

**MINUTES of the REGION 26 COUNCIL**

July 30, 2024

Region 26 Council:

Present:

Garfield Co: Diana Hurlburt  
Greeley Co: Jordan Foltz  
Loup Co: Dave Larson  
Sherman Co: Tom Bandur, Vice-Chair  
Valley Co: Theresa Petska (alternate)  
Wheeler Co: Doug Pokorny

Range Co. Municipalities:

Thomas, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler  
Wade Neben

Tri-Co Municipalities:

Valley, Greeley, Sherman  
Jay Meyer, Chairman

Absent:

Blaine Co: Roger Guggenmos  
Thomas Co: Joseph Smith  
Law Enforce: Dale King

Staff Present: Alma Beland/Director, Virginia Michalski/Office Manager & Stena Seamann/Deputy EM & Interim 911 Supervisor

Visitors Present: Greeley County Sheriff/Paul Deaver

Before the meeting began, Alma reported the sad news that Board Member, Roger Guggenmos had passed that afternoon.

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

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 Wade Neben and seconded by Jordan Foltz to approve the agenda.  
Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Diana Hurlburt and seconded by Doug Pokorny to approve the June 25, 2024 Minutes.  
Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Motion by Tom Bandur and seconded by Dave Larson to approve the June 2024 Financial Statement.  
Ayes (8) Nays (0) Abstain (0).

Towers & Equipment Report: Alma reported on the follow up on the install of Nex Gen 911 equipment. There has been tweaking of the Motorola system but for the most part all has gone well. There have been some changes to get accustomed to on how the flow of information will work and how following up on how some 911 calls have been delivered and if working as it should. The "Text to 911" capability has been ready to go for some time and waiting for all cellular companies involved to do their necessary testing before it will be implemented for us. The project involved a number of central Nebraska and east central 911 centers to be rolled over to the new equipment simultaneously to share calls when overloaded.

Stena addressed the agreement for Stealth Broadband on the Greeley Tower site. Stealth Broadband had agreed to security cameras and internet connection for the current landowner.

Alma reported on the alarm panels that are being purchased for the Sargent and Ord tower sites and that Platte Valley of Grand Island is now scheduling the install of equipment.

Alma reported on the Page My Cell issues that have been happening and delay which is problems of cell companies, namely Verizon. There is no issue with Page My Cell if the Fire Departments will use the PMC app for their phones and not wait for the text that comes from the cell companies which Page My Cell has no control over.

Criminal Justice Board Report: No report available. Alma stated their quarterly Law Enforcement meeting at Region 26 will be this Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Communications Center Report: Statistics breakdown for the previous month were passed out. They had 1556 Status Checks, 305 Pages, 300 Wants/Warrants/Registrations, 117 Traffic Violations, 116 Minor Detail, 113 Messages, 103 Messages, 95 - 911 Accidental/Disconnect, 77 Assist Citizen, 62 Weather, 59 assist Other Agencies, 49 Livestock Complaint, 41 Burn Permit, 35 gun Permit, 29 Standby for Events/Fire/Training, 27 Reckless Driver, 25 Disturbance/Harassment/Assault, 23 Paper Service, 22 Accidents, 20 Fire Calls, 16 Animal Calls, 13 Motorist Assist, 13 Siren, 12 Alarms, 10 Check Welfare, 10 Keys Locked in Vehicle, 10 Suspicious Events, 10 Traffic Hazard, 10 Transfer 911 Calls, 9 Miscellaneous Tasks, 9 Radio Test, 9 Suspicious Person, 9 Suspicious Vehicle, 8 Theft, 7 Arrest, 5 Civil Matters, 4 Property Damage, 3 Death Investigation, 3 Direct Traffic/Funeral/Escort, 3 Follow Up, 3 Liquor Violations, 3 Mutual Aid, 3 Prisoner Transport, 3 Utilities Complaints/Outage, 3 Criminal Mischief/ Prowler/Vandalism, 2 Abandoned Vehicle, 2 Burglary, 2 Check Area/Building, 2 Fireworks Complaint, 2 Gas Leak, 2 Suicidal Threats/Attempts, 2 Trespassing and 11 various other incidents. Total number of contacts to the Communications Center for the month of June was 3387 including 268 - 911 Calls and 1022 Administrative calls into Dispatch center only – not including Emergency Management office.

Stena Seamann gave a report for dispatch. Due to a change in employment the schedule was reworked to accommodate the loss of a staff member. Interviews have taken place and we are hopeful to hire new staff soon. Stena gave a report on her work in dispatch to help with scheduling, training and staff morale moving forward. She had a list of requests that she would like to see implemented, also she gave some next steps along with staff recognition.

Stena presented a job description for the dispatch supervisor position that the board had asked her to look in to. Chairmen Meyer asked to have this on the next agenda as an action item and for all board members to review it.

#### Director's Report:

- Financial audit is scheduled for next month.
- Report of Loup Valley Mutual Aid and Sandhills Mutual Aid meetings attended
- Jay Meyer was selected by the North Central PET Board as their second representative on the NRIN Board.
- Some of florescent tubes were needing replaced in the building that were ballast problems. Longhorn Electric was coming to replace some of the bulbs with new LED lighting and then rewiring past the ballast. They also were going to look at a couple of the breakers that were consistently switching off in electrical panel.

Other Business: Alma asked to discuss radio situation in Sherman County and other areas in need of improvement. Alma stated that the radio transmission has not been that clear and need to know if there is something we can do better to help the situation for good communication and to reach Ashton and Rockville better. The radio console was discussed and weak areas. There is the need to improve on our system to make clearer radio communications for dispatch and departments.

Next regular meeting date will be August 27, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm.

Alma Beland, Director/Coordinator

## ACRONYMS

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