



## Meeting Minutes Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>DATE</b>	Thursday, August 15, 2024
	<b>TIME</b>	1:00 p.m.
	<b>METHOD</b>	Zoom/Teleconference
	<b>RECORDER</b>	Loren Borst
<b>Voting Membership</b>		
Name	Designated/Appointed Representative:	Attendance Status
Harriett Vegas – Tribal Co-Chair	Las Vegas Paiute Tribe	X
Sookaaki Charley	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe	
Jackie Conway	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	X
Duane Masters Sr.	Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe	X
Don Pelt	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	X
Marian Perez	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	
Kenneth Quiner ( <b>Lisa Christensen filled in</b> )	Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California	X
Ross Rivera	Ely Shoshone Tribe	X
Daniel Thayer	Reno Sparks Indian Colony	X
<b>Non-Voting Membership</b>		
Name	Entity Represented:	Attendance Status
David Fogerson - Co-Chair	Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X
Emily Gould-Monaghan	Nevada Department of Health and Human Resources	X
<b>Non-Member Representatives/Support</b>		
Samantha Ladich	Nevada Office of the Attorney General	X
Loren Borst	Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Loren Borst, Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS), and a quorum was established for the meeting.

### 2. Public Comment

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, opened the period of public comment for discussion.

Mr. Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, noted he was unaware of the Nevada Public Bodies update was removed from the agenda. Mr. Thayer noted the information is pertinent to the tribes of Nevada and would like it to return as a standing agenda item in the future as the

grant information is pertinent to CERC grants money for the tribes.

Co-Chair Vegas noted that the information could be located in other meetings. Co-Chair Vegas also noted that the committee could add the item back into the agenda with a majority vote.

Co-Chair Dave Fogerson, DEM/HS noted in a Palm Springs conference there was a request to remove information found at other meetings. Co-Chair Fogerson also noted that SERC is under the Department of Public Safety not the Department of Emergency Management and the information can be located on that department's YouTube channel.

There was no other public comment.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes of the May 6, 2024, NTECC meeting.

Co-Chair Dave Fogerson, DEM/HS acknowledged a typographical error on the date of the meeting minutes and moved to table the approval of the meeting minutes until the next meeting.

Co-Chair Vegas accepted Co-Chair Fogerson's motion to table and seconded the motion.

### **4. Nomination and Election of the NTECC Tribal Co-Chair**

Co-Chair David Fogerson, DEM/HS opened discussion to nominate and vote upon a new co-chair for a two-year term.

Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, nominated Harriett Vegas for another term as Co-Chair.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, stated she was willing to be Co-Chair for another term if no one else wanted the nomination.

Duane Masters Sr., Fort McDermitt Paiute Tribe seconded Mr. Thayer's motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **5. Public Safety and Power Outage Program**

Co-Chair David Fogerson, DEM/HS noted Ms. Amber Stringer on behalf of NV Energy was unable to attend the meeting and moved to table the agenda item until the next meeting.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, accepted the request to table the item.

### **6. Tribal Resiliency Continuity Program**

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, acknowledged Ms. Lisa Christensen,

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Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California to discuss the program and its implications on the tribe.

Ms. Christensen presented her notes on the program and USET resolution 2024-008. Ms. Christensen asked to share her findings with NTECC to get support from Emergency Managers, tribal councils, and chairpersons to write a letter in support of the resolution to fund a tribal resiliency program for all federally recognized tribes in Nevada.

Ms. Christensen stated the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) had requested 206 million dollars to be broken down to \$360,000 for each tribe annually. The funding would be non-competitive, cost-shared and streamlined at the Department of Interior to empower all tribal nations to build core emergency management, homeland security and emergency services.

Co-Chair Vegas asked for any questions.

There were no questions.

**7. Review of Bylaws**

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, asked for a motion to approve the bylaws.

Co-Chair Dave Fogerson, DEM/HS noted the old bylaws were outdated and the new bylaws reflect how business has been conducted over the last four years. Co-Chair Fogerson also referenced NRS 414 that stated the tribal nations are an advisory committee to the Emergency Management Administrator's position. Co-Chair Fogerson moved to adopt the new bylaws.

Co-Chair Vegas noted an error in the bylaws stating there are 28 federally recognized tribal nations in Nevada. Co-Chair Fogerson stated DEM staff would make the correction. Co-Chair Vegas asked if there were any questions.

Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, suggested the 28 tribes be referred to as all federally recognized tribes of Nevada rather than by their total number. Both Co-Chairs agreed.

Jackie Conway, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, noted a correction in format under the meeting section of the proposed bylaws. Co-Chair Fogerson noted the correction to be corrected.

Co-Chair Vegas moved for a motion to adopt the bylaws with the corrections with the stipulation they be reviewed at the next meeting.

Mr. Rivera moved to adopt the new bylaws. Duane Masters Sr., Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

**8. Palm Springs Tribal Meeting Report**

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Co-Chair Dave Fogerson, DEM/HS thanked the members who attended the meeting in Palm Springs and opened the floor for discussion of key points from the conference.

Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California, noted that the presenter for tribal homeland security grant funding at the conference was pushing for a non-competitive grant for the tribes. Ms. Christensen also noted the Assistance to Firefighters grant has a microgrant to take care of firefighter's health screening.

Jackie Conway, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, stated it was a great conference, but the heat was challenging. Ms. Conway stated she wished to get further information on the Community Disaster Resiliency Zones (CDRZ). Ms. Conway noted the deadline of August 21, 2024, to return the letters to FEMA mitigation stating the tribes are in tracked zones. Ms. Conway stated some tribes like hers will have two tracks and will need to designate one, either economic and government services, or residential homes. Ms. Conway also thanked DEM for the conversation had during the breakout time during the conference. Ms. Conway also asked for electronic copies of files at the next workshop to minimize the amount of paper received.

Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, stated he was invited to sit on the panel for AFG Grants and for a mutual aid agreement for other tribes. Mr. Pelt mentioned the Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact (IMAC) which he is a member of for the state. Mr. Pelt noted it requires tribes to opt-in or they won't be recognized in the compact. Mr. Pelt also noted that even if the tribes don't have a fire department to encourage tribal councils to opt in in the case something happens the tribe can request assistance from DEM and receive relief from all over the state not just the support in that area. Mr. Pelt stated the conference included great information on grant opportunities for the tribes.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, echoed the sentiments of the other members that attended the Palm Springs Conference.

Josie Burnett, FEMA Tribal Liaison Region IX, noted the application for tribes to submit their CDRZ applications from August to September 30, 2024.

Crystal Harjo, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, stated the feedback received from the region at the meeting concerning CDRZ was confusing, and she hoped clarification can be provided to the tribes.

Co-Chair Vegas moved to the next agenda item.

**9. Discussion on the status of the DEM/HS Efforts to Assist our Tribal Nations**

Co-Chair Dave Fogerson, DEM/HS, noted this was a standard agenda item to garner feedback about what DEM/HS is doing correctly and what needs to change. Co-Chair Fogerson also explained that every tribe in Nevada under 414 is allowed a representative and asked those in attendance if they know a tribe that has somebody that's entered in emergency management and is participating but isn't on this Board to please make him aware so they can be added to this Board with a letter from their Council Chair. Co-Chair Fogerson stated that they always want all the allotted slots filled.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, thanked Co-Chair Fogerson for the

efforts and support for her tribe.

Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribes Nevada/California, asked if DEM would be able to support a north and south LEPC for tribes altogether, noting that the representative could then come to NTECC to report what tribes are needing, kinds of trainings, and things of that nature.

Co-Chair Fogerson replied that LEPC is outside of the statutes as it reports back to SERC and the Department of Public Safety.

Stacey Montooth, Nevada Indian Commission Executive Director, discussed the Timbisha Nation recently being authorized to own and operate a casino, noting the need for someone on their staff to be well-versed in public safety and emergency management.

Co-Chair Fogerson noted that there was already a representative from the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe, and the law says one per Tribal nation, so there will have to be some research into how that works with different reservations.

Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, asked how hiring for new liaisons for NDEM was progression.

Bill Elliott, Division of Emergency Management, explained that they are in the very slow process of hiring, but there has been some issues with the candidates sent from Human Resource. Mr. Elliott noted that they have asked the department to readvertise for candidates meeting very specific criteria. Mr. Elliott also stated that if a tribe needs help, there will still be assistance given.

Co-Chair Fogerson explained that the positions had moved from contract to state full-time employment to offer better benefits in the hopes to raise retainment rates.

## **10. Update on Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts**

Emily Gould-Monaghan, Public Health Preparedness Program, began by noting that PHP is looking for more opportunities to join and attend any Tribal meeting and activities, as they currently have several DPBH Tribal Liaisons within their Division. Ms. Gould-Monaghan stated there was excellent Tribal representation and participation at the beginning of the five-year strategic planning efforts in November. Ms. Gould-Monaghan did note that there had been some challenges to getting that finalized but that hopefully they will be able to get a draft out soon to their partners, as it is a driving factor in the next years goals. Ms. Gould-Monaghan offered to provide a list of work groups.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan further explained that PHP is working with Heather Lafferty to build AFN communication boxes to include hearing, seeing, and other access accommodations to be deployable within the county. Ms. Gould-Monaghan noted that the POCs and establishing the request process are yet to be determined as these are brand new resources.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan went on to next discuss the HAZMAT decontamination trailer that

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is almost finalized, only lacking a rolling cage and scrub brushes. Ms. Gould-Monaghan noted that this is available if there is an incident requiring HAZMAT decontamination, but also for exercises or trainings.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan lastly noted that they are also in the process of filling vacancies, so certain issues may take a little longer to receive a response. Ms. Gould Monaghan also noted that they would begin prepping for the annual Preparedness Summit soon and would welcome any and all input in that planning.

Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribes Nevada/California, asked Ms. Gould-Monaghan if they could speak later about support for training and credentialing in their new clinic.

**11. Update from Nevada Department of Native American Affairs**

Stacey Montooth, Nevada Indian Commission Executive Director, shared a big announcement, stating that as of July 1, what was priorly known as the Nevada Indian Commission is now the Department of Native American Affairs, a standalone department. Ms. Montooth also noted that the website is up but with the all of the new branding the rollout of the launch is planned in November to celebrate Heritage month.

**12. Update From Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX**

Josie Burnett, FEMA Tribal Liaison Region IX, noted she would be continuing to support the state's IPPW and THIRA workshops by presenting Cultural Sensitivity and Awareness trainings in Elko and Carson City. Ms. Burnett also stated that she has been working with the Tribal Affairs Team in support of Nevada tribes as well as with Arizona and California concerning wildfire needs. Ms. Burnett said that the FEMA advisory for Fiscal Year 2024 Brick Grant for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant had been released, with the official funding opportunity and application requirements to be announced later in the year due to significant updates to procedures and new regulations. Ms. Burnett next addressed the application deadline for tribes to submit for CDRZ has been extended to September 30<sup>th</sup>, and that she is happy to follow-up on an individual basis regarding specific track zones. Ms. Burnett reminded everyone that there are Region IX monthly Tribal Partnership Calls inclusive to tribes within the region on the second Thursday of each month.

Ms. Burnett lastly listed dates for upcoming events noting the Tribal Emergency and Floodplain Management Workshop series currently in progress but is still available to register for now or for upcoming dates on August 29<sup>th</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Burnett also stated several tribes were interested in the L1301 Continuity of Planning course on September 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> and L1302 Continuity of Operations Program Management Course following on September 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Burnett gave the date of the 2024 Tribal EPA and US EPA Region IX Conference in San Jose, California as October 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> and the 2024 NCAI Conference in Las Vegas as October 27<sup>th</sup> - November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**13. Updates From the DEM/HSTribal Liaison Staff**

Bill Elliott, DEM/HS, updated the attendees on the monitoring of several issues to include the Yuba Bridge Inundation as it was not resolved but decreased in emergency.

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Mr. Elliot also noted that they are monitoring the City of Yerrington water issues that may impact the Yerrington Paiute Tribe Colony, along with the Walker River low water issue which appears to be resolved.

Mr. Elliot next addressed the hiring the Tribal Liaison for Emergency Management and the Tribal Liaison for Health being in process. Mr. Elliot also noted a kickoff meeting held through the mitigation program for the Building of Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant on August 27<sup>th</sup> in order to get different jurisdiction prepared prior to the grant landing.

Mr. Elliot next stated they are in the process of developing and getting approved the Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program Grant, noting that it has been funded and its purpose is to ensure that the tribes are assisted in meeting NIMS compliance and assisting with emergency management needs. Mr. Elliot reiterated Josie Burnett's list of trainings being offered and gave the website to go see the full list of trainings.

Co-Chair Fogerson asked if there was a way to work on getting a website, such as [www.nevadatrains.gov](http://www.nevadatrains.gov), that would automatically take you to the area which you need to see trainings but that would be more user friendly.

Mr. Elliot replied that he would look into that, and that anyone could contact him for help and he would assure they got to the right place.

**14. Introduction of Agenda Request Item Form**

Co-Chair Dave Fogerson noted a form in the packets that was an old form being brought back if someone wants an item on the agenda. Co-Chair Fogerson stated that the form does not have to be submitted but it does outline the criteria for requesting an item be added to the agenda. Co-Chair Fogerson discussed how the new open meeting law impacted this, and that there needs to be more specificity in what the item is referring to so that the public really knows what will be discussed.

Co-Chair Vegas asked if there was a timeline to have that turned in.

Co-Chair Fogerson noted that this will be sent out via email when the agenda is being worked on, noting that the agenda process has to be posted three days prior and has numerous timelines as to when it has to be available to certain entities.

**15. Public Comment**

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas called for any public comment.

Clifford Banuelos, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, stated after communicating with ITCN Executive Director Deserea Quintana that ITCN is supportive of the presentation of a BIA Office of Emergency Management Tribal Assistance Coordination Group Resolution Support from the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California. Mr. Banuelos did note that such a resolution would need to be backed by a member tribe of ITCN to move forward. Mr. Banuelos asked Lisa Christensen to use him as a contact to coordinate in writing such a resolution and a

timeline of when it is needed as it may require a phone call for the ITCN Board.

Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California, suggested getting Crystal Harjo included as it was their project and resolution. Ms. Christensen noted that they had taken it to NCAI already and not voted on because of lack of support. Ms. Christensen stated that she would like to prepare to get it on the agenda for the next year.

## **16. Adjournment**

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas asked for a motion to adjourn the August 15, 2024, NTECC meeting. Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe moved to adjourn the meeting. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas adjourned the NTECC meeting at 2:51 p.m.

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