



MEETING MINUTES INTRASTATE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Attendance	Date	Wednesday, March 28, 2018	
	Time	2:00 PM	
	Location	Nevada Division of Emergency Management 2478 Fairview Dr. Carson City, NV 89701	
	Method	Video – teleconference	
	Recorder	Debbie Taylor-Cramer	
Members	Present	Ex-Officio Members and Staff	Present
Chief Caleb Cage	X	Samantha Ladich (DAG)	
Rick Neal	X	Kelli Baratti (staff)	X
Richard Burger			
Jack Byrom	X		
Tod Carlini	X		
Lisa Christensen			
Brett Compston	X		
Mike Allen	X		
Jeanne Freeman	X		
David Goss	X		
Mike Heidemann	X		
Dan Hourihan			
Brent Hunter	X		
Jeremy Hynds	X		
Kerry Lee	X		
Carol Lynn	X		
Jeff Page			
John Steinbeck	X		
TOTAL:	14		

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chief Cage, Chairman of the Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee, called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Debbie Taylor-Cramer, Nevada Division of

Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Cage called for public comment. There was none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chief Cage apologized due to technical difficulties; the minutes from July 19, 2017 are not available. We will have two sets for our next meeting, which will include today and one from our last meeting.

4. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Chief Cage welcomed everyone, introduced new members of the committee, and noted the importance of filling the few current vacancies. Chief Cage asked Kelli Baratti to clarify the 2018 meeting schedule. She confirmed there are, at a minimum, two meetings a year, one meeting in the March/April timeframe and again in August/September.

Chief Cage reviewed the importance of the committee as well as the mission and purpose of the committee. The Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee (IMAC) was created during 2015 legislation, through Assembly Bill 90. As a part of the Intrastate Mutual Aid System (IMAS) this body as established and has several roles, one of which is to provide oversight and input to the Chief regarding the IMAS. As we review the regulatory report, we will provide information regarding the Mutual Aid that has been provided, or coordinated, in during the last year.

One of the first tasks of the IMAC was to create regulations. Chief Cage appreciates everyone's support to get this task accomplished. The second item was to establish operational policies and procedures. The IMAC is meeting the requirements as outlined in the regulations. The system, as established, seems to be working well.

Chief Cage indicated that we have had some recommendations to improve the IMAS moving forward with input from the IMAC. As outlined in regulation, no later than September 30th of each year, the committee shall review policies and procedures and make any recommendations.

Chief Cage noted he will provide an update on recommendations regarding the future of the Nevada Division Emergency Management as well as an update on planning efforts with resorts and schools. These two items fit into the broader discussion we are currently having regarding the state of emergency management in Nevada. This meetig is a good opportunity to get this information before the IMAC.

Chief Cage outlined the work he and Deputy Chief Steinbeck have been doing regarding a set of recommendations to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

(Commission). Those recommendations included an executive order, budget recommendations, possible legislative changes, and so on. Feedback was received from the Commission at their January meeting to proceed with development formal recommendations to be heard at the Commission's February meeting. At that meeting the Commission approved the executive order. Chief Cage noted the Executive Order has been broadly shared.

Chief Cage and Deputy Chief Steinbeck are currently looking for input on legislative recommendations for how we do the business of emergency management and how that ties into implementation of a resiliency strategy in Nevada. The effort is quickly moving forward with a deadline of July 1, 2018 for these recommendations. While this effort is not specific to the IMAC or the System it is important that we are having a dialog with our partners throughout the state.

Chief Cage provided examples of efforts currently underway that may result in legislative recommendations. The Cyber Security Sub-Committee and the Resort Planning Task Force are both developing possible recommendations. There is also an effort with school officials and law enforcement regarding school security and safety. If Mutual Aid has any part in any of these areas, it would be beneficial for this committee to make those recommendations. Chief Cage emphasized the important of using opportunity we have to generate input to these efforts.

Chief Cage provided an opportunity for Deputy Chief Steinbeck to provide comment. Deputy Chief Steinbeck noted this is a great time to be in emergency management and thanked Chief Cage for his leadership. Chief Cage then opened the floor for clarifications or discussion.

Jack Byron inquired if this overlaps with what the NTAC and Fusion Centers do. Chief Cage provided an overview to the concept of resilience strategy and resilience planning. The Commission expressed a desire to ensure we are building early warning and intelligence gathering into preparedness efforts for information sharing. The Commission want to make certain they are funding capacities within a larger system. It should be built in as a component of how we get information, for example on school violence, before it happens.

