

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL
April 24, 2018

Region 26 Council:

Present:		Absent:
Blaine Co:	Roger Guggenmos	
Garfield Co:	Diana Hurlburt	
Greeley Co:	Doug Wrede	
Loup Co:	Jack Ruppel	
Thomas Co:	Gary Eng	
Sherman Co:	Tom Bandur	
Valley Co:	Jack Van Slyke	
Wheeler Co:	Jack Poulsen, Vice-Chair	
Law Enforce:	Dave Weeks	
Range Co. Municipalities:		
	Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler	
	Doug Reiter	
Tri-Co Municipalities:		
	Valley, Greeley, Sherman	
	Jay Meyer, Chairman	

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director and Virginia Michalski/Co-Chief Dispatcher

Visitors Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chairman Meyer.

Roll Call was taken with eleven (11) 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.

Chairman Meyer introduced Diana Hurlburt as the alternate representative for Garfield County.

Motion by Gary Eng and seconded by Dave Weeks to approve the March 27, 2018 Minutes.
Ayes (11) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Jack Poulsen and seconded by Gary Eng to approve the March 2018 Financial Statement.
Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (1).

Communications Committee Report: A communications committee meeting was held prior to the regular board meeting due to the collapse of the Ord tower during the April 13th blizzard and ice storm. Alma had pictures of the tower that the board viewed. Jay Meyer reported on what was discussed in committee with Platte Valley Communications in regards to what it would take to build new tower back and that we would need to meet code with the new tower and stronger guy wires which will require a geotechnical survey on the soil to know what would be needed for concrete for tower and guy wires. Sue Krogman with NEMA conference called in to the committee meeting to discuss increasing height of tower for purpose of placing microwave dishes to help build out the NRIN project. By placing larger dishes and having the tower built to handle this would allow two less sites to be needed in the project. She stated that NEMA would have the funding to pay for half of this increase for the larger tower. The next step is to plan for bids on tower and we will decide from there what we could do.

Alma said that she and Jay would be meeting with Attorney Sikyta to go the land lease at the Ord site. At the same time we would go over the Interlocal Agreement to see the best way to include the City of Ord as a member. Alma then reported that committee discussed the new Emergency Call Works CAD system

that Region 26 is currently using and is checking into being able to utilize this for what the Ord Police Department is wanting us to use for their Sleuth System. Alma was going to do more research on what could be used so that dispatch would not be turning from workstations to type on Sleuth if our CAD system would do the work.

Page-My-Cell was discussed in Committee that most of the Fire Departments are using, and found that if it was brought to Region 26 to combine what the Fire and EMS has at each of their departments to come directly off the dispatch console would create a better sound and would by-pass the paging link. This would be a back up to their existing pagers.

After discussion on the report from the Communications Committee, Alma asked if it was okay for her to proceed with looking into having Page-My-Cell brought to Region 26 and how that might work and what the costs would be. Gary Eng made a motion to move forward with looking into the Page-My-Cell having a connection directly off the console. Dave Weeks seconded the motion.

Ayes (11) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma gave a report on the Friday the 13th storm on the recovery and disaster declarations. She stated that she had filled out disaster declarations for each county the next day after the storm to send to the Clerks for signatures. All of the counties did need them except for Thomas. Alma handed out a spreadsheet of costs from all the Power Companies in Region 26 with a total estimate of 1.6 million in losses. NEMA is going to ask for a Presidential Declaration but unsure how that will come out at this time. For Region 26 everything was back and running temporarily with the use of a portable tower that was brought in to the Ord site except for the NOAA Weather Radio. Alma had put a report out on the radio station regarding the situation and will try to keep everyone posted on updates. Platte Valley are in hope to get tower back up yet this year.

The garage for the pickup has not happened yet due to being turned down by the last contractor because of the concrete block in the building. Alma said she did get a storage unit rented to house vehicles for now. After discussion it was decided to put on hold and focus on the tower first.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Weeks had nothing to report.

Communications Center Report: Co-Chief Dispatcher, Virginia Michalski gave a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1,296 Status Checks, 309 Pager Test, 168 Alarm Test, 130 Traffic Stop, 103 Vehicle Inspection/Registration, 95 Burn Permit, 92 Misc. Officer Task, 85 Medical Call, 68 Wants/Warrants, 62 Citizen Call, 50 Gun Permits, 22 Reminder Page, 21 – 911 No Contact – Accidental, 18 Animal Out, 17 Reckless Driving-Speeding, 16 Alarm-Security, 16 Auto Accident, 16 Fire – Other, 16 Suspicious Vehicle/Person, 15 Fire-Grass, 13 – 911 Test, 12 Motorist Assist, 11 Radio Test, 10 Animal, 9 Disturbance-Domestic, 9 Siren Test, 9 Theft, 8 Disturbance/Noise Complaint, 8 Stolen Vehicle, 8 Unit Maintenance, 7 Utilities, 6 Weather, 5 Alarm-Fire, 5 Funeral Escort, 5 Suicidal, 5 Welfare Check, 4 Traffic Hazard, 4 Training, 3 – 911 Hang Up, 3 Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Violation, 3 Break & Enter, 3 Bus Check, 3 Fraud, 3 Mental Health, 3 Traffic Control, 18 Various Other Incidents. Total number contacts to the Communications Center for the month of March was 2,792.

