

Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC)

September 23, 2021; 10:00 AM (CDT) Business Meeting – Webinar

AGENDA

1. Welcome –Lt. Governor Foley

Lt. Governor Foley kicked off the meeting and thanked members for participating in the September 23rd meeting.

2. Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Attendance
VOTING MEMBERS			
Mike	Foley	Lt. Governor	X
Sue	Krogman	SWIC	X
Bill	Muldoon	Tri-County PET Region	X
Joel	Smith	Southwest PET Region	
Steve	Cody	Southeast PET Region	X
Lynn	Rex	League of Municipalities	
Kevin	Garvin	Northeast PET Region	X
Heidi	Gillespie	Panhandle PET Region	X
Tim	Hofbauer	East Central PET Region	
Adam	Matzner	State Fire Marshal	X
Tom	Nutt	Nebraska Association of County Officials	
Mark	Rempe	North Central PET Region	X
Jon	Rosenlund	South Central PET Region	X
Kevin	Ryan	Nebraska State Patrol	
Jayne	Scofield	Office of the Chief Information Officer	
Travis	Shepler	Game and Parks Department	X
Craig	Stover	Game and Parks Department	
Bryan	Tuma	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	X
Lon	Renner	Nebraska Public Power District	
EX-OFFICIO			
Dave	Sankey	Nebraska Public Service Commission	X
Ed	Toner	Office of the Chief Information Officer	

Others in attendance: Alyssa Sanders, Dave Collett, Andy Sackreiter, Neil Miller, Pam Kemper, Rod Zeigler, Erv Portis

3. Open Meetings Act information – verification of special dispensation from Lt. Governor

Lt. Governor Foley called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM CDT and verified the 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). The meeting was posted on the state calendar and is subject to the open meeting act under Nebraska statute.

4. *Approval of Minutes

Jon Rosenlund made a motion to approve the June 30, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was _____

seconded by Bill Muldoon; the motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissenting votes.

5. Committee Reports

- Statewide Radio System – Dave Collett, Office of the CIO

- Dave Collett discussed the Statewide Radio System (SRS). I have two issues I would like to discuss with you today. The first is a system ID change. The SRS was originally designed to be joined with the Omaha Orion system but there were problems such as users in the Omaha area being orphaned and not being able to get back on the SRS and consistency back and forth since both systems are on the same ID. They are looking at adding Critical Connect and other services from Motorola that would require a unique system ID. Changes are needed to the cores in Lincoln and Kearney. The biggest challenge is reprogramming all the subscriber radios. The dispatch sites, logging recorders and radio sites also have to be changed to the new ID. The new services that can be added with the ID change include Critical Connect which enables connections with other systems such as Orion and FirstNet and other state systems (e.g., Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota, Missouri, Wyoming). Timelines including finalizing the contract in November, install the new core equipment in February, testing the programming of subscribers and systems in March, and reprogramming all subscribers from April through July. There are 11,000 subscribers needed to be programmed, so this is a very aggressive timeframe. In August 2022, we will migrate all RF sites to the new ID and by September, we will remove the old core equipment. All state radios will need to be reprogrammed and the OCIO will work with local agencies to get their equipment reprogrammed.
- The second topic is that the city of Lincoln has decided to separate from the statewide radio system which impacts interoperability with the state patrol. We will be adding a couple of 800 sites in Lincoln to replace their coverage but it will not be as seamless as in the past. Separation will occur in January 2022. Lincoln will do their own system ID change. It is possible Lincoln could connect with SRS through Critical Connect.
- Pam Kemper reported on the level of participation of local agencies – they have been doing outreach throughout the state and to make themselves available for consultation. There are about 12,500 radio IDs acting on the system. The OCIO will have an exhibit at the Nebraska Sheriff Association/Police Officer Association of Nebraska (NSA/POAN) Kearney conference in October.

- ESINet – Dave Sankey, State 911 Director

- Dave Sankey reported on ESINet and shared a statewide map. We contracted with Lumen last January to build our statewide ESINet and connect all our regions. ESINet is working with wireless voice providers to connect to the network. The Buildout is progressing of OSPs is progressing. We hope to get the OSPs in the central region connected soon and to connect Dawson and Buffalo Counties by November/December; they will be the first region to be the Next Gen 911 PSAP and join the ESINet. We are then looking at the Metro region in late January, then the North Central Region; We are planning a kickoff meeting in the North Central Region soon. We will begin working on the Southeast Region in April, but they will take a little more time. We contracted with Mission Critical Partners to conduct cyber security assessments for each PSAP; Heidi's PSAP was one of the first to be visited. We hope to have all the assessments

completed by March.

- **SECC – Rod Zigler**

- The SECC had its quarterly meeting on September 15th and discussed the national periodic test in August; there were scattered reports of some problems, but overall the test went well in Nebraska. In December, they will have recommendations for filling vacancies. They had a long discussion of proposed changes by FCC and FEMA; there are proposed system alert changes that would cause problems. They developed a monthly meeting and test schedule. The next meeting will be at 11:00 AM on December 15, 2021.

