

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tom Casady-Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska  
Brian Daake- Nebraska Municipal Fire Chiefs Association  
Gene Hand-Nebraska Public Service Commission  
Bill Lundy-Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association  
Lynn Marshall- Nebraska Association of Emergency Managers  
Neil Miller-Sheriff's Association of Nebraska  
Tom Nutt-Nebraska Association of County Officials  
Russ, Stanczyk-NSP/ State Law Enforcement  
Ray Ryan- APCO/ NENA  
Jim Weeda-Nebraska Rural Electric Association (NREA)  
Matthew May- Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska  
Lon Renner-NPPD

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ed Toner- Chief Information Officer State of Nebraska  
Bob Wilhelm- OCIO

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Vincent Bass- Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska  
Jon Borton- Nebraska Hospital Association  
Roger Foster- League of Neb. Municipalities  
Stuart Redwing- Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska  
Larry Voegelé- Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL**

Sheriff Miller (Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. Roll Call was taken. A quorum of voting members was present. The meeting was posted to the Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Network Planning Project Page and on the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar.

**ACKNOWLEDGE OPEN MEETING ACT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW**

Acknowledge Open Meeting Act is available for review with Bob Wilhelm, as well as on the Nebraska Public Planning web page.

**PUBLIC ATTENDEES**

Public attendees shared information about who they were and their agencies. The public included: Steve Cody-Deputy Director Otoe County EMA, Chris Johnson- NebraskaLink, Jon Rosenland- GI Hall Em 911, Michael Tarkildsen-NDOR, Troy Harris-NEMA, Alicea McClusky-NDOR, Jay Anderson-NebraskaLink, Sue Krogman-NEMA, Bob Huber-NET, Jake Carrel- Beatrice Fire & Rescue, Michael Dwyer-Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association, Cullen Robbins-Public Service Commission.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2016 MEETING- SHERIFF MILLER**

Brian Daake motioned to approve the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 minutes as presented. Gene Hand seconded. All are in favor. Acceptance of the minutes passed.

**BRIEFING ON THE QPP/CTT MEETING IN OSCEOLA, IA AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup> – SHERIFF MILLER**

Sheriff Miller said if you recall there was a sub-committee from the Working Group and stakeholders that was put together to assist FirstNet with the Quality of Service and Priority and Preemption/Consultation Task Team questions that FirstNet is trying to address. FirstNet held a meeting of stakeholders from FEMA Region VII states in Osceola, IA on August 16. FirstNet came out to tell the states what was occurring and seek input on questions they have as FirstNet moves forward. This was a two-and-a-half-hour meeting and Sheriff Miller wanted to quickly go through the PowerPoint that FirstNet used during the meeting.

*[Bob Howard with the OCIO, Stanley Shearer with Omaha Fire and Bob Wilhelm with the OCIO attended the meeting in Osceola. Sheriff Miller, Captain Jason Stille and Sergeant Destry Jaeger with Lincoln Police attended via the webinar.]*

Four states were represented; Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska with 24 attending in Osceola. Neil said the purpose of the meeting was to educate and provide clarity surrounding the QPP to FirstNet stakeholders and he felt they did a good job of doing that. Neil said there are two pieces to this QPP issue. You have the technical side of that which is how do we do that with equipment which is not what we will talk about today. That part of it is in the RFP and is still being evaluated and they will be making the award to a partner in the near future. This is about the policy side of QPP. All the users are going to have to establish a policy on how we are going to determine who gets priority, who gets preemption and what that quality of service is going to be. The system will do it but the question is how is it done policy wise? The framework currently is conceptual and not final. One of the things they looked at were the primary users and their states and there are three responder/user states (immediate peril, responder emergency and relayed users) that elevate the criticality of a responder's network access and usage. Then there are the secondary user states. These are three non-public safety states (i.e. free range, restricted, and preempted) and are used to control available access to available Band 14 spectrum. Neil said this tells us that they are going to lease Band 14 out for non-public safety use. This will help with financial sustainability of the network by selling non-used bandwidth to non-public safety entities. They won't be completely shut out because you don't want to cut them out completely. An example is if you have an active high school shooter and you have kids that are texting out and public safety arrives and they (students) happen to be on band 14 at the time and if we push them out completely they have no access to text out which may have provided valuable information on the incident. What they will do is they will move them out of band 14 and back to their original carrier so they can still communicate. So it allows us to share the bandwidth for revenue, to support the system

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

but it also allows us to move the people out who are not public safety responders and give that bandwidth back to public safety when it is needed for the event. It allows for priority to allow specific users, applications, and traffic streams or data packets to take precedence over others during periods of congestion. It allows for a preemption feature which is used to control resource use by removing active sessions of lower priority users and give those resources to higher priority users when needed. If you think about the number of public safety users that would be on the network at any one time it kind of begs the difference between LTE and land mobile radio (LMR) because LMR is different in how it works with FirstNet. In FirstNet we are sectored off into a specific spot on a tower. A sector can fill up but the rest of the LTE network is not affected. You don't usually have a lot going on the back side of the tower because the one sector is where all the activity is occurring. So by looking at that you can see you are not going to impact everyone on the network if there is a major event in this one area.

Neil said QPP profiles will be assigned to users; what kind of access do they need, when do they need it, how long they get to keep it, is there someone else that can bump them out and all those things. On a normal day we aren't going to have those issues as the system will work just fine. It is when all those people show up. Benchmarks, when attained, will prompt the network to shift among network states. The static state network is how the system operates most of the time. The dynamic state is when the network sees congestion it cannot relieve using static QPP data alone. This state uses new or real time data to improve QPP functionality to alleviate congestion.

Neil said this is where we started to see what the plan was with FirstNet (see slide #12). This shows an existing RAN with commercial users on the public safety network. You can see they will be using co-located sites which makes a lot of sense in a state like Nebraska where you have a lot of geography and not a lot of people. Co-locate FirstNet sites/band 14 sites with existing cell tower sites. You have an existing tower, shelter and generator to use rather than trying to build a new tower. This indicates they are going to partner with one or more carriers to make this happen. They also talked about FirstNet only sites meaning they are prepared to build infrastructure where there is no existing infrastructure so if there is a spot in Nebraska that is really important. It may not have a lot of users, the carriers can't cash flow the site because there are not enough people there, FirstNet still has the ability to build a tower once it has been identified. That is why a lot of people in this room were involved in locating and naming all those important things in your geographic area. All the things that you had a concern would have a public safety response and you used the coverage maps and marked on those maps. The point of that was to identify those locations where you need coverage that you currently don't have tower coverage at. This again would allow a carrier to co-locate and sell off the excess bandwidth to help support the system. Neil said they also indicated that there are areas, FirstNet calls frontier areas, where there will be no towers built. This is where you will see the deployable assets used in a response.

Neil said this slide [#22] helps explain LTE with the way the signals are put out. This shows the impact of voice verses video and other activities and how much bandwidth is used. Highest use is video sending/receiving with text messages the lowest. Text messages have a lot better chance of getting

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

through. It also talks about how activity in one sector of a cell tower has no impact on the other sectors. This shows the consideration that could be given when an event occurs that creates severe loading. If there are multiple resources in a cellular sector and you are bringing in more resources such as a command vehicle you should consider stationing it in another cell sector so it won't impact the other users at a scene. Policy and procedures will need to be developed on how we respond and prioritize. Do we prioritize by device, by profile, how do we do priority and preemption and how we get this done but we will need policies in this state on how that gets set up. If it is something planned we will need to see about how we get additional capacity. We may have coverage but we need more capacity. That will involve bringing in mobile assets to increase capacity.

Neil said this slide[#34]demonstrates the airplane analogy. With **Qos** the flight leaves on time, travels the planned route, and lands on time at the correct airport. **Priority** means public safety has your own check in line and security lane, boards first, and has the best seats. **Preemption** is when the flight is oversold, public safety does not get bumped. This is a way of looking at how this network will work.

Continuing with the airplane analogy Neil said assuming all secondary users were bumped from the flight and all seats are taken by public safety...who should make the decisions to manage the emergency. What qualifications should the decision makers have? Who decides? The pilot? Air traffic control? The Aircraft because it is a smart aircraft? The passenger in 36E? They are trying to give us ideas on the challenges we will face in making policy decisions on how this happens.

Neil said this was a good presentation that helped understand how the system would work and how they will help pay for it with the selling off of the excess bandwidth to the carriers because probably 99% of the time you can have secondary users on it and you don't need to bump anybody off. But when that 1% comes we need to have the policies in place.

Gene Hand asked if Neil was confident that there will be enough interest from the carriers. Gene said the current spectrum auction is occurring and it is not being bid very well and demand is lower for spectrum than they forecasted. Gene questions that this will adequately fund the system. Neil acknowledged that the concern is out there and we need to come up with the money from somewhere and there aren't enough public safety users out there at \$40 a month to pay for or sustain the system. Gene said because there is a demand/need in the more populated areas how will that be pooled for the rural areas, are we still going to benefit? Neil said the answer is yes. This is a federal system that will be funded federally, so the money is going to be put into the pot to support the network. There is no not building this network. That could be a good thing or that could be a bad thing. They are saying if you opt out, it's not pretty to opt out. It is difficult to opt out and Neil felt we don't want to opt out because it will be expensive. He said by opting in with this network they (FirstNet) are going to support this network sea to shining sea and that is going to help us out. Will Nebraska have the money to go in and add infrastructure above and beyond what initially is established? Neil thinks if once we get the initial build out and we evaluate it to see if it coincides with the coverage objective priorities that Nebraska

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

submitted. He believes they will have to have roaming agreements with the carriers in Nebraska and he thinks we will need to go on the local carriers if we are not on a major thoroughfare. He said that as a user he can't just stop his coverage where FirstNet is going to stop because he needs to have coverage wherever they go because currently his agency does with Verizon. He thinks the roaming agreements and the deals they cut with the carriers is going to be crucial to how this thing plays out.

Gene agrees but he is concerned they won't get the necessary funding from the sale of the spectrum. He said if I am a carrier trying to figure out ways I can use this part time spectrum he isn't going to pay much money for it and therefore the pot doesn't get as much money in it. Neil agreed that this was a concern but that was one of the good things about this being a nationwide initiative instead of just Nebraska on its own.

Tom Nutt asked if foreign companies were allowed to bid on the RFP. Wilhelm wasn't certain about that other than to report that one of the bidders is a company that is based in Europe. Gene said AT&T said it was going to bid. Neil said it will be interesting to see how this goes and once they establish that they will have to see where they go from there. This would be a starting point and then for the future of the system where do we go and how do we make it better? As an example AT&T doesn't exist in western Nebraska except through and affiliate which is Vero so if AT&T gets the bid and they collocate and the affiliate doesn't come along that then looks pretty tough for Nebraska as far as coverage is concerned. He doesn't know how you are going to sell that when the coverage stops West of York. Each state will be different as to how you get it done.

Gene Hand asked if you are going to need to get new devices with Band 14 in them and commented that would be rather expensive. Neil said it could be but for what they have seen now is that the Band 14 chip set doesn't add a lot of cost to a device. If you put Band 14 into every device that is made in the US then you have a lot of devices with Band 14 capability and that should drive the cost down. He said you are already seeing it that there are a lot of devices that now have Band 14 capabilities. Both in modems and hand held devices. He mentioned the Sonim ruggedized phone that is also push to talk which has Band 14 in it. Tom Casady said that device is about \$800 so it is a little more expensive than a cellular phone but not that much and that the cost is in the hardening rather than in the chipset. Neil said they have done things to make FirstNet affordable to public safety both in on-going costs and the cost of purchasing devices. Neil said that after listening to the call yesterday in Iowa that he believes FirstNet is listening to the states and users as they plan to roll this network out. Lynn Marshall asked if the technology will actually be in the device rather than the tower site and Neil agreed.

Bill Lundy asked if when they get the roaming agreements and there is no FirstNet in the panhandle. Will they will do a Class of Service to exclude their regular customers because their original discussion was the fear of being sued if they bump someone off that has a medical emergency? Gene Hand said that LTE will have an impact by bringing in two networks you are going to be able to do some of the things of the future that you may see someone collaborating with one another that you have never seen in the

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

past. Neil said back to Class of Service, public safety has been told by the carriers that they can't give you priority of service due exactly to the fact that they can't bump off a customer having a medical emergency to give public safety priority. Neil said there will be some policy decisions that the Working Group and the NPSCC will need to address. We would have a set of recommendations to the NPSCC on how the Working Group recommends. It will take a lot of work and input to get it right.

Jon Rosenlund said as he thinks about the idea of voice and data communications is going to change. Everything will be handled by an app. The idea that a 911 call may be blocked by a fire department pancake feed will be rendered mute because the 911 call by its nature can receive the highest priority. Jon says he can see carriers selling devices in a tiered level of priority. Some have preemption and some don't depending on the customer or discipline. What is to stop a public safety entity with limited funds to purchase the devices with the least priority and then being denied access when they really need it? He fears the lack of money will cause agencies to down grade when their role should really require an upgrade. Neil said that basically you are a public safety agency or you are not. They want no part in determining whether the firefighter should have access over the police officer over the paramedic with a 12 lead ECG to transmit. FirstNet is telling us that with the capacity that will be built into the system we don't need to be concerned about capacity when it is a public safety event. Jim Weeda commented that he agreed that with the few number of public safety users on the system that it doesn't appear that access would be denied. Tom Casady said the preemption factor would not be a function of the device, it would be a network function and in the credentials of the subscriber and whether you can access Band 14 as a public safety subscriber or not. Tom Casady and Matthew May commented that at the conference they attended that it has already been determined that after a certain date in the near future all cellular devices will be built dual band with Band 14 in them. Tom felt that with the normal upgrading of cellular devices that the public engages that most phones in the nation would soon have Band 14 in them. Tom said in Lincoln's agencies they try to change out the mobile data devices every time a vehicle gets changed out and that is a 4 year cycle. Jim Weeda said they started down that road when you used to buy either a CDMA or a GSM compatible device. Now the only thing that I am restricted by is if I go to Verizon I am locked into CDMA and I can't put a GSM card in it unless he gets the phone hacked.

Micheal Dwyer said that what Jon Rosenlund eluded to earlier is a concern. The cost of implementation particularly for small volunteer fire departments will be a huge factor across the state with the disparity in funding. As we roll this out there needs to be consideration to whether you have a heart attack in Omaha or in Western Nebraska you are going to want the same kind of devices, reception etc. Neil said there are a couple of issues. It is like being able to call 911 with my cell phone from every square foot of Nebraska. The answer right now is I can't. The way we aggregate that on the 911 side is we are agnostic to carriers. If you make a 911 call with a Sprint phone in an area that has no Sprint coverage the call goes through on a Verizon or another carriers tower that does have coverage. The problem comes when no carrier has coverage in an area. He said he doesn't think we are going to fix those issues with FirstNet

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

because they are carrier issues. The only way to fix those locations that have no coverage is to build towers. There has to be another need in an area to encourage the carriers to see a financial gain to do so. Micheal said he was speaking more about the resources larger agencies have over the more rural agencies. Neil hopes that there will be some type of federal grant program to help rural agencies build broadband capabilities and be able to utilize FirstNet. Neil said it is important to remember that rural agencies have the same safety and service concerns as do the larger city agencies.

Lynn Marshall said that we know subscriber counts builds networks. He asked if there any speculation on any states that might opt-out? Wilhelm talked about Mississippi and how Colorado and New Hampshire and perhaps a few states are looking at doing RFI's to see if opting-out is feasible.

Neil said these were good comments and questions and that this is why is important to get input from the different disciplines and do this thing together. Tom Casady said it will be important that the users will need to be trained to be mindful of the amount of bandwidth there network usage eats up so they can be smarter in their conservation efforts.

Jon Rosenlund said he suspected that the vast number of cell phones that responders carry are not owned by their agencies so you are going to have to have some ubiquity among the cell phone policies of public safety. This will require a real clear policy on network use by responder owned devices. Determining who will monitor and enforce the policies will be important. Ed Toner thinks this will be controlled through mobile device management at the network level.

Bill Lundy thought the management of devices and who has access and keeping updated will be labor intensive for many smaller agencies.

**DISCUSSION ON HOW TO REVIEW, EVALUATE AND SHARE THE STATE PLAN - WILHELM**

Wilhelm briefed on the State Plan review and how FirstNet reported at the last Working Group meeting at which they projected state plans may be released in mid-2017 (all timelines are fluid leading up to the presentation of the plan to the Governor). FirstNet also said there would be a massive amount of information released with the plan and to avoid a huge volume of paper that is why it was being released electronically. Things that need to happen between now and then are

- that they will need to evaluate the bids they received and make a selection
- process any grievances
- draft state plans
- release the draft of the plans to allow states to see and evaluate (unsure how much time for draft review will be allowed)
- and then release the final state plan to the Governor who will then have 90 days to make the decision to either opt-in or opt-out.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

These things got the OCIO talking about how to assure that an adequate review and assessment of the state plan occurs and that the Governor and stakeholders receives the best information to base their decisions on. This began a conversation about the appropriateness of hiring a consultant to review the plan for the state. Although opting-out does not seem feasible at this time it seemed the Governor would benefit from a review from experts outside of state government to help to advise him on the decision. The review, as long as it did not look at or address creating an alternate opt-out plan for the state, could utilize the State and Local Implementation Grant Program funds to funds to pay for the review.

Wilhelm reported that the release will occur on a portal with two entry points. One portal will be secured for the Governor and his advisors as it may contain proprietary information and the other will be for stakeholders.

Wilhelm asked the Working Group if they thought this was a good idea and if so what kind of deliverables would we want to see out of this review? Tom Nutt said he was interested in Colorado as they are hiring someone to review their plan and Tom felt this was the way to go. He said he felt mistakes could be made and it made sense to hire someone the expertise to review the plan. Wilhelm advised he had spoken with Kansas recently and their governor told them that he wanted them to do an RFP to have a consultant review the Kansas plan. Kansas also advised that they were aware that Colorado had received their responses and were in the process of evaluating them now and that Colorado was willing to share that information if we would sign a Non-Disclosure-Agreement (NDA). Tom Nutt felt this was an excellent idea. Lynn Marshall thought it would be good to put this into a timeline for the Working Group to digest and determine how much time the Working Group has to make a recommendation.

Matthew May thought this seemed like a good idea but wondered if such experts existed. I told the WG that there are some companies that already have contracts with some states regarding FirstNet activities. Two that we know of are Televate and Mission Critical Partners (MCP). Wilhelm told the group that if the review could be done for under \$50K we would not need to do an RFP. Bill Lundy asked who would determine the requirements or deliverables from such a review? Wilhelm said that the RFI from Colorado has an extensive list of deliverables that are much more than what we would need. Ray Ryan asked if we could partner with another state. Wilhelm said we would look to see if that would be ok with the purchasing people. Gene Hand said that if half the states opt out it would seem that the price the vendor would provide for the service would be different than if they all opted in. Without seeing the price side of this it is difficult to make a decision and the price side of this might be fluid during and up to the time the Governor needs to make his decision. Tom Nutt said as a county commissioner before they proceed on any major project they have it evaluated by an expert and he agrees we definitely have it looked at before the decision is made. Tom Casady said he is in the midst of having the multi-million dollar P25 radio system built and when they started down this road they hired a consultant to help them develop the RFP. At the time he thought they were perfectly capable of handling it themselves. The

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

main reason they did the consultant was to shield the project from politics and he said "boy am I glad we did!" He said it turns out this firm has done a marvelous job to help them understand the proposals and point out things they might have missed. Their reach and experience has been very positive. Tom Casady thinks it is a good idea to go with the consultant. Ed Toner commented that those were exactly the reasons why we should utilize a consultant and retain the expertise for the evaluation. There are things we may overlook. Tom Casady thought it would be a good idea if you could find a firm that was doing this in other states so we could capitalize on their expertise.

Tom Nutt thought it would be great to have an executive summary to present to elected officials such as NACO members. Bill Lundy thought a listing of pros and cons. Ed Toner thought the biggest value may be to have an outside source that can tell us what we would be getting.

A motion by Tom Nutt and Matthew May motioned to recommend from the Working Group that the state consider hiring a consultant to review and assess the FirstNet state plan for Nebraska.

Gene Hand asked if we wouldn't see the state plan from 9 months to a year from now. He felt it seemed to him that no one with any experience would be interested in this until more information is released or the plan is released by FirstNet. He questioned how much time was really needed for the hiring process and especially this far in advance. Wilhelm commented that those were good points but when considering the purchasing and processes involving an RFP that the process could take 6 to 9 months.

Lynn Marshall said that comes back to the question about what are the actions expected of this group? How much time as a Working Group to set through and identify all of that and put together the recommendations? That is why he thinks a timeline whether it is right or wrong gives them a better idea of the time they have at different points in the process. At what point in time does the consultant go to work for us. Wilhelm explained that once on board and before the plan release the consultant could review the FirstNet reading room and the data collection information that Nebraska submitted so they could familiarize themselves with what Nebraska has done and the expectations we sent to FirstNet. Neil said FirstNet will look like FirstNet and what are our concerns about what they bring? What does our coverage look like? What is our capacity? What are the priority areas look like that the Working Group committee told them we wanted and deployment phases? Are they following those recommendations or has FirstNet just gone and done something totally different. Neil continued that not that we would be able to change it but it would be nice to know before they started building anything whether or not we are going to get anything out of this whole deal that we spent all this time working on. There are people that can look at that and tell us if we are getting what we had asked for who are LTE expert people. Tom Casady said he is picturing a succinct report that can be laid on the Governor's desk that evaluates the FirstNet program for Nebraska. Gene Hand said it sounds like we need a subcommittee to work on identifying what we want from the review that can be placed into an RFP. Ed Toner said I think the first request is do we go outside to seek a consultant and he thought there was consensus that we should do that. Then he said if we are going to go in this direction the question is

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

what is our RFP going to look like. If we go over \$50K we need to RFP it and it seems it might go over that amount. Ed said Bob is looking at other states to see what we can learn from them on what they are doing. He said if we don't get started now we won't have enough time.

Public comment from a citizen and as an elected official associated with Nebraskalink was that we have people who have written RFP's for some of the biggest telecom and data projects at the state. This is his first exposure to learning about FirstNet and Tom Rolfus (OCIO) is probably one of those people who can write an RFP for anything he is just that good. We have telephone consultants all over the state that would have the state's best interest in mind if they were involved and would help write an RFP. When you do something like this my worry as a citizen is that the person evaluating this and driving it should have the state's best interest at heart and it should be a Nebraskan and we have them here in this state.

Neil Miller called for a vote on the motion to hire a consultant and it passed. Gene Hand asked how do we move forward and making sure that Nebraska companies as well as others have an opportunity to bid. Ed Toner said that would come from the OCIO and we could use OCIO employees to help in that effort and would not necessarily have them be from the Working Group members.

A subcommittee of the Working Group should be identified to help move forward and identify the deliverables. We will move forward with a contractor. Lynn Marshall thought Neil Miller gave us a good start on a deliverables list. Wilhelm said he would send out Colorado's RFI to review and asked the members to submit their thoughts on the deliverables to him. Members would need to sign an NDA to view the responses that Colorado received. Gene Hand asked about a possible timeline on the bids. Wilhelm said November is when FirstNet hopes to have a partner identified and be able to move forward then. All is contingent on whether or not grievances are filed.

Ed Toner thought that we would need to have an RFP on the street by at least March and we need to start now to get the RFP going. Six months is typical.

Discussion of the RFP would be an agenda item on the next meeting. It was decided that a December meeting would be too late and Ed thought we should move that up. The group thought we should have our next Working Group meeting in October.

Tom Casady said once the RFP is in draft form he is comfortable with giving a consensus on the RFP via email. Volunteers for the sub-committee are Tom Casady, Matthew May, Bill Lundy and Neil Miller. Wilhelm said we would conduct business of the sub-committee via a conference call bridge to eliminate long distance travel.

Jon Rosenlund suggested briefing the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Committee and keeping them in the loop.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

**FIRSTNET'S METRO LEADERSHIP BRIEFING IN NEBRASKA--WILHELM**

FirstNet wants to go to the metro areas and provide a briefing to public safety leaders, elected officials, procurement officers, IT leaders and individuals and offices that will be involved in the decisions related to FirstNet in their jurisdictions. In Nebraska that would include the Tri-County Region and Douglas, Sarpy and Washington Counties.

