

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL
April 26, 2016

Region 26 Council:

Present:
Greeley Co: Doug Wrede
Loup Co: Jack Ruppel
Sherman Co: Tom Bandur
Thomas Co: Kevin Hood, Chairman
Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke
Wheeler Co: Jack Poulsen, Vice-Chair
Range Co. Municipalities:
Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler
Doug Reiter
Tri-Co Municipalities:
Valley, Greeley, Sherman
Jay Meyer

Absent:
Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos
Garfield Co: Paige Measner
Law Enforce: Dave Weeks

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director, Donna Steckel/Co-Chief Dispatcher

Visitors Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Hood.

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 Jack Poulsen and seconded by Doug Wrede to approve the March 29, 2016 Minutes.
Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Jay Meyer and seconded by Jack Van Slyke to approve the March 2016 Financial Statement.
Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma gave report on the Verizon tower at Ord. They had been requesting an address for their new site and still working at spotting the correct location of site. Alma referred to letter received from Loup County regarding the generator for the Court House. They were turning down the generator as there was going to be additional cost for them to cover. Discussion was held regarding where to place the generator that Region 26 was placing with grant funds. Alma would check with NEMA on what and where it could be changed to under their guidelines. Tom Bandur had requested that it be placed in Loup City for the Community Building that would be used as either a shelter or EOC for the City/County. He would also check into that possibility that it would work for them. Alma said there was limited time to submit the paper work for the location to the State.

Communications Committee Report was on the equipment vendor day that was held last week. Century Link and Emergency Call Works gave presentations to the Committee and the Custer County Committee for us to see what their systems were capable of doing. The connection between Region 26 and Custer was discussed as well as with other counties included in. The possibility of using an existing microwave link for connection through Custer Public Power was discussed as an option. Alma said that the third company she was looking at was Solacom and they have rescheduled Tuesday, May 10th. Century Link was unable to do a live 911 call demonstration that day. Alma will check to see if they can do one on May 10th also.

Alma handed out a preliminary budget for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017. Discussion was held on the budget line items and was determined that the statistics were off and needed to be reviewed before next meeting. Also, Alma had come up with an estimate for the City of Ord for handling their radio traffic full time. All would be reviewed again next month.

Criminal Justice Board Report: No Report

Communications Center Report: Alyssa Goos had taken another job in Broken Bow wanting more flexible hours and had given her two week notice. The antenna that was bad at the Greeley Tower site is going to be replaced this week with weather permitting. The paging that was creating noise back onto the radio frequencies was being worked on by Platte Valley. Alma stated that this past week was National Dispatcher week and she had put an article on dispatching in the local newspapers with pictures of our dispatch. However, not all papers published the article.

Director's Report:

Alma reported that they had received word from NEMA that they were shipping antennas and dishes out for the NRIN project and needed a storage facility to house the equipment until installed on the towers in the North Central Region. She had not yet found a building. Jack Poulsen said he had a building in Ericson that could be used.

NEMA had said there was an error made on the Homeland Security grant amount that we have been working on and submitting our grant work plans for. We will have another work date to attend and review all the work plans and cut out things for each of the regions in Nebraska to fit the grant amount.

Alma reported on the NAEM/ Emergency Management conference she attended in Columbus earlier this month.

The Sherman-Valley LEPC toured the Ethanol Plant at Ord this month and held their quarterly meeting at the plant.

Alma had set up a booth at the Health Fair in Burwell earlier this month and was able to focus on having people sign up for the Code Red emergency alert system.

The Loup County LEOP manual update is almost complete and ready for submission.

Alma reported that the Wildland Fire Council from across the state held a meeting here at Region 26 at the end of March. Bryan Tuma from NEMA led the meeting.

Alma and Linda participated in the pandemic flu exercise held at the Valley County Hospital this morning. A number of the hospitals in central and southern Nebraska participated and was connected together in the exercise by phone.

The Public Service Commission had sent a request today asking for us to host an E-911 Wireless Advisory Board meeting here at Region 26 in July. Alma told them we would.

Alma reported on another earthquake that happened on April 11th north of Thedford.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be May 31, 2016.

Chairman Hood adjourned the meeting at 9:13 PM.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator