

## **Bylaws of the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network Governing Board**

### **Article I. Name**

The name of the Board is the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network Governing Board (hereinafter "NRIN Board"). The NRIN Board shall report to the Nebraska Public Agency Members of the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Development and Use of the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN).

### **Article II. Purpose**

Section 1. The NRIN Board is created to govern, manage, and coordinate NRIN to support public safety communications in Nebraska. NRIN will allow multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary interoperability to ensure a competent level of local, regional, and statewide prevention, communication, cooperation, and coordination for an all-hazards incident necessary to execute a wide range of incident management operations.

Section 2. Governance. The Board shall establish policies to ensure quality of service standards, priority of service, data replication and backup, security standards, equipment and replacement standards, maintenance standards, allocation of bandwidths, monitoring and testing standards, and other operational areas necessary for the effective and efficient operation of NRIN. The Board may enter into contracts for monitoring, management, and maintenance of NRIN; expertise to advise the Board in fulfilling its duties; leases for towers that support NRIN equipment; NRIN usage by non-members; administrative functions to support the Board in fulfilling its duties; and other functions for the effective and efficient operation of NRIN. At least quarterly, the Board shall review NRIN use including traffic flow, usage patterns, and outages and make policy changes to improve NRIN functioning.

Section 3. Financial Sustainability Plan. The Board shall develop a financial plan identifying resources for sustainment of NRIN. Prior to the first day of the fiscal year, the Board shall project expenses to effectively operate NRIN, project other revenue sources, and assess costs of the Members.

### **Article III. Directorship**

Section 1. The NRIN Board shall consist of two Directors elected by NRIN Members of each participating Nebraska communications region. Any NRIN Member may nominate a candidate.

Section 2. Each NRIN Member shall have one vote and shall vote only for candidates who represent the region containing the Member public agency. Directors are elected by receiving the largest number of votes of any candidate.

Section 3. Directors elected to serve on the NRIN Board shall serve for a term of three calendar years at a time. Directors may be re-elected for any number of terms.

Section 4. Directors shall serve staggered terms to promote Board stability and continuity. Subsequent election of Directors shall occur in the following years:

<b>PET Region</b>	<b>Director Number</b>	<b>Term</b>
Panhandle	Director 1	2020, 2023, ...
	Director 2	2019, 2022, ...
Southwest	Director 1	2018, 2021, ...
	Director 2	2020, 2023, ...
North Central	Director 1	2019, 2022, ...
	Director 2	2018, 2021, ...
South Central	Director 1	2020, 2023, ...
	Director 2	2019, 2022, ...
East Central	Director 1	2018, 2021, ...
	Director 2	2020, 2023, ...
Northeast	Director 1	2019, 2022, ...
	Director 2	2018, 2021, ...
Southeast	Director 1	2020, 2023, ...
	Director 2	2019, 2022, ...

Section 5. Directors, in consultation with Member in their regions, may resign their position as Director. Resignation requires written notice from the Director to the NRIN Board chairperson.

Section 6. A 2/3 majority of Members within a region may petition to terminate a Director from that region. Upon the petition by a 2/3 majority of Members within a region, the Director shall be terminated.

Section 7. Attendance will be evaluated each year from July 1 through June 30 based on number of meetings called. If a Director does not attend a majority of those meetings, he or she will be terminated. The chair person will contact all Members in the region and request appointment of a new Director for the remaining term.

Section 8. The NRIN Board shall develop and implement election procedures for scheduled elections and filling Board vacancies. Election procedures shall be communicated to all NRIN Members.

#### **Article IV. Officers**

Section 1. Candidates for the positions of chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary shall be nominated by a Director of the NRIN Board and elected by majority of the NRIN Board.

Section 2. The term of office for each officer shall be 12 months.

Section 3. Elections may be by secret ballot or roll call vote as determined by majority of the voting members.

Section 4. The chairperson shall open meetings at the appointed time, determine quorum present, announce proper sequence of business before the assembly, recognize members entitled to the floor, state and put to a vote all legitimate motions before the assembly, announce the results of each vote, protect the assembly from frivolous motions, expedite business while recognizing the rights and duties of members, decide all questions of order, authenticate his/her signature as necessary and adjourn the meeting.

Section 5. The vice-chairperson shall serve as meeting chair during the absence of the chairperson and perform other governance duties as assigned by the chairperson.

Section 6. The secretary shall keep a record of all meeting proceedings and Board decisions, keep on file all subcommittee reports, keep and take membership role, make minutes available to Directors and Members, provide officers with documents necessary to perform duties, sign certified copies of acts of the Board, maintain bylaws and procedures, notify Directors of meetings, and post meeting announcements and agendas.

Section 7. Officers may be removed for cause upon affirmative roll call vote of a simple majority of total Directors.

#### **Article V. Voting**

Section 1. Only NRIN Board Directors present in meetings either in-person or, as authorized, by videoconference have the right to vote on any question which has been moved, seconded and called for vote.

Section 2. Directors may abstain from voting or vote aye or nay. All votes for action items will be recorded by roll call vote.

Section 3. A simple majority of Directors present is required for a motion to pass.

#### **Article VI. Meetings**

Section 1. NRIN Board meetings will be conducted in accordance with provisions in the Nebraska "Open Meetings Law", § 84-1408 through 84-1414.

Section 2. Agendas will be established 15 days prior to the meeting date when possible to allow Directors ample time to circulate action items among their stakeholders. Publication of agendas will follow guidelines set forth in the Open Meetings Law as referenced in Article VI, Section 1.

Section 3. The NRIN Board will meet as often as needed to accomplish the goals set forth in the Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Development and Use of the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network.

Section 4. A quorum for conducting business shall be a simple majority of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Public participants at NRIN Board meetings may speak on agenda items outside the public comment period when determined appropriate to assist in resolving the agenda item or when properly identified and recognized by the chairperson.

Section 6. Meeting minutes shall be provided to all NRIN Board of Directors and posted according to the Open Meetings Law.

**Article VII. Committees**

The NRIN Board may establish sub-committees and temporary working groups to address operating procedures and special projects.

**Article VIII. Nonvoting Ex-Officio Directors**

The NRIN Board may request representation of public or private agencies at NRIN Board meetings. Representatives of these agencies are nonvoting Directors and may participate in NRIN Board meeting discussions, provide advice to the NRIN Board and represent their agency's interests. Ex-Officio Directors do not have a defined term and shall not be counted toward the quorum. Ex-Officio Directors shall be designated by their agency and may be appointed or terminated by a majority of voting Directors.

**Article IX. Amendments of Bylaws**

These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the NRIN Board by an affirmative roll call vote of 2/3 of the membership, provided the amendment has been placed on the agenda as an action item.

**Article X. Adoption of Bylaws**

Adopted by the NRIN Board by affirmative roll call vote this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016:

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Vice-chairperson