

# Region 44 Emergency Management 2016 Annual Report

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This report highlights activities, accomplishments and an overall review of the Emergency Management Program

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## Overview & Governance

Boone County Board of Commissioners, Merrick County Board of Supervisors, and Nance County Board of Supervisors maintain an *Interlocal Agreement for Emergency Management Services* that established Region 44 Emergency Management to effectively manage emergency management function for the jurisdictions. Region 44 Emergency Management provides quarterly reports to the Emergency Management Supervisory Committee. The Emergency Management Supervisory Committee is comprised of a member appointed from each County Board. Board members of the committee is responsible for review of emergency manager performance, recommending and providing policy direction, serves as an advisory committee, governs operations of the department, liaison to resolve issues, and recommends a budget to the County Board for approval.

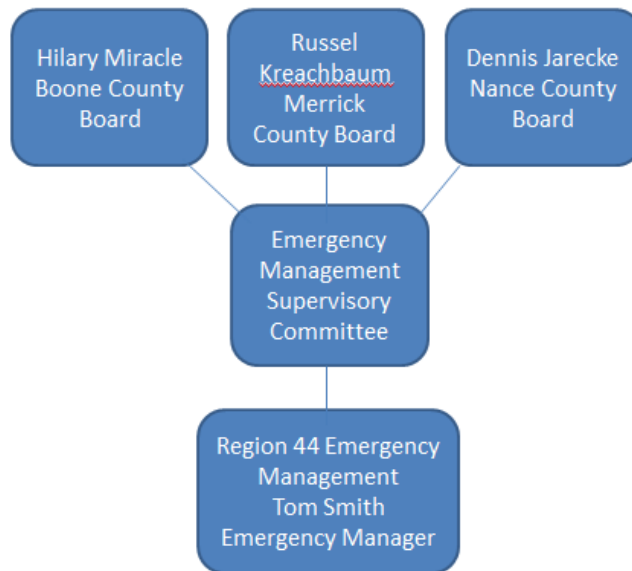


Figure 1: Governance

## Mission

The mission of the Region 44 Emergency Management Program is to provide integrated and comprehensive emergency management services necessary to protect Boone, Merrick and Nance Counties from all hazards in a cost-effective, implementable, and sustainable manner.

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## 2016 Annual Report Executive Summary

### Planning, Exercise, Training

An aggressive calendar of planning, training and exercise events provided agencies within Region 44 and partners with considerable improvements in their own practices and procedures, while building and improving organizational relationships. Examples include Closed Point of Dispensing Exercise through the East Central District Health Department, Damage Assessment Training, Accountability and tracking training, National Incident Management System Training, and Animal Rescue.

### Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Throughout 2016 and early 2017, Region 44 Emergency Management updated each county's documentation within the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) revision. The HMP will be sent to NEMA and FEMA for formal review and acceptance. Nance County was not previously a participant in the Hazard Mitigation Planning Process. Participation in Hazard Mitigation Planning provides mitigation grant opportunities to participating jurisdictions of a FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### Incident Response

On January 11<sup>th</sup> 2016, an ice jam occurred in the Platte River south of Clarks near the Highway 91 Bridge. On January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the Merrick County Board signed a disaster declaration. Region 44 coordinated with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Central Platte Natural Resource District, and the Summerwood Lake Association to ready for further flooding. The River was monitored for nearly a month until the ice jam completely removed itself.



Figure 2: February 2016 Ice Jam Discussion

## Budgetary Review

The budget for the Emergency Management Department and its programs features a combination of County General Fund contributions, separate Special Revenue Funds for 911-related expenses, and various grant awards. Expenses are assigned to the most appropriate and available funding source.

### General Fund

All General Fund expenses and receipts are divided based on valuation between each county. By Interlocal Agreement, Nance County manages all department expenses and receipts on behalf of the Emergency Management Department. The General Fund provides funds for the majority of Emergency Management programs, including emergency management department expenses, and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)/ Citizen Corps.

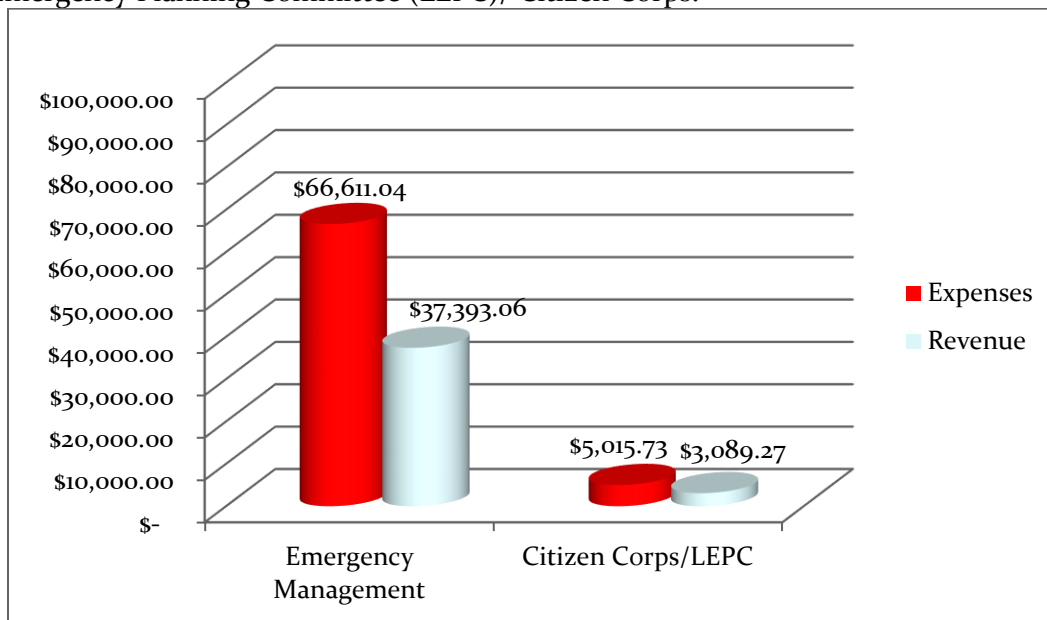


Figure 3: General Fund FY2016 (July 2016 to Mar 2017)

### Emergency Management (693/696) Budget Details

The Emergency Management budget includes costs for one FTE, one paid summer internship, operational expenses, and new equipment. Operational expenses include maintenance contracts for emergency warning systems, equipment, operational systems, and supplies. The Emergency Management Program is supported by a series of Federal grants, primarily the Emergency Management Program Grant (EMPG)<sup>1</sup>, administered by NEMA<sup>2</sup>. Other grant opportunities include the Hazard Mitigation Grant (HMGP)<sup>3</sup>, Hazardous Material Emergency Planning Grant (HMEP)<sup>4</sup>, and Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) administered by the East Central Planning Exercise and Training Region (ECPET).

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-performance-grant-program>

<sup>2</sup> <https://nema.nebraska.gov/preparedness/grants>

<sup>3</sup> <https://nema.nebraska.gov/preparedness/state-administrative-plan-hazard-mitigation-grant-program>

<sup>4</sup> <https://nema.nebraska.gov/tech-hazard/hazardous-materials-emergency-planning-hmep-grant>

### **Emergency Management Program Grant (EMPG)**

The EMPG provides resources to assist State and local governments to sustain and enhance all hazards emergency management capabilities. Emergency management agencies have the opportunity to use EMPG funds to further strengthen their ability to support emergency management activities while simultaneously addressing issues of national concern as identified in the National Priorities of the National Preparedness Guidelines. EMPG has a 50% Federal and 50% local cash or in-kind match requirement. In FY2016, Region 44 Emergency Management received \$39,318.57 in EMPG funding to sustain the Emergency Management Program. EMPG funds were used to offset costs of personnel, equipment, supplies, and maintenance contracts. The local 50% match is provided by the General Fund contributions by each county.

### **LEPC Budget (695) Budget Details**

The LEPC budget provides for all expenses of the LEPC and the Citizen Corps Programs. Revenues collected in this budget include grant reimbursements from programs like Citizen Corps and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) grants. In general, the majority of expenses from this budget are reimbursed in part or whole by grants.

### **Emergency Management Equipment Budget (696) Budget Details**

This budget was developed to assist with the siren projects for the fiscal year. The majority of expenses from this budget are reimbursed in part or whole by HMPG grants or reimbursements.

### **Homeland Security Grants**

Homeland Security Grants are managed by a multi-county Planning Exercise & Training (PET) Region (see Figure 4) established by the State of Nebraska. Counties in Region 44 belong to the East Central Planning Exercise and Training Region (ECPET). Grant funds are allocated according to local needs that comply with State and National funding priorities. In recent years, the Homeland Security Grant has connected each County's Public Safety Answering Point/911 (PSAP) to the Nebraska Radio Interoperability Network (NRIN), as well as regular support to radio interoperability equipment allowing the PSAP dispatcher to monitor common frequencies available to agencies throughout the state. Grant Funding for Citizen Corp Program is allocated in similar process as all Homeland Security Grant projects within the State of Nebraska.

### **Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant (HMEP)**

Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) grants are used to develop, improve, and implement emergency plans; train public sector hazardous materials (hazmat) emergency response employees to respond to accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials in transportation; determine flow patterns of hazardous materials within a state and between states; and determine the need within a state for regional hazardous materials emergency response teams. HMEP Grant supports administrative functions of each county LEPC. In 2016, County LEPCs received \$680.59 in HMEP funding to purchase Shelter-in-place brochures and in March 2017, \$3,880.50 in HMEP funding was awarded to Boone LEPC for reconstitution of decontamination trailer.

### **Non-Region 44 Emergency Management Revenue**

Region 44 Emergency Management assists agencies in receiving various revenues. This revenue does not support Region 44 operating costs and is not directly used for the Region 44 emergency management program.



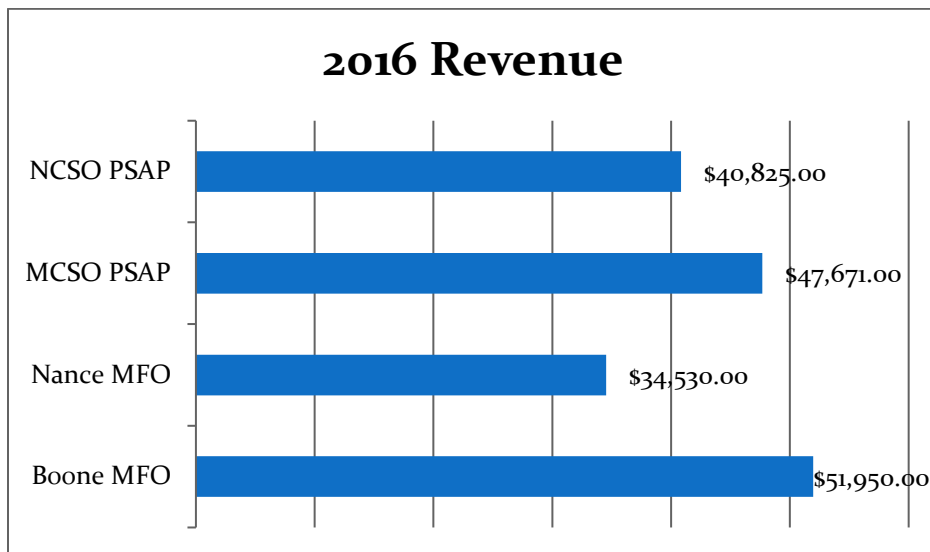


Figure 4: Non-Region 44 Emergency Management Revenue

### Mutual Finance Organizations

As defined in Mutual Finance Assistance Act, a mutual finance organization (MFO) means a group of rural or suburban fire protection districts, cities, or villages which enter into an agreement pursuant to section NE Code 35-1204 to cooperate for purposes of financing operational and equipment needs for fire protection, emergency response, or training within their joint areas of operation<sup>5</sup>. The State Treasurer shall review all applications for eligibility for funds under the act and approve any application which is accurate and demonstrates that the applicant is eligible for funds. In August 2016, Boone County Mutual Finance Organization was awarded \$51,950.00 and Nance County MFO was awarded \$34,530.00

### Wireless E911 Fund (2913/2914)

Region 44 Emergency Management has assisted Merrick County Sheriff's Office PSAP and Nance County Sheriff's Office PSAP in requesting and managing their wireless 911 funds. Wireless E911 telephone surcharges of \$0.45 per month are collected by the Nebraska Public Service Commission (PSC)<sup>6</sup> and distributed for use by Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) through a complex Wireless E911 Support Allocation Model. Loosely based on population, this allocation is determined by the PSC and distributed to the PSAPs in 12 monthly installments. The PSC has established a list of eligible expenses for the Wireless E911 funds that includes a number of E911-related expenses such as operating costs, dispatch personnel, 3rd party language translation services, and any training solely related to the wireless E911 system. In 2016 Merrick County Sheriff's Office received \$47,671.00 and Nance County Sheriff's Office received \$40,825.00.

<sup>5</sup> <http://law.justia.com/codes/nebraska/2014/chapter-35/statute-35-1202>

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.psc.nebraska.gov/ntips/ntips\\_e911.html](http://www.psc.nebraska.gov/ntips/ntips_e911.html)

## Program Reports

### Regional and Statewide Interoperable Communications

The Emergency Management Department is actively involved in a number of regional and statewide projects contributing to communications interoperability between agencies, counties and with the State of Nebraska.

### Region 44 Emergency Management Operational Coordination Assessment and Study

In December 2016, Region 44 Emergency Manager proposed a need for an operational coordination assessment and study of communications throughout Region 44 to the Emergency Management Supervisory Committee. The assessment will provide a comprehensive overview of the public safety communications current system. The purpose of this assessment is to identify gaps and needs to enhance operational coordination and communication. Each county will receive a written report with suggestions for improvements if applicable and suggest possible alternatives if identified. The report will also identify costs and options for consolidating dispatch center operations at a single location. Funding for the assessment and study was approved by each county board in February 2017.

### NRIN

Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) is an IP (“Internet Protocol”) microwave network using towers across the state. It will carry voice data and connect the 911 centers across the state. Currently NRIN supports the East Central 911 system connecting Boone County, Merrick County and Nance County Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP). NRIN also has the potential for providing the connectivity for text to 911, state teletype, and many other data services necessary to 911 centers. NEMA is contracting on behalf of local government to build out the microwave network at more than 200 tower locations. In Region 44, there are 7 fully operational NRIN sites. Region 44 Emergency Manager is involved in grant writing process to acquire generator at Silver Creek NRIN Site.

### FirstNET

A mandate of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 created the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)<sup>7</sup> as an independent authority within the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA). Their charge is to provide emergency responders with the first high-speed, nationwide network dedicated to public safety. The State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) was funded to assist the states with the information sharing, stakeholder identification and planning activities necessary at the local and state levels to provide FirstNet with the information they will need to design and build this network. The State of Nebraska has initiated is a three year planning project funded by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) through the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP). The purpose of the grant is to assist Nebraska and its local jurisdictions with the planning phase of this project in identifying their broadband needs for the build out of this Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network. Half of the grant funds are retained to be used for the states data/infrastructure information collection portion of the grant. All of which will help with the state in consultation with FirstNet in the design of the Network in Nebraska to create a design plan for FirstNet to deliver to the Governor. When complete, the FirstNet system will provide public safety agencies with high speed data which can contribute to

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.firstnet.gov/>

effective statewide access for mobile terminals, VOIP communications, interagency information sharing, 911 system sharing between PSAPs, and much more. Region 44 Emergency Manager is the local contact for FirstNet.

## Emergency Management Program

The Nebraska Emergency Management Act<sup>8</sup> states that elected officers of local government are responsible for ensuring that emergency management services are provided to their citizens. This includes a requirement to establish a local emergency management organization at the city, village, county or interjurisdictional level. Region 44 Emergency Management Program is based upon standards established by NFPA Standard 16007 and the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). These elements include:

- Administration & Finance
- Laws & Authorities
- Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
- Hazard Mitigation
- Prevention & Security
- Planning
- Incident Management
- Resource Management & Logistics
- Mutual Aid
- Communications & Warning
- Operations & Procedures
- Facilities
- Training
- Exercises, Evaluations & Corrective Actions
- Crisis Communication & Public Information



## Emergency Operations Center

Region 44 Emergency Management does not have a single designated Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to provide a venue for the direction and control of resources by agency representatives from each of our major emergency partners. An EOC is organized to operate according to the Emergency Support Function (ESF) model used by FEMA and NEMA. FEMA defines ESFs as “mechanisms for grouping functions most frequently used to provide Federal support to States and Federal-to-Federal support, both for declared disasters and emergencies under the Stafford Act and for non-Stafford Act incidents.” As Federal, State and local resources are coordinated in a common ESF framework, a “resource conduit” of sorts is maintained whereby agencies with related duties and resources are easily connected for more efficient communication between the different levels of government. To that end, Region 44 Emergency Manager has explored various ways to establish and maintain an EOC. In the past year, Region 44 Emergency Manager has worked with partners to share EOC and Communications equipment; this includes a mobile emergency operations center use agreement.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://nema.nebraska.gov/sites/nema.nebraska.gov/files/doc/nebraska-emergency-management-act.pdf>

## Incident Command System Training & Incident Management Team Development

Region 44 Emergency Management is continuing its efforts to develop a Type 4 All-Hazards Incident Management Team (IMT)<sup>9</sup> within Region 44, regional, and with East Central PET. The IMT is team of trained emergency response professionals that will be specifically prepared to gather during large and uncommon incidents and events to coordinate our local response. IMT members will be prepared to fill specific rolls in the incident command structure and perform the necessary ICS functions of Command, Operations, Logistics, Planning, Finance & Administration, Public Information and Liaison. The IMT will be multi-agency team of 9-15 trained personnel that responds to incidents that are typically contained within a few operational periods. Each ICS position will have people trained for that position in order to allow for the rotation of staff, redundancy of skill sets, and continuity of the team. The IMT may be dispatched to manage or help manage incidents requiring a significant number of local and mutual aid resources. Incidents that a IMT may be utilized at include severe weather incidents and their cascading impacts, major structure fires, multi-vehicle crashes with multiple patients, armed robbery operations, or a hazmat spill. The IMT may also be used at public events such as the County Fairs, and events along the River.

Local personnel have received position specific training in All Hazards Incident Commander, Planning Section Chief, and Finance/Admin Section Chief. Future efforts to develop this IMT will include exercising the IMTs as outlined in the Region 44 Emergency Management Emergency Management 5 year training plan.

## Public Information & Outreach

Region 44 Emergency Management is committed to informing and empowering the public in order to encourage personal preparedness. Region 44 Emergency Management does this through:

1. Public education and training sessions,
2. Sponsoring volunteer opportunities through Citizen Corps programs, and
3. Aggressive information sharing on social media (Facebook, Twitter).

Region 44 Emergency Management uses a diverse set of venues in order to provide public information to the widest possible audience. Region 44 Emergency Management provides presentations to local organizations and groups, and sponsors regular training sessions such as CERT and Storm Spotting. In the past year, Region 44 Emergency Management managed a booth at each (Boone, Merrick, Nance) county fair, attended City Chamber Meetings, and Ministerial Association meetings.



<sup>9</sup> [https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/imt/imt\\_overview.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/imt/imt_overview.html)

## **Emergency Warning Systems**

Region 44 Emergency Management contracts with AlertSense to provide internal and public mass notifications. Through AlertSense, Region 44 Emergency Management has the ability to notify internal staff and volunteers, as well as residents who have voluntarily registered for wireless alerts, including voice, text or email. In addition to wireless phone alerts, the AlertSense system provides access to FEMA's Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS). Federal, State, territorial, tribal and local alerting authorities can use IPAWS and integrate local systems that use Common Alerting Protocol standards with the IPAWS infrastructure. IPAWS provides public safety officials with an effective way to alert and warn the public about serious emergencies using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, and other public alerting systems from a single interface. Region 44 Emergency Management offers this capability to PSAPs, Sheriff's Office, and First Responders.

In addition to AlertSense, Region 44 Emergency Management supports city, village, and fire district outdoor warning siren projects. In March 2016, Region 44 Emergency Manager reached out to community clerks, administrators, and fire chiefs to gauge interest in a siren replacement project. Region 44 Emergency Management has identified only one siren owned and maintained by a county. All other sirens are owned, maintained, and operated by a city or village or fire district. Region 44 Emergency Management does not have operational control for any sirens within the area.

## **Planning, Exercise and Training**

Maintaining a regular schedule of Planning, Exercises and Training (PET) opportunities is a primary mission of Region 44 Emergency Management. The process of maintaining a regular cycle of PET activities will allow local agencies to routinely update their plans and procedures, increase their technical skills and capabilities, and demonstrate the efficacy of their training through exercises. Exercise and training is outlined in the multi-year training and exercise plan. Each of these PET activities requires close and regular coordination with our local partners and each exercise is typically preceded by 6 months to a year of planning and training.

## **Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

Throughout 2016 and early 2017, Region 44 Emergency Management has collaborated on, completed, and submitted updated documentation for Boone County, Merrick County, and Nance County. Hazard Mitigation Planning is contracted by both Natural Resource Districts within the Region 44 Emergency Management Area, but requires active participation, including documentation completion from jurisdictions.

Hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. It is most effective when implemented under a comprehensive, long-term mitigation plan. Local governments engage in hazard mitigation planning to identify risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural disasters, and develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property from future hazard events. Mitigation plans are key to breaking the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. Developing hazard mitigation plans enables local governments to:

- Increase education and awareness around threats, hazards, and vulnerabilities;
- Build partnerships for risk reduction involving government, organizations, businesses, and the public;

- Identify long-term, broadly-supported strategies for risk reduction;
- Align risk reduction with other state, tribal, or community objectives;
- Identify implementation approaches that focus resources on the greatest risks and vulnerabilities; and
- Communicate priorities to potential sources of funding.

Moreover, a FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan is a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects. Ultimately, hazard mitigation planning enables action to reduce loss of life and property, lessening the impact of disasters.

In addition to drafting, collaborating, and reviewing each county plan update, Region 44 Emergency Management has encouraged and assisted local jurisdictions to become active participants in the Hazard Mitigation Plan update.

### **County Safety Programs and Planning**

Region 44 Emergency Manager is a representative on each of the county Safety Committees. In 2016, Region 44 Emergency Management drafted county emergency actions plans, facilitated county emergency drills, applied for \$20,744.01 in NIRMA Assist funding, participated in meetings and County Courthouse Threat Assessments.

### **Regional Coordination**

#### **ECPET**

Region 44 Emergency Management plays an active role in a number of regional emergency planning efforts in order to establish economies of scale, overcome geographical boundaries and logistical challenges, and to establish valuable working relationships with neighboring jurisdictions. The East Central Planning Exercise and Training Region (ECPET) was established by the State of Nebraska in 2007 and includes 10 counties from Howard to Dodge. The primary role served by the ECPET is management of the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) for the jurisdictions within its 10 counties. Through the ECPET, local and regional projects are identified and submitted for funding by the SHSP. Successfully funded projects will align with State and National Homeland Security priorities and are carried out by the Region for the benefit of each affected jurisdiction. Examples of recent ECPET projects benefiting Counties within Region 44 Emergency Management include:

1. Purchase of Night Vision Goggles for County Sheriff's Office and the equipment building at the Boone County Tower Site.
2. Maintenance and rental costs for NRIN.
3. Law Enforcement tactical training, IMT position specific and Advanced Professional Series Training Courses.
4. Purchase of equipment and software for ID credentialing and resource management through the Statewide Resource Manager program. The system allows local agencies to maintain an inventory of personnel, equipment and other resources with information regarding current training, credentialing, resource typing, and on-scene tracking.

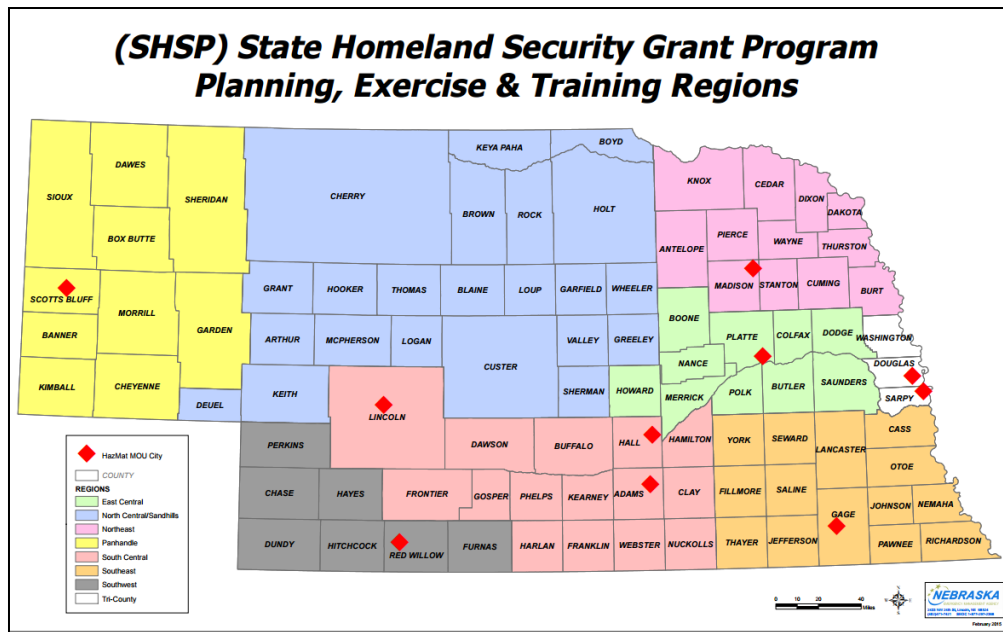


Figure 5: PET Regional Map

### Medical Response System

The Medical Response System (MRS) was created to enhance the State of Nebraska's ability to respond to emergent and public health situations that involve a large number of people and/or disruption of services<sup>10</sup>. MRS acts as a catalyst to facilitate communication and cooperation among entities, allowing them to better plan for and respond to these situations through collaboration of efforts. In addition, MRS provides resources for training, education, exercises and communication enhancement as well as development of Medical Reserve Corps and assistance in the development of protocols for responding to surge capacity situations. The State of Nebraska is divided into six MRS regions each with its own steering committee which sets the goals and activities largely based upon the unique needs of the region. Region 44 Emergency Management collaborates with two MRS groups; Rural Region One Medical Response System (RROMRS) covers Boone and Nance Counties and Tri-Cities Medical Response System (TRIMRS) which covers Merrick County. Boone County is the custodian of RROMRS emergency hospital trailer and the RROMRS emergency hospital exercise trailer. Region 44 Emergency Management is the contact for use of RROMRS trailers.

<sup>10</sup> [http://hptc.unmc.edu/nevolunteers/partners.htm#Nebraska Medical Response System](http://hptc.unmc.edu/nevolunteers/partners.htm#Nebraska%20Medical%20Response%20System)

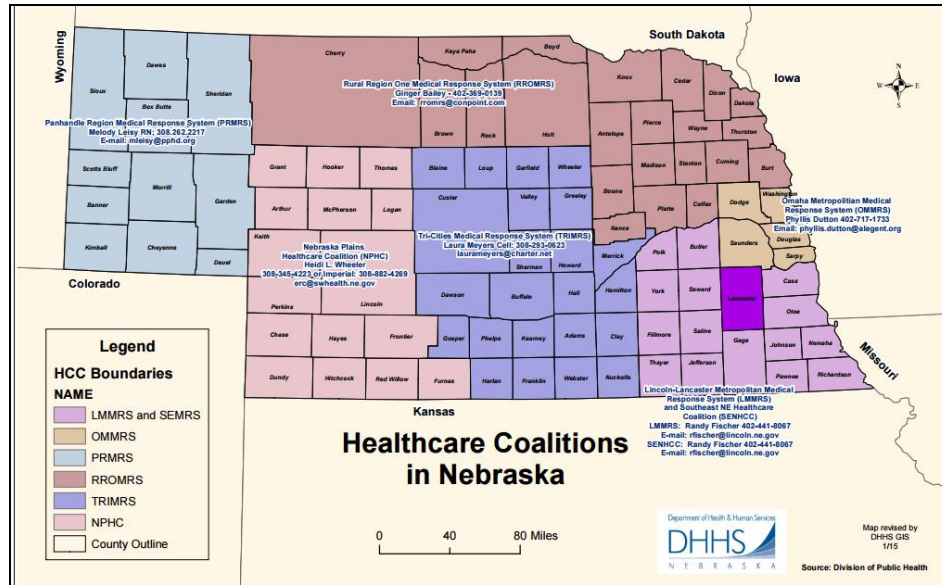


Figure 6: Medical Response System Map

### Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Region 44 Emergency Manager services as the Information Coordinator, liaison to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)<sup>11</sup>, and fiscal agent for each County LEPC. Each County LEPC is a gathering of representatives in the county that have an interest in hazardous materials safety. Members include representatives from the fire department, law enforcement, health care, schools, local industry, public health, others. As a group they identify potential risks that our community faces from hazardous chemicals stored in and/or transported around the community and assist in the updating and revision of the Local Emergency Operations Plan's (LEOP) Hazardous Materials Annex. The LEPCs seek ways to help minimize these risks, prevent accidents, and assist in the development of plans to deal with a chemical emergency. Another core component of an LEPC is public education. Through the LEPC, the public can seek out information about chemicals in their community and establish safety plans at home and in the workplace.



In 2016, Boone County LEPC and Nance County LEPC participated in the American Red Cross Free Smoke Alarm Distribution Project. LEPC information and hazardous material protective actions was delivered in conjunction with smoke alarms. This project also allowed us to exercise incident command system training to include development of Incident Action Plans. Volunteers and LEPC members delivered over 260 smoke alarms in Boone County and over 70 smoke alarms in Nance County.

### Citizen Corps Council & COAD

The use of volunteers has proven critical to emergency management. Both individual volunteers and established volunteer groups offer a wealth of skills and resources that can be used prior to, during, and after an emergency. Mobilizing the private sector can add significantly to emergency management programs. An important factor following a disaster; FEMA allows sub-grantees (city

<sup>11</sup> <https://nema.nebraska.gov/tech-hazard/serc-state-emergency-response-commission>



/ town) to utilize volunteer time and donated resources to offset the local disaster cost share (normally 25%) up to 100% of the disaster costs.

### COAD

Working together with local organizations, Region 44 Emergency Management established a new group called the Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD). COADs are used nationwide to coordinate the non-governmental and community organizations that have an active role, resources, or responsibilities to assist the public following a disaster. The COAD determined a mission statement, value statement, and bylaws. Regular meetings also allowed for members to introduce themselves to each other, define their resources capable of emergency response, and invited new organizations to the group.



### Citizen Corps Council (CERT)

Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services will not be able to meet the demand for these services. Factors such as number of victims, communication failures and road blockages will prevent people from accessing emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice through 911. People will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate lifesaving and life sustaining needs<sup>12</sup>. In 2016, Region 44 CERT program began its second year into the program plan. The R44 CERT team trains monthly on activities to assist in developing core capabilities. In August 2016, Amy Zaruba received the Excellence in Volunteer Preparedness Education and Outreach Award for her involvement in Region 44 CERT. CERT training includes disaster preparedness, disaster fire suppression, basic disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue operations. To date, the Region 44 CERT program schedules one course per year, has graduated nearly 30 students and has recruited 12 CERT team volunteers. CERT volunteers are issued emergency gear, participate in additional training and exercise opportunities, and are available for deployment in an incident.



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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.fema.gov/about-community-emergency-response-team>

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

BCSO	Boone County Sheriff's Office
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, High Yield Explosive
COAD	Community Organizations Active in Disaster
COOP	Continuity of Operations Plan
E911	Enhanced 911: System for providing calls with name and location of the caller.
EAS	Emergency Alert System
ECPET	East Central Planning Exercise Training and Communications Region
EM	Emergency Management
EMPG	Emergency Management Program Grant
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FirstNET	First Responder Network Authority
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FTE	Full Time Employee
HMEP	Hazardous Material Emergency Planning
HMPG	Hazard Mitigation Program Grant
HSGP	Homeland Security Grant Program
ICS	Incident Command System
IMT	Incident Management Team
IPAWS	Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
LEOP	Local Emergency Operations Plan
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
MCSSO	Merrick County Sheriff's Office
MRS	Medical Response System
NEMA	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
NCSO	Nance County Sheriff's Office
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NRIN	Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network
NTIA	National Telecommunications & Information Administration
PET	Planning Exercise and Training
POD	Point of Dispensing (medication)
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
PSC	Nebraska Public Service Commission
RROMRS	Rural Region One Medical Response System
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
SHSP	State Homeland Security Grant Program
SLIGP	State and Local Implementation Grant Program
TRIMRS	Tri-City Medical Response System
VOIP	Voice Over Internet Protocol