



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee

Attendance		DATE	May 13, 2020					
		TIME	2:00 P.M.					
		METHOD	Teleconference					
		RECORDER	Meagan Werth Ranson					
Advisory Committee Voting Member Attendance								
Member Name		Present	Member Name		Present	Member Name		Present
Justin Luna		X	Jeanne Freeman		ABS	Todd Moss		X
John Steinbeck		X	Mike Heidemann		X	Tennille Pereira		X
Roy Anderson		X	Jill Hemenway		X	Shaun Rahmeyer		X
Travis Anderson		X	Eric Holt		X	Misty Robinson		X
Elizabeth Breeden		X	Dave Hunkup		ABS	Rachel Skidmore		X
James Chrisley		ABS	Jeremy Hynds		X	Corey Solferino		X
Darcy Davis		X	Graham Kent		ABS	Malinda Southard		X
Cassandra Darrough		ABS	Mary Ann Laffoon		X	Chris Tomaino		X
Robert Dehnhardt		X	Chris Lake		X	Mike Wilson		X
Craig dePolo		X	Bob Leighton		X			
Kelly Echeverria		X	Carolyn Levering		ABS			
Dave Fogerson		X	Ryan Miller		X			
Advisory Committee Non-Voting Member Attendance								
Bunny Bishop		X	Melissa Friend		X	Catherine Nielson		X
Rebecca Bodnar		X	Kacey KC		ABS			
Felix Castagnola		ABS	Aaron Kenneston		X			
Legal Representative				Entity				Present
Samantha Ladich – Sr. Deputy Attorney General				Nevada Attorney General's Office				X
Analyst/Support Staff				Entity				Present
Meagan Werth-Ranson				Nevada Division of Emergency Management - North				X
Karen Hall				Nevada Division of Emergency Management - North				X

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chief Justin Luna, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS), called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Meagan Werth Ranson, DEM/HS. Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Chief Luna opened the discussion for public comment in all venues. Dr. Aaron Kenneston, Washoe County, spoke to a Statewide Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) initiative that is sponsored by Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding. This will be conducted through a webinar scheduled for June 1, 2020, starting at 1:00 p.m. Dr. Kenneston spoke to announcements going out shortly. This is a good time to participate as many jurisdictions have implemented their COOP plans. This is a good opportunity to share experiences and lessons learned. Chief Bob Leighton, Reno Fire Department, provided notice of his resignation from the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (Committee). Chief Leighton's resignation corresponds with his retirement from the city as of June 1, 2020. Chief Leighton thanked the Committee for all of the work that has been accomplished to ensure the state remains resilient. Chief Luna thanked Chief Leighton for his service and wished him well. No other public comment was provided from the phone.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chief Luna called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes from the March 11, 2020, Committee meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was provided by Deputy Chief Dave Fogerson, East Fork Fire Protection District, and a second was provided by Mike Wilson, Clark County School District. Dr. Darcy Davis, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), requested the spelling of her first name be corrected. All were in favor of the motion with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)

Chief Luna opened discussion on this agenda item by referring to documents #4a and #4b that were provided electronically. Kelli Anderson, DEM/HS, spoke to changes that were made to the applications but were done so to follow the intent of the applications, the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security Finance Committee (Finance Committee) recommendations, and the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) approvals. One major change came after the COVID-19 Pandemic Federal Declaration of Emergency. It was determined by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that there was no longer a competitive portion for the plus up of the HSGP funding. One concern from this was that the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) may not be funded at the highest level of \$5.25 million, with a guarantee of only \$4.2 million. It was determined that the UASI would in fact receive the \$5.25 million in funding. Ms. Anderson spoke to document #4a and #4b and stated if the project is not listed on either of the sheets, it was not funded. It is still a requirement to have priority investments per DHS, and those are still present based on content in the Investment Justification (IJ) groupings. Technical assistance with DHS shows that they will review IJ's one through four in a process that would put investments on hold. Allocation amounts may be delayed to the applicants. Ms. Anderson hopes funding will be available in the fall, but it could potentially be delayed until January, 2021. Ms. Anderson detailed the information that was previously sent out in a bulletin regarding this issue. Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department, thanked the grants staff for all of the hard work that went in to accomplishing this task and expressed concerns with the uncertain level of funding for UASI moving forward.

5. Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Supplemental

Chief Luna opened the discussion on this agenda item by referencing document #5 that was provided electronically. Kelli Anderson, DEM/HS, advised that information was sent out through the grants staff on the allocation amounts. The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Supplemental application was turned in to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and was approved within 24 hours. Ms. Anderson advised that there was an administrative delay in managing the new funding stream due to the COVID-19 emergency response, but there are several calls set with FEMA to ensure the submissions are satisfactory. There will be numerous data calls sent out within the next five to ten days to see how the sub-grantees are spending the funding. The Zoom Grant application is set to be released today for the sub-recipients to enter in the final budget numbers into Zoom Grants. The grants should be issued within seven to ten days after the submittal.

6. Overview of Behavioral Health Resources

Dr. Stephanie Woodard, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) spoke to this agenda item being for discussion only on behavioral resources that are available during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Woodard expressed that since the beginning of this pandemic, it was very clear that DPBH needed to be a part of the response and recovery planning efforts. A Behavioral Health Advisory Committee was assembled to work closely with the Governor's Medical Advisory Task Force. One of the biggest efforts is to ensure adequate and timely information is being pushed out to the public encouraging individuals to reach out for additional resources and ensuring the public knows this is for 24-hour access to those resources. DPHB has been working

on pulling in as much federal funding as possible to assist with the expansion of crisis management as needed. Nevada is fortunate to have one of seven national lifeline call centers through Crisis Support Services of Nevada. They are also taking roll over calls from the other national life line call centers. One of the reasons this was implemented was to be able to leverage this resource. It is part of a national network, no call will go unanswered. This leads into the “Home but Not Alone” campaign. This was done in conjunction with the Nevada Broadcasters Association. This messaging focuses on the idea that even during times of isolation, remaining connected is vitally important to our wellness and mental health. Dr. Woodard spoke to certified behavioral health centers statewide in Washoe County, Clark County, and rural areas around Nevada that provide 24/7 support with their own crisis support lines. As of now, 320 individuals have been trained on psychological first aid with over 500 individuals registered. This was completed via a webinar platform. There will be another webinar occurring in the beginning of June once grant funding is received. Dr. Woodard spoke to \$1.9 million being received for emergency behavioral health funds. These funds will be used to expand children’s mobile crisis. The teams currently operating in Washoe County will be able to run 24/7. An additional team will also be added in Clark County.

Dr. Woodard indicated there has been a significant drop in students actively engaging with 20% of the students in Clark County being identified as disengaged from educational services. Child abuse reports are down, primarily because they are no longer engaging in after school activities or school, where adults have situational awareness. The potential for issues will be ongoing at a community level. Domestic battery calls have increased. Implications for stay at home measures are starting to impact general population. In addition to the expansion of the children’s mobile crisis response, there is now an alternative to emergency room visits for patients experiencing a mental health crisis. They also now have access to psychological triage services at Desert Parkway in Clark County or Reno Behavioral Health Hospital in Washoe County. DPBH has been encouraging everyone and anyone wanting to offer services to be able to provide volunteer mental health support to register with ServeNV. 53 individuals have been accepted in the Mental Health Counselor Organization and another 63 are expected in the psychological first aid. It is anticipated the numbers of individuals in this pool will increase. DPBH submitted an application for funding through DEM/HS for a FEMA grant addressing an immediate services program through crisis counseling assistance and training. The budget put forth is for a 60-day period for \$650,000.00. This funding will allow for the onboarding, training, and deployment of 31 crisis counselors and 4 crisis counselor supervisors statewide. This will allow for prevention and very early intervention that crisis assistance provides. Chief Luna thanked Dr. Woodard for this presentation and looks forward to supporting the effort to get these resources into the communities.

