



# Nevada Department of Public Safety's

## Division of Emergency Management

Feb 2016

### In This Issue:

The Nevada Division of Emergency Management's monthly newsletter for February.

With the completion of the division's strategic plan we are charged with fulfilling our mission while supporting state partners and communities.

We hope that you find these newsletters helpful and we welcome any feedback to help us to support you in our overall mission.

- ◆ NDEM News and Events for January 2016
- ◆ NDEM Team Member Profile
- ◆ Caliente Spring Street Flood Project
- ◆ Upcoming state exercises
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## Nevada Division of Emergency Management's January News & Highlights

- ◆ On January 12, Hazard Mitigation Specialist presented to ITERC to promote statewide Tribal mitigation planning and the importance and benefits of having this plan in place before a major disaster strikes.
- ◆ On January 13, NDEM hosted a briefing on VG17 for State employees who staff the Emergency Support Function (ESF) positions within the SEOC. This briefing provided essential information on the issues related to this FSX and their responsibilities in support of SEOC activation. This briefing was the culmination of two days of briefings on VG 17, including another brief to Clark County Emergency Management regarding their level of play.
- ◆ On January 14, NDEM held a SEOC Tabletop Exercise in support of the operational training leading to VG17 full scale exercise in November 2016. This discussion-based exercise allowed all NDEM staff to step through the process of SEOC activation and look at critical decisions related to SEOC operations. Results of this TTX were collected as part of the Hot Wash and will be addressed both from a training standpoint, and in future exercise activities.
- ◆ On January 19 –21 NDEM team members throughout the agency participated in the three-day MGT-356 Emergency Operations Class. The course focused on the core functions, processes and best practices necessary to ensure effective and repeatable performance of an emergency operations center at any level. The core functions and processes were applied during a practice exercise in the SEOC
- ◆ The NDEM's grants section are engaged in the FFY 16 Homeland Security Grant and the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) cycle. Funding to be released by the Federal Government February mid-month. The Homeland Security Working Group will be meeting twice this month to review investment justifications from eligible applicants statewide.



# Nevada Division of Emergency Management's January Highlights Continued

- ◆ NDEM Homeland Security Section has successfully administered the seating of the 2016 Nevada Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG). A total of 31 members have been appointed by their local, city, state, county, state, tribal, or federal agencies, the earliest the HSWG has ever been seated prior to the Homeland Security Grant Program process. Additionally, the NDEM NCHS Section is compiling 2016 commission priority submissions for review at the next meeting.
- ◆ The NDEM staff participated in the Clark County training conducted jointly by subject matter experts with the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (TEPP), and the State of Nevada Radiation Control Program briefing on covering topics on radioactive material types and packaging, first responder training, who ships radioactive materials/routes, and suggested reference materials
- ◆ SWIC initiated and continued outreach to local, state, federal, and Tribal regarding FirstNet and LMR, participated in meetings with southern Nevada PS partners and SNACC, worked with NDOT and DPS on the pending RFP award, participated in a NDIP/NCORE conference with NHP, and began communicating with Tom Lawless (DHS Region IX) on TA Items and how to proceed for 2016.
- ◆ FEMA has updated and distributed the Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) effective January 1, 2016. The PAPPG is effective for all emergencies and major disasters declared on or after January 01, 2016. Nevada's PA Officer will be working with FEMA to develop an outline of the changes of this new document in the coming weeks. The PAPPG can be reviewed at: <http://ow.ly/XVfSL>



## Meet Andy Gagliardo, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)

The SWIC is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the State's interoperability efforts, coordinating interoperability and communications projects, maintaining governance structures, assembling working groups to develop and implement key initiatives, and updating/implementing the Statewide Community Infrastructure Program (SCIP). The SWIC's scope includes strong outreach efforts, SCIP program management, working with grants staff on communications projects, and policy development throughout Nevada.

Andy was born in Long Island, New York and moved to Las Vegas with his Family 1979, when he was 12. At an early age his interest was triggered with the Citizen's Band Radio, Ham Radio, and electronics. Andy followed his passion in radio and microwave electronics, furthering his interest in the communication's industry. He joined the Motorola Corporation where he enrolled in several courses and cultivated a 12 year career with the organization. Andy started working for Clark County in the Telecommunications Division in 1998. Building his tenure with the county by overseeing all of their public safety and public service communications. Andy occupied the role of Communications Specialist for the local US & R Team with multiple deployments, including 9/11, while in Clark County.

