

**JOINT NPSCC & WORKING GROUP MEETING**

April 13, 2018 1:00 p.m. (CST)  
Country Inn & Suites Omaha Room  
5353 N. 27th Street Lincoln, NE

**MINUTES**

**WORKING GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brian Daake, Nebraska Municipal Fire Chiefs Association  
Dave Sankey, Nebraska Public Service Commission  
Bill Lundy, Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association  
Lynn Marshall, NAEM  
Neil Miller, Sheriff's Association of Nebraska (Phone conference)  
Tom Nutt, Nebraska Association of County Officials  
Julie Righter-Dove, APCO/NENA  
Lon Renner, Nebraska Public Power District (for Dave Webb)  
Jim Weeda, Nebraska Rural Electric Association  
Matthew May, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska  
Captain Kevin Ryan, Nebraska State Patrol (for Major Stanczyk)

**NON-VOTING WORKING GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ed Toner, State Chief Information Officer  
Bob Wilhelm, Office of the CIO

**WORKING GROUP MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Tom Casady, Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska; Sandy Massey, Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association (NEMSA); and Russ Stanczyk, Nebraska State Patrol/State Law enforcement

**ROLL CALL, OPEN MEETINGS LAW INFORMATION – VERIFICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE, AVAILABILITY OF COPY OF LAW IN THE MEETING LOCATION**

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL (NPSCC) MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mike Foley, Lt. Governor  
Bryan Tuma, NEMA  
Jayne Scofield, OCIO  
Ray Ryan, City of Lincoln Comm's  
Captain Phil Brazelton, Washington County Sheriff's Office  
Tim Haufbauer, Platte County EMA  
Jon Rosenlund, Hall County EMA  
Mark Rempe, Custer Co EMA  
Adam Metzner, Nebraska Fire Marshal's Office  
Tom Nutt, NACO  
Captain Kevin Ryan, Nebraska State Patrol  
Lon Renner, representing Dave Webb NPPD  
SEE NPSCC MEETING MINUTES

In the absence of the Chair, Bill Lundy called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. There were ten voting members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. A copy of the Open Meetings law was on the meeting materials table.

Roll call was taken for the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC).

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Members of the Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Working Group (BBWG) and the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC) introduced themselves (see minutes from NPSCC). Guests were given an opportunity to introduce themselves as well: James Lundsted DHS OEC, Sue Krogman

NEMA, Denise Bulling UNL PPC, Neil Sullivan State Budget office, Jake Carrel Beatrice Fire, Steve Cody Otoe County EMA, Bob Nord Omaha DotCom, Ben Leisburg DHHS, Matt Schnell NPPD.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES\***

**Mr. Daake moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Sankey seconded. Roll call vote: Daake-Yes, Sankey-Yes, Lundy-Yes, Marshall-Abstained, Miller-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Righter-Dove-Yes, Renner-Yes, Weeda-Yes, and May-Yes. Results: Yes-9, Abstained-1, No-0. Motion carried.**

## **DISCUSSION ON FIRSTNET MOVING FORWARD**

Mr. Wilhelm provided background regarding the FirstNet grant funding. (State and Local Implementation Grant Program) SLIGP 1.0 was utilized to begin strategic planning. That funding has ended with an approximate balance of \$300,000. The (Office of the Chief Information Officer) OCIO submitted another grant application for SLIGP 2.0 to continue strategic planning for Nebraska. The federal grant is for a total \$700,000 with a \$175,000 in-kind match requirement. The grant funding is issued in two increments with the second increment dependent upon availability of funds. The first increment ends November 30, 2018 with the second increment ending February 29, 2020.

Establishing a governance group was one of the deliverables from SLIGP 1.0 and this Working Group has fulfilled that requirement. All members on the working group have full-time jobs and are volunteering their time to this endeavor. At the March 8th Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Work Group meeting, it voted that the working group should continue to be the governing group for public safety broadband and FirstNet. It was recommended to bring the two groups together for discussion and final recommendation.

It was pointed out that once the grant funding to support the SLIGP program manager position, currently occupied by Wilhelm, goes away, then the Office of the Chief Information Officer would no longer be able to support the position. A question was posed asking if there should be continued support for the FirstNet project by a state agency and if so which agency?

Bryan Tuma, Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council Chair, led the discussion. Mr. Tuma stated that NPSCC would like to give the Lt. Governor positive recommendations rather than problems. Points of discussion included the following:

- Some members liked the idea of a state agency being responsible
- Costs are a concern and should not be pushed back on local entities
- Connectivity and coverage of remote areas of Nebraska must be addressed
- The BBWG would need to be in place to advise/recommend technology, applications etc. that affect different agencies and disciplines
- Some members would like to see BBWG continue to be in existence after funding.
- There are benefits to having a diverse representation on the BBWG.
- The Governance group would be a subcommittee of NPSCC. The group would offer perspectives and recommendations to NPSCC with any final decisions to be made by the Lt. Governor and Governor.
- Perhaps at some point the groups may want to think about a sunset date.

**Mr. Sankey moved to recommend to the NPSCC and the Lt. Governor that the Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Work Group continue in its capacity to assist with FirstNet. Lynn Marshall seconded. Discussion followed.**

**The question was raised as to whether the groups want to limit the Working Group to just FirstNet or include public safety broadband as well. The consensus was to include public safety broadband as well.**

**Mr. Sankey moved to amend his initial motion and recommend to the NPSCC and the Lt. Governor that Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Work Group continue in its capacity to assist NPSCC with FirstNet and public safety broadband. Lynn Marshall seconded the amended motion. Roll call**

**vote: Daake-Yes, Sankey-Yes, Lundy-Yes, Marshall-Yes, Miller-Yes, Nutt-Yes, Righter-Dove-Yes, Renner-Yes, Weeda-Yes, and May-Yes. Results: Yes-10, Abstained-0, No-0. Motion carried.**

**IS IT TIME TO REVISIT THE STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATOR (SWIC) POSITION IN THE STATE?**

In the meeting materials, Mr. Wilhelm provided a handout of a description from the Department of Homeland Security of the SWIC responsibilities. A State of Nebraska SWIC or similar position or entity is a requirement for grant funding. Simply put, the SWIC should facilitate the coordination of public safety communications with the goal of interoperability among first responders. This would include coordinating policy development activities, governance, outreach and education and management of the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP). It was suggested that the potential of Nebraska's public safety communications capabilities are hindered because we do not have a full time SWIC.

The question was raised regarding what are the qualifications for a SWIC. The SWIC is really a facilitator to bring groups to the table to address public safety communications and interoperability. NEMA was suggested to be the agency that housed the SWIC or an employee already in place that may be able to do this. Some states have this as a Governor's cabinet position with no funding. Members asked Mr. Wilhelm to further explore what other states are doing in regards to their SWIC position. A representative from the Office of the CIO brought up that the OCIO's budget rates were due in May so if the OCIO needed to ask for funding for a SWIC, that decision needed to be made at this meeting.

Mr. Tuma and Lt. Governor will be attending a meeting in June that will focus on public safety communications and will have more information to bring to the groups. Mr. Tuma and Mr. Toner have had informal discussions about funding and staffing.

In the meantime, the BBWG will continue to work on issues dealing with FirstNet and broadband. They will reconvene another joint meeting to develop recommendations. As a possible joint meeting date, it was suggested to meet when NRIN meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no public comment.

**NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Wilhelm will poll the members for the next meeting date of the Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Working Group.

**ADJOURN**

**Jon Rosenlund moved to adjourn. Phil Brazelton seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Bob Wilhelm, Office of the CIO/NITC.