

# Meeting Minutes

**Nevada Commission on Homeland Security**

**Committee on Finance**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Attendance** | **DATE** | May 3, 2021 |
| **TIME** | 10:00 a.m. |
| **METHOD** | Zoom/Teleconference  |
| **RECORDER** | Karen Hall |
| **Voting Member Attendance** |
| Name | Title/Organization | Present |
| Joseph Lombardo - CHAIR | Sheriff, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department | Abs |
| Greg Herrera - VICE CHAIR | Chief Deputy, Operations, Washoe County Sheriff's Office | X |
| Mike Brown | State Government Affairs Director, R&R Partners | X |
| Christopher Lake | Executive Director, Community Resilience, Nevada Hospital Association | Abs |
| Carolyn Levering | Emergency Management Administrator, City of Las Vegas  | X |
| Erin Lynch | Chief, Nevada Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy | X |
| Stan Smith | Vice President, Emergency Management, Boyd Gaming Corporation | X |
| **Non-Voting Member Attendance** |
| David Fogerson | Chief, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security | X |
| **Level Staff / Support Attendance** |
| Samantha Ladich | Senior Deputy Attorney General, Nevada Office of the Attorney General | X |
| Karen Hall | Management Analyst, Nevada Division of Emergency Management | X |

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Vice Chair, Chief Deputy Greg Herrera, Washoe County Sheriff’s Office, called the meeting to order. Karen Hall, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS) performed the roll call. Quorum was established for the meeting.

1. **Public Comment**

Vice Chair Herrera opened the first period of public comment. Karen Hall informed the Committee that no written comment had been provided to the Committee. No verbal comments were provided during this period of public comment.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Vice Chair Herrera called for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2021, Committee meeting. Mike Brown, R&R Partners, motioned to approve the minutes as presented, and Stan Smith, Boyd Gaming, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Request to Reallocate Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Funds**

David Fogerson, DEM/HS, presented the Committee with the following Project Change Requests (PCR) from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) as discussed at the February 16, 2021, Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) meeting. Mr. Fogerson indicated that DEM/HS has reviewed the following projects, and is putting a recommendation before the Committee to fund as follows:

* **NCHS-167**: Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) – Fusion Center (FFY19 UASI) – Fusion Center UASI Sustain Project - This request is to move $200,558.87 in unused funds from the Strip Camera Maintenance Contract, Trapware, Omega Arm, and cancelled conferences for the International Association of Crime Analysts (IACA), International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts (IALEIA), and Foundations of Intelligence Analysis Training (FIAT) to pay for the Coplink renewal.
* **NCHS-168**: Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department – Fusion Center (FFY19 UASI) – LVMPD Russell Corridor Camera Project This request is to move $65,052.91 from Miscellaneous Supplies to Network and Wireless Equipment.

Vice Chair Herrera called for a motion to approve the project change requests as presented. A motion to approve the requests as presented was provided by Stan Smith, and Carolyn Levering, City of Las Vegas, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Review and Update on the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Process and Allocations**

David Fogerson, DEM/HS, briefed the Committee on the FFY 2021 HSGP process, timeline, and current events. In FFY 2020, there was concern that the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funding was moving to a competitive platform, and fortunately for Nevada, that did not occur. For FFY 2021, Nevada received $4,602,500 in State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) funding, and $5,250,000 in Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funding. Of significance were the national priority investment requirements which the overall funding allocation to Nevada had to absorb including:

* Cybersecurity – 7.5%
* Soft Targets/Crowded Places – 5%
* Information and Intelligence Sharing and Cooperation – 5%
* Domestic Violent Extremism – 7.5%
* Emerging Threats – 5%

Mr. Fogerson spoke to efforts and discussions ongoing with the Department of Homeland Security on adjusting investment justification percentages based on Nevada’s specific needs.

Mr. Fogerson provided an overview of the process for reviewing and vetting the FFY 2021 HSGP project submissions, including the push of information out to submitters, review by the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC), application updates based on project funding reductions or feedback from the vetting process, and today’s recommendations brought forth to the Committee. The NRAC met for approximately five hours to review and vet the projects submitted. Should the Committee approve of the recommendation to fund the projects as presented, a recommendation from this Committee will be forwarded to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security for final approval. If approved, the grant application will be submitted to DHS.

