



## MEETING MINUTES EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL (EMCC)

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Date</b>	Thursday, May 25, 2016	
	<b>Time</b>	1:30pm	
	<b>Location</b>	Nevada Division of Emergency Management 2478 Fairview Dr. Carson City, NV 89701	
	<b>Method</b>	Video - teleconference	
	<b>Recorder</b>	Chris Molnar	
<b>Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Ex-Officio Members and Staff</b>	<b>Present</b>
Chief Caleb Cage	<b>X</b>	Rose Marie Reynolds (DAG)	<b>X</b>
Aaron Kenneston	<b>X</b>	Chris Molnar (staff)	<b>X</b>
Rob Loveberg	<b>X</b>		
Carolyn Levering	<b>X</b>		
Ryan Turner	<b>X</b>		
Gregory Goll			
Jackie Conmay	<b>X</b>		
Dimitri Theodorou	<b>X</b>		
John Steinbeck	<b>X</b>		
LTC Cory Schulz			
Stacey Giomi			
Joe Curtis	<b>X</b>		
Brian Burgess	<b>X</b>		
Michael Brown	<b>X</b>		
Misty Robinson	<b>X</b>		
Rachel Skidmore			
<b>TOTAL:</b>	12		

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Caleb Cage, Chairman of the Emergency Management Coordinating Council, called the meeting to order.

## **2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was performed by Chris Molnar, Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (NDEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

## **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment in the North or the South.

## **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – need to reapprove the minutes from March 24, 2016.**

The minutes of March 24, 2016, were not approved, because the agenda for today's meeting had the approval of minutes dated Dec. 15, 2015 instead of March 24, 2016. The agenda for the May 25, 2016, meeting will be corrected to reflect that change, and the minutes will be up for approval again during the next EMCC meeting.

## **5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER(S)**

Chair Cage introduced Jackie Conmay, Emergency Management Director, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe.

## **6. DISCUSSION OF THE EMPG FUNDING FORMULA**

Chairman Cage opened the discussion of the EMPG funding formula by stating he had a vision for how this should proceed, and to clarify some confusion he had heard. He explained the Grants Section of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM) would be giving an overview of the EMPG grant program, lead a discussion of various options for funding distribution, and give examples from other states. He said an action may include giving a recommendation to NDEM for changes to the EMPG funding formula. He pointed out this is just the beginning of the conversation for 2016, and moving towards a decision on the distribution of the funds. He said it would take at least until summer to tackle, and wants some great ideas generated and discussions held during the meeting to make sure all of their interests are represented. He also said the FY16 funding remains level and gives them a bridge for the next fiscal year to implement the funding formula that will be discussed at this meeting. Chair Cage told the members his goal, as a state, is to ensure distribution of this money, throughout the jurisdictions, to build capacity for emergency management statewide.

Chair Cage said the spreadsheets that were available to the members were just an introduction to the conversation. He said some may or may not like what they see on the spreadsheets, but in order for all of those in attendance to come together will take hard work and hard discussions to build that capacity for emergency management in the state.

Chair Cage introduced Rick Martin, Grants Manager for the division. He told the members what handouts were available and pointed out the first spreadsheet he would discuss would be the population only formula. He proceeded to explain the contents of that spreadsheet. The second spreadsheet he discussed was the population and emergency manager allocations. He proceeded to explain the contents of this spreadsheet.

Chair Cage asked for clarification on the differences between the two documents, and asked specific questions from the information on the documents, regarding criteria and deductions. Rick told him both formulas need to meet the criteria for grant funding.

Chair Cage opened the meeting up for discussion by addressing the document regarding EMPG formula with population with emergency manager allocations. He asked about a part time position now and then the next year come back with a full time position and how it would change the allocation. Rick said it would change the funding and explained how that would happen. Caleb asked what controls the partners would have and said he thought it was an imperfect as it was presented, because it is limited to participating partners and comes at a cost for the rest of the state and their operating funding. He said it also makes it difficult to predict year to year for the allocations.

A discussion was held among the members and included some thoughts and concerns of the members, with an overview of those captured in the minutes.

Aaron Kenneston addressed the members with his thoughts on Homeland Security funding on the national level and the local and state level and pointed out that on the state level they can only keep 20% because the funds need to be pushed down to the local level. He questioned why on the spreadsheet it showed the state is keeping 48%. He also compared the two spreadsheets and commented how his office loses funding on different levels when looking at both spreadsheets. He also noted since he is running a regional emergency operational center, he incurs liabilities and expenses, but is receiving less funds than the city. Upon saying that, he said he wants to be part of the plan to help this move forward.

