

Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council

Meeting Minutes June 24, 2020, 10:00 AM CDT Video Conference¹

1. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Attendance
VOTING MEMBERS			
Mike	Foley	Lt. Governor	✓
Sue	Krogman	SWIC	✓
Bill	Muldoon	Tri-County PET Region	NO
Ike	Brown	Southwest PET Region	✓
Steve	Cody	Otoe County EMA	✓
(open)		League of Municipalities	
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	✓
Jayne	Scofield	Office of the Chief Information Officer	✓
Craig	Stover	Game and Parks Department	NO
Bryan	Tuma	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	NO
David	Webb	Nebraska Public Power District	NO
EX-OFFICIO			
Dave	Sankey	Nebraska Public Service Commission	✓
Ed	Toner	Office of the Chief Information Officer	✓

Others in attendance: Pam Kemper, Rod Zeigler, Andy Sackreiter, James Lundsted, Lon Renner

2. Welcome, Introductions, and Open Meeting Law Information

Lt. Governor Mike Foley called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM 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. Approval of Minutes

Jon Rosenlund made a motion to approve the March 25, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Tim Hofbauer; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissenting votes.

¹ Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Bryan Tuma received a special dispensation from the Governor to hold this meeting via videoconference.

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4. Communication Successes/Issues During Covid-19

Agency Reports:

(1) NEMA – Sue Krogman

NEMA distributed Verizon cell phones to National Guard personnel to assist with testing across the state. In addition, NEMA worked with the OCIO and NSP to activate the State Communications Unit in response to public gatherings. The joint response worked excellent and should be considered in the future.

(2) OCIO – Jayne Scofield

Partnership with NEMA and NSP worked very well in response to public gatherings.

(3) G&P – Craig Stover

No one available.

(4) NSP – Kevin Ryan

Agreed with OCIO and NEMA's comments. System worked very well as the radios were re-programmed on a Sunday afternoon and pushed out to the NG troops. Minor training on usage was performed, but, all in all the system worked very well.

(5) SFM – Adam Matzner

No complaints. Nothing out of the ordinary.

(6) PSC – Dave Sankey

Regular WebEx meetings were setup with the PSAPS and shared information about what was going on at the state level. A few centers had staffing concerns due to self-quarantining, plans were put in place to accommodate call volume. As far as the public gatherings were involved, the PSAP in Douglas County wasn't included in command post situation originally but was quickly rectified.

(7) NACO – Tom Nutt

No one available

(8) NPPD – Dave Webb

Lon Renner- We were able to use SRS as normal. NPPD still has a large number of staff teleworking and it has been very successful. NPPD maintains an adequate number of VPN licenses to accommodate teleworking. NPPD has incorporated Microsoft Teams and believes there will be more people working remotely even after COVID-19.

PET Regions:

North East

No major issues for COVID-19 or public gatherings.

Tri-County

No one on this call.

South Central

Weekly meetings with emergency managers during pandemic and public gatherings. Were some of the earlier spikes in the state for Covid cases. Appreciated the capability to transport some of their patients to larger facilities, like Douglas Co., during the spikes. They found that the weekly meetings were very helpful.

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South Central (continued) April 911 inbound calls were almost half those of regular months. The NIAC offered to put a representative in their EOC when there are future public gatherings.

North Central

Was able to host meetings virtually. No issues to report.

South East

Lincoln/Lancaster Co., Mark Hosking, is developing a regional SRS exercise with NEMA staff. Able to update Otoe County and Nemaha County PSAPS with backup radio resources in consoles in preparation of possible relocation.

East Central

Communication went well for most of the region. Multiple Unified Command meetings were held with health departments. Minimal public gatherings and the ones that they had were very peaceful. East Central 911 PSAPS worked together to back each other up if a call center went down or was inundated with calls. NRIN added a generator for an additional backup power source and all NRIN sites are up and operational.

South West

Worked hard to continue communications during Covid. Dispatch center has not seen increase in calls. Automatic backups for their dispatch center are with the South-Central Region and are going very well. There was a fiber cut during the middle of covid that forced them to test their backup plan. Everything went extremely well. As far as any public gatherings, the few that they had were peaceful and orderly, so they felt very fortunate. Planning more exercises in the fall.

Panhandle

They have seen locally a decrease in calls for service during pandemic. Virtual meetings have been very successful and has promoted communication. There were two fiber optic cuts within days of each other. Down for a total of 6 hours, but it has been repaired. Public gatherings have been very peaceful and are not aware of any problems that occurred.

