



Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	DATE	Friday, February 13, 2015	
	TIME	9:00 A.M.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Highway Patrol – Southern Command Training Room A-105 4615 W. Sunset Road Las Vegas, Nevada 89118	
	METHOD	Video-Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Karen Hall	
Commission Members	Present	Legislative & Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
Governor Brian Sandoval	X	Laura Bucheit	X
Chuck Allen	X	Karen Burke	X
Robert Fisher	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Adam Garcia	X	Chris Ipsen	X
Warren Gilbert		Christopher Smith	X
Frank Gonzales	X	Pat Spearman - Senator	
Alfreida Jake			
Ikram Khan	X	Selby Marks (Staff)	X
Joseph Lombardo	X	Samantha Ladich (AG Rep)	X
Tom Lozich	X	Karen Hall (Staff)	X
William McDonald			
Charles Moore			
Richard Perkins	X		
Rosemary Vassiliadis	X		
Troy Wade	X		
Bill Welch	X		

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Governor Brian Sandoval, Chairman of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security 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 commentary was presented in either venue.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Governor Sandoval called for approval of the meeting minutes from the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) meeting held December 12, 2014. Motion presented by Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants, with a second provided by Robert Fisher, Beasley Broadcast Group. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously. Governor Sandoval asked that the record reflect that Sheriff Chuck Allen, Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSSO) and Sheriff Joseph Lombardo, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) abstained from the vote to approve these minutes as they were not appointed members of the Commission as of the December 12, 2014 meeting.

4. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Governor Sandoval wished the Commission and the public attendees happy New Year in addition to welcoming both Sheriff Lombardo and Sheriff Allen as new members of the Commission. The Governor also welcomed new Fire Chief Gregory Cassell, Clark County Fire Department as an attendee and looks forward to working with him in the future. The Governor also spoke to the busy season due to Legislature being in session.

5. UPDATE ON THE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP). REVIEW OF COMMISSION PRIORITIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2015 PRIORITIES

Chief Christopher Smith, NDEM briefed the Commission with an update on the FFY 2014 HSGP, FFY 2014 Commission Priorities, and the FFY 2014 HSGP investments. In addition, Chief Smith also spoke to a summary of results from the State Preparedness Report (SPR) and the Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) for Nevada and the Nevada State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS). Emphasis was placed on developing the NCHS Priorities for FFY 2015 HSGP using the results from the SPR, THIRA, and SHSS. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Comparison of participation in the annual THIRA and SPR process from 2013 to 2014
- Comparison of participating organizations in the 2013 and 2014 THIRA & SPR process
- 2014 THIRA process and results; threats and hazards evaluated for conditions relevant to Nevada
- Comparison of threats denoted in the 2013 and 2014 THIRA
- 2014 Threats and Hazards survey data and rankings of threats
- SPR Heat Map comparison from 2011 through 2014 emphasizing what capabilities show need of developing, and what capabilities Nevada must maintain.
- Discussion on prior Commission priorities and the process for establishing priorities for the 2015 fiscal year.
- Improvements in removing duplications of core capabilities which have now been corrected by DHS.
- Emphasis on the prioritization of capabilities drives the grant process, and how projects will be applied to meet the intent of the Commission's priorities in building capability throughout the State.
- Discussion on the HSGP rollout and potential changes in the performance periods.

Governor Sandoval spoke to the current measles outbreak, inquiring how Nevada is prepared to handle this issue. The Governor wanted to make sure the Commission had the right information to be able to ensure, while ranking priorities, that this issue would be included. Chief Smith indicated, through his work on the Ebola Taskforce, that Nevada's health preparedness is functional, and that public health and emergency responders feel

confident about this capability to respond. There is also a need for more training, outreach, and equipping. Governor Sandoval asked Dr. Khan for more background on where Nevada is currently in regard to responding to the measles threat. Dr. Khan spoke to the mechanisms of prevention, containment, treatment, and recovery. Governor Sandoval also asked Rosemary Vassiliadis spoke to her involvement in the Ebola Taskforce, and the comprehensiveness of the plan with an upcoming recommendation to evolve to a general response plan, and containment is an area that comes down to each agency involved. As Governor Sandoval looks at his priorities, there are huge economic impacts for any type of outbreak. Although Nevada is solidly prepared for this type of event, improvements can still be made. Chief Smith indicated that the THIRA also indicated that this type of outbreak was a threat to Nevada. Ms. Vassiliadis inquired that if there was permission to distribute information from the Ebola Taskforce, it may be beneficial. Dr. Khan indicated that every agency has a plan; however the coordination of plans into a comprehensive plan is necessary. Ms. Vassiliadis indicated the plan would incorporate comprehensive components.

Governor Sandoval strongly urged the Commission to participate in this process noting the importance of individual feedback.

Chris Ipsen spoke to communication issues and the capacity to contain public concern in the event of a major illness outbreak. Chief Smith indicated that it's very important to speak with those that are actually working in that field to get information to ensure the Commission's priorities. Robert Fisher, Beasley Broadcast Group, spoke to applying the same concept to all of the priorities, and the public has a role to play in this process. Chief Smith indicated that Public Information and Warning, spanning across every single mission area, is one way to accomplish this. Dr. Khan spoke to Mr. Fisher's point, that the broadcast industry can emphasize the role of the public through use of public service announcements.

6. CYBERSECURITY BRIEFING: FEDERAL, STATE AND PRIVATE, SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS, ISSUES, AND CONCERNS

Dr. Andy Ozment, Assistant Secretary for Cyber Security, Department of Homeland Security briefed the Commission on Cyber Security issues affecting the nation. Dr. Ozment noted that Nevada is clearly ahead of the curve in understanding the risk associated with cyber threats as shown in the Commission's priorities. States that are effective have brought together the Homeland Security Advisor and the Chief Information Officer to work together on this issue. Dr. Ozment also spoke to DHS's ability to work with states on Regional Resiliency Assessments, current cyber threats, and what can be done to minimize threats. Highlights included:

- Criminal threats (i.e.) monetizing data, ransomware. This type of threat is fairly rapid.
- Hacking threats (i.e.) "hactivists" infiltrating a system. This type of threat may be rapid or more long-term.
- Espionage threats (i.e.) other nation states are a type of threat which may be long term and not readily noticeable at first.
- Attack for the purposes of destruction.

Dr. Ozment indicated that cyber security is about risk management, and Nevada is doing a good job of mitigating these risks over time. DHS is available to Nevada for assistance with dealing with the cyber threat posed in Nevada.

Governor Sandoval thanked Dr. Ozment for the information provided to the Commission, and added Nevada does want to be on the cutting edge of cyber security.

Official Minutes – Approved at the March 6, 2015 Nevada Commission on Homeland Security Meeting

Don Ritzman, Chief Executive Officer with Ghost Systems, LLC and Antonio Rucci, Chief Security Officer with Ghost Systems, LLC also briefed the Commission on the issue of cyber security protection and the risks, trends, and strategies currently in place from a private-sector standpoint. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Security breaches are reaching the highest levels ever with both financial and medical record data.
- Education, Energy/Utilities, High-Tech, and Government are the top reported industry targets.
- Ransomware, Internet of Things (IoT), Computer Espionage, and Insecure Passwords are the top 5 Cyber Security risks.
- Smarter malware, high profile attacks, and new payment options will increase in 2015 and will get worse forcing security budgets to increase.

Governor Sandoval thanked Ghost Systems, LLC for their report to the Commission. Dr. Khan spoke to the recent Anthem Health breach, questioning how useful encryption is currently. Mr. Rucci indicated that it depends how disciplined the approach is as to what drives the cost of encryption. Discussion ensued on the necessity for encryption regulation, and relying on knowing what the largest risks are to an organization. Spearfishing is a real problem, and users need to be aware. Discussion also included ways in which Nevada could better enhance communication to state employees to remind them of things not to do when dealing with email, perhaps a visual guide. Frank Gonzales, NV Energy spoke to the fact that every employee must take hours of training each year in the government sector regarding cyber security and information technology risks. Mr. Gonzales indicated that it's expensive to train employees. Gonzalo Cordova, DHS also emphasized training and physical security assessments. Karen Burke emphasized that the culture needs to change and training needs to increase. The importance needs to be conveyed of the current state of cyber threats.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gina Marotto, ITCN, informed the Commission of the resignation of Alfreida Jake from the Commission and the ITCN's efforts to submit replacement nominees to the Governor for consideration of membership. Ms. Marotto requested that the appointment request, given the upcoming priorities cycle, be considered quickly. Governor Sandoval indicated that he believed he had made that appointment and it should be coming through in the near future. Ms. Marotto also expressed concern that the tribes were not represented in the THIRA/SPR presentation. Ms. Marotto indicated that there were 10 tribal nations that submitted THIRA information. In the event that an appointment is not made to the Commission, Ms. Marotto indicated if there an avenue that the tribes can participate in establishing priorities. Governor Sandoval asked Chief Smith to reach out to ITCN for alternatives.

Director Adam Garcia, University of Nevada Reno wanted to ensure the record showed he was in attendance. He also reminded the Commission of the upcoming active assailant exercise at UNR on March 19, 2015, with an invitation to the Commission to attend. Governor Sandoval asked that the specifics of this exercise be forwarded to Chief Smith for dispersal.

8. ADJOURN

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion presented by Dr. Khan, with a second provided by Robert Fisher. All were in favor with no opposition, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.