



Quarterly Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance

	DATE	June 27, 2012	
	TIME	9:30am - noon	
	LOCATION	Las Vegas PBS (Public Broadcasting Meeting Room 3050 E. Flamingo Road Las Vegas, Nevada 89121	
	METHOD	Conference	
	RECORDER	Selby Marks	
Commission Members	Present	Legislative & Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
Governor Sandoval, Governor	X	Christopher B. Smith	X
Michael Haley		Assemblyman Horne	
Maureen Shafer	X	Senator Lee	X
Andy Flock	X	Kevin Favreau	
Robert Fisher	X	Karen Burke	X
Bertral Washington	X	Chris Ipsen	
Bill Welch	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Doug Gillespie	X		
Adam Garcia	X		
Dr. Warren Gilbert	X		
Troy Wade			
Tom Lozich	X	Selby Marks, (Staff)	X
Richard Perkins		Samantha Ladich, (AG rep)	X
Rosemary Vassiliadis			
Alfrieda Jake			
Scott Fuller			
Loren Fuller			

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Governor Sandoval called meeting to order at 9:40am after slight delay due to technical difficulties with the video-teleconference equipment. Information Technology personnel from both the North and the South attempted to remedy the situation with no resolve. With Senior Deputy Attorney General (DAG) approval, the meeting commenced under teleconference mode with all members in the north and south informed. To try and remedy the video-teleconference issue, the Northern location meeting attendees attempted to move to the Emergency Operations Center, however were redirected by Selby Marks to move back to the Executive Conference Room. Roll call by Selby Marks. Audio levels required adjustment so that the Northern meeting could hear members in the South. Quorum met with attendance noted in table above.

2. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Governor Sandoval has no commentary and wishes to move straight into agenda discussion.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Sandoval opened the floor to public comment with commentary noted below:

Northern Nevada: No commentary indicated; Southern Nevada commentary as follows:

Chief Christopher Smith, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security / State Administrative Agent (NDEM/SAA) briefed Commission members with an update on the Fusion Center merger in northern Nevada. The merger is taking place currently with a new Director, Lieutenant Ryan Miller with the Nevada Division of Investigations (NDI). The Fusion Center will be named the Nevada Threat Analysis Center (NTAC). The sergeant assigned to that duty from NDI is Mary Haugen. Joint seal bulletins are being released, and articulation of how seats will be moved and who will work out of each location is being addressed. In addition, the process has begun to address statewide fusion center governance, looking at a State Board of Governance model. They are working with specialists from the federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that will be coming to Carson City in August to work with fusion center directors in both northern and southern Nevada to help with the governance model and concept of operations.

No further commentary.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Governor Sandoval asked Commission members if they have had an opportunity to review the April 26, 2012 minutes. Adam Garcia requested that the meeting minutes reflect that Commander Todd Runwick represented him at the April 26, 2012 meeting.

Motion to approve put forth by Tom Lozich; Second by Sheriff Doug Gillespie. No opposition. Motion passes unanimously.

5. UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE SONNett COMMITTEE

Chief Christopher Smith presented for Fire Chief Chris Magenheimer an update on the status of the SONNet Committee. Please refer to the PowerPoint presentation covering SONNet background, members, and priority of tasks to be undertaken by the committee. No commentary or questions.

6. REPORT TO THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON HOMELAND SECURITY – UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON THE STATE HOMELAND SECURITY STRATEGY (SHSS)

Chief Christopher Smith presented an update on the State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS). Please refer to the SHSS PowerPoint presentation covering the Homeland Security Commission 2012 priorities, strategic planning process, State Preparedness Report (SPR), Threat/Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA), and the path moving forward. The goal is to have an updated draft of the SHSS by January 1, 2013 moving into new grant cycle. Chief Christopher Smith opened up discussion for questions.

