



Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	Date	March 3, 2020	
	Time	9:00 a.m.	
	Carson City Venue	Nevada State Capitol Building Guinn Room – 2 nd Floor 101 N. Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701	
	Las Vegas Venue	Grant Sawyer State Office Building Governor’s Conference Room, 5 th Floor 555 E. Washington Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89101	
	Method	Video-Teleconference	
	Recorder	Karen Hall	
Commission Members	Attendance Status	Legislative, Ex-Officio, Nonvoting Members, Staff, and Others	Attendance Status
Governor Steve Sisolak - Chair	X	Karen Burke	X
Joseph Lombardo – Vice Chair	X	Justin Luna	X
Darin Balaam	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Lisa Christensen	X	Chris Ipsen	Abs
Todd Fasulo	X	William McCurdy II	X
Mitch Fox	X	Shaun Rahmeyer	X
Frank Gonzales	X	Aaron Rouse	X
Ikram Khan	X		
Kate Marshall	X		
William McDonald	Abs	Samantha Ladich - DAG	X
Charles Moore	X	Karen Hall – DEM/HS	X
Richard Perkins	X	Kendall Herzer – DEM/HS	X
John Steinbeck	X	Meagan Werth-Ranson – DEM/HS	X
Rosemary Vassiliadis	Abs		
Patricia Wade	X		
Bill Welch	X		

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Governor Sisolak, Chair of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (Commission), called the meeting to order. Karen Hall, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS) performed roll call. Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Governor Sisolak opened discussion for public comment in all venues. No public comment was presented in either physical venue or on the phone.

3. Approval of Minutes

Governor Sisolak called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes as presented from the October 21, 2019, Commission meeting. Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants, motioned to approve the draft minutes as presented. No discussion was presented on the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Process

Chief Justin Luna, DEM/HS, State Administrative Agent (SAA) and Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department, Urban Area Administrator (UAA) provided the Commission with an updated timeline of the next steps in the FFY20 HSGP process. Highlights of the update included:

- Discussion on the handout titled “Agenda Item #4A” referencing the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FFY20 HSGP released on Friday, February 14, 2020. The NOFO serves as the guideline to structure Nevada’s grant application for the federal funding. Page 8 of the NOFO shows the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) amount for Nevada, \$4,287,500, which is a \$210,000 increase over last year’s allocation. The overall Federal investment was unchanged from last year. Page 10 of the NOFO shows the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) range for Nevada, \$4,200,000 - \$5,250,000, which overlaps the \$5,000,000 allocation from last year’s allocation. The overall Federal investment for UASI increased \$25 million over last year. The range amount for the UASI allocations is a new structure for this year’s award and final award amounts will be based on DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) evaluation of the effectiveness of proposed investments and projects. Within the NOFO it states that applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for funding at least 15% over the high end of their target allocation range as ineffective applications will not be funded. This additional 15% is available for both the SHSP and the UASI amounts. So, the working groups will take that option into consideration when making recommendations to the Finance Committee and then for the Commission’s ultimate approval. The DHS/FEMA effectiveness evaluation will primarily be based on Nevada’s application’s inclusion of projects related to the new National Priorities introduced in this year’s NOFO. For FFY20, the HSGP includes the following four national priority areas:

- 1) Enhancing cybersecurity (including election security).
- 2) Enhancing the protection of soft targets/crowded places (including election security).
- 3) Enhancing information and intelligence sharing and cooperation with federal agencies, including DHS.
- 4) Addressing emerging threats (e.g., transnational criminal organizations, weapons of mass destruction [WMDs], unmanned aerial systems [UASs], etc.).

Each of the four national priorities must equal or exceed 5% of Nevada’s proposed project application.

OFFICIAL MINUTES – Approved at the April 9, 2020, NCHS Meeting

- Discussion ensued on the handout titled “Agenda Item #4B” referencing the timeline for Nevada’s overall HSGP process. The Commission was presented a tentative timeline for this process at the last meeting in October 2019. Chief Luna noted that the Commission would receive recommendations for the funding of FFY20 HSGP projects at the April 9, 2020, Commission meeting. Not listed on this timeline but critically important to the process was the determination of the strategic capacities to be maintained, which lays the foundation for the rest of the process. The recommendations from the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC) and the Finance Committee were reviewed by this Commission at the last meeting in October 2019. Based on those strategic capacities, the working groups will be reviewing the project submissions and determining which projects should be recommended for maintain status and which will go into the competitive review process.
- During the last few months of this past year, DEM/HS worked with stakeholders throughout the state on a preparedness assessment which identifies Nevada’s current readiness level in addition to getting input on the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) which identifies the gaps in Nevada’s capabilities to handle a variety of hazards. Both these assessments help guide decisions regarding project priorities during the process and were completed in December 2019.
- DEM/HS opened the FFY20 HSGP application portal on February 6, 2020, for any agencies that were interested in submitting projects for consideration. The application period was open through February 17, 2020. Since the release of the NOFO and the subsequent opening of the application period, the division has been working with stakeholders to answer questions and provide technical assistance with project submissions.
- On February 19, the NRAC met and received a preliminary summary of the project submissions.
- Cybersecurity and communications specific project proposals will receive an extra layer of review coordinated by the State’s Office of Cyber Defense Coordination (OCD) and the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC).
- The FFY20 HSGP project proposals will then be presented to the working groups for review. The Urban Area Working Group, led by Chief Steinbeck, has already had its first meeting to review the urban area projects, on February 27, 2020, with a follow up meeting to decide on project recommendations scheduled for March 9, 2020. The NRAC will review statewide projects and provide recommendations for prioritization at its next meeting scheduled for March 11, 2020. These working groups will prioritize the projects and make recommendations to the Finance Committee, who is scheduled to meet on April 1, 2020. The Finance Committee will review the project recommendations from the working groups and make final recommendations for the Commission.
- The Commission is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, April 9, 2020, to provide final review and approval of the FFY20 HSGP application to DHS which is currently due back to DHS by April 14, 2020. There are numerous moving parts within this process to ensure transparency and the appropriate level of review. The federal

timeline requires a quick turn-around, and the Commission's patience, understanding, time, and commitment to this proven process is greatly appreciated.

- Chief Steinbeck emphasized the compression of the FFY20 HSGP timeline, the 5% allocation requirement toward national priorities, and projects that may not fit within those categories. With the short timeline, having to make the decisions prior to the release of the NOFO proves difficult. Of concern is the requirement of enhancing cybersecurity as a national priority. There are not a lot of FFY20 projects that were submitted that fit this requirement, and it is possible that more projects may have to be sought to meet the requirement in order to receive the additional 15% funding. It's imperative not to receive the lowest allocation.

5. Report on the Statewide Adoption of the National Incident Management System

Chief Luna, DEM/HS, provided the Commission with a report on the statewide adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) referencing the handout titled "Agenda Item #5" as the DEM/HS report on the adoption of NIMS mandated in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 239C. NIMS provides stakeholders across the whole community with the shared vocabulary, systems, and processes to successfully deliver the capabilities described in the National Preparedness System. NIMS helps prepare the nation for catastrophic disasters by uniting all incident personnel, from on-scene responders to individuals in Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) and senior officials, enabling them to meet challenges beyond the capacity of any single jurisdiction or organization. NIMS includes three main components:

- Resource Management (sharing of resources).
- Command and Coordination (unity of effort to accomplish integrated decision making).
- Communications and Information Sharing (inclusive and timely).

DEM/HS continues to coordinate with statewide partners to work toward achieving consistency in NIMS objectives throughout the state.

6. Funding of State Resources for Planned Events

Governor Sisolak opened discussion on the process and source of funding for State resources during planned events. Chief Luna, DEM/HS, spoke to the rationale in placing this item on the agenda based on a discussion during the November 2019 Board of Examiners (BOE) meeting where DEM/HS presented a request for contingency funds to pay for the Nevada National Guard (NVNG) to support New Year's Eve (NYE) in Clark County. At that meeting, discussion ensued on how these types of events should be paid for in the future. A suggestion was made to agendize this topic for discussion by this Commission. Governor Sisolak inquired on how many planned events there are outside of the NYE events, with Chief Luna indicating that there are no others on the same scale; however, there are other events that have general preparedness support. Governor Sisolak inquired if the National Football League (NFL) had made any similar requests specific to the draft, with none noted to date by Chief Luna. Lieutenant Governor Kate Marshall inquired if events like the Nevada Day Parade utilized additional funding, with Chief Luna indicating there is a process in place for local jurisdictions to request resources and discuss what are the most appropriate resources are for that