Lt. Governor asked if there were any other discussion items that pertained to either Covid or public gatherings, no one spoke up.

5. Reports From Working Group Committees

ESInet – Dave Sankey

Provided a visual of the Nebraska PSAP Regionalization map that is available on the PSC website. The South Central Region will be the first to join the new network. RFP for NG 911 ESInet and core services was released on March 17th. Vendors could submit bids in the following manner:

- ESInet only – 1 bidder
- NG Core Services Only – 5 bidders
- ESInet and NG core services combined – 8 bidders

Bids were received June 3rd. Current evaluation process is underway and should be completed by July 13th. We hope to identify a successful bidder by the end of August. Contract finalization will be late summer/early fall. Hoping to have a contractor ready to go by end of this year or beginning of next year. Dave then gave a synopsis of what the new Next Generation 911 system will look like – Actual presentation is attached to the webinar minutes.

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NRIN – Tim Hofbauer/Jon Rosenlund

Tim discussed the NRIN Governance Board. The Board has continued to have meetings over the last few months. The annual billing has been sent out to users of the system. Looking to hire a manager for day-to-day management of the system. Jon – hoping to continue to move forward with utilizing all the capabilities of this network. Sue-there is remediation work on towers in the North Central part of the State. Lower North Central and Eastern side of the State will be adding two new rings for redundancy. North East area is ready to install routers. Thanked this board for their decisions during the IJ process to continue the build-out. Tim reiterated the seamless capability of the redundant rings, referred to a tower in York County that was hit by a low flying plane and was rendered useless – the rings allowed the system to continue to operate.

SRS – Pam Kemper

SRS operating as usual. In November, the Kimball tower collapsed, however, that has been repaired and should be operating normally. This is the year for their bi-annual upgrades. Covid slowed this process down a little. Currently there are 20 dispatch centers that are on the SRS system. More to come. There are multiple counties that are taking advantage of being on the system so that they can dispatch at each other's locations or for the other center. All 3 State Patrol centers have this capability. We are resuming our outreach program. SUG meetings as usual. Sue Krogman reiterated that fact that all major projects in Nebraska are either connected to or associated and shared with each other.

SECC – Rod Zeigler

SECC approved the plan as submitted. Looking for a new state relay station in the Omaha area. Reported that the Nebraska Broadcasters Association will be helping the SECC develop a website.

FirstNet – Sue Krogman & Andrew Sackreiter

Andy Sackreiter- shared Nebraska FirstNet Update map. The buildout schedule for this network is to occur over first five years with a final deadline (nationwide) by end of year, 2023. Nebraska is on track to be complete by March 2021. Sue Krogman commented on the fact that Nebraska will be completed 2 years in advance of the actual deadline. All maps are from <https://www.att.com/maps/wireless-coverage.html>

6. Public Comments

James Lundsted- CISA: Update on ransomware in public safety and government networks, Wireless Priority Service, and Nebraska PTS use. Encouraged everyone to be vigilant with your emails as ransomware is running rampant with state government, local and tribal networks.

Jon Rosenlund would like the group to discuss adding the Public Service Commission as a member of this Council. The Lt. Governor will discuss with Sue Krogman on what the protocol and procedure would be.

7. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 23rd 2020, at 10:00 AM CDT. Location of the meeting will be announced prior to the next meeting as well as whether or not it will be in-person or via webinar.

6. Adjourn

Jon Rosenlund made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 AM CDT.

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Acronym	Meaning
CASM	Communications Assets Survey and Mapping
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DSL	Digital Subscriber Line
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EM	Emergency Management
EMPG	Emergency Management Performance Grant
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FFO	Federal Funding Opportunity
IJ	Investment Justification
IP	Internet Protocol address
MACH	Mobile Architecture for Communications Handling
MDC	Mobile Data Computer
NACO	Nebraska Association of County Officials
NCOR	Nebraska Council of Regions
NEMA	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
NPPD	Nebraska Public Power District
NPSBN	Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Network
NPSCC	Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council
NRIN	Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network
OCIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
PET	Planning, Exercise, and Training
RFP	Request for proposals
ROC	Regional Operations Common
SECC	State Emergency Communications Committee
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SME	Subject matter expert
SPR	State Preparedness Report
SRS	Statewide Radio System
THIRA	Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis
TEPW	Training, Exercise, Preparedness Workshop
TICP	Tactical Interoperable Communications Planning