



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	DATE	Monday, September 12, 2022			
	TIME	11:00 a.m.			
	METHOD	Zoom/Teleconference Conference line #: (669) 219-2599 Meeting ID# 686 738 8625			
	RECORDER	Sherrean Whipple			
Appointed Voting Member Attendance					
Member Name	Present	Member Name	Present	Member Name	Present
Governor Steve Sisolak	X	Joseph Lombardo	X	Lt. Governor Lisa Can Burkhead	X
Darin Balaam	ABS	Col. Brett Compston	X	Todd Fasulo	X
Mitch Fox	X	Dr. Ikram Khan	X	Charles Moore	X
Richard Perkins	ABS	Harriett Parker	X	John Steinbeck	X
Rosemary Vassiliadis	X	Patricia Wade	X	Spencer Evans	X
Bill Welch	X				
Appointed Non-Voting Member Attendance					
Karen Burke	ABS	Gonzalo Cordova	X	Christopher Ipsen	X
David Fogerson	X	Aakin Patel	X		
Legal and Support Staff Attendance					
Samantha Ladich	X	Sherrean Whipple	X		

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Governor Steve Sisolak called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Sherrean Whipple, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Steve Sisolak opened the first period of public comment for discussion.

Chief David Fogerson, DEM/HS, explained that most of the Division of Emergency Management and some of the Department of Public and Behavioral Health is meeting with local partners to create a jurisdictional risk assessment, the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA), and the planning process. Chief Fogerson explained that this is one of three regional outreaches. Chief Fogerson introduced new Homeland Security Commission members Harriet Parker from the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe; Spencer Evans, new special agent in charge of the FBI for Nevada; and Colonel Compston.

There was no additional public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Governor Steve Sisolak called for a motion to amend or amend and approve the draft minutes from the June 3, 2022, Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (Commission) meeting. Bill Welch, Citizen Representative, stated that the only correction was his presence at the June 3, 2022 meeting and motioned to approve the minutes with the correction. No discussion was presented. Lisa Cano Burkhead abstained as she was not present at the last meeting. All were in favor with no opposition, and the motion passed with the correction, unanimously.

4. REPORT ON THE STATEWIDE ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

David Fogerson, DEM/HS, explained that every quarter, DEM/HS reports on its Incident Management Team and training. Chief Fogerson indicated that all of the adoption processes are completed and that the Division, along with the Department of Public and Behavioral Health, is conducting multiple outreaches for the ICS 100, 200, 300, 400 trainings as well as for position-specific classes. Chief Fogerson explained that DEM/HS is working closely with Billy Samuels from Clark County Emergency Management and other partners to build up two robust incident management teams as well as looking for places where they can be utilized nationally for other disasters.

5. REQUEST FOR URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI) PROGRAM DE-OBLIGATED FUNDS TO BE AWARDED TO LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Suz Coyote, DEM/HS, informed the Committee that the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department applied for funding to fund a robot dog equipped with cameras, speakers, lights, and a microphone that will be used primarily for SWAT operations, specifically: to carry technical equipment into places to dangerous for a person in order to search for a suspect; to facilitate communication with the suspect by crisis negotiation team; to deescalate the situation; and to safely take the suspect into custody without endangering the lives of others. Ms. Coyote explained that the platform is modular and can easily be adapted to additional missions. In addition, Ms. Coyote informed the Committee that LVPMD is also requesting de-obligated funds for a wireless radio system that allows the operator of the robot dog to send commands to the drone, allows the platform to integrate seamlessly into the larger wireless network build in past Homeland Security projects, and batteries for the robot dog. Ms. Coyote indicated that the full amount of this request is for \$150,000 of FY19 de-obligated funds from the Homeland Security Program.

Samantha Ladich, Nevada Office of the Attorney General, indicated that if any of the members of the Committee are uncomfortable that everything is not fully documented in this item, it could be held until the next meeting. Ms. Ladich asked for confirmation from Ms. Coyote that the attached paperwork includes all the information for this request.

Suz Coyote indicated that she was not certain if the spreadsheet with the detailed information was attached in the agenda.

Samantha Ladich indicated that she is comfortable with the Committee moving forward with this agenda item given the fact that it has been through Finance Committee and was in the documentation.

Governor Steve Sisolak called for a motion to approve Agenda Item #5. Dr. Ikran Kahn moved to approve. All were in favor with no opposition, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. GRANT STATUS REPORT

Suz Coyote, DEM/HS, informed the Committee that the supporting documents contain the report on existing Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) grants for Federal Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2021 for the period ending June 30, 2022. Ms. Coyote indicated that this documentation provides the current status on all open projects, closed projects, and budget status for all of the open grants for Homeland Security for these years.

