



Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	DATE	Wednesday, May 9, 2018	
	TIME	9:30 AM	
	LOCATION	Division of Emergency Management State Emergency Operations Center 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, Nevada 89701	
	METHOD	Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Karen Hall	
Commission Members	Present	Legislative & Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	
Governor Brian Sandoval	X	Karen Burke	
Joseph Lombardo	X	Caleb Cage	X
Chuck Allen	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Gregory Cassell	X	Aaron Ford	
Lisa Christensen	X	Chris Ipsen	X
Frank Gonzales		William McCurdy	X
Mitch Fox	X	Shaun Rahmeyer	X
Mark Hutchison	X	Aaron Rouse	X
Ikram Khan	X		
Tom Lozich	X	Samantha Ladich – Sr. DAG	X
William McDonald		Karen Hall (NCHS Staff – Carson)	X
Charles Moore	X	Kendall Herzer (DEM Staff – LV)	X
Richard Perkins	X		
Rosemary Vassiliadis			
Bill Welch			

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Governor Brian Sandoval, Chairman of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (Commission) called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Karen Hall, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Sandoval opened discussion for public comment. No public comment presented in either venue.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Commission meeting held February 28, 2018. A motion to approve was presented

by Lieutenant Governor Hutchison, and a second was provided by Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

4. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Governor Sandoval welcomed Mitch Fox, Nevada Broadcasters Association, as the newest member of the Commission. Mr. Fox welcomed the appointment, and looks forward to working on the Commission moving forward. The Governor emphasized the agenda items in front of the Commission regarding school safety noting it as the public safety challenge of the times. Additional emphasis was placed on the dual-track emphasis of law enforcement and first responder input into the process moving forward. The Governor also spoke to the Statewide School Safety Task Force and the aggressive schedule currently underway to address the safety of public schools.

5. UPDATE ON THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT'S EFFORTS PERTAINING TO SCHOOL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS

Chief Cage, DEM/HS, spoke to efforts underway by DEM in addressing school emergency response plans. Emphasis was placed on the following discussion topics:

- Legislative requirements per Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 388 and 394 in mandating the annual review, update, and dissemination of school Emergency Response Plans (ERP);
- DEM's role in the receipt and housing of county, charter, and private school ERPs in addition to support services offered including development of model plans, coordination of training for school district personnel, and continued outreach;
- Current compliance and non-compliance statistics; and
- Recommendations moving forward to include continuance of the School Safety Task Force beyond the executive order period, update of the ERP requirements for all public/private/charter schools, ensuring submittal compliance of ERPs, and requiring districts to exercise their respective plans with local partners annually

Governor Sandoval expressed his satisfaction on the compliance data presented, and inquired if any compliance data was available at the law enforcement and local level. Chief Cage indicated that information was not available at this time for local level jurisdictions. The Governor also inquired on the issue of money, and if information was available on the status of school district inventory requirements to secure campuses. That information, and universal costs, is what is needed, and the Governor spoke to his understanding of the fact that school districts do not have the money currently to install necessary equipment deterrents such as fencing, doors, cameras, and communication system upgrades. Identification of available funding and estimates is crucial at this time. Chief Cage spoke to the Governor's expectation referring to the Attorney General's report for recommendations and dual-track information to start the buildout on what the package would look like moving forward.

Sheriff Joseph Lombardo, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, followed up on the status of school layout and floorplans obtained to date. For Clark County School District, there is 100% compliance with current requirements; state, private, and charter schools show only one plan outstanding out of 52 existing plans; and there are 43 outstanding plans out of 91 existing plans in private schools at this time. Sheriff Lombardo also inquired on the enforcement authority addressing failure to respond to emergency response plan requirements. Chief Cage indicated that as the law is written currently, DEM does not have any authority to address this failure, therefore recent attempts to promote annual tracking and forwarding reporting activity to agencies with such authority such as the Department of Education and the Public Utility Commission are underway to address this gap in authority until the law can be amended. Sheriff Chuck Allen, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, spoke to the quality working relationship his office has with other law enforcement and federal agencies to address significant activities such as the recent code yellow lockdown at Hug High School. Dr. Khan inquired on how students are prevented from bringing in weapons to school campuses. Chief Cage spoke to the challenges involved due to the fact that each of the schools has such dramatically different security requirements due to the locality. Agenda Item #8 may address this question as well. Chief Greg Cassell, Clark County Fire Department, inquired on the possibility of adding a fire component to this process. Chief Cage spoke to Chief Cassell's suggestion as an excellent enhancement moving forward.