event. If the NVNG is requested during that event, it usually involves its Civil Support Team (CST). During NYE, many NVNG personnel are required. Lieutenant Governor Marshall asked if there are other events that meet the same criteria as New Year's Eve such as the Electric Daisy Carnival (EDC). Chief Luna indicated he would defer to Chief Steinbeck's view for a local perspective; however, the State has not been approached on those types of events specifically but is prepared to activate if resources are requested. Chief Steinbeck spoke to the local coordination of resources, and the annual request of over 200 NVNG personnel. Currently, there is no mechanism to collect funding from these large events with expensive resources. General (Ret.) Frank Gonzales, Nevada Selective Service, spoke to the NVNG military support for civil authorities. If the event can be considered as "training", the State will not pay for the NVNG resource. The NVNG requires an agreement to move forward in that manner. Chief Steinbeck spoke to using the NVNG under this premise in a previous year. General Gonzales spoke to the issue of moving assets around throughout the state, but if they are already there, it is generally not an issue. Chief Luna spoke to the December 31, 2014, event whereby the NVNG was able to use their resources in a training environment; however, the next year when planning efforts were underway, the NVNG Bureau did not authorize the training environment for the NYE mission. Ever since, the State has had to activate the NVNG as a resource. Chief Luna will investigate whether the NVNG has run requests for subsequent years up through the NVNG Bureau.

Governor Sisolak indicated that he would like to know what happened in recent years, and to have that information run up through his staff. Richard Perkins, The Perkins Company, spoke to the NFL Draft having similar characteristics as the NYE event. Rachel Skidmore, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) spoke to the NFL experience itself allowing only 40,000 attendees; however, there are no hard projections on attendance currently. Because this is the first draft, there is anticipation of a high number of attendees. Governor Sisolak requested confirmation on whether the NVNG can be used in the training mode, and to make sure the NVNG's presence is authorized prior to the NYE events moving forward. Chief Luna will research this and get information to the Governor's office. Chief Steinbeck spoke to planned events and the resource planning at the local level to handle such events. Governor Sisolak spoke to the Storm Area 51 event that was created on Facebook in 2019, and the inappropriate issuance of permits for that event. It appears that this event is resurging in 2020, and the Governor is concerned on the number of resources to be applied to this event again. Chief Steinbeck spoke to the difficult balance of resources versus funding. Dr. Khan inquired on how early a request should be made for necessary resources, with Chief Steinbeck indicating that the more notice given, the better the outcome will be overall. In Nevada, generally when a resource is needed, it can be found through local, state, or federal assets. Costs for personnel aren't typically higher for special events in these cases. Giving the example of the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team, Chief Steinbeck indicates that it doesn't cost the USAR more to get underway in six hours versus three weeks for a planned event. General Gonzales spoke to a quick reaction force, plus the Civil Support Team (CST) located in northern Nevada which are immediate resources. The CST was moved north due to lack of resources in the region. Southern Nevada is resource rich in that area. Chief Steinbeck spoke to the NFL Draft as a Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) Level 3 event, and based on that rating,

should there be additional information that could cause that ranking to rise, additional availability of federal resources to support the event may be possible.

Governor Sisolak inquired on who is communicating with the NFL, with Chief Steinbeck indicating the NFL is speaking with the Las Vegas Visitor's Authority. The Governor requested follow-up on those discussions. Nevada Assemblyman William McCurdy II spoke to these types of events, and the possibility of creating a list of events meeting certain specifications. Such a list could be used to respond to preparations as needed. Gonzalo Cordova, DHS, spoke to the established process for identifying Special Events in Nevada. The process is run through the state's Fusion Centers, DEM/HS, and DHS. Rachel Skidmore added that the data call for special events occurs annually in August/September, and many criteria are captured for soft targets, number of dignitaries attending, etc. The SEAR listing is received by the Fusion Centers. Level 3 SEAR events are not the events that are of concern: however, Level 2 and Level 1 SEAR events present concern. General Gonzales spoke to stacking such events, and Chief Luna spoke to the daily work being done to address Dr. Khan's scenario for urgent requirements. The State works with that jurisdiction to identify resources immediately, either from neighboring resource assets or from the NVNG. If additional NVNG resources are required, but more time is needed to acquire such resources, the State works with the NVNG to support that mission. The planning process for the NYE event is more than six months long, and the State and the NVNG are included in this process.

Governor Sisolak emphasized being prudent in expending resources. Richard Perkins spoke to potential cost savings should the NVNG Bureau be able to authorize annual exercises for the New Year's Eve events. Chief Luna will work with the Governor's Finance Office moving forward.