Governor Sandoval inquired who Chief Christopher Smith has in mind for working group members. Chief Christopher Smith would like volunteers to provide expertise to this group. Volunteers are noted as follows:

Sheriff Doug Gillespie volunteered stressing the importance of obtaining an appropriate share of grant dollars in addition to knowledge as to how DHS develops formulas to provide this funding. Sheriff Gillespie also notes that flexibility is required with ever-changing guidelines; Tom Lozich volunteered stressing importance of private sector viewpoint with the current “whole community” approach; Bill

Welch/Nevada Hospital Association, while he cannot personally serve this working group, offers Angela Krutsinger as a volunteer appointment. Mr. Welch is encouraged to hear the State is reaching out to the Commission. Mr. Welch had two suggestions after review of the current report, with encouragement that Chief Christopher Smith spoke somewhat to his questions already. Mr. Welch would like to make sure all current goals and objectives are noted in the current report, as a 2012 retreat is not currently reflected. It also appears that current wording on this report may not clearly delineate that work is progressing toward a core capability approach versus target capability which is now the standard in the Presidential Policy Directive #8 that we are supposed to be working toward. He encourages all current recommendations and decisions be incorporated into the report to help with future grant funding efforts; Governor Sandoval interjected that Chief Christopher Smith has indicated it would be acceptable for Angela Krutsinger to be part of this group. Karen Burke volunteered; Andy Flock volunteered; Gonzalo Cordova volunteered with stated interest in THIRA process clarification. Mr. Cordova understands it is supposed to be submitted by December. Chief Christopher Smith confirmed it is by December 31, 2012; Adam Garcia volunteered; Chief Bertral Washington volunteered.

Sheriff Doug Gillespie thanked all volunteers and stressed the importance of volunteer participation adding that the Commission volunteers must be present at the working group meeting and not send a representative. However, additional support through commentary of guests in addition to administrative support is permissible. Commission volunteers must show up to provide entity leadership, prioritization efforts, development of important guidelines, and presenting expertise as needed.

Governor Sandoval related that he thinks the working group membership is sufficient as well and personally thanking all volunteers knowing that there are only six months to get this moving.

7. REQUEST TO REALLOATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) FUNDS

Sheriff Doug Gillespie discussed Finance Committee involvement in reviewing a number of investment justifications/reallocation of existing funds seen on the agenda. There are people present at both meeting locations to answer questions relating to each reallocation request. Prior to discussing individual items, there are several points Sheriff Gillespie brought up to the Commission:

NCHS-45 Re-obligation - This Department of Motor Vehicles project was not funded as it was the first time the project was presented before the Finance Committee. A number of other projects had re-requested allocation of funds and were denied, and approving a first-time program is not appropriate at this time. Secondly, this would fall under the supplanting aspect of grant funding knowing other programs falling under this parameter would look for funding as well.

NCHS-38 Re-obligation – Finance Committee requested this proposal be presented again with the provision of a less expensive option through vendor negotiation with same or different vendor. Washoe County will pursue that request and bring back a renegotiated proposal.

NCHS-44 Re-obligation – Finance Committee requested a more detailed breakdown in line-item budget as to what expenditures were going to be prior to submission to the Homeland Security Commission. There was no problem with usage of funds, only with concern of clarity regarding what is needed for the project based on line-item budget.

NCHS-37, NCHS-39, NCHS-40, NCHS-41, NCHS-42, and NCHS-43 were approved by Finance Committee after respective re-obligation presentations. Question was posed by Sheriff Gillespie to Committee as to how approval should commence with possible solution as approving all re-obligation requests already approved by the Committee. Sheriff Gillespie informed the Commission the Finance Committee does not recommend approval of NCHS-44 until further budgetary clarification is received. He does not know if Chief Fernandez Leary, Clark County Fire Department has been able to provide this information as of yet.

Governor Sandoval asked Sheriff Gillespie if he had any commentary on any of the individual re-allocation requests. Sheriff Gillespie informed the Governor that these re-obligations are well vetted by the State and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) administrators before coming to the Finance Committee, with particular note that the Finance Committee does a good job with a great amount of skill in digging into these investment justifications. This is evidenced by the fact that two requests were not approved and another held in abeyance until further information is received. Both Chris Smith and Irene Navis as well have done a good job to make sure we are still in compliance with DHS guidelines. Sheriff Gillespie indicated that the Finance Committee is often asked regarding whether allocations meet the DHS guidelines, particularly if records are audited.

