Threats/Attempts, 3 Break In/Burglary, 3 Civil Matters, 3 Follow Up 3 Littering/Dumping, 3 Missing Person/Juvenile and 20 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of May was 3604 including 400 – 911 Calls and 1821 administrative calls to dispatch for May.

The breakdown for June was 1392 Status Checks, 304 Paging, 277 – 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 254 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 128 Minor Detail, 125 Traffic Violations, 118 Messages, 83 Rescue Calls, 55 Assist Other Agencies, 54 Burn Permits, 49 Assist Citizen, 42 Livestock Complaint, 35 Gun Permits, 31 Reckless Driver, 29 weather, 28 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 19 Accidents, 19 Animal Calls, 13 Alarms, 11 fire Calls, 11 Siren, 10 Check Welfare, 10 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 10 Key Locked in Vehicle, 9 Direct Traffic/Funeral/Escort, 9 Theft, 9 Transfer 911 Call, 8 Miscellaneous Tasks, 8 Suspicious Vehicle, 7 Death Investigation, 7 Suspicious Events, 7 Traffic Hazard, 6 Suspicious Person, 5 Paper Service, Prisoner Transport, 3 Abandoned Vehicle, 3 Arrests, 3 Motorist Assist, 2 Civil Matters and 18 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of June was 3211 including 381 – 911 Calls and 1515 Administrative calls into dispatch for June.

Bailey Lurz, Dispatch Supervisor, reported on the Teletype training that our two newest dispatchers were at the Law Enforcement academy this month for several days of training and tested out well.

The stats were discussed on the number of pocket/accidental calls that were calling 911 at an alarming amount as well as the time it takes for dispatchers to call the number back. Time is wasted when the person will not answer the call back and trying to get the education out to the public to stay on a call if they accidentally call 911 to tell the dispatcher it was accidental. Jay suggested contacting our telephone company to have our call back ID from dispatch listed as “911 Center” instead of Region 26 so that out of town people would be more apt to answer the call back. This also needs to be brought up to Lincoln for them to understand the impact of what it takes for us to call out services on an accidental call for both dispatch on their time as well as first responders to drive a distance in the county to check it out.

Director’s Report:

Alma reported on the Mutual Aid Fire meeting that her and Stena attended this month.

The Air Methods/LifeNet Helicopter service had brought information to Region 26 on their services and how the costs have dropped due to the “No Surprises Act” being passed for those transported to what their insurance deductible is and they are wanting to be called out sooner instead of just on standby. Alma and Stena had been trying to get that information out to First Responders. It was brought out on

the known differences of the two helicopter services we contact from our dispatch.

Stena has continued to work at getting in truck tickets turned in from Departments on the fires this year.

Alma stated that if anyone had residents asking about not receiving CodeRED warnings the first week of July was due to the account rollover and those registered had not been rolled over to the Region 26 account from the North Central account. All has been updated.

Alma reported on some of the funding we were getting back on the EMPG grant to assist with operating expense.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be August 29, 2023.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9 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)