Virginia reported on the Protection Order Training from the State Patrol that will be held here next Monday for Dispatch and Law Enforcement.

An ad will be coming out for dispatch to get us back up to full staff. One of the dispatchers will be out on medical leave.

Virginia reported on the storm challenges with getting departments changed to different towers and frequencies and using the Page-My-Cell to reach some of the counties.

Director's Report:

The North Central Region PET meeting was held here last Friday. DEQ had presentation on debris management plans and what needed updated. Our grant status was reviewed. NIMS compliance was brought to our attention by NEMA personnel that was present with suggestions of what we had to work on.

Alma reported on the Wildland Fire Council meeting that was held here on March 28th with Bryan Tuma and Major General Daryl Bohac from NEMA and the National Guard. We were informed the SEAT Plane would be based in Valentine beginning July 15th for this year's fire season.

The state tornado drill was held the same day with dispatch sending out watches and warning and sounding sirens in all the counties. NEMA came early to set in to watch how the tornado drill was worked in dispatch. We also done a CodeRED test call for the residents and businesses.

There were two grass fires this month that required air suppression and both times we used Arrow Aviation in Broken Bow to give aerial support. April 8th fire was near North Loup and on April 11th, two days before the blizzard we had fire west of Taylor and then one between Halsey and Dunning that we used Arrow Aviation for also.

The West District NACO meeting was on March 29th in North Platte that Alma attended with presentations from the Nebraska Pipeline and North Platte Weather.

Alma reported on the Region 26 Weather Symposium we held in Loup City on April 7th. There were numerous vendor booths, Hastings Weather Service and Channel 4 Forecaster. In the Region 26 booth we had included the Sherman/Valley LEPC, CodeRED and a kid's area that they could do a practice 911 call and learn about weather. Alma was pleased with the turn out from the public and fire department and hopes to continue to get it to grow each year.

From the Thomas/Blaine/Loup/Garfield LEPC the Burwell Department hosted a HazMat awareness level class on April 9th & 10th.

The Sherman/Valley LEPC was on April 10th with a tour of Zangger Popcorn plant at North Loup and meeting afterwards in their meeting room.

Alma reported on the Weather Supported Events planning that her office would be doing and the first event is the Memorial Day Weekend with a large tanking event on the Cedar River.

The Loup Valley Mutual Aid meeting was in Burwell the Monday following the storm and Alma was able to let the Firemen know the status of communications with the Ord tower being down.

Burwell hosted an Air Care Landing Zone class last night at the high school. Linda and Alma were both able to attend.

There will be a LEOP webinar next Monday that we will be doing the same day as the Protection Order Training. This is for a possible new software that NEMA is looking at to assist with updating LEOPs.

Theford will be having a full scale exercise this Saturday that will involve our Dispatch for Theford rescue to transport to North Platte Hospital and keeping communications with dispatch.

This month was the deadline for a wireless funding application to be sent to the Public Service Commission which was completed.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be May 29, 2018.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9:27 PM.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

Acronyms:

APCO – Association of Public Communications Officials

CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch

CC – Communications Center

CERT – Community Emergency Response Team

DR – Disaster Recovery

DOR – Department of Roads

E911 – Enhanced 911
ECW – Emergency Call Works (Mfg. of 911 Equipment at Region 26)
EM – Emergency Manager
EMD – Emergency Medical Dispatch
EMS – Emergency Medical Services
EMT – Emergency Medical Technician
EOC – Emergency Operations Center
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
GAN – Grant Adjustment Notice
ICS – Incident Command System
LE – Law Enforcement
LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee
LEDRS – Livestock Emergency Disease Response System
LEOP – Local Emergency Operations Plan
NA911 – Nebraska Association of 911 Managers
NACO – Nebraska Association of County Officials
NEMA – Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
NENA – National Emergency Number Association
NESCA – Nebraska Emergency Services Communicators Association
***NCR** – North Central Region*
NCTC – Nebraska Central Telephone Company
NIMS – National Incident Management System
NIRMA – Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association
NRIN – Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network
NX-Gen – Next Generation 911
PC – Police Chief
PD – Police Department
***PET** – Planning Exercise Training*
PSAP – Public Safety Answering Point (911 Communications Center)
PSC – Public Service Commission
PVC – Platte Valley Communications
SEAT – Single Engine Air Tanker
SO – Sheriff's Office
SRS – State Radio System
TEPW – Training Exercise Planning Workshop
THIRA – Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment

*** North Central PET Region Includes:** Keith, Arthur, Grant, Hooker, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Holt, Region 24 (Cherry, Keya Paha, Brown, Rock, Boyd) and Region 26 (Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Greeley, Valley and Sherman)