Governor Sandoval inquired as to where that puts us in regards to previous agendas in terms of obligating available funds to prevent funding critique. Chief Christopher Smith asked Kelli Anderson/NDEM Grants Supervisor for a dollar figure of remaining funds. Kelli Anderson responded with \$240,000 currently in de-obligated funds now available for re-obligation. Governor Sandoval inquired as to where we were before, and Kelli indicated prior to this, we were at \$1,050,000 which includes State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and UASI.

Bill Welsh directed a question to Sheriff Gillespie pertaining to NHCP-44. With regard to the revised budget brought before the Finance Committee, he interpreted that the same equipment would be obtained at a different volume. As he looks at revised budget, dollar amount is the same with different equipment with the exception of one furniture item. He is asking for clarification. Sheriff Gillespie agrees with this overview, but defended that the presenters were not afforded enough time to adequately identify exact needs, and he is not surprised at the equipment change noted in the revised proposal. Bill Welsh is supportive of the re-obligation if Sheriff Gillespie is supportive as well. Sheriff Gillespie feels the first thing to be done, as NHCP-37, NHCP-39, NHCP-40, NHCP-41, NHCP-42, NHCP-43 have all been approved is to approve this group of re-obligation requests and take others separately.

Motion to approve Agenda Item #7 by Sheriff Gillespie; Second by Chief Bertral Washington – No opposition, motion passes unanimously. Governor Sandoval moved onto NCHS-44.

Chief Fernandez Leary, Deputy Chief, Clark County Fire Department – Spoke to NCHS-44 As requested by the Finance Committee, his department resubmitted a revised proposal and budget with detailed items required to put the Departmental Operation Center (DOC) together. The list is comprehensive and is satisfactory at this point. Sheriff Gillespie asked Irene Navis, Clark County Emergency Manager for her input on revised submittal. Irene indicated she reviewed this revised budget, it is in order, and it falls within the allowable grant proposal guidelines/investment justification. The request is being made as a result of DHS and Commission direction to look at projects and priorities to examine timeframes for expenditure. Kelli Anderson wanted to put on record that we are still pending DHS authorization for the furniture expenditure. In addition, depending on how we can work with UASI to ensure we are compliant with environmental and historical preservation processes and guidelines, then the project will be compliant. Governor Sandoval inquired if we can take action today. Kelli Anderson responded yes, however Irene Navis also interjected it would be pending federal approval. Sheriff Gillespie reiterated that we can take action to approve today, but it is still pending approval, at the same time asking for a timeline for approval. Kelli Anderson indicated approval for cubicle/system furniture is expected in the next 7-10 working days, and the environmental piece should be easily approved and pushed through within the next 7-10 days as well, with only 2 forms requiring processing.

Motion for approval of NCHS-44, subject to the caveats just described, by Sheriff Gillespie; Second by Bill Welch. No opposition. Motion passes unanimously.

8. REPORT ON THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PRIMARY ENTRY POINT (PEP) STATION

Bob Fisher, President and Chief Executive Officer, Nevada Broadcaster's Association has been delayed. Agenda item was deferred till Mr. Fisher's arrival. Governor moved to Agenda Item #9.

Mr. Fisher joined the Commission members after Agenda Item #9 was discussed. He reported to Commissioners on the status of efforts to enable radio station KDWN-AM to be the PEP station distributing Presidential messages to other broadcast stations and cable systems in southern Nevada. The Nevada Broadcaster's Association has worked for 18 years to ensure that southern Nevada would have a PEP to be used in a catastrophe. From the beginning, there has always been a PEP station in Reno, KKOH. FEMA began expanding number of PEP stations approximately 3-1/2 years ago. We were fortunate that KDWN-AM, as a station reaching nearly 15 western states at existed, however it needed to be brought up to code per FEMA standards. The Beasley family has applied nearly \$100,000 worth of improvements into that location. Mr. Fisher made the Commission aware that there has only been one test of the PEP system in the United States, and it emanated from KDWN in Las Vegas. Negotiations pertaining to city and county codes, gravel road requiring paving/curbs, etc. If it turns out that a waiver cannot be negotiated with the county or City of Henderson through varying efforts, he may need a letter of support coming from the Homeland Security Commission indicating this is a critical issue. In the event of a critical emergency, southern Nevada requires access to this system. Mr. Fisher wants to ensure southern Nevada has a PEP station.

Governor Sandoval inquired when Mr. Fisher requires a decision. Mr. Fisher indicated sooner rather than later as there are still negotiations ensuing. Governor Sandoval asked for clarification on when we would know when the waiver will be approved thru local government. Mr. Fisher indicated again sooner rather than later, within the next few weeks as it has to be pushed. There has been some movement on the part of the City of Henderson but it is now being deflected to the County. Mr. Fisher will keep the Commission abreast of the situation through communications with Selby Marks. It may be advantageous for the Governor or the Commission to issue a letter stating that public warning is a priority adding that financial constraints placed upon KDWN-AM, as a result of what KDWN-AM has already spent for expansion, prevents the station from applying further monies toward needed upgrades. Governor Sandoval inquired if Mr. Fisher is seeking a letter at this meeting or if it can wait. Mr. Fisher indicated he is seeking a letter today. Chief Christopher Smith interjected that southern Nevada should have access to this capability, and his office has worked specifically with Ryan Turner, Henderson Emergency Manager. Mr. Turner is fully engaged to support this project and actively working with the engineering office to ensure this passes. Sheriff Gillespie inquired why Mr. Fisher needs the City of Henderson's approval. Mr. Fisher indicated that is where the tower is located, however he did not know specifically. He was informed that he needs the assistance of the Commission to move this request forward. Ryan Turner approached the Commission reporting that the City of Henderson has pulled back any conditions requiring pavement of gravel road as a result of communications with the Director of Community Development. Mr. Fisher has waited 18 years for this to happen. Governor Sandoval inquired as to whether the issues City of Henderson have been resolved. Mr. Turner indicated again the conditions to pave the road under items 6 & 7 were retracted. There are no further restrictions to building from City of Henderson's point of view. The Clark County Air Quality initiative was the driving force behind the paving request, and they are the last point of reference for concern. Irene Navis will follow up with Clark County Air Quality and Mr. Fisher to resolve any further issues. Governor Sandoval interjected his gratitude for the City of Henderson in working with us on this issue, and for Mr. Turner to please convey that message.

9. REPORT ON THE REGIONAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE OWNER AND OPERATOR FOCUS GROUP

Gonzalo Cordova, Department of Homeland Security Infrastructure Protection (DHS/IP) Officer presented to the Commission an overview on the historical relevance as well as information pertaining to the recent DHS/IP-directed focus group meeting held on May 17, 2012 in Las Vegas. Historical information pertaining to initiative was given to see how the needs of the state, local, and tribal sector stakeholders at original levels to understand both critical infrastructure and resilience requirements. The process entailed gathering information through the State, Local, Tribal Territorial Governmental Coordinating Council (SLTTGCC) conducted interviews with critical infrastructure partners at the government level and private sector level. There were two Focus Groups, one May 17, 2012 in Las Vegas with another scheduled at a later time in California with purpose to gather information for protection and resilience in addition to uncovering what tools are being used currently and what is needed currently. In Las Vegas, there were 28 representatives including banking/finance, commercial facilities, communication, critical manufacturing, emergency services, energy, government facilities, healthcare and public health, transportation, and water sectors. They received honest feedback from the private sector and were provided with recommendations as a result of those communications. The Homeland Security Advisor's office has received a draft report, with a final report focusing on issues identified in another report focusing on FEMA Region 9. Historically initiatives have been designed without much input from the field. The goal is to have programs and initiatives that are focused on state needs from use of quality information provided from all stakeholders to address needs with future program implementations. In the near future, the Office of Infrastructure Protection and the State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Government Coordinating Council (SLTTGCC) has designated the State of Nevada / Las Vegas for joint critical infrastructure protection symposium to include participation from Region 9 – Mr. Cordova is planning this currently with Irene Navis and Chief Christopher Smith. Mr. Cordova indicated he would be asking for support from Governor Sandoval for this symposium.