Sheriff Mike Allen presented that on March 14th the Attorney General's Office held a Law Enforcement Summit on school safety and emergency operation plans. He felt it was very beneficial for law enforcement and would encourage law enforcement to participate in school safety plans and the emergency management. Chief Cage agreed re-emphasized the need to recommendations moving forward. The Commission will be meeting April 11th to review all the work being done. There may be opportunities to make recommendations for Mutual Aid concerns going forward.

Jeanne Freeman spoke to resilience and expressed concern in two different sectors; a healthcare intrastate compact for physicians and nurses, as well as other types of

healthcare, such as behavior specialist or crises counselor. Second, are first responders, there are private citizens first responders who want to help and volunteer.

Discussion ensued regarding a number of issues surrounding health care. There are groups, private citizens, and others that do not know how to access an organized system, and are available to help at an incident. It was suggested this should be part of the resilience and recovery strategy. Chief Cage noted that there are several statutes that currently exist; NRS 415 Emergency Management Assistance Compact provides for interstate deployments of government employees. It was noted that physicians and nurses are a huge pool of resources which are not easily covered by EMAC if they are not affiliated with a government entity. The NRS 415A Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners (Uniform Act) may provide some answers to these issues. Members agreed the statute should be reviewed as the solution may rest there. Jeanne Freeman offered to investigate the processes occurring in other states regarding volunteers on the state level along with the NRS.

Jeremy Hynds asked if the Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) still exists and can be utilized. Jeanne Freeman noted the state is obligated to a contract for three years which presents a challenge to any changes to the system. Mike Heidemann suggested reaching out to State EMS regarding any compact.

Rick Neal noted that from previous experience one of the common reasons for the repetitive background checks is that there is not an authoritative database, and there are multiple different requirements. Coordinated development of a trusted database may be a solution. Kelli Baratti presented that the Nevada First Responder Credentialing program contains a process in which volunteers that are affiliated with, and recognized by, a government entity are credentialed and badged based on their agencies policies and procedures. This credential meets the national standard and resides in the federal emergency response official repository as well. It would provide government affiliated volunteers deployed on an EMAC mission a credential for proof of identity, affiliation and qualifications.

All agreed that unassigned volunteers will continue to be an issue. Chief Cage asked what the goals and issues regarding volunteers are. Concerns, suggestions and recommendations revolved around current organizations: CERT, Medical Reserve Corps, and VOAD and the ability to utilize them. Standardization and recognition of background checks, qualifications and credentialing are a key to the solution.

Chief Cage concluded the discussion by reminding the IMAC there is a July 1st deadline for recommendations, this committee can meet again in early June; vote and make the recommendations going forward.

5. NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (NAC) 414A REGULATION REVIEW AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Chief Cage gave an overview of the regulations developed by the committee. Section 5 of the regulations required development of policies and procedures regarding deployments under EMAC. He presented that we utilized EMAC more in 2017 than ever before. He acknowledged that there are complaints that the system is too bureaucratic and the approval processes take too long. However, EMAC requests and deployments may be verbally approved which speeds up the process. EMAC protects the state, the agency and the individual workers. The process is involved to ensure those protections are in place and reimbursements can be made. Chief Cage is very proud that we are participating in the program, and that we are able to bring resources into the state under EMAC.

Section 6 of the regulations require the Division to conduct outreach and report, no later than June 30th of each year, that contains information relating to declared emergencies, undeclared emergencies, resources that were requested, etc. It requires the committee to review the report and make recommendations to the Chief by September 30th of each year. Based on the previous agenda item, Chief Cage believes we have a very good opportunity to make legislative recommendations, if needed, through the Commission. Any recommendations are needed by July 1, 2018. Chief Cage asked if there were any questions or comments before moving to the next agenda item. None noted.

6. NAC 414A REGULATORY REPORT

Chief Cage began by presenting EMAC deployments that are covered in the annual incident report. This first report covers the first 3 quarters of State Fiscal Year 2018. There were 5 EMAC by the state of Nevada for the October 1, 2018 mass casualty incident. We received medical examiner and coroner support for the 1 October incident, along with legal support from Florida. This support was from legal experts involved with the Pulse Nightclub shooting and its recovery. They were able to provide assistance regarding the family assistance center and the transition to the resilience center.

Under DR 4303 and 4307, the two Presidential declared emergencies from January and February 2017, Nevada placed an EMAC request to the state of Arizona for a Public Assistance expert to assist with recovery and the interaction with FEMA.

State of Nevada provided EMAC assistance to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria using Nevada National Guard assets. He noted that this has been a busy year for EMAC and that there are reimbursements in process. We did receive reimbursement for Hurricane Katrina in 2017.

