



DRAFT MINUTES

Emergency Management Coordinating Council

ATTENDANCE

DATE	July 25, 2012
TIME	9:00 am
LOCATION	Las Vegas Valley Emergency Management Center, 7551 Sauer Drive, LV 89128 DEM 2478 Fairview Drive, Carson City NV 89701
METHOD	Videoconference
RECORDER	Hanne Epstein

Committee Members	Present	Committee Members	Present
Bohl, Terry		Turner, Ryan	X
Curtis, Joe	X		
Stacey, Giomi	X		
Jake, Alfrieda	X		
Kenneston, Aaron			
Lake, Dan	X		
Levering, Carolyn	X		
Loveberg, Rob	X		
Munns, Sandy	X		
Navis, Irene	X		
Peacock, Russell	X		
Smith, Chris	X		

CALL TO ORDER – Chairwoman Levering called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

ROLL CALL – Hanne Epstein DEM called the roll and a quorum was declared.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairwoman Levering asked if there were any members of the public who wished to make a comment at this time. Hearing none she moved on to the next agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairwoman Levering called for comments and discussions to the minutes of the EMCC meeting of April 25, 2012. No comments were put forward. **Russell Peacock** moved to approve the minutes, **Ryan Turner** seconded the motion. **Chairwoman Levering** called for a vote; the minutes of the EMCC meeting of April 25, 2011 were unanimously approved with one abstention. Rob Loveberg abstained on the grounds that he was not present at the April 25 meeting.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Chairwoman Levering Thanked the members of the EMCC for being at the meeting. She also extended thanks to the DEM staff involved to ensure that the VTC capability up and functioning. Chairwoman Levering welcomed the FEMA representative from the IPAWS program Office, who would be running an IPAWS presentation as part of the meeting

INTEGRATED PUBLIC ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEMS

Manuel Centeno from FEMA's IPAWS Program Office introduced the IPAWS system

IPAWS Vision is to: *provide timely alert and warning to the American people and preserve life and property*

Integration of public alert communications systems:

One emergency alert message delivered to all available public channels

Easy to use for public safety/alerting

Improves and Enhances emergency alerting by increasing:

- Reliability that affected citizens receive an alert via at least one path
- Likelihood that citizens react to emergency alerts

IPAWS is the national public warning system that supports the President and other Federal, State, Tribal, Territorial, and local officials to provide critical emergency alerts and information to the American public during emergencies.

- IPAWS is tasked to “ensure that under all conditions the President of the United States can alert and warn the American people.” – EO 13407 June 2006
- IPAWS provides authenticated alert messaging from emergency officials to the public via radio and television through the Emergency Alert System, cellular phones through the Commercial Mobile Alert System, and NOAA National Weather System All Hazards Radio through the HazCollect System. – 47 CFR Part 11-EAS, 47 CFR Part 10-CMAS
- DHS/FEMA is responsible for the development, operation, and maintenance of the IPAWS EAS and CMAS components, integration with the NOAA National Weather All Hazards Radio system, *plus delivery of messages to the American people through as many other communication pathways as practicable*

IPAWS Capabilities online:

Public safety officials who choose (optional) can use IPAWS for integrated distribution of alert and warning information within their jurisdiction

- As of 6 July:
 - 32 State/local/other public safety authorities registered
 - 75 applications in process

(list maintained at http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/authorized_localities.shtm)

- State/Local alerts sent thru IPAWS can be distributed to:
 - Local radio and TV stations participating in local EAS

- Cellular phones as Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)
- NOAA for broadcast over local NOAA Weather All Hazards Radio