Deputy Chief Billy Samuels, Clark County Fire Department (CCFD), spoke to the UASI review and vetting process which mirror’s the state’s SHSP process. Deputy Chief Samuels indicated that the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) broke projects into categories of maintenance and competitive projects, with only one project that fell below the red line for funding.

Vice Chair Herrera voiced appreciation on how smoothly the process and the meetings went this year and opened up discussion on any questions the Committee may have. With no questions presented, the Vic Chair inquired on how much of the allocation was spent on cybersecurity, with Mr. Fogerson indicating that amount was 7.5%. The Vice Chair spoke to his recollection of Chair Joseph Lombardo’s concerns last year at the possible lack of statewide mission in this area, and whether that issue had been addressed. Mr. Fogerson indicated that the mission has improved, and the state does have a cybersecurity administrator now. Ongoing discussions on how to better involve stakeholders and cyber-components should make the process more efficient.

1. **Review of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Proposal with the Intent to Formulate a Recommendation to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS)**

David Fogerson, DEM/HS provided a review of the FFY 2021 SHSP project review and results and referred to the meeting packet which included the project information and ranking by the NRAC and UAWG. All but one project, the Nevada Department of Public Safety Active Shooter Response & Preparedness Training submitted by the Nevada Division of Investigation, were funded. Mr. Fogerson indicated that the project submitter understood the reason for the project being unfunded, and Mr. Fogerson wants to ensure that deobligated funding can be considered so projects do not have to be cut. Mr. Fogerson spoke to many project submitters cutting their projects in order to fund more projects such as Washoe County Sheriff’s Office, whose efforts were very collaborative. In total, $3,347,509.69 was applied to the maintenance of ongoing programs, and $1,024,865.41 was applied to enhancements of existing projects and/or new projects benefitting Nevada. As new capability and capacities emerge and change focus, maintenance efforts will evolve. The NRAC has put forth the recommendation before the Committee to fund the SHSP projects as presented.

Deputy Chief Samuels, CCFD, spoke to the FFY 2021 UAWG project review and results, and noted a similar format was followed as presented by Mr. Fogerson earlier. The UAWG did not fund a large project submitted by Clark County Office of Emergency Management for Clark County Information Technology Cybersecurity Upgrades. The non-funding of this project did not affect the percentage necessary to be compliant with the national priority requirement. The UAWG applied $326,483.99 in deobligated funding to enhance the number of projects it could fund this year. The process went very smoothly, and the effort applied to the process is appreciated.

Mr. Fogerson spoke to efforts underway to consolidate projects that multiple submitters may have included in their specific projects such as the fusion centers, and funding applied to support the “See Something - Say Something” program. Common messaging and approach are important, and DEM/HS public information officer is also working on this process.

Vice Chair Herrera inquired why the Nevada Department of Public Safety’s project was not funded, with Mr. Fogerson indicating that it was an available funding issue. There was not enough money to fund the project after project cuts were taken. This project contained some over and above requests, so this project may come back to request deobligated funding in the future. Deputy Chief Samuels also spoke to the UAWG’s non-funding of projects, and it was not due to projects not meeting necessary criteria, but simply an issue of available funding similar to the SHSP process.

Vice Chair Herrera called for a motion to approve the funding recommendations as requested. David Fogerson was asked to help craft the verbiage of the motion required and indicated the motion should include the Committee approving the recommendation of the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC) to move forward to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security a recommendation to fund the FFY 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program project requests as presented. Mike Brown motioned to approve the funding recommendation of the NRAC per Mr. Fogerson’s suggested language, and Erin Lynch, Nevada Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Public Comment**

Vice Chair Herrera opened discussion on the second period of public comment. Karen Hall, D indicated that no public comment was noted in written form. Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department, acknowledged both David Fogerson and Deputy Chief Billy Samuels on the process this year, and thanked them for their work and dedication. Mr. Fogerson indicated that the process would not have been possible without the staff support provided. Vice Chair Herrera agreed and indicated that the staff always does a good job during this process.

1. **Adjourn**

Vice Chair Herrera called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Carolyn Levering motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Mike Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.