6. BRIEFING ON GRANT FUNDING AVAILABILITY TO ADDRESS SCHOOL SECURITY

Connie Lucido, Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination, and Management, Department of Administration, provided an overview of grant funding availability to address school security. Currently, there is a focus on mental health funded programs. Four out of five available programs are discretionally funded. Ms. Lucido spoke to future funding opportunities and awaiting release of FFY18 official funding notices. Governor Sandoval applauded the work Ms. Lucido has applied to this process. Ms. Lucido indicated that school safety funding may become available sooner than increases for Title II and Title IX programs hopefully within 30-45 days. The Governor indicated that his office also has staff dedicated to watching for these opportunities. Additional discussion ensued on infrastructure identification and coordination that may require matching funds. Emphasis was placed on the need to remain competitive. Some states do this better than others, and the Governor wants to position Nevada competitively in anticipation of funding announcements. Lieutenant Governor Hutchison inquired on possible examples of currently funded programs with a mental health focus. Ms. Lucido indicated that such programs are concentrated around activities between the Office of Safe and Respectful Learning does with the Department of Education and the technical aspects involved. Governor Sandoval indicated that Nevada is at the forefront when it comes to mental health programs in schools noting his budget included \$11,000,000 for social worker in schools after the Sparks Middle School tragedy. A higher recommendation was presented, however, the Legislature at the time recommended the funding noted. With the current success of that program, the Governor is hopeful that the increased performance and visibility of the program will enhance future funding efforts.

7. BRIEFING ON EXECUTIVE ORDER (EO) 2018-5, STATEWIDE SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE

Steve Canavero, Nevada Superintendent of Public Instruction, briefed the Commission on the Executive Order creating the Statewide School Safety Task Force addressing the application of statewide resources to enhance school safety, the mission of the task force, and expected deliverables. Mr. Canavero spoke to the initial report of the Task Force as on track for delivery to the Governor by August 1, 2018, addressing current school safety law and short term recommendations. A final report will be due to the Governor at the end of the year to address progress and long term recommendations. The Task Force is chaired by Dale Erquiaga, and membership represents superintendents, principals, teachers, students, district law enforcement, behavioral health, juvenile justice, and legislative representatives. Two subcommittees have been formed to address specific areas of concern. The first addresses security issues involving physical infrastructure, resource officers, law enforcement, emergency management, and threat assessments. The second addresses social development, behavioral and mental resources, training, community coordination, and student support.

Recommendations coming out of the Task Force will encompass three planning categories including Preparedness/Prevention, Response, and Recovery. Short term recommendations that can be made to address issues that are not affected by policy or budgetary constraints. Long term recommendations will involve those areas requiring extensive resource, budgetary, and legislative changes. Mr. Canavero spoke to the May 3, 2018; Task Force meeting that addressed national data on school violence, near misses, lessons learned, and specific statistics relevant to Nevada. It is important to note that Nevada is not catching up to this issue, but is well positioned to address school violence. Additional discussion was presented to include post Columbine and Sandy Hook efforts and the evolution of how school safety has been addressed. Although the national data shows the death rate for students due to homicides and suicides in school has remained constant through 2015, the role of bullying in schools cannot be underestimated. To address this, the Office of Safe and Respectful Learning Environment plays a major role as well as the emergence of Nevada's Safe Voice Program which generates threat tips and student support. Student Panels are very proactive discussing measures that make students feel safe. On the funding side, there is collective pressure to increase school safety funding. Mr. Canavero indicated his appreciation to Chief Cage for his involvement in this issue, and the Governor thanked Mr. Canavero for the input into the Task Force's mission. Additional discussion was presented on work by the Juvenile Justice oversight body which may compliment the Task Force's mission.

Lieutenant Governor Hutchison spoke to behavioral intervention efforts addressed by the task force, and if it can evaluate any impediments in getting law enforcement involved at the appropriate junction if necessary should a dangerous situation be presented involving students. Mr. Canavero spoke to the multi-discipline strategy in addressing such issues, and the role of anonymity in reporting student incidents. Prior to Nevada's Safe Voice program, students had no presupposition of anonymity. With the Safe Voice program, there is a legal condition of anonymity. Long term discussions are necessary to address administrative barriers supporting student

needs. Administrator Shaun Rahmeyer, Office of Cyber Defense Coordination, inquired if the task force addresses cyber bullying, digital identity manipulation or personal data loss as important factors to consider. Mr. Canavero indicated that is the case, noting student expansion of this discussion in regards to controls within social media platforms and addressing account hacking. This will be addressed in the subcommittee work under the task force.

Chief Cage spoke to regulatory needs and mechanisms addressing anonymity in light of current Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) rules and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) issues as well. Mr. Canavero indicated there are two schemes currently attending to the law itself providing conditions addressing anonymity waivers. The Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) has been engaged to identify conditions where information can be passed to law enforcement. Nevada is not the first to try and understand this issue, but it is the first to move through the PTAC to obtain answers.

8. BRIEFING ON THE SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SUMMIT ON SCHOOL SAFETY HOSTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL ON MARCH 14, 2018

Rod Swanson, Chief of Investigations, Nevada Attorney General's Office, spoke to the law enforcement summit led by Attorney General Adam Laxalt to address vulnerabilities in Nevada schools. The summit brought together representatives from law enforcement, school administrators, educators, and security experts to identify gaps and recommended changes to ensure safety with Nevada schools. The summit's aim was to examine legal issues, existing security measures, and response to violent threats. Topics of discussion emphasized active shooter and assailant issues, protocols, lessons learned, training, physical security measures, information sharing, and fusion center capabilities. Response time and technical response were areas of emphasis as well as methods of attack. Finalizing recommendations will include those recommendations addressing law enforcement coordination, security, and ongoing training and information sharing with the goal to enhance the capability of response to school violence using a multi-discipline approach involving school administrators, teachers, and the emergency response organizations.

9. BRIEFING ON THE SAFE VOICE NEVADA PROGRAM

Lieutenant Andrew Rasor, Nevada Threat Analysis Center, and Director Christy McGill, Office of Safe and Respectful Learning Environment for the Department of Education, spoke to the Safe Voice Program that provides an anonymous system for people to provide information related to school safety. Lieutenant Rasor briefed the Commission on this system involving real time feedback unlike other systems in addition to interaction with anonymous tipsters, and consists of a mobile application, hotline, and a website. Safe Voice is modeled after a similar system in Colorado, and implementation has consisted of two phases. The first phase included the counties of Clark, Washoe, Douglas, Elko, and Nye. The second phase will include Nevada's remaining counties. To date, 2,149 tips have been received exceeding Colorado's data with only a few counties. Frequency of tips appears to be highest with bullying and cyber bullying noting 565 tips to date. Harassment tips total 134;

suicide tips total 114, and self-harm and threats to students total 105 tips to date. It is from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm in which the majority of tips come in, with frequency highest between 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, and the next highest frequency between 11:00 pm and 12:00 pm. Thursdays appear to be the highest frequency of tips provided, followed by Wednesday, Tuesday, Monday, and Friday. The Safe Voice program operations run from 7:00 am through 11:00 pm, with the Department of Public Safety's Dispatch Center handling after hour and weekend calls. A total of 12 call takers are required to support the program fully in order to relieve dispatchers. Since January, 2018 there has been 22 self-harm suicide threats addressed. More public awareness is evident. Placing the Safe Voice program under the NTAC eases information flow through analytics and social media.

Director McGill emphasized the importance of this tool incorporating student input as part of the solution by enabling them to report worries or fears about peers or themselves. A highly responsive system is necessary. Bullying can be addressed in schools and with student input through de-escalation methods. Topics currently being address include what response looks like if there's a threat, how people work together to address the threat, and need requirements to effectively address the issue. Of equal importance is the recovery phase. Director McGill emphasized that this is a collective impact project, and Safe Voice helps to solve some of those barriers. The HIPAA and FERPA issues remain forefront in the discussion as well as behavioral health. Governor Sandoval complimented this agenda's presentation, and inquired on whether the Safe Voice program would be fully staffed. Lt. Rasor indicated that there are three more individuals that need to be hired at this time with the expectation that they will be ready by August after training.

Chief Moore, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, inquired if Safe Voice has shown effectiveness in addressing weapons in schools. Lt. Rasor indicated that he can review data to see any correlation with event tips. Mitch Fox inquired on the strategy to push information out on this program. Director McGill spoke to the media focus on students, the Safe Voice application ID on back of student ID cards, and spoke to needing help in getting the word out. In August, the program will be expanded to the community.

10. NEXT STEPS IN ADDRESSING SCHOOL SAFETY WITHIN NEVADA

Governor Sandoval complimented the tremendous effort underway to address school safety in Nevada, and that Nevada is not catching up to this issue, but refining it's response to current threats. This is a national model. The Commission needs to be a part of the conversation in developing recommendations. Gonzalo Cordova, Protective Security Advisor, spoke to Secretary Nielson's press release about the Department of Homeland Security's available resources to address school safety. Discussion included public service announcements, K-12 security practice guides, and participation in threat vulnerability assessments as a way to establish a safety framework for schools. Mr. Cordova offered his assistance with federal resources to address this issue. Governor Sandoval encouraged Mr. Cordova to reach out to Mr. Canavero to continue work on this important issue.

Assemblyman William McCurdy indicated that he too would like to assist with this issue moving forward, with Governor Sandoval emphasizing the importance of legislative input moving into the next legislative session. Sheriff Lombardo spoke to

an upcoming active shooter exercise between Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and Clark County School District on May 30, 2018, from 8:00 am to Noon, to assess operational coordination within the K-12 environment using multi-jurisdictional response. The Sheriff indicated that he is offering an open invitation for Commissioners to attend this event.

Governor Sandoval stressed the importance of the Commission to meet again between now and August to address recommendations. Chief Cage indicated that he can assist with coordinating information from the Attorney General's summit report and the School Safety Task Force.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Sandoval called for public comment in both venues. Sheriff Lombardo indicated that Richard Perkins arrived after the roll call. No other public comment presented.

12. ADJOURN

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Moore presented the motion, and Sheriff Allen seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.