Andy was also a 13 year wildland firefighter for the State Of Utah where he and his wife have a cabin in the Duck Creek Village. He came out of early retirement to join the NDEM team as a Communications Specialist for a short stint in Carson City and recently his new role as SWIC. Andy's certified as a COML-1, COMT-1, COML-3, COMT-3, DHS-SAFECOM member, enjoys Ham Radio, working with the ARES-RACES Groups, Red Cross Units, and Search and Rescue Teams. Andy is located in Las Vegas with his wife, family, and friends.

# Caliente Spring Street Flood Project

The FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation program provided \$763K in federal funding to construct a flood detention/debris facility and invert Spring St. to allow flood water to flow down the center of the street (instead of flowing into homes, yards and garages). Considerable debris, including large boulders, would come down the canyon and clog the street and damage homes originally built prior to flood mapping and engineering code requirements.



Emergency measures previously included driving a tractor up and down the street to push the mud and boulders to the bottom to allow flood waters to continue flowing down the street so that they wouldn't enter driveways. During the last event the detention basin captured mud flow and all water remained in the street. The Caliente Mayor Stana Hurlburt was instrumental in getting this worthy project funded and completed.

## Interview with Joshua Allan, Emergency Manager with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Service

**Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM):** What is your background in Emergency Management before joining the Bureau of Indian Affairs?

**Joshua Allan (JA):** Before joining the Bureau of Indian Affairs, I started my career in Emergency Management first at the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA), where I managed several federal grant programs that provided assistance, training, exercise, and planning in emergency management for the tribes in Arizona. In addition, I managed the Indian Country Intelligence Network (ICIN) that is comprised of tribal law enforcement leadership throughout the state. In 2011, I joined the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) as the first full-time tribal liaison for the department. We were able to strengthen DEMA's policy, coordination, relationships, and interaction with all federally recognized tribes in Arizona. I spent two years in this capacity developing the foundation and groundwork for the agency to engage and interact effectively with tribes in both steady-state and emergency response environments. In 2013, I came to the newly created Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Service, Division of Emergency Management.

**NDEM:** What do you do currently for the Bureau of Indian Affairs?

**JA:** I am part of our BIA EM Headquarters Team of Emergency Managers. As part of my primary area of coverage and responsibility, my duty station is in Phoenix, Arizona where I support disaster response to federally recognized tribes on behalf of BIA. I support the BIA Western Region, Pacific Region, Navajo Region, and Southwest Regional offices that all make up the larger southwest U.S.

**NDEM:** What states and how many recognized tribes are in the region you cover for the Bureau of Indian Affairs?

**JA:** My area of responsibility (AOR) covers California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, and Colorado. There are just under 200 federally recognized tribes in my AOR

## Interview with Joshua Allan Emergency Manager with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Service Continued...



**NDEM:** How does the Bureau of Indian Affairs serve tribal communities during emergencies and disasters?

**JA:** Our primary mission is to ensure that federally recognized tribes and federal trust lands/assets are protected during emergencies and disasters. We serve tribal communities by playing a key role in the incident coordination efforts and serving as a technical advisor/liaison to tribal response teams when disasters and emergencies happen. The BIA coordinates our response to tribal impacts through each agency superintendent and Regional Director who serve as the agency leads for BIA.

**NDEM:** What resources and capabilities does the Bureau of Indian Affairs provide to tribal communities and partners during emergencies and disasters?

**JA:** The BIA EM HQ team primarily provides personnel resources to tribes with little emergency response capacity and/or capability. Our resources are garnered from a variety of BIA programs, depending on the situation, to try and have the biggest positive impact on the tribes response efforts. More recently, our BIA EM team has undergone a few projects to partner with tribes in California, Arizona, and Nevada, so that we may better position resources (sandbags, generators, water pumps, etc.) to serve the immediate needs of tribes during emergencies. This project will be a long-term goal and will put the BIA EM team in a position to allocate mission ready resources to affected tribes at a moment's notice.

**NDEM:** How does the Bureau of Indian Affairs work with state and local emergency managers and governments to provide support to tribal partners and communities?

**JA:** Just like many of our partners, the BIA has embraced the multi-agency and whole-community approach. We recognize the need to have partners throughout both the public and private sector provide support to tribes. We maintain great working relationships with each state emergency management partner and encourage the continued relationship between tribes, counties, cities, and other local jurisdictions. In addition, the BIA EM team utilizes the Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G) as a model for federal agency support to tribes when disaster occur. This tool allows many federal agencies to obtain situational awareness and potentially provide assistance to a tribe under their own authorities where a Stafford Act declaration isn't present.

**NDEM:** What does the Bureau of Indian Affairs do to enhance preparedness and resilience for tribal communities?

**JA:** Our goal is to encourage self-determination and playing a role in the tribal community resiliency. Through this we have engaged tribal communities, leadership, and council members on the importance of developing an emergency management program to better serve the tribal community needs directly. BIA EM has also initiated workshops that encourage the idea of resiliency such as the National TAC-G workshop, the Four Corners Emergency Management Summit, and the projected Regional Response Workshop. These are efforts to increase awareness on the idea of community/individual tribal preparedness and to showcase proven methods in resiliency.

**NDEM:** Are there opportunities for non-tribal governments to partner with tribal communities and the Bureau of Indian Affairs?

**JA:** Absolutely. We encourage as much opportunity for involvement and partnership as possible. We certainly embrace the idea of inclusion in all phases of emergency management. It is important to acknowledge the more tribal and non-tribal government partnerships we develop, the stronger our communities are as a whole.

**NDEM:** Do you have any upcoming opportunities for engagement between tribal governments and state and local governments in your region?

**JA:** Yes, I will be hosting a Regional Response Workshop this year and looking plan another Four Corners Emergency Management Summit. In addition, our team members regularly participate in statewide workshops and conferences. I will be presenting at the annual Arizona Emergency Services Association Conference this month. We are always looking for opportunities to engage our partners and develop a position relationship.

## State Exercise Activity

**Cyber Storm V:** During the first half of March four separate state government departments will take part in the DHS sponsored Cyber Storm V cybersecurity exercise. Nevada is one of 10 states participating with the federal government, many private sector corporations, and others in a week long exercise testing response and information to a cyber-attack.

**Vigilant Guard 2017 (VG-17):** Planning for this two-state exercise is continuing as the Initial Planning Meeting will be held in Sacramento, CA on February 9 -11, 2016. NDEM and the Nevada National Guard have met with folks from many agencies and organizations in Clark County who expressed an interest in participating also. Planning will proceed using a two-track process of meetings between the states and meetings between Nevada and Clark County entities as we move toward the large full-scale exercise set for a full week in November 2016.



DEM is making available our newest Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan (MY-TEP) for the State of Nevada. The schedule is in an Excel spreadsheet form and contains six sheets. Sheet 1 is the Exercise schedule for 2016, sheet 2 is the exercise schedule for 2017, and sheet 3 is the exercise schedule for 2018. Sheets 4 through 6 are the training schedules for each of the succeeding years 2016 through 2018 consecutively. The exercises are color-coded based on using one of the five "Commission on Homeland Security's" priority Core Capabilities as recorded in the legend.

**Nevada's Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan:** <http://ow.ly/XUeuG>

Caleb Cage, Chief of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management, has appointed a new State Board for Search and Rescue for the 2016-2017 term. They include representatives of the Nevada Sheriffs and Chiefs Association, Nevada Fire Chiefs Association, Nevada Division of Forestry, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Nevada National Guard, Civil Air Patrol/Nevada Wing, and a Search and Rescue Organization.

The new members are: Col Carol Lynn, NV CAP; Lt Col Cory Schultz, NV NG; Burdel Welsh, Russ Pedersen, Ron Unger, and Sharon Wehrly, Nevada Sheriffs and Chiefs Association; Richard Fenlason, NV Div. of Public and Behavioral Health; Tom Knight, NV Div. of Forestry; John Steinbeck, NV Fire Chiefs Association; and Josh Ketcham SAR Member.

On December 1, 2015, the board met for the first time and set about the business of re-establishing bylaws for the organization and setting the course for 2016. Of particular interest was the structuring of the various search and rescue resources throughout the state and updating the resource database. Additionally, there was discussion on search and rescue standards and the typing of SAR resources.

The State SAR Board approved the Federal 508-8 standards for SAR Resources in 2011, but in the interim there has been work done at the federal level to improve upon these standards. In the coming year the SAR Board will be looking at these improved standards and determining if they would like to adopt these standards, or structure standards specific to Nevada. To request a copy of the meeting minutes, please contact the State SAR Coordinator at: [pburke@dps.state.nv.us](mailto:pburke@dps.state.nv.us)

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