

Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC)

February 10, 2021, 1:00 p.m. (CST)

Business Meeting – Webinar

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Attendance
VOTING MEMBERS			
Mike	Foley	Lt. Governor	✓
Sue	Krogman	SWIC	✓
Bill	Muldoon	Tri-County PET Region	✓
Joel	Smith	Southwest PET Region	NO
Steve	Cody	Otoe County EMA	✓
Lynn	Rex	League of Municipalities	NO
Kevin	Garvin	Northeast PET Region	✓
Heidi	Gillespie	Panhandle PET Region	✓
Tim	Hofbauer	East Central PET Region	✓
Adam	Matzner	State Fire Marshal	✓
Tom	Nutt	Nebraska Association of County Officials	NO
Mark	Rempe	North Central PET Region	✓
Jon	Rosenlund	South Central PET Region	✓
Kevin	Ryan	Nebraska State Patrol	NO
Jayne	Scofield	Office of the Chief Information Officer	✓
Travis	Shepler	Game and Parks Department	✓
Bryan	Tuma	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	✓
Lon	Renner	Nebraska Public Power District	✓
EX-OFFICIO			
Dave	Sankey	Nebraska Public Service Commission	✓
Ed	Toner	Office of the Chief Information Officer	✓

Others in attendance: Khadijah Davis, Ashley Miller, Daniel G Noble, Ellie Brascacchio, Heather Dalton, Jim Lundsted, Woody Sandy

2. Open Meetings Law information – public notice/minutes/agenda/webinar on State website.

Lt. Governor Mike Foley called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM CDT and verified public notice and availability of copy of law in the meeting location – NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 84-1407 THROUGH 84-1414 (1999, Cum. Supp. 2006, Supp. 2007)

3. Welcome and Introductions

4. *Approval of Minutes of September 23rd, 2020 meeting.

John Rosenlund made a motion to approve the September 23, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mark Rempe; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissenting votes.

5. *SECC Charter & Bylaws – Rod Zeigler – (voting)

Charter changes: The charter had the SECC still listed under NCOR. With the revision, NCOR was replaced with NPSCC. There was also a change to the next to last sentence in the charter that states that SECC is chaired by an individual elected by members on a biannual basis. Previously this line noted that NCOR would appoint that individual.

Bylaw changes: NCOR was replaced with NPSCC in the bylaws.

Additional updates:

- Rod Zeigler is in his last year as the SECC chairman. December 31, 2021 is his retirement date and at a later meeting, a new chairman will be selected.

Jon Rosenlund motioned to approve the SECC charter and bylaws. The motion was seconded by Bryan Tuma; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissenting votes.

6. Updates on your Agency Communications Projects as well as any concerns or problems.

This does not have to be a “state-wide” project. It can be something specific to your agency.

Agency reports:

(1) NEMA – Troy Harris

NEMA has three COML and five COMT credentialed; this is an increase of one since the last meeting. There are only five unique names as all COMLs are credentialed COMTs as well.

The TICP is intended to document the interoperable communications resources available within the designated area, who controls it, and what policies/operational procedures exist for deployment and demobilization of the resources in each region. There is a state TICP and one for each planning/exercising/training region. The Southeast region is currently working on a 2020 revision.

- Common problems:
 - o Cover date was not changed when updated (why some dates look further back than they are); TICP not reviewed, updates made but not forwarded to NEMA
- Comments:
 - o Remove items not used/wanted (ICS Forms at back and sections that do not apply)
 - o Do not use classification markings (classified, for official use only, law enforcement use only) – that limits who can see them and first responders cannot see the TICP if it is marked this way

Tools for Regions

- CASM – Communications Asses Survey and Mapping
 - o Can pull TICP formatted tables, automates updates
- TA – Interoperable communications technical assistance program
 - o Still required to gather the data
 - o Limited to the number we can request – due to COVID, there have been none requested

Future

- Updates to the State TICP
- Post TICPs and SCIP on NEMA website (behind security)
- Establish and update cycle
- Assist regions with updates
- Simplify templates

Other Notes

- Boilerplate not as important as actual data (interoperable systems and equipment listed)
- Do not list individual names on TIPC, you can list the position/office

Questions: Mark Rempe – When they redid their TIPC and had some assistance, they had to list names in the system. (Asking what they should do now)

Answer: They will talk to the contractors in the future on that. They will ensure everything is clarified and compliant.