7. Discussion on Statewide Recovery Efforts

Chief Luna opened discussion on this agenda item by addressing what recovery at the state level looks like now and what that might look like in the future. Chief Luna referenced the Governor’s updated Roadmap to Recovery document that was provided electronically. Dr. Aaron Kenneston spoke to still being in the response phase of this pandemic but acknowledges the need to begin the recovery process. Washoe County is trying to move forward with implementing the Governor’s guidance but noted there are challenges in this not being a traditional recovery. Jeremy Hynds, City of Henderson, indicated his jurisdiction is transitioning to recovery on Monday, May 18, 2020, and they have filled all Recovery Support Functions (RSF) positions. There is an operational strategy and a city-wide strategy using the “Together We Can” mantra. Mr. Hynds, and Ryan Turner are recovery managers, and the current Emergency Support Function (ESF) 14 Chair will be moving to the RSF1 Chair and will be involved in operations as well. Mr. Hynds indicated he can share that plan once it is finalized. Chief Luna agreed that would be a good thing to share for situational awareness. Rebecca Bodnar, Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP), presented concern on what exactly the Governor’s plan is to bring state agencies back to work. Ms. Bodnar asked if there was a specific toolbox the state had for doing this. Chief Luna indicated that he is asking the same questions. To his knowledge, nothing has been released yet, and he is waiting for further guidance. Bob Dehnhardt, Department of Administration, spoke from the

information technology/information security perspective, acknowledging that the state will have a new normal and cannot go back to the way things were in February. The state's computing environment has changed considerably in the last nine weeks. Mr. Dehnhardt identified that the provision of essential services from essential workers can be done remotely, as that is what this disaster has shown. There are some parts of the state workforce that do like to work remotely and want to have that option in work plans. One of the things his department is looking at as a long term approach is making that work process work better. From an information technology perspective, there was a lot of scrambling happening because the state was not funded for enough Virtual Private Network (VPN) licenses for those that needed them. The state did not have COOPs that had been shared to identify those specific individuals who would need to work from home. There are lessons learned that are being applied to move forward for flexibility and resilience. Systems were identified that worked fine during normal circumstances, but when stressed, they faltered due to the level of legacy systems in place. Mr. Dehnhardt has already proposed, at least as far as COOP goes, essential function employees work from home at least once a month to enable continual testing and refining of plans and access levels which can ensure accurate setup should something like this happen again. As far as plans for transitioning onsite again, most of the people he's spoken to in information technology are planning on being very flexible with that return. If needed onsite due to the type of support performed, they will do so and take precautions and for those that can do their jobs remotely such as system, network, and security admins, they can work from home or from the office. They will follow the guidelines provided. Focus is on collecting lessons learned and doing After Action Reports (AAR's) as this moves along so that the next time it happens it's handled better. Chief Luna spoke to capturing lessons learned.

Kelli Anderson, DEM/HS, indicated that DEM/HS is in full swing of recovery while still in response. This happens very swiftly, and the state will be in recovery for years working through this process. The DEM/HS recovery team is taking in project worksheets and working the public assistance process with FEMA. The DEM/HS website contains 25 bulletins regarding recovery. Ms. Anderson advised being aware that the Nevada Recovery Framework is activated and implemented, and RSF's are established. If you need assistance with public assistance recovery, reach out to her or Suz Coyote, and they will work with anyone needing help with this process. Ms. Anderson spoke to calls that will be occurring on Wednesday's at 2pm, and there are webinars weekly. Rebecca Bodnar indicated she does not need Public Assistance (PA) right now but is still looking for a plan to bring people back into the workplace. Ms. Bodnar asked if each division is creating their own plan or is there any kind of coordinated effort. Chief Luna indicated that individual departments are working on those plans for their specific agencies, and he can follow up for more information. Ms. Bodnar indicated her management wants to know if there is a state plan that they should be following. They want a direction to move toward, and she doesn't have any direction right now. Jeremy Hynds said that he can send what they are using from their human resources. It is as baseline, but it may help. Mary Ann Laffoon, Northeast Nevada Citizens Corps/Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), spoke to Elko's Recovery Committee and making sure that everyone was on the same page to navigate the recovery process. They are looking for what is coming out statewide to model.