Chief Cage continued with Intrastate Mutual Aid system (IMAS) deployments. One of the important elements of IMAS is that it does not necessarily require a deployment that's coordinated by the state. A county Sheriff may go to another jurisdiction and coordinate as necessary. It was noted however that jurisdictions do have a requirement to notify the Division if IMAS is utilized for situational awareness and statistical reports. This report details the incidents that the Division is aware of or has had a coordination

role. The top two most frequently reported incidents are wildfire and search and rescue. Page two of the report covers the Declared Emergencies to date.

At the time of this report we have 4 Tribal National who have Opted In to the IMAS: Reno Sparks Indian Colony, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Duck Valley Sho-Pai Tribe and the Yerington Paiute Tribe. There is a request pending to meet with the Fallon Shoshone Paiute Tribe.

Chief Cage reminded the committee that Tribes opt-in to the IMAS via a resolution by their Tribal Council. He also reviewed that political subdivisions in the State of Nevada, are automatically covered by the statute and would have to opt-out. This is an indicator we will need to watch. If we have a local communities that opt-out there may be reason for concern. Right now we have no jurisdictions that have opted-out.

Chief Cage then reviewed the regulatory requirements of outreach. Presentations on IMAS were made at the Nevada Preparedness Summit, Northern Nevada Fire Chiefs Association meetings, Sheriff and Chiefs, and the Nevada Association of Counties. Kelli Baratti reported that in April, staff from the Division will meet with representatives of each county, beginning with Storey, for the IMAS resource inventory, THIRA, credentialing of first responders, and their participation in mutual aid. The goal is to have at least half of the counties completed, allowing for fire season, by the end of August.

Jeanne Freeman expressed concern that the four health care coalitions in the state of Nevada are required to gather a resource list of healthcare items and rotation basis by July 1, 2019. This will fulfill a grant requirement for them. She indicated it would be helpful if the information could be gathered at the same time. At the time the operational policies and procedures were developed it was clear that the Emergency Managers desired to be the single point of contact for their jurisdictions as far as coordination with the disciplines and the special districts within their county. It will be important for the health care coalitions to be represented.

Chief Cage referred to the once a month conference call with county, tribal city emergency managers, all committee members are welcomed to join the call, we try to keep it to about 30 minutes. He believes there is real value to the call moving forward.

Chief Cage reminded the committee there are three different WebEOC systems for the state; Washoe County, Clark County, and the State. The Resource Request and Deployment Module is the inventory database for the state. Clark and Washoe Counties provide us downloads from their systems and this allows us to have a single, statewide database of resources. Chief Cage is keeping notes on recommendations moving forward, and possibly considering Web Fusion for all the systems to communicate.

Jack Byron complimented the outreach program. He did express concern with the the turn over with staff, how are they kept up to date regarding mutual aid, etc. Kelli Baratti explained that the outreach visits were the opportunity to provide this information. He

also expressed concern about how the tribes are included. Kelli Baratti assured him that the tribal partners will have every opportunity to be at the table. If they are unable to attend with the county, we will visit them. The tribes that have opted in, the inventory will be included. Regardless if the tribal nations have opted in or not, it is critically important we visit the Tribal nations.

Chief Cage moved onto the Duty Officer PowerPoint Presentation. There were hazardous material calls, search and rescue calls this answers the questions regarding non-emergencies does the state face regarding IMAC AND IMAS. The Duty Officer calls by county were not a big surprise; Clark, Washoe, and Elko Counties have a large number of calls. The final slide detailed the out of state responses. The last quarter of the fiscal year will be incorporated in the final report. Chief Cage noted that there is a requirement to meet once a year and this meeting met our statutory requirement. He believes that meeting once a year is not enough for this committee.

Chief Cage stated we have until June 30th to build the final report. Discussion surrounded improvements that may be made to the report; including reimbursement detail, resources requested for out of state deployments, Tribal responses or requests, etc. Chief Cage indicated the final report would provide a comprehensive picture. He would like the next meeting in early to mid-June with a final report due then.

Chief Cage summarized the recommendations that will be explored before the next meeting: an intrastate compact for mental health, specifically crises counselors and trauma counselors; establishing a process for a comprehensive database centralized system to oversee the volunteer coordination between counties; reviewing NRS 415 and NRS415A; review the credentialing and certification of volunteers, and building out VOAD and CERT volunteers. The suggestion was made to conduct a review of the Web Fusion consideration with the inventory database; there may be a technical fix to build the systems into one or up to three systems. He also reminded the committee that there is homework to be done before the next meeting regarding the legislative proposals.

Chief Cage announced the next meeting June 4, 2018 from 1:00PM to 4:00PM.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment in the Carson City, Clark County or on the teleconference line.

8. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn, Jeremy Hynds motioned, Rick Neal seconded the motion.