(2) OCIO – Jayne Scofield

OCIO hired a replacement for Mike Jeffres. Dave Collett is the new Statewide Radio System Public Safety Manager.

(3) G&P – Travis Shepler

G&P is working with OCIO to improve radio coverage for officers around state and specifically around state park areas. These areas include Lewis and Clark State Park, Branched Oak Lake, and Lake McConaughy. The other project is working with law enforcement partners in the Lake McConaughy area to improve communications.

(4) NSP – Kevin Ryan (na)

(5) SFM – Adam Matzner

SFM is currently updating SRS code plug with their rollout planned for late spring/early summer. As part of the rollout, they are exploring what possibilities are available for Omaha metro users to operate on and with Orion users.

(6) League of Municipalities – Lynn Rex (na)

(7) NACO – Tom Nutt (na)

(8) NPPD – Lon Renner

NPPD is making changes at Cooper Nuclear Station. There is an emergency preparedness group there and they are activated if there is an emergency at Cooper. Their vehicles currently use a low band radio system or a UHS repeater. NPP is moving them off of the low band radio communications and replacing it with statewide radio communications. This will give them some radio communication systems that are not dependent on Cooper systems. The large benefit being that the group will have interoperable communications with other public safety entities around the area. The replacement should occur sometime during the summer.

PET Region Communications Updates or Projects:

(1) North East

Kevin Garvin – For Next Generation 911, some counties are held up in getting the legal agreements and continue to meet monthly. Some agencies are also exploring using the SRS in dispatch centers.

(2) Tri-County – No updates

(3) South Central

Jon Rosenlund – South Central is working to get two or three towers through the Homeland Security process to expand their NRIN reach. This is mostly occurring in the southern counties: Webster, Franklin, and Nuckolls. There is currently tower construction work in Harlan County. In the next year (approximately) they hope to get this area – Harlan, Franklin, Webster, and Nuckolls County – link up and moving. The South Central 911 group is preparing for the move to Next Generation 911. Some counties are working with the East Central 911 group for the regional 911 project.

(4) South West (na)

(5) South East

Steve Cody – South East is working on TICP updates and getting rid of the unneeded documents. Their TICP went from 148 pages to 58 pages. South East will be holding a communication exercise this year and are getting together on February 11th to go over the after action report from last year. Sue is also working to get the Auburn PSAP connected.

(6) East Central

Tim Hofbauer – East Central is continuing to keep the East Central 911 system up and running. They are currently discussing hosts and may move one of the hosts to the Grand Island location. East Central is also working to establish mutual aid-based stations. One is installed at the Heartland tower site, south of Columbus, and there is another network connection occurring for Saunders County. Also, two communication centers merged. Polk County is now being dispatched by the Columbus/ Platte County Joint Communications Center.

(7) North Central

Mark Rempe – North Central is working on the continuation of buildout for the northern portion of the area (NRIN towers). They are also working on tower lease issues occurring in the Western part of the region.

(8) Panhandle

Heidi Gillespie – The Panhandle is losing a member on their board for law enforcement; they are looking for a replacement. The Panhandle is also working on a tabletop exercise in May and a training for firefighters in February.

7. Reports from Working Group Committees:

ESInet – Dave Sankey

PSAPs are forming into host remote regions. The South Central region covers the western third of the state with the hosts PSAPs being Buffalo County and Dawson County. They hope to bring Chadron on as the third host for the region.