No questions posed to Mr. Cordova

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Sandoval opened the meeting up for public comment.

Northern Nevada – Rick Martin/DEM asked for clarification on Agenda Item #7, project NCHS-45. They are not clear on the direction for that line item. Sheriff Gillespie reported that item was not recommended by the Finance Committee to be funded. Mr. Martin inquired if this was voted on in Committee or if we needed to vote on that item. Samantha Ladich, Senior Deputy Attorney General interjected that there was no vote today. Governor Sandoval indicated that the Commission did not take action on that item suggesting it was not funded. Samantha Ladich has been looking through bylaws and guidelines for clarification of voting rules, but it may be a good idea to take a motion in case for clarification purposes in the event of any push-back. Sheriff Gillespie responded to Samantha Ladich that there are a lot of recommendations coming to the Finance Committee that if denied never come to the full body for approval. He offers the body of work presented today, and justification as to why he didn't bring that forward today. Samantha Ladich reiterated the bylaws were not clear if the Commission is to take action. The Governor interjected his concern in setting a precedent that everything rejected by the Finance Committee would then have to be rejected by the entire Commission. Samantha Ladich indicated this is not what has been done in the past. Governor Sandoval again spoke Mr. Martin's concern regarding funding approval on this request. There was no such funding or approval granted.

Southern Nevada – Sheriff Gillespie spoke to the Commission regarding an issue from law enforcement as well as an information exchange process taking place in Washington D.C. He understands from the agenda standpoint that he can be advised if he can get a recommendation based on this that the Governor can provide a letter if the Commission so chooses. There is a program called Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group (ITACG) at the National Counter Terrorism Center that houses intelligence sharing personnel from DHS, FBI, CIA, etc. Over

the past five years through a fellowship program, they have afforded local law enforcement with DHS grant assistance to have members of police and fire assist in making sure information received at that location is disseminated to first responders in a format useable by first responders. There are a lot of analytical people contained in this complex that may not see information with the same eyes that Commission members or first responders would see (i.e.) the information. Dissemination of this information in a watered-down version is important to disseminate to local EMS. There are two detectives assigned to this currently, Detectives Mike Quick and Ken Lindsay. He has seen this grow from contentious to an atmosphere of sharing. Sheriff Gillespie has been advised within the past two weeks that the Department of Homeland Security is considering not funding this program due to cuts. Major City Chiefs, Major County Sheriffs, International Association of Chiefs of Police, and National Sheriff's Association of which Sheriff Gillespie is a member sent a strong letter defending this program to Karen Wagner requesting the program cut be revisited. Sheriff Gillespie indicated this is not a free-ride fellowship. DHS picks up housing costs for detectives only. The department still picks up personnel costs. Our detectives are back there and embedded in the process. It would be a huge mistake for DHS to cut this program. Sheriff Gillespie asked Samantha Ladich if it's appropriate to ask the Governor for a letter of support for the ITAG-G program since it was not on an agenda. Ms. Ladich indicated we cannot take action under Public Comment, but if he is asking the Governor the Governor to send his support as Governor, that is different. The group cannot take action, he will have to wait.

Bob Fisher – For the record, after Legislature the Bylaws Committee expressed gratitude to the Governor and to Lucas Foletta in supporting statute changes for this Commission. As a member of the Bylaws Committee, this could not have happened without the support of Senator Lee and Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick. He thanks Senator Lee who was in attendance.

Governor Sandoval thanked Maureen Schafer for her incredible commitment to the State of Nevada. Ms. Schafer expressed her gratitude in serving two Governors and various Chairmen, Sheriffs, and Chiefs. She has been a party to many conversations involving areas of interoperability, risk assessment, federal funding, preparedness strategy, and state priorities adding that we come together as Nevadans in making our citizens safer. She is proud to have served with and amongst all of the Commissioners stating that it has been a tremendous privilege, and the Commission is in good hands.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Governor Sandoval put forth a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Bertral Washington; Second by Sheriff Gillespie. No opposition, motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.