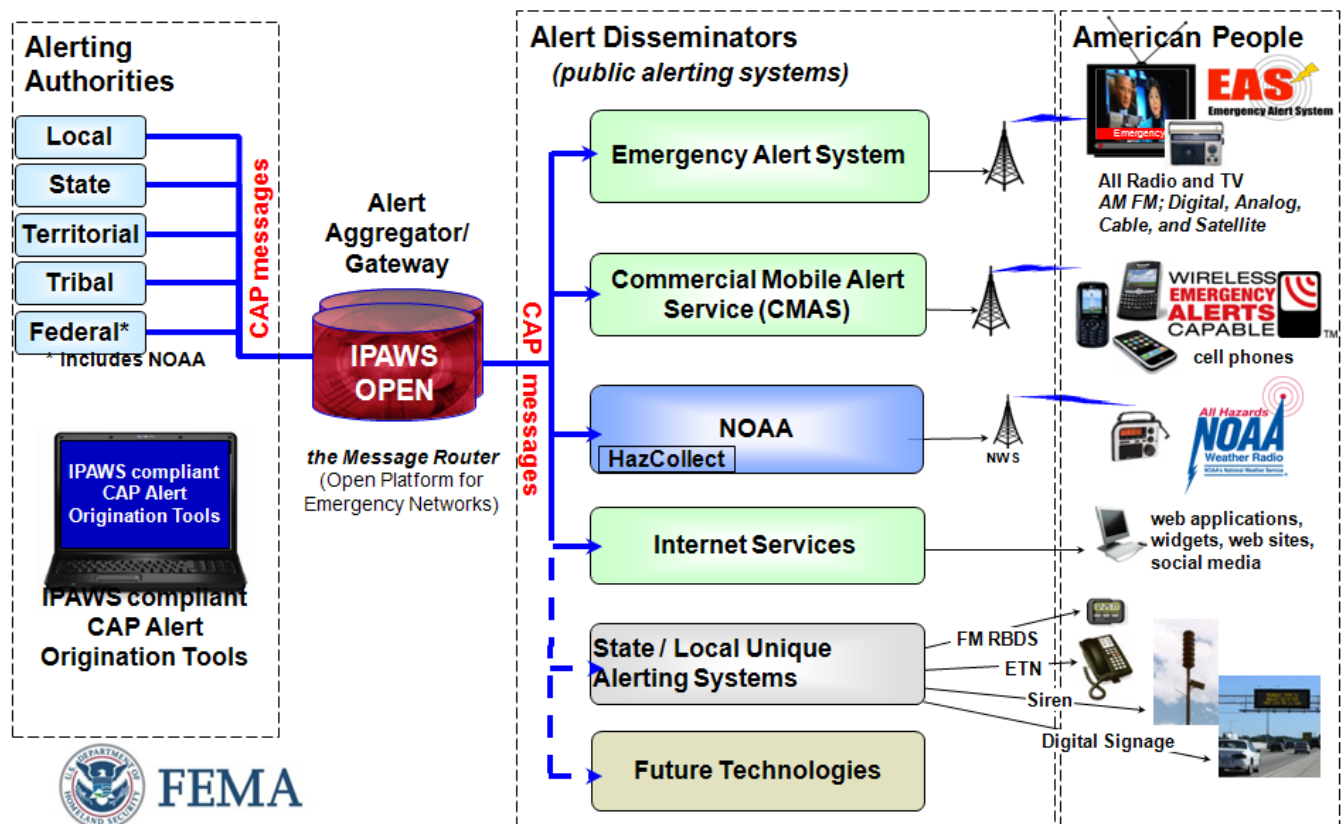
Soon to be online:

- Websites and services (expected operational in 2012)
 - Public alerts published to IPAWS alert feed for distribution by internet information services and applications that choose to monitor IPAWS for alert information

Manuel Centeno noted that FEMA is presently working to develop a training process on how to use the system in a balanced fashion. He mentioned that Nevada would be a great state to do a non intrusive case study on IPAWS and use the results as a base on how to teach the rest of the nation how to work with IPAWS. He encouraged any county in Nevada who would like to work with them to contact the IPAWS team.

