

MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL

June 25, 2024

Region 26 Council:

Present:

Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos
Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt
Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz
Loup Co: Dave Larson
Thomas Co: Joseph Smith
Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair
Valley Co: Jack Van Slyke
Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny
Range Co. Municipalities:

Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler
Wade Neben

Tri-Co Municipalities:

Valley, Greeley, Sherman
Jay Meyer, Chairman

Absent:

Law Enforce: Dale King

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director, Virginia Michalski/Office Manager & Stena Seamann/Deputy EM,

Visitors Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Chairman Meyer.

Roll Call was taken with ten (10) 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 Wade Neben and seconded by Joseph Smith to approve the agenda.

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

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Joseph Smith to approve the May 28, 2024 Minutes.

Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (2).

Motion by Jack Van Slyke and seconded by Dave Larson to approve the May 2024 Financial Statement.

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

Towers & Equipment Report:

- a. The Next Gen 911 equipment cutover happened on June 12th with Motorola, Emergency Call Works, Platte Valley Communications and Applied Connective here to assist for a smooth transition. The 911 lines were rolled to Custer County during the transition. Virginia did all the continued call testing throughout the day. There was continued tweaking through the next week to iron out a few configuration issues.
- b. The radio and paging backup console was discussed with the cost and line charges.
- c. The agreement with Stealth Broadband for space on the Greeley tower was brought to the board. More information will be brought back to the board.
- d. Alma had a bid for security cameras from Platte Valley Communications/GI that she

compared to the last bid we had from Applied Connective. There were grant funds to cover the cost of the cameras and install along with replacing the EOC flat screen that is no longer working. Tom Bandur made a motion to proceed with the bid from Platte Valley Communications. Joseph Smith seconded the motion.

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

- e. Alma explained the phone bills that have been reviewed and more will be cancelling now that we have connected to the next gen equipment.

Alma presented a bid for \$2,090.90 she received from Applied Connective to replace the desktop computer in admin office as it has been starting to fail which is the main bookkeeping and payroll computer. Jay Meyer asked about getting small battery backups for computers in office that would protect them from power outages. Wade Neben made a motion to purchase the computer with a second from Dave Larson. Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Alma presented the budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. She pointed out the changes to the budget from the preliminary budget has finals for expenses to finish out the 2024 fiscal year which included the invoice from NIRMA for insurance that had a large deduction. Alma was informed that the EMPG grant would have a large decrease this year and was calculated into the presented budget. Alma did remind the board the increase to budget did take into account that budget was already set last year when they moved to do a wage increase after the budget had passed and also calculating wages for the new year. Two assessments were presented that was using the same formula and one with a formula with an increased base amount to include the increase wages. Tom Bandur made a motion to accept the Budget with the higher base amount in the assessment. Ayes (9) Nays (1) Abstain (0).

Criminal Justice Board Report: No report

Communications Center Report: Statistics breakdown for the previous two months were passed out. For April they had 1693 Status Checks, 348 Pages, 275 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 146 Burn Permits, 143 Messages, 112 Minor Detail, 87 Traffic Violations, 77 Rescue Calls, 76 Assist Citizen, 73 Gun Permit, 71 – 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 49 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 46 Mutual Aid, 42 Assist Other Agencies, 35 Livestock Complaint, 26 Fire Calls, 24 Weather, 23 Accidents, 19 Paper Service 18 Animal Calls, 18 Reckless Driver, 14 Disturbance/harassment/Assault, 14 Siren, 13 Check Welfare, 12 Alarms, 11 Suspicious Vehicle, 9 Radio Test, 8 Suspicious Events, 8 Suspicious Person, 8 Transfer 911 Call, 7 Theft, 6 Prisoner Transport, 5 Abandoned Vehicle, 4 Follow Up, 4 Motorist Assist, 3 Arrests, 3 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 3 Miscellaneous Tasks, 3 Traffic Hazard, 3 Uncontrollable Juvenile, 2 Adult/Child Abuse/Neglect, 2 Death Investigation, 2 Property Lost/recovered/Dispute, 2 Suicidal Threats/Attempts, 2 Terroristic Threats, 2 Trespassing and 9 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of April was 3560 including 245 - 911 calls and 1531 Administrative calls into Dispatch only.

