

**MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL**  
September 30, 2014

Region 26 Council:

Present:	Absent:
Garfield Co: Paige Measner	Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos
Loup Co: Jack Ruppel	Greeley Co: Doug Wrede
Thomas Co: Kevin Hood, Chairman	Sherman Co: Vonnie Dzingle
Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke	Range Co. Municipalities:
Wheeler Co: Jack Poulsen, Vice-Chair	Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler
Law Enforce: Dave Weeks	Doug Reiter
Tri-Co Municipalities:	
Valley, Greeley, Sherman	
Richard Anderson	

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director

Visitors Present: Tom Powell – Mid-Alliance Insurance

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

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.

Motion by Jack Poulsen and seconded by Paige Measner to approve the August 26, 2014 Meeting Minutes. Ayes (4) Nays (0) Abstain (2).

Motion by Jack Van Slyke and seconded by Dave Weeks to approve the August 2014 Financial Statement. Ayes (6) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Tom Powell – Mid-Alliance Insurance reviewed our existing insurance policy that renews in February and the Errors and Omissions renewing on October 15<sup>th</sup>. He presented quotes from three different Insurance Companies for a better premium than we currently have. After discussion on our current commercial policies, additional coverages were discussed and to increase the replacement cost of the building. Jack Poulsen made a motion to accept the quote for Continental Insurance and Scottsdale Indemnity for commercial insurance and errors and omissions. The commercial policy would include an increase for the building to \$674,000.00 and to add in Employment Practices coverage and Hired Vehicle Physical Damage that were not in the original quote. Paige Measner seconded the motion. Ayes (5) Nays (0) Abstain (1).

Alma presented the bids received for a financial audit. Bids were received from Dana Cole & Associates and Contryman Associates. After review and discussion, Paige Measner made a motion to accept the Contryman bid with the second option of a three year commitment of \$4,100 the first year and \$2,500 for a single audit. Dave Weeks seconded the motion. Ayes (6) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

The tower at Greeley had the tower lights repaired and now the Ord tower lights are out. Alma explained the lighting control is bad and is an original control. The replacement would include an alarm that would be sent to us when the top beacon burns out, costing \$1820 plus labor. The other option was for alarm to include the side lights with an additional cost. After discussion the board agreed to go ahead and have replaced with first option since any updates with Verizon would be too long to wait.

There were damages done to the antenna for the Ord frequency that was possibly caused by hail and part of the antenna was completely broken off. A temporary antenna has been installed waiting for a heavier duty replacement to come in.

Our consultant that we have working on the Verizon agreement reported today that he is still waiting for Verizon to come back with a contract rough draft for us to review.

Alma reported on a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that we need to sign for the East Central PET Region to allow microwave dishes on the Greeley Tower for the NRIN project (Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network). These microwaves will allow us to connect to Albion and St. Paul and for Region 26 to be on the network once the project is complete.

Central Valley Schools in Greeley had contacted Alma to install an antenna on the Greeley Tower for monitoring their school buses. She stated that the equipment has been approved by Platte Valley Communications in Kearney and height needed was determined at 180'. Alma said that she has been in contact with the school and gave a cost for the space on the tower which had been accepted. Platte Valley of Grand Island would be doing the install. Alma will work on a contract for them.

#### Criminal Justice Board Report:

Sheriff Dave Weeks had nothing to report.

#### Communications Center Report:

Alma handed out a breakdown of the statistics for the previous month. They had 10 Generator, 61 NAWAS, 26 Siren, 217 alarm, 26 Office, 679 Pages, 2511 Radio, 2021 Phone, 367 – 911 Calls, 112 Administrative, 895 Ambulance, 8 Bus, 412 Public, 74 Department of Roads, 325 Fire, 7 Guest, 19 Hospital, 3195 Law Enforcement, 644 Tests, 227 Weather. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of August was 11,836.

Alma reported that Lindsey Anderson had turned in a two week notice to terminate employment due to taking another job in her home town. Ads had been placed in the Burwell and Ord newspapers for a job opening.

Virginia and Libby attended training classes last week in Kearney at the NESCA Conference. (Nebraska Emergency Service Communication Association) Virginia received her 25 year pin for Emergency Communications.

#### Director's Report:

Alma reported that Larry Pelan with NIRMA came yesterday to do a walk through for the possibility of membership.

The EMPG grant on the extra funds Alma received was running out today. She was able to use some of the funds for extra chairs, file cabinet, white board, vacuum in addition to the computer and copier.

Alma had attended the Central District NACO meeting in Grand Island on the 18<sup>th</sup> and reported on information she had received from the Emergency Managers that assisted with the Beaver Crossing and Pilger tornadoes. The concern for communications to the citizens once power and phone systems were down and dealing with the financial donations were huge issues in both communities that was stressed to the group to have plans before an event. Also, dealing with the citizens that were evacuated and then trying to let them back into town the following days with no identification created more issues.

The Bureau of Reclamation and the Garfield County Sheriff met at Alma's office for an orientation on the Virginia Smith Dam and done an After Action Report on the explosive devise at the Calamus this summer.

Alma reminded the board that this was the year for the Municipal representative election. Alma's office would be sending out nomination notices to the town and village Boards in Region 26 for their next meetings.

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be October 28, 2014. Alma stated that she would be at APCO/NENA Conference during the next meeting and since no other date could be determined by the board, one of the staff members will conduct meeting.

Chairman Hood adjourned the meeting at 9:56 PM.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator