



STATE *of* NEBRASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LINCOLN

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
**No. 08-03**

**ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS – Nebraska Wireless**  
**Interoperable Network**

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska recognized the importance of public safety and protection of public and private property throughout the state: and

**WHEREAS**, efficient emergency response is paramount to the safety of Nebraska’s citizens and visitors, and for the protection of public and private property throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, emergency responders commonly rely upon radio frequencies and technologies that are often not planned or configured to be interoperable with other systems; and

**WHEREAS**, interoperable public safety communications between and within jurisdictions is critical to the mission of public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, the attainment of interoperable communications requires statewide coordination and leadership,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Nebraska, I hereby establish the “Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network (hereinafter “N-WIN”).” The N-WIN will function as a Council to operate under the guidance and direction of the Lt. Governor and the Governor’s Homeland Security Policy Group, with the following purposes and charges:

1. Provide for the governance and policy level direction related to the planning and decisions regarding development and operation of the N-WIN;
2. Provide leadership regarding the development of public safety communications within Nebraska;
3. Adopt bylaws for the operation of the Council;

4. Develop strategies and recommendations to improve operations of the N-WIN, including consultation with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) regarding the use of new technology as it becomes available;
5. Promote interoperability for public safety communications within Nebraska, and with border states;
6. Provide oversight for the development of protocols, standard operating procedures and guidelines for use of the N-WIN;
7. Coordinate and provide planning, training and exercise opportunities related to communications interoperability for all necessary and authorized public safety practitioners;
8. Establish the terms of agreements and enter into agreements for public safety entities to operate on the N-WIN, in conjunction with the Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO), when such arrangements are practical and in the best interests of the State and the regions; and
9. Develop recommendations and strategies for best utilization of public funds, including grants, to improve public safety communications in Nebraska.

The N-WIN shall be comprised of a representative who has been vested by the appointing authority to represent the following agencies or organizations:

- a. The Chairman of the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network, who shall be appointed by the Governor
- b. A Nebraska State Patrol representative, who shall be appointed by the Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol
- c. A Nebraska Game and Parks Commission representative, who shall be appointed by the Commission's Executive Director
- d. A Nebraska Fire Marshal representative, who shall be appointed by the State Fire Marshal
- e. A Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer representative, who shall be appointed by the Chief Information Officer
- f. A Nebraska Emergency Management Agency representative, who shall be appointed by the Adjutant General; and
- g. A Nebraska Public Power District representative, who shall be appointed by the NPPD Chief Executive Officer.

In addition, two members, to be appointed by the Chairman of the Nebraska Council of Regions, shall be appointed as non-voting, ex-officio members. The N-WIN may establish such subcommittees or temporary working groups as are deemed necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Network. No members serving in any capacity on the N-WIN shall be entitled to any compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred due to their membership on the N-WIN.

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Division of Communications/OCIO will provide administrative and technical support to the N-WIN.

The N-WIN shall prepare an annual report for the Governor and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. Such report shall contain a current assessment of the Nebraska Wireless Interoperable Network, including recommendations regarding the operation of and enhancements to the system.

**This Executive Order** shall take effect immediately.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have, hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Heineman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "D" and "H".

Dave Heineman  
Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John A. Gale". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "J" and "G".

John A. Gale, Secretary of State  
State of Nebraska