IPAWS Architecture (State and Local accessible components)

Standards based alert message protocols, authenticated alert message senders, shared, trusted access & distribution networks, alerts delivered to more public interface devices



Manuel Centeno stressed that IPAWS does not replace local alerting systems, but can be used by and integrated with local alerting systems.

Ryan Turner commented that there is lot of activities already taking place in Nevada in support of the IPAWS. Some Nevada Emergency Managers are applying to have a MOU with the IPAWS group. A radio transmitter in support of the IPAWS is being installed in Henderson. The idea of asking the IPAWS group to come out and talk to the EMCC about the IPAWS was to

get the group together, get ahead of the development and educate the jurisdictions and the State on IPAWS, including which systems are applicable for the system to function.

Manuel Centeno also discussed the area of psychology and warning. We tend to focus on the equipment and technology when it comes to warnings but studies have shown that the message of a warning is just as, if not more important. Is the message actionable? What does it mean to the person receiving it? What kind of person is receiving it, do they speak English, do they have functional needs, are they elderly, or have issues that prevent them from understanding the message? If you are sending an alert/warning to the public it has to be something that will make them have the wanted reaction, and at this time a lot of the alert messages do not give a precise simple instruction on action to the public.

Ryan Turned explained that Aaron Kenneston from Washoe County got approved for a homeland security initiative for public warning and information. The project will begin in October 2012 and Aaron Kenneston is seeking participants to join in the statewide effort to help bring the capability of this magnitude to emergency managers. The IPAWS is a great tool and may be one of the top three priorities in the next years that we need to work on. Being able to communicate with the public before during and after a disaster is vital. The goal of the task force is to try to bring that collaboration and communication together. In southern Nevada our emergency alerts come from the Nevada broadcasters as well as the National Weather Services. The digital sign on the streets are from the Highway Patrol.

The FEMA IPAWS team gave a practical demonstration with staged equipment on how the alerting system functioned, including the audio and visual alerting tools.

For further information or questions on the IPAWS, please contact FEMA Program Manager for IPAWS:
Manny Centeno: Manuel.Centeno1@dhs.gov

NEVADA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL (EMCC) BYLAWS

Samantha Ladich presented a draft proposal and an alternate draft proposal for changes to the EMCC bylaws.

The EMCC members gave special attention to the membership paragraph in the draft alternate proposal:

IV. Membership

The Chief of the Division of Emergency Management shall appoint **at least thirteen (13)** voting members to the Council. **Members will be selected from local and tribal government organizations, agencies, departments, and individuals having responsibilities for emergency management program activities within the State of Nevada.** Members will serve one year terms.

The EMCC members discussed the paragraph in details and settled on the following wording for the membership paragraph:

IV. Membership

The Chief of the Division of Emergency Management shall appoint **no more than nineteen (19)** voting members to the Council. **Members will be selected from local and tribal government organizations, agencies, departments, and individuals having responsibilities for emergency management program activities within the State of Nevada.** Members will serve one year terms.

Stacey Giomi made a motion to adopt the suggested draft alternate bylaws with the amended changes to the membership paragraph and under meetings deleting "generally scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of the first quarter". **Irene Navis** seconded the motion. **Chairwoman Levering** called for a vote with the all voted for none were opposed, the EMCC draft alternate bylaws were adopted.

PRESENTATION / DEMONSTRATION OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF MYPLAN WEBSITE

Elizabeth Ashby explained that FEMA region IX received funding to develop the internet based My Plan website in an effort to support the risk assessment process for hazard mitigation planning. In Nevada it is the hope that this will be a one stop shop for the jurisdictions to look at their wildfire, earthquake and flood hazards and hopefully incorporate their building inventory and assess the risks they have to these hazards. Wildfire, earthquake and floods are the three hazards most likely to occur in Nevada. The website is not a public website it is only available to planners and emergency management staff. Garry Johnson from the Nevada Bureau of Mining and Geology went on to present the website capabilities and presented the system's navigation tools. Any questions concerning the system and access to the website please contact Elizabeth Ashby at: eashby@dps.state.nv.us

