



## Meeting Minutes Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>DATE</b>	Monday, May 6, 2024
	<b>TIME</b>	9:00 a.m.
	<b>METHOD</b>	Zoom/Teleconference
	<b>RECORDER</b>	Sherrean Whipple
<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	X
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	X (audio issues)
Kenneth Quiner	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
Sherrean Whipple	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 Sherrean Whipple, Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS), and a quorum was established for the meeting.

### 2. Public Comment

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas opened the period of public comment for discussion.

Jim Lopey, Nevada Threat Analysis Center (NTAC) and Daniel Dundon, NTAC, reminded all tribes that NTAC provides free training, including a four-hour and eight-hour active shooter course and behavioral threat assessment management. Mr. Lopey explained that some of the training is being reviewed at the present time, but that both the active-shooter and behavioral threat assessment management trainings are currently available.

Dan Dundon, NTAC Critical Infrastructure Coordinator, explained that one of the things he does is go out and do vulnerability security assessments of facilities. Mr. Dundon indicated that he has done a lot of tribal properties but noted that there are still some that need to be completed. Mr. Dundon informed the group that this is a free service and that NTAC can flex to the tribes' schedules.

Co-Chair David Fogerson informed the group that the FEMA Region IX liaison will be talking about the upcoming tribal conference that will be held in Palm Springs.

There was no additional public comment.

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

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes of the February 5, 2024, NTECC meeting. Ken Quiner, Washoe Tribes of Nevada and California, motioned to approve the minutes. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, noted on page 7, 13<sup>th</sup> line down, the word “hat” should be “that”. Mr. Rivera seconded the motion with the correction. The motion carried unanimously.

### **4. Discussion on the Status of the DEM/HS Efforts to Assist our Tribal Nations**

Co-Chair David Fogerson explained that this is DEM/HS's quarterly check-in to ensure that needs are being met. Co-Chair Fogerson noted that he is interested to hear if anything needs to change. Co-Chair Fogerson informed the Council that there is currently a lot of hazard mitigation training going on, along with the training spoken of by the NTAC representatives. Co-Chair Fogerson next indicated that the election tabletop should have now gone out to all tribal nations. Co-Chair Fogerson further noted that there has been a change in the state tribal liaisons, and currently Josie Burnett is the only liaison.

Ross Rivera commended Josie Burnett on the work she has done as a tribal liaison.

Co-Chair David Fogerson informed all members that they should contact him in some way should they come up with something that they would like to see change on the DEM/HS side.

### **5. Discussion on the upcoming 2024 Elections and How it Will Impact Emergency Management**

Co-Chair David Fogerson explained that a few weeks ago, DEM/HS performed an exercise at FEMA headquarters called Foresight 2050 to try and determine what the future could bring. Co-Chair Fogerson reminded the Council that Col. Brett Compston will be replacing him in October, and next noted that he has had many concerns regarding the elections, not from a political party point of view, but from a security point

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of view, noting that there will be issues as a result of the elections, regardless of which party wins. Co-Chair Fogerson explained that DEM/HS worked with CISA and with the Secretary of State's Office and built some tabletop exercises that should have gone out to all the tribal emergency managers the previous week.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas questioned how many tribes have a voting station on their reservation.

Co-Chair David Fogerson indicated his belief that every tribe should have access to a voting location. Co-Chair Fogerson indicated the need to do some research regarding these sites in order to communicate this information to the tribes. Co-Chair Fogerson explained that the hope is for a fair, open, democratic election on election day, free of things like active assailants, power issues, and weather events. Co-Chair Fogerson encouraged Council members to look at the tabletop exercises and hold discussions with law enforcement, elders, and fire services in preparation for bad things that could potentially happen, no matter how far-fetched they may seem, noting the importance of not having another 9-11 moment where there was failure to imagine and as such, lack of readiness.

## **6. Nevada Readiness Days**

Co-Chair David Fogerson, noted that he is filling in for Lindey Downey on this agenda item, as Ms. Downey is out of town. Co-Chair Fogerson informed the Council that each month, DEM/HS picks a day called Readiness Day, which includes a two-hour block on a Wednesday morning in which different topics, such as cybersecurity, are addressed via things like tabletop exercises and guest speakers. Co-Chair Fogerson indicated that on May 8, he and Col. Brett Compston will be doing a fireside chat to introduce Mr. Compston and his leadership abilities, and invited all Council members to attend, noting that Josie Burnett would send out an invite. Co-Chair Fogerson next indicated that in June, NTAC will be coming to discuss all that they do, and in July, there will be either be discussions beginning regarding communications and cybersecurity from the State of Nevada Radio Communication system, or some lifeline training. Co-Chair Fogerson explained that in August, all federal employees will show up following Kris Haines' mission to bring all the federal agencies and the state into the loop. Co-Chair Fogerson indicated that Mr. Haines would like to bring them all in for Readiness Day. Co-Chair Fogerson informed the Council that Casey Keckler, DHS Intelligence Officer, now holds a monthly meeting of all of the federal intelligence folks, and explained that DEM/HS is now trying to follow that same concept with the non-intelligence folks. Co-Chair Fogerson indicated that September will be the election security tabletop, held in conjunction with the Secretary of State's Office with a focus on incidents occurring in multiple counties and the support that would be needed in the case of that type of an incident. The Co-Chair then explained that October would be an internal exercise, November would include resource management, and the December one will be in the form of a game to see who wins, with questions based upon all the Readiness Days throughout the previous year. The Co-Chair informed the Council that these Readiness Day trainings are offered in hopes of building relationships among all the different entities: cities, counties, tribal, state, and federal partners. Co-Chair Fogerson concluded by informing the council that if members are not available to attend locally, all

trainings are available online.

## **7. Update on the Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts**

Emily Gould-Monaghan, Public Health Preparedness Program, informed the Council that the main activity right now is the upcoming 12th Rural Preparedness Summit that will be held in the Elko conference center on May 15 and 16. Ms. Gould-Monaghan explained that there is still room available, and anyone with questions about the registration process should feel free to reach out to her. Ms. Gould-Monaghan indicated that now, the site includes a conceptual agenda, and the actual agenda is in progress and will be attached once it is complete. Ms. Gould-Monaghan next discussed some of the training topics planned for this year: disasters in seconds pediatric triage training for medical professionals; a hazmat interlocal tabletop exercise; access and functional needs exercise and training; railroad hazmat safety discussions. Ms. Gould-Monaghan informed the Council that this year's keynote speaker will be Chairman Serrell Smokey from the Washoe Tribe. Ms. Gould-Monaghan next discussed the work being done on the five-year strategic plan, which will outline all the goals and activities PHP would like to accomplish with its partners over the next five years. Ms. Gould-Monaghan indicated that right now surveys are being sent, and once that data is back, it will be incorporated into the plan. Ms. Gould-Monaghan explained that the original goal was to have the draft out by May 30, but noted that the timeline has been delayed too early to mid-June. Ms. Gould-Monaghan explained that PHP is also keeping an eye on measles and Avian Flu activity, noting that Nevada has not really been affected by either, but nonetheless, guidance has been sent out to rural partners from USDA on prevention measures and vaccinations. Ms. Gould-Monaghan further noted that the Rural Healthcare Preparedness Partners Coalition is holding the Rural Consortium Training for their coalition partners June 11 through 13 in Reno at the Whitney Peak Hotel and will include multiple different training topics. Ms. Gould-Monaghan indicated that space is a bit limited and encouraged anyone interested to reach out to her directly and she will do her best to include interested parties on that list. Ms. Gould-Monaghan concluded her presentation by informing the Council that PPH will be participating in a full-scale patient movement exercise in Reno over the summer with its Federal HHS Partners, and that it will be through the VA at the Reno Air Force base.

Ken Quiner requested that all the trainings be added to one calendar or list to make it easier for participants to keep track of everything being offered.

Emily Gould-Monaghan indicated that she could put together a list to send out to everyone.

Co-Chair David Fogerson suggested that the PHP training be added to the Nevada training qualifications website so that all emergency managers can find all training in one spot. Co-Chair Fogerson requested that Ms. Gould-Monaghan send the list to Josie Burnett to facilitate that.

**8. Update from the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)**

Clifford Banuelos, Tribal-State Environmental Liaison for ITCN, indicated that ITCN just completed a 24-hour HAZPOWER training for some tribes in Nevada in a coordinated effort between ITCN and Inter Tribal Council of Arizona. Mr. Banuelos further indicated that an eight-hour refresher class was held, which is something that is put out to the tribes every year. In addition, Mr. Banuelos noted that ITCN anticipates having a follow-up Incident Command System training, ICS 300 Training, in Lake Tahoe, also as a coordinated effort between ITCN and Arizona and Lake Tahoe. Mr. Banuelos concluded by noting that ITCN is actively involved with the voter registration efforts by the tribes and tribal groups, all of whom have a polling location in Nevada.

**9. Update from the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC)**

Sarina Nez, NIC, indicated that the NIC does not have any updates at this time, with the exception of the fact that beginning July 1, the NIC will become its own state agency and will then go by the name the Nevada Department of Native American Affairs.

**10. Update from the US Forest Service**

Teresa Dixon, US Forest Service, explained that Melyssa Navis is on a detail and as such, Ms. Dixon is stepping in for her. Ms. Dixon indicated that from 2023, there have been a total of 50 fires throughout the state: 33 natural caused; 9 human caused; 8 undetermined, with the majority of the fires occurring in the Reno Carson Sparks area along the Sierra front, a few in the Austin Tonopah area, Ely, Spring Mountains, Las Vegas area, and Santa Rosas, north of Winnemucca. Ms. Dixon next indicated that the 2024 Humboldt-Toiyabe Resources include the following: six Type-2 engines; seven Type-3 engines; five Type-4 engines; 11 patrols prevention trucks; one Type-1; an IHC crew consisting of 25 members in Carson City; one Type-2 wildland fire module in Ely; and one Type-3 helicopter with 17 crew members that will be stationed in Minden. Ms. Dixon reported that in terms of fuel stats, 35,300 acres were treated in 2023, 825 of which were prescribed fire; 8,900 of which were targeted grazings for fine fuels; and 25,275 of which were hand and mechanical treatment to meet multiple objectives; 300 were herbal herbicide treatments on non-native invasive annuals. Ms. Dixon explained that hazardous fuels accomplishment for 2024 is going to be approximately 28,000 acres, approximately 19,000 of which will be in the WCS Sierra Front Elko. Ms. Dixon next discussed some of the notable things that happened throughout Nevada, including a statewide effort to establish a statewide potential operation delineation for the entire state. Ms. Dixon indicated that the Nevada Fire Board will host five Type-3 incident management teams for the 2024 season, which is going to be more than any other state in the nation and noted that interagency wildland fire modules will be in Ely between NDF and Forest Service employees for the 2024 season. Ms. Dixon further indicated the plan for statewide fire restrictions to align agencies to be able to communicate better and more easily with communities and noted that a statewide dispatch agreement to align all dispatches under one agreement is in process, with a target completion date of fall of 2024.

**11. Nevada Public Bodies Updates**

Tribal representatives appointed to the following Nevada public bodies provide an update on their role with each public body, as well as initiatives and projects that impact Nevada Tribes:

**a. Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC)**

Co-Chair David Fogerson reported that NRAC has not met between the last NTECC meeting and this one, but that there is an NRAC meeting coming up in a couple of weeks that will be focused on the grant priorities for the year. Co-Chair Fogerson indicated that each project this year will be weighed against the other projects. The Co-Chair noted that the decision was to follow this process every five years and noted that this year being the first year is likely a good year to start given that the federal government has cut all the preparedness grants for FEMA and DHS by 10 percent.

**b. Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS)**

Co-Chair David Fogerson reported that the last Homeland Security Commission meeting included looking at the after-action reviews and discussing special event policies and processes taking place in Clark County for Formula One, Super Bowl, and New Year's Eve.

**c. NCHS Finance Committee**

Co-Chair David Fogerson noted that this committee has not met between the last NTECC meeting and this one.

**d. Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)**

Lance Chantler, Reno/Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC) was not present.

**e. Nevada Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee (IMAC)**

Eric Wilson, DEM/HS indicated that the IMAC has not met between NTECC's last meeting and this meeting and therefore, there is no update.

**12. Updates from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX**

Vincent Martinez, Arizona Tribal Liaison, indicated that FEMA is holding a tribal partnership workshop in Agua Caliente Rancho Mirage from June 25th through the 27th. Mr. Martinez further indicated that all tribal EMs and state partners should have received an invitation and anyone who had not received an invitation should reach out to Josie Burnett.

Co-Chair Fogerson encouraged participation in the tribal conference noting that this conference is a great way to establish and maintain good relationships among Nevada, Arizona, and California tribes.

**13. Updates from the DEM/HS Tribal Liaison Staff**

Josie Burnett, DEM/HS Tribal Liaison, provided tribal partners an opportunity to discuss their community trainings and upcoming activities.

- a. Jackie Conway, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, indicated that the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe will be hosting an eight-hour hazmat awareness course in Fallon on Friday, August 2. Ms. Conway also noted that through the week of August 5 through 9, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe will also be hosting a 40-hour HAZWOPER course, provided by the Alabama Fire College and Workplace Safety Training Program, with the location still to be determined.
- b. Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, discussed the Washoe Tribes' big push for community emergency response team training. Ms. Christensen indicated that in April of 2023, kickoff meetings began in each of the communities, and that the training will be held May 18 and 19, 2024 in Carson Colony at the gymnasium, and in Woodfords Wellness Center on June 22 and 23. Ms. Christensen said that anyone teen and up is welcome to attend. Ms. Christensen informed the Council of the different parties with whom Washoe has been working on these initiatives.
- c. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, discussed the BRIC grant, noting that Ely Shoshone partnered with Eureka and White Pine Counties for the first time to develop their five-year plan. Mr. Rivera noted that this plan is currently behind for the Ely Shoshone Tribe, and the funding from the BRIC grant will help the Tribe to then work with Ely and White Pine to strengthen responses in potential emergency situations.
- d. Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, noted that the Tribal Health Center participated with the Ehrlich Side Chain Theory anthrax exercise that was held by Nevada Public Health on April 9 and 10. Mr. Thayer explained that the incident took place on tribal land, and the Tribe was part of the unified command. Mr. Thayer next indicated that ICS 100C and 200C were held at the Tribal Health Center, and a plan is in place to do 700 and 800 in June. Mr. Thayer informed the Council that a hazmat awareness course was held on April 29, and currently the plan is to finalize the Tribal Health Center COOP plan.

**14. Grant Status Report**

Suz Coyote, DEM/HS, informed the Council that the grant status report is attached to the meeting materials and includes: all grant programs with open sub-awards; subrecipient agency; project; original award amount; re-obligated funds received; amount spent as of the last report; the funding stream or grant; de-obligated amounts; and the percentage of awards spent as of the last report received. Ms. Coyote further noted that the federal reporting narratives for HSGP and NSGP are attached along with the late reporting synopsis, and that these provide program updates for those programs as of 12/30/2023. Ms. Coyote indicated that DEM grant staff is working with sub-grantees to bring their reporting up to date. Ms. Coyote informed the Council that

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applications for the NSGP, HSGP, and EMPG opened in Zoom Grants on April 23 and are due on May 17. Ms. Coyote indicated that bulletins have been distributed through DEM/HS's listserv and noted that should anyone have questions or need assistance, they should reach out to dhsgrants@dem.nv.gov.

**15. Public Comment**

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas called for any public comment.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas informed the Council that her position is coming to the end of its two-year term, and encouraged any Council member interested to apply, noting that this is a great position that allows the person holding it to see and talk to everyone.

There was no additional public comment.

**16. Adjournment**

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas asked for a motion to adjourn the May 6, 2024 NTECC meeting. Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe moved to adjourn the meeting. Duane Masters Sr., Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas adjourned the NTECC meeting at 10:07 a.m.