- **FirstNet Update**

○ **Sue Krogman, SWIC**

○ **Neil Miller, Sheriff, Buffalo County**

- Sue Krogman reported that they attended the FirstNet seminar for the state of Nebraska in Omaha. The FirstNet authority and ATT were represented. There were updates for the state of Nebraska and testimonials from users. Vendors were there providing information on equipment that works with FirstNet.
- Neil Miller reported the build out in Nebraska is going well. FirstNet gives ability to a double range of non-high powered units. They have been testing these in Buffalo County. The signal is much stronger than equipment that is not high-power units. They are looking at a fiber connectivity backup through FirstNet.
- Sue Krogman reported on interest by state agencies: State Patrol has received quotes on phones that work with FirstNet. FirstNet can be used as a back-up system for redundancy for a lot of systems in Nebraska (e.g., NRIN, SRS) and will be very beneficial.
- Andy Sackreiter reported on commitments. The State opted in to FirstNet in 2017 and committed to cover the State with Band 14. We have finally achieved the Band 14 goal. The buildout is materially complete. Coverage is significantly improved since we started in 2017. There were 279 sites built in 2020 in rural areas, 39 sites have been built in 2021, and a handful of sites are currently being built the rest of this year, primarily in the Lincoln and Omaha areas. Over 400 Nebraska sites have been turned on since 2018; Nebraska is at the lead from a FirstNet standpoint from a total state commitment and achievement. They will have coverage in the capitol in 3-6 months.

- **NRIN Build-out – Sue Krogman, SWIC**

- Sue Krogman reported on the buildout of NRIN and shared a map of current progress. She reported on fiber in the North Central Region because towers are so far apart in those remote areas that they are not feasible. The fiber connections between Ogallala and Merriman and between Ogallala and Ainsworth are completed, and the fiber company is working on completing the northern loop across Ainsworth, Valentine and Merriman. There is also fiber in the Southwest between McCook and the Atlanta NET tower that completes a ring for redundancy. They are looking at putting in a fiber hop between Hartington and Center dispatch because towers have not been built; there is a meeting this afternoon to discuss what it would take to get it done. We just completed a

connection into the city of Norfolk which lit up sites all the way up to Dakota City. Ponca, Newcastle, and Hartington are next and will complete the eastern side of the ring. A tower in Antelope County and the eastern side of the State are top priorities now. The other important buildout is in the southeast part of the state. They are getting structural assessments on water towers in Richardson County to make redundant connections in that part of the State.

- **NRIN Governance**

- **Tim Hofbauer**
- **Jon Rosenlund**

Jon Rosenlund reported that the NRIN Board approved a contract with Blue Ally to work with NPPD to help with router reconfiguration. The technical committee has been working on ways to better methods for monitoring software to improve proactive monitoring of the network. Two new users have been added to NRIN – Alliance Police Department and Dawson County Sheriff’s Department. There is an NRIN Board meeting tomorrow at the Buffalo County EOC and anyone is welcome to attend.

6. State Agency Representative Updates

- Sue Krogman reported how well communication worked during deployment during the fires in the Panhandle. There was a request for a cache of radios that were reprogrammed radios on the fly for the fires in western Nebraska and it worked well.
- Travis Shepler reported that state agencies worked well together during the fires.
- Adam Matzner reported that he received no complaints and there was a good coordination effort. The OCIO helped coordinate the communications.

7. PET Region Updates

- Jon Rosenlund reported that things are going well in South Central. They are testing redundancy on towers and working on Investment Justifications for next year’s homeland security grants.
- North Central and Tri-County indicated they had nothing new to report.
- Heidi Gillespie reported that in the Panhandle, the fires are under control. During the fires there were some issues with interoperability across agencies from out of state such as Colorado, South Dakota and Wyoming; there were problems with interoperable communication but within groups assigned it worked well; they couldn’t talk to other groups. Sue Krogman and Heidi Gillespie will talk about the issues.
- Kevin Garvin from the Northeast Region reported that they are making progress on Next Generation 911. Burt County is making upgrades to their law enforcement communication and dispatch console. The Northeast Region supported the Missouri River Outdoor Exposition with the OCIO at Ponca State Park and new equipment from the OCIO worked well.
- Steve Cody from the Southeast Region reported that things are going well. Their Windstream 911 contract expires in 2022 and they issued an RFP for a consultant to start that process and received two bids. They likely will be moving away from Windstream. Their Communication full-scale exercise was scheduled for September but had to be postponed due to weather. They had their Apple Jack weekend with the 192nd Infantry Battalion that went well and worked

through some interoperable communication issues with law enforcement.

8. Next Meeting — Wednesday, December 15, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

The Lt. Governor congratulated Bryan on his retirement and for job well done. Bryan talked about the progress everyone has made in interoperability over the years through partnerships and efforts from people on this committee.

9. Adjourn

Mark Rempe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstaining votes and no dissenting votes. Sue Krogman adjourned the meeting at 10:56 AM CDT.

*Denotes Action Item