

## MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

August 25, 2020

Region 26 Council:

Present:	Absent:
Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos	Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz
Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt	Loup Co: Jack Ruppel
Thomas Co: Gary Eng	Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair
Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke	Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny
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/Dispatch Supervisor & Office Manager

Visitors Present: None

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

Roll Call was taken with seven (7) 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 Myer asked for approval of the Agenda. Diana Hurlburt asked that Agenda Item 8c be changed to read Garfield County Fair Association Safety Meeting in place of Burwell Rodeo Safety Meeting. All members approved.

Motion by Dave Weeks and seconded by Diana Hurlburt to approve the July 28, 2020 Minutes.  
Ayes (5) Nays (0) Abstain (2).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Gary Eng to approve the July 2020 Financial Statement.  
Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma gave the COVID-19 update with showing the numbers we have in each district currently. The risk dial that they are using and the explanation for that. Alma did report on the hack that had happen to SBA for those to let others know in their community that has used SBA to be cautious if anyone calls for personal information. There was discussion on the spikes of positive cases in the counties. Alma reported on the Thomas County Board meeting she attended with West Central Health and the issues of having them in a separate Health District from the rest of our counties and what they are dealing with having a school split into both districts.

On the bid for the Financial Audit there were two bids received in. One from Contryman, our current auditor with \$5600 and also from Severson, Lammers & Abel for \$4500. After discussion, Gary Eng made a motion to accept the bid from Severson, Lammers & Abel with a second from Doug Reiter.  
Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

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

Communications Center Report: Dispatcher Supervisor, Virginia Michalski, gave a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 1840 Status Checks, 292, Paging, 232 Alarms, 212 Traffic Violation, 209 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 164 Weather, 144 – 911 Accidental /Disconnect, 137 Messages, 134 Minor Detail, 98 Rescue Calls, 52 Citizen Assist, 51 Miscellaneous Tasks, 50 Animal Calls, 41 Gun Permit, 32 Assist Other Agencies, 29 Fire Calls, 27 Reckless Driver, 26 Accidents, 25 Standby for Events, 23 Burn Permit, 20 Motorist Assist, 19 Disturbance/ Harassment/ Assault, 15 Suspicious Events, 13 Suspicious Person, 12 Welfare Check, 10 Driving Under the Influence, 9 Burglary, 7 Direct Traffic, 7 Theft, 6 Paper Service, 6 Traffic Hazard, 5 Death/Death Investigation, 5 Radio Test, 5 Siren, 5 Trespassing, 4 Fireworks Complaint, 3 Abandoned Vehicle, 3 Criminal Mischief, 3 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 3 Missing Person, 3 Prisoner Transport, 2 Damage to Property, 2 Gas Drive Off, 2 Irrigation on Roadway and 12 various incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of July was 3999 including 387 – 911 Calls. Virginia reported on the teletype work that we will be doing for Brown and Rock counties since the State Patrol dropped the service for them. We will charge them annually and review in one year to see if more is needed. There has been additional work in dispatch due to grants that Law Enforcement received to do the Click It or Ticket campaign. There have been several interviews done recently with no decisions made. They are working on one in training currently and will be ready to start another soon. Some of the issues that we have found on hiring dispatchers is the lack of housing in the area. Discussion was held in that regards to formulate ideas to help the housing situation.

Director's Report:

- a. The building electrical issues were checked out by Longhorn Electric. Have found the kitchen area needed a breaker with more amp and could install that and pull the wires when we wanted. Found no problem with outside outlet. The Power Outages we had been having were all explained by Custer Public Power and were further away than Taylor. The issues of Workstation equipment going down was corrected by Platte Valley on something that needed rerouted.
- b. Alma met a NIRMA inspector in Litchfield this morning to inspect equipment there for insurance policy.
- c. Alma and Linda attended the Garfield County Fair Association Safety meeting this month to help with developing a Safety Plan.
- d. Thomas County Commissioner Meeting with Health Department
- e. NRIN update – Alma reported on receiving equipment list of what went on our towers to turn in to insurance. The board has found an Administrative Coordinator that we can use our grant funds to hire and also working on finding new location for equipment north of Thedford to stop the large tower lease expense.
- f. The Department of Education contacted Alma to set up meeting dates to do work/training with schools on Emergency Plans in collaboration with Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS and Emergency Managers.
- g. Alma had worked with CPPD on an antenna they were installing on our Sargent tower and that they would be willing to go on up to top of tower to see if they can try to seal the housing around the beacon. Alma had checked with Platte Valley to see if they thought it would help and was good to go.  
Alma brought up the Davis Creek area on the lack of communications back to dispatch there and working with Platte Valley they had come up with a way to possibly patch them in up here that would cost approximately \$4000. Discussion was held and was determined to investigate a couple of other options that might work that would be more permanent and not just a patch job. Those options can be brought back to the next board meeting.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be September 29, 2020.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9:18 PM.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

**Acronyms:**

APCO – Association of Public Communications Officials  
CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch  
CC – Communications Center  
CERT – Community Emergency Response Team  
COVID-19 – Coronavirus Disease 2019  
C.R.I.M.E.S. – Calls & Records Information Management Software (part of Justice Data Solutions)  
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  
EMPG – Emergency Management Performance Grant  
EMS – Emergency Medical Services  
EMT – Emergency Medical Technician  
EOC – Emergency Operations Center  
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency  
FY – Fiscal Year  
GAN – Grant Adjustment Notice  
HSGP – Homeland Security Grant Program  
ICS – Incident Command System  
J.A.M.I.N. – Jail Administration Management Information Network (Part of Justice Data Solutions)  
JDS – Justice Data Solutions (Law Enforcement Records Management & CAD software system)  
LE – Law Enforcement  
LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee  
LEDRS – Livestock Emergency Disease Response System  
LEOP – Local Emergency Operations Plan  
MACH – Mobile Architecture for Communications Handling  
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\*  
PPE – Personal Protective Equipment  
PMC – Page My Cell  
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)