

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL
November 29, 2016

Region 26 Council:

Present:

Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos
Garfield Co: Paige Measner
Greeley Co: Doug Wrede
Loup Co: Jack Ruppel
Thomas Co: Kevin Hood, Chairman
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

Absent:

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

Visitors Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman Hood.

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.

Motion by Paige Measner and seconded by Roger Guggenmos to approve the November 3, 2016 Minutes. Ayes (7) Nays (0) Abstain (3).

Motion by Jack Poulsen and seconded by Jay Meyer to approve the October 2016 Financial Statement. Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Kevin Hood gave a report on the findings of the Communication Committee meeting that was held prior to the Board Meeting. The consultant on the 911 Equipment had done a comparison sheet that was sent out for the Committee to look at. There were large differences of costs between the three 911 equipment vendors that we are looking at. The timing was such that the Advisory Board meeting to the Public Service Commission will be here on December 5th and we needed to be able to submit our requests for funding, but not sure which company we will be selecting and ask that they approve each of the companies and that when we make our selection we will be approved with any of them so that in case of equipment failures we do not have to wait for the next Advisory Board Meeting for approval.

Alma presented the annual renewal of the Simple IRA for the employees and asked that the current match for the company would remain at the maximum allowable at 3%. Jack Poulsen made a motion to retain the 3% match for the employee Simple IRA. Doug Reiter seconded the motion. Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma asked that the board approve a Christmas Bonus for the employees. Jay Meyer made a motion to approve a Christmas bonus of \$125 for full time employees and \$75 for part time. Doug Reiter seconded the motion. Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

The question was brought up from Custer County asking if they ran into problems on dispatching and needed help, would Region 26 be able to support them for several months if needed. Alma had told them she would bring it to the board for discussion. It was also discussed in the Communications Committee meeting. There was discussion on what it would take for a complete backup for the whole County. Doug Reiter made a motion that there would need to be more discussion with Custer County as to the level of backup that would be needed so that it would not cause extra stress and burnout to our staff, and due to that reason, we would not be interested in doing for a few months but would consider negotiations on a more permanent basis. Paige Measner seconded the motion.

Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

The board did say that if there was a catastrophic loss or down time, we would do everything in our powers to assist in their needs.

Criminal Justice Board Report: Sheriff Weeks had no report.

Communications Center Report: Co-Chief Virginia Michalski said last month's stats were already presented at the last meeting. There was a phone line down and monitors that were not working in dispatch. Platte Valley was here today working on equipment. They felt part of the issues were from aging equipment that was causing problems.

Director's Report:

The North Central PET (Planning Exercise Training) Region meeting was held here last week.

Mark Rempe was voted in as the North Central representative to the NPSCC (Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council). Alma was voted in as an alternate to the committee. It was suggested by Janell Walther from the Public Policy Center that both appointees attend the meetings which are held in Lincoln.

The insurance for the NRIN (Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network) equipment was discussed with Sue Krogman/NEMA at the meeting. Sue asked that we identify any additional towers in the region that are unknown to her for possible build out of the NRIN system.

The IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert Warning System) was presented with the requirements from FEMA.

Alma gave information how CodeRED was used in Thomas and Blaine Counties this month to alert the public.

This month's LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) was for Thomas, Blaine, Loup and Garfield with exercises being planned in Loup County in February and Garfield County in March. The North Platte weather service gave a presentation at the LEPC on what their services would include this year.

Alma gave a report on the EMPG (Emergency Management Performance Grant) award that she received this week. This was left over funds from the State that Alma had applied for on our operating budget and was granted the full 50% match totaling \$42,492.84. The approval came through yesterday and funds would be received by December.

Alma asked on possibility of looking at another vehicle with our vehicle budget and also using some of that money to convert the old building into a garage for off street parking. The board suggested looking into that and also looking at vehicles at State Surplus in the spring. Alma also asked about the problems with not being able to get the water shut off in the other building due to no external shutoff. The board suggested calling someone to dig in somewhere and install an external shutoff.

Alma said that they held a Holiday Open House to get more people in the Region to come tour our facility. The number of people that came for their first time made it worthwhile.

Doug Wrede asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss employment. A motion was made by Doug Wrede and seconded by Tom Bandur to go into executive session. Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstained (0). Executive session entered at 8:54 PM.

Public session was reconvened at 8:57 PM.

Findings: Motion was made and seconded by Paige Measner to give Alma Beland an added bonus for all the work done. Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstained (0).

Other Business: None

Next regular meeting date will be January 31, 2017.

Chairman Hood adjourned the meeting at 8:59 PM.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator