1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair, Sheriff Joseph Lombardo, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, called the meeting to order. Shari Grennan, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS) performed the roll call. Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Chair Joseph Lombardo opened the first period of public comment. Shari Grennan informed the Committee that no written comment had been provided to the Committee.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chair Joseph Lombardo called for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2022, Committee meeting. Vice-Chair, Greg Herrera, Chief Deputy Washoe County Sheriff’s Office, motioned to approve. Carolyn Levering, City of Las Vegas, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Review of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Program Proposals with the intent to formulate a recommendation to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS)

Chair Joseph Lombardo asked the Committee if there are any concerns in reference to the documents provided and/or the process of approval that was approved. Chair Lombardo asked for clarification regarding the security fencing in North Las Vegas.

Billy Samuels, Clark County Emergency Management, explained that this is their main headquarters for the North Las Vegas Emergency Operations Center. Currently, Mr. Samuels explained, there is an open walkway from their transit population on the east side that goes into the building and there is no security for the fire admin or their emergency operation center.

David Fogerson, Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS) indicated that this is allowable.

Carolyn Levering, City of Las Vegas Emergency Manager, explained that this type of security protection measure has been allowable in the past under the Homeland Security Grant Program as one of the few construction-related projects the DHS allows under this grant.

Chair Joseph Lombardo questioned if something would be identified under core capabilities for the Clark County Fire Department truck air compressor, modular trailer.

David Fogerson indicated that it would be, and that DEM/HS is currently working on putting together all the investment justifications. Mr. Fogerson further indicated that some of the pieces are missing because of the shortened timeline allowed for the applications this year.

Chair Joseph Lombardo asked if money was able to move from de-obligation to fulfill item S and AC in terms of community outreach and the dog robot.

Billy Samuels indicated that this was done and explained that only two programs did not fit in, which were then removed from the agenda.

Chair Joseph Lombardo discussed one last item under UASI, questioning if the guidelines were adjusted for ability to use Homeland funds for communication equipment, indicating that the last time he was Chair of this Committee, this was not allowed.

David Fogerson indicated that it is allowable in certain expenses, explaining that all communication equipment, prior to being purchased, is reviewed by the statewide interoperability coordinator to ensure that it meets the guidelines pushed forward. In addition, Mr. Fogerson explained that the process regarding the de-obligated funds will be pushed out a couple of months in order to complete the current process first and indicated that Billy Samuels had done an excellent job of identifying where the funds should go.

Chair Joseph Lombardo questioned the need for Homeland Security to fund the Southern Nevada Area Communication Council (SNACC) items.
Billy Samuels, informed the Committee that the southwest part of the valley can’t keep up with the growth and as such, has been unable to plan accordingly. Fire communications doesn’t have it. It was a late project entry and wasn’t sure how it would rank with the preparations from the SNACC. It looks as though they will need to go back to their board and see what else they can do to try to get communications to the fire side. It will eventually be an issue to the southwest part of the valley, to Henderson, and to the north. They all use the same towers, so they were trying to get ahead of the issue.

Chair Joseph Lombardo asked if this issue would be resolved with the internal funds.

Billy Samuels indicated that it would likely be a fee increase given that they do not currently have the funds for capital.

Chair Joseph Lombardo asked if the guidelines are met regarding the request for body cameras via the Board of Regents is considered supplanting as NRS obligates all entities to supply body cameras and now Homeland Security funds this.

David Fogerson indicated that there are two parts to this grant: asking for tourniquets and asking for body-worn cameras. Mr. Fogerson explained that supplanting pertains to the point that it is in the budget and then grant funds are used instead of budget funds. Therefore, Mr. Fogerson indicated that if funds are not budgeted for these purposes, they are not then supplanting, making this an allowable expense. Mr. Fogerson further explained that part of this comes back to the fact that 911 fees allow them to purchase it, but it is something that DEM/HS discourages because the FCC states that those funds should be used for services other than 911 system.

Chair Joseph Lombardo indicated the complexity of this as everyone is now required to wear body cameras and at some point, that equipment will reach end-of-life. As such, Chair Lombardo indicated that the Committee should remain aware of this.

Chair Joseph Lombardo next discussed the Nevada State Police and asked if the monies obligated were for a regional exercise strictly for state police or for all of law enforcement. In addition, Chief Lombardo questioned the intent of the exercise.

David Fogerson noted that the proposed exercise is at one of the casinos at state line Nevada and will involve all regional partners, including law enforcement, fire, and EMS. Mr. Fogerson indicated that discussions are underway regarding moving forward in a way that collectively ensures a collaborative process.

Chair Joseph Lombardo asked if this could be done at this point given that this was only funded 50 percent. Chair Lombardo further questioned if they had the same design.

David Fogerson indicated that DEM/HS has cut some training money out and further indicated that the state already provides on the emergency operations from DEM/HS and items that can be brought in from federal partners. As such, Mr. Fogerson explained that the exercise can continue but the training may be duplicate to what is already in place. Mr. Fogerson further explained that Interact attempted to ensure that as many people were funded as possible and
as such, before the vote, everyone was asked to cut down to bare-bones minimum.

Chair Joseph Lombardo asked if the DEM/HS office would be doing the coordination and/or if they have the resources and autonomy to do so.

David Fogerson confirmed that a DEM/HS staff member is involved in that project but that state police will also be the lead agency on this. Mr. Fogerson further indicated that DEM/HS will have some engagement and involvement to ensure coordination, collaboration, and training as well as to find the right instructors.

Chair Joseph Lombardo asked to a motion.

Carolyn Levering, Emergency Manager for the City of Las Vegas, motioned to accept the recommendations of the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) and the Nevada Resilience Committee (NRAC) to move forward as provided to the Commission on Homeland Security for full approval. Chris Lake, Nevada Hospital Association, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Status of Homeland Security Grants Program (HSGP) Funds

Jared Franco, DEM/HS, informed the Committee members that they have all been sent a spreadsheet that includes all the open grants for HSGP, which contains UASI and HSGP and contains all of the financials belonging to each of those grants. Mr. Franco opened the floor for questions.

There were no questions from Committee members.

6. Notification of Reallocation of Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Funds

Dave Fogerson, DEM/HS, informed the Committee that each member was sent a single-page spreadsheet containing the times discussed at the last meeting intended for de-obligation, re-obligation, the amounts, and the locations to where they were going. Mr. Fogerson reminded the Committee that each of the asks was under $100,000. Mr. Fogerson informed the Committee that via a process through the Homeland Security Commission, the state administrative agent, David Fogerson, was allowed to approve the grant requests. Mr. Fogerson further indicated the importance of ensuring that federal funds are not returned from the two grant years via the re-obligation process.

David Fogerson next indicated that Committee members have in their packet a document that shows all the project change requests for both time and money. Mr. Fogerson expressed concern regarding the fact that there is a very public process for looking at all the items and discussing, but following approval, it is left to staff to work with the subgrantee regarding changes. As such, Mr. Fogerson indicated that DEM/HS is working on a process internally to try and tighten this up.

Chair Joseph Lombardo expressed his appreciation to David Fogerson for the work done as this makes the record easy to recall, shows what is being done and by whom, and allows the Committee to have that knowledge moving forward when making decisions on rankings
and/or obligation of funds.

7. Public Comment

Chair Joseph Lombardo opened the second period of public comment. Shari Grennan informed the Committee that no written comment had been provided to the Committee.

8. Adjournment

Chair Joseph Lombardo call for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chair Herrera motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mike Brown, State Government Affairs Director, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.