Bunny Bishop, Nevada Flood Plain Manager, wanted to thank the information technology personnel for their efforts. Ms. Bishop indicated that moving forward; a lot of what they do is outreach and having big groups together for training which will not be doable for some time, so information technology will have to be part of that solution in making virtual meetings the norm. Chief Luna spoke to conducting business over teleconference or videoconference as a reality and it will not be smooth until issues continue to be worked through. Ms. Anderson spoke to Ms. Bishop's earlier comments in trying to work virtually during outreach efforts and offered to assist her with facilitation of those efforts. Chief Steinbeck indicated that he is following the County's recovery framework which mirrors the state's framework. There is a recovery coordinator to coordinate all RSF activities and chairs have been set for each RSF. Economic recovery is a key aspect right now. It is likely that the state will still be in response mode for six months to a year regarding this emergency. The medical surge plan is still in play and ready for potential surge measures if necessary. Testing is part of response, but it plays into

recovery. As businesses reopen, then eventually schools, resorts, and airports, it's important to identify the right ways to set up screenings for employees and business patrons to re-enter, and to also identify what happens if either fails screening protocols. Chief Steinbeck is looking at how to make this a positive experience playing into economic recovery. Community based testing and Strike Teams are still a big part of this while trying to open back up. Testing aggressively, testing often, and reacting will be important moving forward as local, state, and federal guidance comes out. This will be tricky, as it is nothing like other disasters Nevada has seen.

Chief Luna agrees there is a lot of overlap on response and recovery. Economic impact will be significant, and there are a lot of questions on testing. Current response and recovery efforts may be dictated by the virus activity itself, community response in reopening phases, and capability to support those efforts. No one has seen this before, and information needs to be shared on those experiences during this emergency. Chief Steinbeck spoke to trying to navigate what funding sources are responsible for paying for what during this emergency and determining what the state is paying for, what the county is paying for, what is going to be covered by PA, and what other funding sources are coming that might be available. There just isn't a clear-cut plan yet. Chief Luna said that this is something they need to address and get clarity on moving forward. Rebecca Bodnar appreciates the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) staff and the job they are doing on the response and recovery for this pandemic. Drills can prepare, but all are working through this as we go along. Chief Luna appreciated Ms. Bodnar's statement noting that there is a lot of good work going on throughout the state. Jill Hemenway, American Red Cross, advised they are doing something unique with regards to recovery in creating a Virtual Family Assistance Center. It was piloted on the east coast, but there will be a regional representation here as well at some point. Ms. Hemenway can provide information to the Committee. Chief Steinbeck inquired if this service provides local resources or national resources, with Ms. Hemenway indicated that they are providing some local resources through case workers in the south, and mental health support is more nationwide currently.

8. Public Comment

Chief Luna opened the discussion for public comment. Mary Ann Laffoon thanked all the volunteer organizations involved for their efforts during the COVID-19 emergency. Chief Steinbeck noted this would be his last Committee meeting as he has promoted Billy Samuels as the new Clark County Emergency Manager. Mr. Samuels will be replacing Chief Steinbeck on this Committee moving forward. Chief Steinbeck thanked everyone on the Committee for all of their hard work and noted he will still be involved just under a different capacity. Chief Steinbeck introduced Chief Samuels. Chief Samuels appreciates the opportunity to serve on this Committee and looks forward to working with everyone in the near future. Chief Luna thanked Chief Steinbeck for his contribution to this Committee and the State throughout the term of his membership.

9. Adjourn

Chief Luna called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn was presented by Mike Wilson and a second was provided by Bob Dehnardt. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.