Joe Curtis said he is concerned because there is no factor in the information that relates to the potential threat factor in a jurisdictional area. He also asked how part-time is defined.

Carolyn Levering addressed item #3 on the criteria funding formula document, and questioned why the funding formula was based on Transparent Nevada and said that website is not the most accurate. Rick and Caleb said it was used because they needed a base foundation. She continued questioning the document by addressing item #4a, "cities with a population of less than 8,000", and asked where those numbers came from.

John Steinbeck discussed what needs to be addressed in the formula, including THIRA, threats, Haz Mat, and full and part time positions.

Rob Loveberg suggested considering support for counties no matter the population. Caleb said to make sure he was clear, he said rural cities and counties and tribes need access to the funding in case they want to participate and that needs to have a baseline guarantee, and beyond that there could be a capacity for basing it on population. Rob reiterated it can't be based only on population. The members continued discussing this suggestion.

Caleb asked the members what kind of goals could be built to move forward, as a state, using a one team, one fight approach.

Ryan Turner pointed out the reason EMPG exists was funding after 9/11 to bolster emergency management programs. He said when funding was issued, it became a lifeline for some programs and now the whole program is funded out of EMPG. He said he would like to see a unified goal for a more prepared Nevada. He also discussed the numbers on the spreadsheet and said if you base it on population, it gives some predictability to help jurisdictions manage their programs.

The members continued to discuss the formulas, and how those figures would, and would not, work for rural Nevada. They also continued discussing the goals for Nevada, and held a discussion on working with a "plan building" approach.

Caleb asked what criteria they were trying to establish, and more importantly, where is the goal? He also addressed supporting an "all in approach" to tier 3's, the less mature programs, to bring them up to speed, or in the event of an emergency, is the less mature program going to be overwhelmed, and go to a more mature jurisdiction anyway. He stressed the criteria has to be driven by objectives.

Misty Robinson asked if schools receive this funding and Rick responded they are trying to determine that. Aaron pointed out it had provided to schools in the past, but Rick repeated it is still being determined. She said health has its own funding and should not be considered for this funding. Rick pointed out they get EMPG funding for training and exercises.

The members continued to discuss the formulas, planning, objectives and criteria.

Chair Cage told the members he had been speaking with his counterparts around the country and they asked him why the state was funding city jurisdictions and not passing that money to the counties. He said those states fund the counties and the counties distribute to the local jurisdictions. He pointed out that he wasn't saying that was the direction the state should go, but from a state's perspective, if a city emergency manager is becoming overwhelmed, they go to a neighboring jurisdiction. The state's perspective is to listen to the county emergency manager. He said from his view, there is value in ensuring the counties are very strong. He concluded that from a state's perspective, the state reacts when a county comes to them for assistance.

The discussion continued regarding the distribution and the process, and the funding percentages, and how funds are distributed.

A discussion regarding the 52% allotted the state was held among the members and NDEM staff, and Ryan Turner asked how solid the percentage was for the state and could that percentage be changed. Chair Cage explained it would be a significant hit to his staff, and in the 2 year budget cycle, they would need state money to back it up. He said, like the local jurisdictions, NDEM has to fight for funding for positions. Justin Luna, NDEM ASO, confirmed the majority of EMPG sources were for NDEM staff payroll.

Discussions, questions and opinions continued among the members. Objectives, criteria, allocations, challenges, tier levels, THIRA and the issue of population continued.

Chair Cage concluded the meeting by stating it was time to move onto the next step and start developing some concepts, threat and hazards analysis, population vs. capability, the tiered approach and other items discussed in the meeting. He felt it was a very positive discussion and everybody wanting to build capacity as a state. He said for future agendas, he would like to bring in the remaining goals for 2016. He said he would have updates on items and issues discussed in earlier EMCC meetings and bring those to the next meeting. The members requested those updates be written and dispersed to the members prior to the meeting, so a discussion can be held on those items. He also addressed the request by the members to keep the meetings to 90 minutes, and will make an effort to accomplish that.

## **7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ryan Turner announced to the members the establishment of the Nevada Emergency Preparedness Association (NEPA) and was receiving questions about the dues. People who are sending in their dues are asking if the annual dues can be reimbursed by EMPG funds. He said he would look into that.

## **8. ADJOURN**

Chair Cage asked for a motion to adjourn. Mike Brown moved to adjourn and Brian Burgess seconded the motion.