Over the last year, they had an RFP out to seek a vendor-hosted Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network and provide Next Generation 911 services. The RFP process was finalized, and they executed the contract with Lumen (CenturyLink) last month. They are contracted to provide the statewide ESI Net that will connect the host in each region to the statewide ESI Net. Lumen partnered with another company who will provide Next Generation 911 services. This group is working to have a kickoff meeting with the South Central Region next week then move to the South East and Metro regions. All seven regions should be connected by the end of 2022 or early 2023.

NRIN Governance Board – Tim Hofbauer/Jon Rosenlund

Tim Hofbauer – There is continued operation of the NRIN Network and the Governance. On the technical side, they are working with NPPD and a contractor to update all the router configurations to bring them up to the latest version/correct some issues they found over the years. They are doing updates one region at a time and started with the Panhandle region last week. They are also looking at their monitoring options. They are currently using solar winds with OCIO. They are looking at the possibility of moving to another platform. For Governance, they are doing their 3rd term of bills which will be mailed mid/late March. The bills are due July 1st which gives entities time to budget.

Sue Krogman (buildout) – The contractor has been working in the Northeast part of the state. The equipment has been configured and is ready to hang from Norfolk up to South Sioux City then back down to Tekamah. They (the contractor) is waiting for weather to clear so installations can be finished. In the meantime, they are working on the South Central link that goes along the Kansas border. They are determining if and where towers would need to be built. The path would be from Nelson to Alma. There is also work being done in the North Central region to get rid of the costly towers sites. There are some initial quotes from fiber companies that would decrease the cost of the route to help support North Central counties.

Statewide Radio System – Pam Kemper

The map shown indicates which counties have joined the system at the local level. All of the 911 centers have a way to talk to each other on the SRS and to the SRS users. Now there are a lot of county agencies that are joining the system and putting in the dispatch systems that are connected to the network. There are now 166 agencies using the system along with 11,800 radio IDs on the system and more than 1.4 million push-to-talks take place on the system (as of January). There are some 800 infrastructure partners now so there are footprints in the system in partnership with the city of Lincoln/Lancaster County and the City of Norfolk. Additionally, there are three more who will do the same: Buffalo County, City of Alliance, and Scottsbluff.

There are also five groups that have MOUs in place to dispatch for each other: all 3 of state dispatch centers, Buffalo County/Lincoln County, Seward County/York County, Butler County/Saunders County, and Nemaha County/Otoe County.

Local regionalized meetings occur every other month which focus on local and regional needs. The next one occurs in Lexington on February 11th. They also have demo radios for agencies to test the system for a few weeks.

FirstNet Coverage Information – Andrew Sackreiter

There were 279 sites added in Nebraska in 2020. There are 45 sites to be added in 2021, which increases to total sites when looking across borders. There are a few areas left to complete, but the group far exceeded the build for last year. The Panhandle was supposed to be finished by the first quarter of this year, but they were able to pull it into the build for last year. They have a strip along the eastern edge of the Panhandle along with a few areas across the state to complete. They are also going to finish the gap between Lincoln and Nebraska City this year. After they are done, that will finish the FirstNet commitment.

Band 14 Updates:

There is the special spectrum that public safety allocated to the FirstNet network. Band 14 comes with the ability to do higher power on the UE which makes sites more effective. This is very helpful in a rural state like Nebraska and each new site built is turned on to Band 14. Lincoln will get ubiquitous Band 14 this year which is a major upgrade. Another aspect worth mentioning is that all of this is available to consumers in the state.

8. Next meeting – Friday, March 26, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. (virtual meeting)

(This meeting will be used to vote on the Department of Homeland Security grant distribution of funds. Investment Justifications and project requests will be sent out to all members prior to this meeting.)

9. Adjourn

Mark Remppe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bryan Tuma; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissenting votes. Lt. Governor Mike Foley adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM CDT.

*Denotes Action Item