7. Public Comment

Governor Sisolak called for public comment in all venues. In response to Governor Sisolak's call for ideas on clean energy and climate change, Susan Newton presented the Commission with information on utilizing spent nuclear fuel rods as an alternative power source for Nevada. Please refer to Attachment #1 for Ms. Newton's full testimony. Michael Newton presented the Commission with information on hardening the electrical grid in Nevada and a white paper authored by Colonel (Ret.) Robert E. Frank, United States Air Force titled, "Talking Paper on SMR-Based Power Systems to Back Up the Grid". Please refer to Attachment #2 for Mr. Newton's full testimony and a copy of this white paper. Marty Waldman presented the Commission with information on the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) efforts to address the enhancement of back-up power capability using a small modular nuclear reactor. Please refer to Attachment #3 for Mr. Waldman's presentation.

8. Adjourn

Governor Sisolak called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn was presented by Lieutenant Governor Kate Marshall. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.

HOMELAND SECURITY MEETING 3-3-20

A month or so ago, there was an article in the Review Journal on clean energy and climate change. The article stated Gov. Sisolak was looking for any and all ideas concerning the reduction of carbon dioxide, greenhouse emissions from individuals, citizen groups or industry. As I go on, you'll see why this is a Homeland Security issue.

We are a group comprised of professional and citizen members such as NDIA (National Defense Industrial Association), AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics), ANS (American Nuclear Society) and ordinary Nevada citizens.

Our diverse group has presented at many venues, including a packed house at the Atomic Testing Museum, Knowing the Options in Pahrump, Citizens Climate Lobby, Sierra Club Members, Next Gen Nevada Rising, UNLV, etc. All of these presentations have been met with enthusiasm and positivity!

We have also had many working meetings with Colonial Doug Tippet at Creech Air Force Base. As Creech is a vital asset to our homeland security, backup power to run the base is critical to the mission, if there should be a grid failure. This brings in more than just cutting greenhouse gasses and our carbon footprint. It's a homeland security issue.

Colonial Tippet has been all in with acquiring an SMR, small modular reactor, as an assured backup, safe, clean, carbon free, 24/7 power source for Creech.

We feel Governor Sisolak could take the lead role for Nevada in acquiring the extremely valuable spent fuel rods, safely sitting above ground, at sites

all over the United States. Governor Sisolak could make a deal with the Feds to set up an Energy Recycling Center at the Nevada National Security Site.

This would certainly kill Yucca Mountain once and for all, as it is not wanted for storage by anyone.

As approximately 95% of the useable energy still resides in these rods, folks look at them as waste and the federal government pays dearly for storage, with our tax money, new technology has made these rods, a better than gold commodity.

Nevada stands to make billions from the feds, by recycling this valuable spent fuel, to power 21st century small modular reactors. Governor Sisolak could set the tone, bringing, not only the prestige of being the first carbon free State, securing our electric grid, impacting UNLV and other higher institutions of learning, but bringing billions of dollars into Nevada with a Nevada National Energy Lab and Research Center.

It could be named "The Steve F. Sisolak Energy Center of Excellence."

This newest technology comes with spending not one dollar of Nevada citizens tax money. Just the opposite, Nevada will profit, a win in every direction.

- #1. Securing our vulnerable grid system.
- #2. Reducing/ eliminating our carbon footprint
- #3. Solving the spent fuel rod problem for the United States
- #4. Bringing prestige and high paying jobs to Nevada
- #5. Bringing billions of dollars to our great State

Nuclear power is the only way forward to make a significant difference in global climate change. It's the only way to reverse the damage already done by fossil fuels.

We have a huge opportunity knocking on our door, we would be fools not to explore these possibilities. If we don't, another forward thinking State certainly will.

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I am a 15 year resident of Nevada and originally from Pennsylvania.

B.S. ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING. PENN STATE UNIV.
M.S. ENGINEERING. UNIV OF MICHIGAN

Registered Professional Engineer - Michigan
Registered Professional Electrical Engineer - Pennsylvania

General Motors - project engineer for five 21 MW induction melting furnaces
Gilbert Assoc. - design engineer for Virgil C. Summer Station Nuclear Power
Station &
Perry Nuclear Power Station

Private Pilot - Flew missions for the Coast Guard after 9/11 as a volunteer
using personal aircraft.

We are very interested in our country's security, safety, and general well
being. We offer our help where ever we can and especially on securing the
electric grid.

