



## Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>DATE</b>	Thursday, September 7, 2017	
	<b>TIME</b>	9:30 AM	
	<b>LOCATION</b>	Division of Emergency Management Training Room 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, Nevada 89701	
	<b>METHOD</b>	Teleconference	
	<b>RECORDER</b>	Karen Hall	
<b>Commission Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Legislative &amp; Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others</b>	<b>Present</b>
Governor Brian Sandoval	X	Derek Armstrong	
Joseph Lombardo	X	Karen Burke	X
Chuck Allen	X	Caleb Cage	X
Gregory Cassell	X	Gonzalo Cordova	
Lisa Christensen	X	Chris Ipsen	X
Robert Fisher	X	Michael Roberson	
Frank Gonzales	X	Aaron Rouse	
Mark Hutchison	X		
Ikram Khan	X	Samantha Ladich – Sr. DAG	X
Tom Lozich	X	Karen Hall (Analyst/Staff)	X
William McDonald	X		
Charles Moore	X		
Richard Perkins			
Rosemary Vassiliadis	X		
Troy Wade			
Bill Welch			

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Governor Brian Sandoval, Chairman of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (Commission) called meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Karen Hall, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Sandoval opened discussion for public commentary. No commentary presented in either venue.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Commission meeting held June 19, 2017. Motion to approve was presented by Sheriff Joseph Lombardo, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and a second provided by Tom Lozich, MGM Resorts, International. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Governor Sandoval spoke to the recent events in Texas and the continuing issues in the southern United States due to the hurricanes. Nevada has responded by providing resources for those events. The Governor thanked fire, emergency medical services, and first responder personnel for the efforts put forth due the numerous wildland fires throughout Nevada. Chief Caleb Cage, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS), spoke to some of the resources being sent to assist the southern states including a Nevada National Guard Chinook helicopter and crew which has been dispatched over a week ago to assist with ongoing support. Additional resource requests are pending, and DEM is maintaining situational awareness. Of specific note, and due to the relationship established between the Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) during recent Northern Nevada disasters, FEMA has established a Recovery Support Center due to recent national disasters, and an initial hire surge of over 800 new personnel will be dedicated to supporting assistance claims from recent hurricanes.

**5. BRIEFING ON THE STATUS OF THE NEVADA OFFICE OF CYBER DEFENSE COORDINATION**

Director James Wright, Nevada Department of Public Safety (DPS), briefed the Commission on the current status of the Office of Cyber Defense Coordination (OCDC) including a historical background leading up to the office's creation. As one of only 5 states chosen to participate in the Cyber Security Policy Academy, Nevada was able to participate in policy development discussion and best practice presentations from states dealing with cyber threats. The Director spoke to the leadership of the Governor regarding this initiative at a national level through his engagement with the National Governor's Association in addition to the fact that cyber security is currently the number one priority of the Commission. Included in the Governor's State of the State address was the need for a cyber defense office, and under Assembly Bill 471, the OCDC was signed into law on June 2, 2017, with an effective date of July 1, 2017. The OCDC, under the umbrella of DPS, will be staffed with four positions including an administrator, information technology professional, management analyst, and an administrative assistant. The administrator shall be appointed by, and report to, the DPS Director and serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Commission. DPS was chosen as the home of the office due to organizational resources required for vital support functions. DEM/HS shall provide resources to include planning, preparedness, response, and recovery guidance pertinent to cyber incidents. The Nevada Threat Analysis Center

(NTAC) shall provide intelligence and information gathering and sharing capability. The Investigations Division can provide investigative services related to criminal incidents, and Enterprise Information Technology Services (EITS) will provide information technology expertise. The OCDC does not replace any technical or cyber function within the state. It is a central coordination and support provider. Noting the specific duties and deliverables of the OCDC which include the creation of a cyber response team, the Director emphasized the overwhelming interest for partnerships related to this new office including the University of Nevada Reno's Cyber Program, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the federal Department of Homeland Security, Microsoft, AT&T, Switch, Nevada National Guard, and the Law Enforcement Rocky Mountain Information Network. The housing of the OCDC will be within a DPS facility in Carson City, with the desired location being within the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) allowing co-location with the Nevada National Guard, the NTAC, and the Division of Emergency Management and Office of Homeland Security. Such relocation could require relocation of another state agency currently in the building. The Director also spoke to the applicants for the Administrator position within the OCDC in addition to other positions currently under review. The Director emphasized the new battle ground in the cyber world, and that the OCDC is a necessary component in the coordination of cyber response. The Director thanked the Governor for this opportunity, and the Governor thanked the Director for his work on this initiative.

Lieutenant Governor Hutchison spoke to the OCDC as a separate entity, and inquired on how the Director saw future interaction between the new office and the CS). Director Wright indicated that the OCDC Administrator, as an Ex-Officio member of the Commission, would participate frequently with the CSC in an effort to centralize cyber efforts throughout the state.

Sheriff Lombardo inquired on the makeup of the cyber response team mentioned prior, with Director Wright indicating that the team is not specifically identified yet, and outreach is continuing to develop the makeup of such teams. The Director envisions the development of a resource directory to assist in developing the team. Sheriff Lombardo had additional inquiry on whether the scope of the team would stay at a state-agency level or a more granular level to include such entities as the LVMPD. The Director envisions this as an initial attack resource that many organizations could utilize, allowing for scalability and federal assistance as well.

Chief Cage spoke to the establishment of the CSC as a Committee under the Commission in 2015 denoting the duties and deliverables to date. Under the Lieutenant Governor's leadership, the CSC has been working to develop grant funded programs as well as a report currently under development which both feed into the establishment of the OCDC. The OCDC will establish its first strategic plan in January 2018, and the CSC has captured historical funding of cyber-related projects through the Homeland Security Grant Program in addition to addressing cyber risk through approved projects. These projects include the University of Nevada Reno's Cyber Assessment project and Henderson's Cyber Response Framework. Information obtained from such projects as this will become instrumental inclusions within the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (SCEMP).

Chris Ipsen, Desert Research Institute, complimented the CSC and the OCDC initiative as positive endeavors for the state. Mr. Ipsen asked the Commission to consider the validation of policies put forth, and any opportunities for penetration testing controls in the government and private sectors. In terms of putting together a solution that reaches outcomes, Mr. Ipsen urged the prioritization of critical infrastructure focus moving forward as an aspect of this ongoing process.

Ms. Shanna Rahming, Administrator, Enterprise IT Services, spoke to the massive and continuous onslaught of cyber-attempted intrusions that the State of Nevada deals with on a regular basis. Such intrusions consist of 113 Billion logs created identifying non-normal state network traffic of which over 131,000 were analyzed, and 95,000 validated as positive incidents just this year alone. Ms. Rahming indicated that this does not include shunned attacks. Although this goes unseen by most, the threats are always there. Governor Sandoval thanked Ms. Rahming and EITS for the efforts to combat the attacks.

## **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Governor Sandoval called for public commentary in both venues. No commentary was presented in either venue.

## **7. ADJOURN**

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sheriff Lombardo presented the motion to adjourn, and Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.