CREDENTIALING

Kelli Baratti reported that the technical working group comprised of all the first responder disciplines identified by FEMA to be the agencies most likely to respond to interstate incidents will get back together in August to put the finishing touches on the plans, processes and procedures for a Nevada statewide credentialing system. Currently the RFP for the hardware and software to be used is being put together including work that needs to be done on the infrastructure of the credentialing database. The credentialing system will be a two tier system. Tier one responders are the highest level responders tied to interstate and EMAC deployment. There are certain levels of biometrics such as fingerprinting are needed in the credentialing of these responders. Tier two responders mostly deployed in mutual aid and intra state incidents, need credentialing that the authority having jurisdiction, the Sheriffs and Fire Chiefs are comfortable with. Work on the tier two credentialing can start up shortly after the technical working group meeting in August.

STATE/LOCAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TEAM (IMAT)

Kelli Baratti clarified that IMAT are teams that assist in the EOCs. Given the demographics and geographic of Nevada she suggested that the State could benefit from formalizing a cadre of people, identifying some training enabling them to work in EOCs throughout the state and assist seriously impacted jurisdiction. Such a development could also tie into the present project in southern Nevada of standardizing the EOC procedures. Recent events in Washoe County really pointed out the benefit of the existence of an IMAT team. Emergency Managers from the rural areas of Nevada have also expressed that should they experience a major incident in their areas they would really welcome such a support.

NEVADA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT (NEMAC)

All 17 counties have signed the NEMAC but it needs to be revisited. Currently it requires a county emergency declaration in order to be officially utilized. Special districts are not signatories to it, which includes a number of 474 fire districts around the State. There is no current formal recognition in NEMAC of DEM's role in helping to coordinate the deployment of resources between jurisdictions. Kelli Baratti suggested that the EMCC formed a subcommittee to work on updating the NEMAC and bring it back to the EMCC for review.

EMCC members discussed and agreed that the present NEMAC is incomplete and lacking an operational framework. They also agreed that now is a good time to work on a new draft, recommend changes and present it to the EMCC. Kelli Baratti promised staff support from DEM Operations section to assist in the write up of a new NEMAC document

Irene Navis moved to create a sub-committee of the EMCC and appoint a Chair of the sub- committee to work on a new draft of the NEMAC adding the operational pieces currently lacking. The NEMAC sub-committee will provide regular updates back to the EMCC during the process. Joe Curtis and Dan Lake seconded the motion.

Irene Navis offered to send out a call for model and best practice agreement to her contacts in other states.

Stacey Giomi agreed to be the Chairman for the NEMAC sub- committee.

Chairwoman Levering called for a vote on the motion, all voted for, none were opposed. The motion passed.

DIRECTORS CONFERENCE / TRAINING AND EXERCISE PLANNING WORKSHOP (TEPW)

Michele Candee reported that the Directors Conference Training and Exercise Planning Workshop is scheduled for September 19-20, 2012. Venue will be at the Convention Center in Henderson. Travel dates for participants from the north of the State will be September 18. DEM will fund travel. Registration for the event is available now at the DEM website along with the travel packet information. The training and exercise planning workshop will be conducted during the conference. Read ahead packages will be available by August 1. And the training and exercise needs assessment will be sent out by August first as well.

MEETING DATES OF THE EMCC IN 2012 The EMCC members agreed to have the next EMCC meeting on October 17, 2012 at 9:00 am. It will be the final regular meeting of the EMCC for this calendar year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairwoman Levering called for any public comments, hearing none she moved on to the next agenda item.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairwoman Levering called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, **Stacey Giomi** motioned to adjourn the meeting, **Dan Lake** seconded. **Chairwoman Levering** adjourned the meeting.

Meeting notes completed by Hanne Epstein, for questions call (702) 486-4430 or email hepstein@dps.state.nv.us