We feel that there is a very real need to protect the citizens of Nevada from
threats to our electric grid. We also feel that by doing such we would also
make Nevada a magnet for industry by having reliable power.

1. Possible threats are:

- a. Cyber attacks
 - b. Weather
 - c. Electromagnetic pulses
 - d. Terrorist attacks - using conventional weapons or even drones
2. The grid needs to be hardened to withstand these threats or protected.
 3. Then we need a plan to mitigate the consequences of these threats.
 - a. Isolate Nevada from the problems of the Macro-grid.
 - b. Implement Nevada's micro-grid infrastructures.
 - c. Maintain an inventory of back-up parts and equipment such as High Voltage Transformers.
 - d. Provide reliable electricity generation inside Nevada.

We are exposed to these threats right now! We need to work together to protect our state. Also, by having our grid protected we will be a very desirable home for a lot of industry.

I would like to use this opportunity to introduce, to the record, a TALKING PAPER presented by Robert E. Frank in August 1916. He has been an avid proponent of micro grids using Small Modular Reactors.

TALKING PAPER (AS OF 10AUG16)
ON
SMR-BASED POWER SYSTEMS TO BACK UP THE GRID

ISSUE: In the past 100 years, electricity has become the life blood of modern civilization. We cannot survive for long without it. The Energy Sector now consists of thousands of electricity, oil, and natural gas assets that are geographically dispersed and connected by systems and networks. Interdependency within the sector and across the Nation's infrastructure is critical to basic survival of our modern civilization. And, enemy war plans are known to intend to destroy it.

This national energy infrastructure (called the "Grid") is the "blood system" of the Nation's transportation, communications, finance, business, government and private infrastructures. But, the Grid was not designed to provide assured services and be survivable in case of EMP, terrorism and/or cyber attacks. This paper reveals a new use of known technology as a practical remedy.

MICROGRID (MG) DEFINED: An integrated energy system intelligently managing interconnected loads and distributed energy resources and capable of operating in parallel with, or independently, from an existing utility's grid. Normal MG power sources include fossil-fuel burning generators or solar/wind systems. But, the existing MG small power generators suffer from being unable to sustain operations without external services. Long-term MG system outages from EMP, terrorism or cyber attacks cannot offer "assured" Grid and resupply services.

SMALL MODULAR REACTORS (SMRs) DEFINED: Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) are nuclear power plants smaller in size (300 Megawatts or less) than current generation base load plants (1,000 Megawatts or higher). The newest, Fourth Generation designs are compact, factory-fabricated reactors designed to be transported by truck or rail to a site. They can be manufactured to independently and safely produce electricity for decades before being refueled. (See pgs 2-4.)

There are over 20 known SMR designs by global companies and governments. Advanced, Fourth Generation reactor designs come from the US, Russia, France, China, Japan, Sweden and India. The best SMR designs include (or are likely to include) such things as: (1) Assured, uninterruptible, 24/7 power, (2) Walk-Away Safe Architectures, (3) EMP Shielding, (4) Underground installations, (5) No refueling for decades, (6) Tamper-protected, (7) No water losses for cooling, (8) Not vulnerable to cyber attacks, (9) Short reactor licensing period, and (10) Resilience to Natural Disasters.

SMR-BASED MICROGRIDS: It is proposed that Nevada implement an SMR-based MicroGrid on the Nevada National Nuclear Security Site to provide secure, assured, minimum-essential, back up electric power to the NV Grid in case of extended losses of standard power. This could be the critical option needed to provide assured power and desalinated/purified water to national security sites and generate supplemental power in case of NV Grid system failures. SMR-based MicroGrid systems could provide the missing critical services needed for backing up vulnerable fossil-fuel systems depending on resupply of combustible materials and to overcome the limited capacities and intermittent power provided by hydro, geothermal, wind, and solar systems.

3/3/20 DHS Presentation



NDIA

Southern Nevada



We're working closely with Creech AFB to get them a Backup Power capability via A **Small Modular Nuclear Reactor** in the 2023 timeframe

The MOST Robust Solution for Homeland/National Security



NDIA

Southern Nevada



Small Modular Reactors in combination with **Microgrid** technology is the ultimate DHS solution for Assured Power in the US

Micro/Small Modular Reactors with Microgrids

The Cleanest and Most Robust Power Source, EVER

Small Modular Reactors are also easily transportable for Portable Power needs