



Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	DATE	Friday, January 15, 2016	
	TIME	9:30 A.M.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Division of Emergency Management Training Room 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, NV 89701	
	METHOD	Video-Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Karen Hall	
Commission Members	Present	Legislative & Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
Governor Brian Sandoval	X	Derek Armstrong	X
Joseph Lombardo	X	Laura Bucheit	
Chuck Allen		Karen Burke	X
Gregory Cassell		Caleb Cage	X
Lisa Christensen	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Robert Fisher	X	Chris Ipsen	
Adam Garcia	X	Michael Roberson	X
Frank Gonzales			
Mark Hutchison	X	Lou Holland – DAG	X
Ikram Khan	X	Karen Hall (Analyst/Staff)	X
Tom Lozich	X		
William McDonald	X		
Charles Moore	X		
Richard Perkins	X		
Rosemary Vassiliadis	X		
Troy Wade	X		
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, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (NDEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Sandoval opened discussion for public commentary in both the northern and southern venues. No public commentary was presented in either venue.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Governor Sandoval called for approval of the meeting minutes from The Commission meeting held December 2, 2015. Motion to approve provided by Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants, and a second provided by Director Adam Garcia, University of Nevada Reno Police Services. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

4. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Governor Sandoval wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked Sheriff Joseph Lombardo, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD), his staff, members of the Nevada National Guard, and all others that were so successful in preparing for a safe and secure New Year's Eve event in Las Vegas.

5. UPDATE ON THE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP). REVIEW OF COMMISSION PRIORITIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016 PRIORITIES

Chief Caleb Cage, NDEM/HS discussed existing recommendations and considerations presented for Commission agendas moving forward, noting that those suggestions have been compiled and will be added to future agendas this year. For this meeting, there is significant importance to address the FFY16 HSGP process. Chief Cage provided a review of the current FFY15 HSGP allocations noting that the money awarded is starting to spend down.

Lengthy discussion ensued and was led by Governor Sandoval on the growing concern of the current MSA rankings and the effect on Nevada's UASI. The Governor expressed concern at the recent drop in status, and the continual necessity for Nevada to have to fight to stay high enough on the list to obtain crucial funding for the urban area. The Governor has been in communication with Jeh Johnson, United States Secretary of Homeland Security regarding this issue. Chief Cage indicated that the state is working closely with its Emergency Management partners and UASI counterparts to aggressively pursue any changes to the formula that continually puts Nevada on the verge of not obtaining UASI funding. Sheriff Lombardo also indicated that he has reached out to the congressional delegation for assistance as well, as they played a key role in the UASI maintaining funding in years past. Discussion included identification on exactly where the cut line is for funding the UASI, and it is a complicated system in which the ranking structure is classified. Additional information on this could be provided by Gonzalo Cordova, Department of Homeland Security, during a classified briefing.

Chief Cage provided a review of the Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) and State Preparedness Report (SPR) process with the following highlights:

- Overview of the THIRA and SPR Process including the relationship between the two processes in addition to the multi-faceted participation and outreach involved including after action report, improvement plans, surveys, reports, training and planning, and the UASI THIRA;
- Annual participation in the THIRA/SPR process showing a decrease in the amount of participation from 51 agencies to 43 agencies from year 2014 to 2015. The goal is to increase the participation rate. Concern was presented by Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribes of Nevada and California, as to why tribal input was

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not included in the charting presented, with Chief Cage indicating that the tribal THIRA input was done separately in the recent past as they were competing for a separate funding stream; however the Chief will ensure inclusion moving forward. Governor Sandoval inquired on how to increase participation, with Chief Cage indicating the necessity of increased outreach, implementation of the NDEM/HS Strategic Plan, and awareness through training and exercise programs as mechanisms to increase participation. A correction was read into record indicating Enterprise Information Technology Services as participating in the 2015 THIRA;

- Foundational guidance for the THIRA emphasizing the Nevada Enhanced Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan allowing Nevada to pursue federal resources for mitigation;
- Overview of 2015 Threats and Hazards denoting that they have not changed significantly from 2014, however Cybersecurity and Drought have been added due to state impact;
- Heatmap Comparison from 2011 through 2015 indicating capabilities rated against core capabilities for Nevada in the mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigations, Response, and Recovery. Chief Cage emphasized that Recovery is a major focus area currently, and as noted on the heatmap, Nevada's capabilities in this area show there is room for improvement;
- Governor Sandoval inquired on the lack of change in the heatmap in regards to Cybersecurity in light of the fact that it was the number one priority of the Commission in 2015. Chief Cage indicated that time, in addition to the newly seated Cybersecurity Committee and increased input from statewide partnerships will help to enhance that capability. Sheriff Lombardo inquired on the membership makeup of the Cybersecurity Committee, and that information will be given out after the meeting.
- Chief Charles Moore, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District inquired on additional tools to be referenced outside of the THIRA/SPR to understand how to accomplish significant progress with these capabilities. Chief Cage indicated that the newly released Training and Exercise Plan will assist with this, as well as a narrative and much more detailed assessment to accompany the tool in the future.
- Commission priorities selected in 2015 and the process moving forward to establish 2016 Priorities were discussed with Governor Sandoval emphasizing the importance of Commissioner input indicating that the Commissioners all have equal say in this process with their priority submissions. Additional discussion on core capability definitions ensued with particular interest in Access Control and Identity Verification. The priorities chosen drive the direction of the Commission. Instruction was given on filling out the Priorities Indication Worksheet with due date information provided as well. Chief Moore asked if the Commission could assist NDEM/HS to increase participation in the THIRA process, with Chief Cage indicating his appreciation of the offer as well as a request for the Commission to hold NDEM/HS accountable to produce an increase in participation. NDEM/HS will have to provide more outreach, more training, and conveying the relevance and importance of the tool to Nevada. Ms. Christensen offered to share a tool that was developed between Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission

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members and FEMA to assist in information upload to the THIRA tool. Chief Cage welcomed the offer.

- Additional discussion was presented concerning how to best use the Commission as a voice to address the current UASI MSA rating. With the very short response period, the effectiveness of any communication was questionable.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Khan presented inquiry on future follow-up on the vetting process for student visas, with Chief Cage indicating that process would be agendaized for the next Commission meeting. Governor Sandoval inquired where the vetting process would fall within the current core capabilities, and considerable discussion occurred on identifying that information for the Governor to assist him with his priorities selection prior to the deadline.

7. ADJOURN

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Moore presented the motion, with Director Garcia providing a second. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.