For May they had 1661 Status Checks, 338 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 315 Pages, 155 Traffic Violations, 119 Messages, 116 Minor Detail, 90 - 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 89 Rescue Calls, 86 Assist Citizen, 77 Burn Permits, 51 Assist Other Agencies, 48 Livestock Complaint, 45 Gun Permits, 32 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 29 Animal Calls, 25 Accidents, 23 paper Service, 19 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 14 Alarms, 13 Vandalism, 12 Motorist Assist, 12 Siren, 11 Reckless Driver, 11 Transfer 911 Call, 11 Weather, 10 Miscellaneous Tasks, 10 Suspicious Events, 9 Suspicious Vehicle, 9 Traffic Hazard, 8 Suspicious Person, 7 Fire Calls, 7 Follow Up, 7 Prisoner Transport, 6 Theft, 6 Utilities Complaint/Outage, 5 Direct Traffic /Funeral Escort, 5 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 4 Arrests, 4 Check Welfare, 4 Property Lost/Recovered/Dispute, 4 Radio Test, 4 Trespassing, 3 Check Area, 3 Civil Matters, 3 Gas Drive Off, 3 Missing Person/Juvenile, 3 Parole/Probation/Protection Order/Violation, 2 Abandoned Vehicle, 2 Gas

Leak, 8 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of May was 3538 including 238 – 911 calls and 1435 Administrative calls into Dispatch only.

Alma reported that the new hire did not make it through the probation period and they would be advertising for dispatch.

Director's Report:

- Disaster Declarations for Greeley & Sherman counties came through for the Arbor Day tornados that done damages in both counties. The applicant briefings were on the June 7th which was same day as another storm that done damages in all our counties except Wheeler. After doing storm assessments it was determined that Greeley sustained the most damages requiring a signed declaration due to \$250,000 in damages that Loup Valley Public Power turned in. Today NEMA informed us there was no other damages turned in from any other counties in the State for the June 7th storm that would cause them to submit a state Disaster Declaration. Alma reminded the board that the state threshold is 3.69 million for a Disaster Declaration. If there is a 72-hour period between storm damages then it starts a new time period for assessing damages for assistance.
- Stena finish the 300/400 ICS training with the 400 class in Grand Island last week.
- Alma and Stena attended the Lou-Platte Mutual Aid in Rockville last week working on updating Mutual Aid Agreements and creating a Task Force.
- There will be a meeting this week with Riverside School to review a program for school lockdown and what it would look like for Region 26 to receive information into dispatch.

Election of Board Officers for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

Diana Hurlburt made a motion with a second from Dave Larson to keep the board officers the same which is Jay Meyer as Chairman, Tom Bandur as Vice-Chairman and Alma as Secretary.

Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (2).

Chairman Jay Meyer asked to go into executive session on personnel matters. Jack Van Slyke made a motion and a second from Joseph Smith to enter into executive session.

Executive session entered at 8:28 pm.

Dave Larson made a motion and a second from Jordan Foltz to return to regular session.

Ayes (10) Nays (0) Abstain (0). Regular session entered at 9:43 pm.

Findings: Tom Bandur made a motion with a second from Joseph Smith for wage increases for the employees to begin July 1st. Discussion as to offering the Dispatch Supervisor position to Stena if a motion needed to be made and determined it can be made in house and will be discussed at other meetings.

Other Business: Diana Hurlburt reported on what she had found out on grants. She was looking at USDA grants to see if there was anything for rebuilding the old dispatch into a garage. The USDA grant would only pay 15% and have no money in their funds currently. However, there is a Senator Deb Fischer's Appropriations grant that she found through NACO. The time frame for the grant is in April and May and would pay 80%. Diana has applied for a roads project and did say it would take a year to receive the money if funded. Diana did say it was a simple application to fill out. She had found out this was what Gage County had used for console equipment. Representative Adrian Smith also has a grant that she did not have time to look at it since it was only up for three days but would be another one to watch for.