Tom Casady said he would like to have his mayor and other city officials to get a thirty thousand foot view of FirstNet and he would work to get them there. He has a couple of council members who are interested in technology and he thought they would be willing to attend. Tom thought it would be good to make it available to other jurisdictions besides those three counties.

Ed Toner mentioned that we had concerns about limiting it to the metropolitan area and he mentioned that FirstNet had agreed to look at having another meeting further west. Ed said he thought we wanted to be a little more inclusive than just the metropolitan area. Wilhelm said they might be willing to broaden the first one to Omaha and Lincoln and then go further west to include the larger communities along I80. Ed said that was his hope if we could accomplish that. All thought that it would be good to do two sessions. Matthew May had the Metro Engagement handout which identified the types people by positions that might be beneficial to attend and he asked if they identify individuals in their jurisdictions if they should get those names to Wilhelm and Wilhelm agreed!

Neil Miller said he would like to see us try two if not three of the meetings and asked Wilhelm to try to talk them into it. Micheal Dwyer commented that he thought we should ask them to have two or three regional meetings as if nothing else it sounds better in Nebraska than metro. To which Jim Weeda commented yes because they consider Sidney as metro out in their area!

Sheriff Miller asked if there were other items to discuss and Wilhelm reported that the Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association (NEMSA) had asked if they could be represented on the Working Group. He said this came up as he recently staffed a booth at their convention and made great contacts and received a lot of interest. Their chairperson asked if they could appoint a representative to be on the Working Group. Wilhelm said if the Working Group agreed then he would bring this before the Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC) to seek their approval as it will require a change in the Working Group Charter to include a new member to the WG. Tom Casady moved to recommend that we request a representative from NEMSA be appointed to the Working Group and Lynn Marshall seconded the motion. Motion carried after a vote.

**NEXT MEETING**

Neil Miller thought we will see a change in that the quarterly meetings we have been used to for now won't be frequent enough based on the work that needs to be done. He thought maybe every other month for a while which would put the next meeting in the middle of October. Neil Miller mentioned that the Nebraska APCO meeting was the week before Halloween. Wilhelm said he would email out a

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND WORKING GROUP MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2016 1:00 P.M.  
COUNTRY INN & SUITES  
5353 NORTH 27<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LINCOLN, NE  
MEETING MINUTES

date to the group. Lynn Marshall agreed that we will need to have more frequent meetings to get our work accomplished.

Gene Hand mentioned that he is retiring and this will be his last meeting. He said the commission will be appointing someone to replace him. Gene also reported that the Commission hired David Sankey as the lead in their NextGen 9-1-1 effort and he may be the replacement on the Working Group. He said there is a lot of work to do in less than a year and a half. They are hiring other staff to help in the effort to put a NextGen 9-1-1 plan in front of the legislature by the end of next year. Gene said that nationally they had been working on TOPOPO which is looking at NextGen 9-1-1 on a national basis and how we fund it. He said it is pretty clear at the national level that they are starting to figure out that FirstNet and NextGen probably should have been a package deal early on with the funding figured out.

Neil Miller thanked Gene for all he had done and that he brought a lot of knowledge to the table and wished him well in his retirement. Ed Toner said that we are going to miss Gene as part of Network Nebraska and they will miss him from that and it is a big loss.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jon Rosenlund said he liked the idea of meeting often but if you find that attendance is going to be a challenge he suggested that we utilize the Public Policy Center and their teleconference abilities. He said they are getting paid to do work for the NPSCC and others and have them set up their zoom teleconference capability. He said because the more often you meet the more likely it will be that you are missing members. He thought it would be allowable to teleconference the meeting. Wilhelm acknowledged that we could if we met certain criteria. Jon said that is just a suggestion he would make if we found getting a quorum was difficult we should go ahead and zoom it out. Lynn Marshall said at our last meeting we just barely had a quorum. Wilhelm agreed and said that if people do as Julie Righter-Dove did when she knew she wouldn't be able to attend she let me know that Ray Ryan would be here in her place. This gives your replacement voting privileges and they are counted for the quorum. Lynn Marshall said Jon Rosenlund is his alternate.

**ADJOURN**

Neil Miller made a motion to adjourn.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 3:05 P.M.**