

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

May 28, 2024

Region 26 Council:

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

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

Visitors Present: None

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

Roll Call was taken with nine (9) 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 Dave Larson and seconded by Joseph Smith to approve the agenda.

Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Joseph Smith and seconded by Diana Hurlburt to approve the April 30, 2024 board minutes with the change of showing Theresa Petska attending as alternate board member for Valley County.

Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (1).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Jordan Foltz to approve the April 2024 Financial Statement.

Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Towers & Equipment Report:

- a. Stealth Contract for lease of space on Greeley tower replacing Applied Connective was discussed. Changes we needed and discussed with Stealth at last board meeting was done and sent to attorney for review and then on to Stealth Broadband for approval. They called with questions and still reviewing. The board asked that we send a reminder and set date to have the contract approved.
- b. The phone and radio circuits that we had in question at the last meeting, Alma reported on what has been cancelled to this point. The main one in question from Thedford to Ord with Frontier is still being worked on through Frontier to get it cancelled.
- c. Generator and transfer switch that Dave Larson found at auction was discussed for possibility of working at Litchfield site that was damaged by lightning. Alma to get more information from PowerTech on cost to replace transfer switch that is there.

- d. Alarm panel at Sargent tower is not working properly and sending false signals intermittently. Platte Valley discussed replacing the panels at both Sargent and Ord towers and installing a new panel with cellular communicator with keypad. This would be monitored with alarm company calling in the alarm. The quote was for \$1347.50 for each tower with following year annual cost of \$360 for the monitoring each tower. The phone line and alarms are currently costing \$2734.00 annually for both towers. This would allow the Silent Knight alarm and printer to be removed. The alarms are for hi/low temperature, beacon, door alarm, generator on/off and smoke alarm. Joseph Smith made a motion to install the new alarm panels at both Sargent and Ord tower sites and discontinue the Silent Knight alarm system. Diana Hurlburt seconded the motion. Ayes (9) Nays (0) Abstain (0).
- e. The console for our backup system in Ord will run out of warranty on June 23rd. The Factory service plan that was sent by Platte Valley will be \$3000 per year. This would be needed for updates of system and the pay as needed may be more expensive than the annual. After discussion the board asked for more information from Platte Valley Communications on the console and the factory support.

Alma reminded the board of the Preliminary Budget that was handed out last month. There were no changes that was made at this time but the Assessment sheet had the usage corrected to include the sliding scale. There were other assessment options made including one with a higher base for each county/city member that would take into account of the difference in wages. Alma stated that she received the NIRMA insurance bill and it had dropped 20.58% from last year due to being outside of the experience period of losing the Ord tower in the ice storm. The board discussed the budget which was held over to next meeting.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff King reported on the License Plate readers that has been installed and information he has gathered off those. He also stated his disappointment that he did not feel anything had changed from the last Law Enforcement meeting when asking for dispatch to enter more information into JDS and also for the teletype information he was wanting to receive during traffic stops for Law Enforcement safety. This was discussed and would be checked into with dispatch. He did not feel some things were getting done that he had felt they had been promised.

Communications Center Report: Statistics breakdown for the previous month were passed out. They had 1642 Status Checks, 295 Paging, 256 Wants/Warrants/Registrations 212 Burn Permit, 136 Traffic Violations, 131 Minor Detail, 119 Messages, 94 Rescue Calls, 92 Assist citizen, 67 Gun Permit, 63 – 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 58 Assist Other Agencies, 32 Accidents, 31, motorist Assist, 23 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 22 Fire Calls, 19 Radio Test, 18 Livestock Complaint, 17 Paper Service, 14 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 14 Suspicious Person, 12 Siren, 11 Mutual Aid, 11 Suspicious Vehicle, 10 Reckless Driver, 9 animal Calls, 9 Direct Traffic/Funeral Escort, 8 Check Welfare, 8 Miscellaneous Tasks, 8 Suspicious Events, 7 Theft, 6 Civil Matters, 6 Utilities Complaint/Outage, 5 Alarms, 5 Arrests, 5 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 5 Transfer 911 Call, 5 Wheater, 4 Traffic Hazard, 3 Abandoned Vehicle, 3 Follow Up, 2 Child Abuse/Neglect, 2 Death Investigations, 2 Suicidal Threats/Attempts, 2 Uncontrollable Juvenile, 2 Vandalism and 7 various incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of March was 3512 including 233 - 911 calls and 1642 Administrative calls into Dispatch. Stats for month of April will be presented at next meeting. Alma reported that the new District Ranger, Tedd Teahon from the National Forest at Halsey brought Rangers with him to attend our Staff Meeting this month to meet face to face. We went over protocols for the Forest and Region 26 when there are fires, traffic incidents etc. in the forest or needing mutual aid on fires outside the forest.

Alma stated the Next Gen install is still on schedule for June 12th and would be involving GeoComm for mapping, Equature recording, Applied Connective on phone system, Platte Valley and NRIN for that day. We have been having our weekly conference calls up to install date for preparation.

Directors Report:

- a. Region 26 has been served by the Central Nebraska Medical Reserve Corps. Loup Basin Public Health has been working to develop a Loup Basin Medical Reserve Corps and pull out of the Central Nebraska Corps and put together with a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). This would be volunteers that would assist in a disaster or planned event. Alma reported that her and Stena along with Custer County and Howard County Emergency Managers have met with Loup Basin Emergency Response Coordinator to support the development of this organization for our counties. The Central Nebraska Corps gave approval this month to cede the counties from the CNMRC so that we can move forward on developing the Loup Basin MRC.
- b. Stena was gone for several days this month to Grand Island for the ICS 300 course.
- c. Alma did report on information requested by an Attorney on fires from last year that she will be checking into. Alma reminded the board of the NRCA car tour going through Sherman this weekend and the BRAN bicycle riders coming through Loup, Garfield, Valley, Wheeler and Greeley on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Other Business: The NRIN equipment on the tower in Custer County has not been covered yet and the board wanted this handled by Custer County and that a bill should be sent.

The Ansley tower needed to be considered for sale and for Alma to work on where to go with this.

The board asked that we start on paperwork for a 501c3 designation for Region 26.

Next regular meeting date will be June 25, 2024 at 7pm.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9:01 pm.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

ACRONYMS

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