Next regular meeting date will be July 30th at 7:00 pm.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 9:53 pm.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

ACRONYMS

APCO – Assoc. of Public Communications Officials	LE – Law Enforcement
CAD – Computer Aided Dispatch	LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee
CC – Communications Center	LEDRRS – Livestock Emergency Disease Rapid Response System
CERT – Community Emergency Response Team	LEOP – Local Emergency Operations Plan
CNMRC – Central Nebraska Medical Reserve Corp	MACH – Mobile Architecture for Communications Handling
COADs – Community Organizations Active in Disasters	NA911 – Nebraska Association of 911 Managers
COOP – Continuity of Operations Planning	NACO – Nebraska Association of County Officials
COVID-19 – Coronavirus Disease 2019	NAEM – Nebr. Association of Emergency Managers
C.R.I.M.E.S. – Calls & Records Information Management Software (part of Justice Data Solutions)	NEMA – Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
DEE – Depart. of Environmental & Energy (State)	NENA – National Emergency Number Association
DHHS – Department of Health & Human Services (State)	NESCA – NE Emergency Services Communicators Association
DHS – Department of Homeland Security	*NCR – North Central Region*
DR – Disaster Recovery	NCTC – Nebraska Central Telephone Company
DOR – Department of Roads	NIMS – National Incident Management System
E911 – Enhanced 911	NIRMA – NE Intergovernmental Risk Management Association
EAS – Emergency Alert System (FEMA)	NRIN – Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network
ECW – Emergency Call Works (Mfg. of 911 Equipment at Region 26)	NX-Gen – Next Generation 911
EM – Emergency Manager	PC – Police Chief
EMD – Emergency Medical Dispatch	PD – Police Department
EMPG – Emergency Management Performance Grant	*PET – Planning Exercise Training*
EMS – Emergency Medical Services	POD – Points of Dispensing (Immunization)
EMT – Emergency Medical Technician	PPE – Personal Protective Equipment
EOC – Emergency Operations Center	PMC – Page My Cell
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency (Federal)	PSAP – Public Safety Answering Point (911 Centers)
ERG – Emergency Response Guide (Orange Book – Hazardous Materials)	PSC – Public Service Commission
FAA – Federal Aviation Administration (Report tower light outages)	PVC – Platte Valley Communications
FADD – Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician	RFP – Request for Proposal
FCC – Federal Communications Commission (for Radio Frequency Licenses)	SEAT – Single Engine Air Tanker
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency	SEOC – State Emergency Operation Center
FMD – Foot and Mouth Disease (Livestock)	SHSP – State Homeland Security Program
FY – Fiscal Year	SO – Sheriff’s Office
GAN – Grant Adjustment Notice (aka Grant Award)	SRS – State Radio System
GIS – Geographic Information System	THIRA – Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
GPS – Global Positioning System	UPS – Universal Power Supply (workstation backup power supply until generator starts)
HAZMAT – Hazardous Materials	VFD – Volunteer Fire Department
HHS – Health and Human Services (Federal)	VOAD – Volunteer Organization Aiding Disasters
HSGP – Homeland Security Grant Program	VOIP – Voice over Internet Protocol
ICS – Incident Command System	V-TAC – Mutual Aid VHF Frequency Channels
IPAWS – Integrated Public Alert Warning System	WEA – Wireless Emergency Alert
IPPW – Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop	WCDHD – West Central District Health Department (covers Thomas County)
J.A.M.I.N. – Jail Administration Management Information Network (Part of Justice Data Solutions)	W.H.O. – World Health Organization
JDS – Justice Data Solutions (Law Enforcement Records Management & CAD software system)	WPC – Weather Prediction Center – Norman, OK
LBF – Lee Bird Field – North Platte (Airport) Weather Service Location	WIRAT – Wildland Incident Response Assistance Team (State Fire Marshalls)
LBPHD – Loup Basin Public Health Department (covers Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Greeley, Valley, Sherman)	WMD – Weapons of Mass Destruction

* North Central PET Region Includes:

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