7. DEM/HS FEMA AUDIT RESULTS FOR THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2022

Suz Coyote, DEM/HS, explained that DEM/HS undergoes yearly financial federal monitoring and state auditing because of visibility, sensitive material, and duties the Division is tasked with accomplishing. Ms. Coyote indicated that DEM/HS is currently undergoing a state audit by Nevada's contracted CPA firm for the warehouses run and controlled by DEM/HS during the pandemic, an audit that has been ongoing since FY21 and should be completed following the next site visit to the Las Vegas warehouse, which is scheduled after the consolidation of the northern and southern warehouses. Ms. Coyote explained that DEM/HS does not anticipate any exceptions from this audit. Ms. Coyote next informed the Committee that beginning in 2021 and concluding in July of 2022, an audit was conducted on DEM/HS's disaster grants, also known as public assistance, with the only finding requiring corrective action being reporting the grant dollar amount received to the Federal Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS) in a timely manner to ensure compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act. Ms. Coyote informed the Committee that in April of 2022, 5 personnel from FEMA Region IX were in the DEM/HS office for five days conducting an onsite financial monitoring review of numerous different grants; this monitoring resulted in no findings and praise by Region IX personnel for the excellent work of the grant staff. Ms. Coyote next indicated that from August 29 through September 2, the preparedness officer from FEMA headquarters who oversees Nevada's HSGP audited Homeland Security Grants FY17 through FY20 to ensure compliance with Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and Program Guidance. Ms. Coyote explained that DEM/HS has not yet received a final findings letter, but initial feedback was that nothing needed corrective action and staff was praised for their work. Ms. Coyote indicated that this will be a standing agenda item for future Committee meetings in order to provide transparency.

8. SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

David Fogerson, DEM/HS, indicated that DEM/HS did receive all public-school safety plans within the time period required and was short the timeframe requirements for some of the charter schools and some of the private schools, but that all 234 plans that were expected between NDE and DEM/HS were received. Chief Fogerson explained that the Department of Health and Human Services, NDE, and DEM/HS will be forming an interagency task force to review these plans, with an intent to review one-fifth of the school plans each year. Chief Fogerson indicated that these school plans are written by the local government, school district, or private school district in consultation with local emergency managers, local law enforcement, and local fire/emergency medical services. Chief Fogerson concluded his presentation by informing the Committee that the collective team will be looking at these plans once every five years to ensure that they meet NRS and will improve the safety of Nevada schools.

John Steinbeck asked if the Committee would receive a report following these reviews that would include any deficiencies or ways by which the Homeland Security Commission can assist in improving any areas that arise.

Chief David Fogerson indicated that these reports would go directly to the local school districts and local emergency manager prior to coming to the Committee.

9. UPDATES FROM THE DEM/HS TRIBAL LIAISONS

Josie Burnett, DEM/HS Tribal Liaison, informed the Committee that on June 8, the Nevada Tribal Community Resilience Development Workshop, a one-day event that included several topics, was held. Ms. Burnett explained that a psychological first-aid training was also held. Ms. Burnett indicated that in the months prior to this event the focus was on developing a relationship with tribes across the state and this successful even was DEM/HS's first opportunity to gain tribal participation as well as gain feedback on future workshops from which tribal partners could benefit. Ms. Burnett next informed the Committee that during the week of August 15, tribal liaisons had the opportunity to attend FEMA Region IX's Tribal Workshop, which included approximately 10 Nevada tribes in attendance, as well as tribal partners from Arizona and California. Ms. Burnett indicated that the topics covered included life cycle of disaster, disaster recovery, and financial management, along with many others. Ms. Burnett explained that all three states were able to come together and discuss their communities' successful partnerships and strategies, as well as sharing their barriers and gaps. Ms. Burnett concluded her presentation by noting that the consensus from Nevada was an overall extremely positive attitude in that the partners and tribes across the state are communicating effectively and helping each other as they should be.

10. UPDATE ON THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2022 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) PROCESS

David Fogerson, DEM/HS, indicated that DEM/HS has received notification from the Department of Homeland Security that all grants have been approved and pushed back to DEM/HS. Chief Fogerson explained that there are four grants that have some holds for which additional details need to be provided and that grant staff are working on these four. Chief Fogerson further indicated that money should be available as of October 1. Chief

Fogerson explained that DEM/HS is doing a first-time event this year where prior to releasing the grant funds to the individual agencies, a virtual training will be held for everyone that will cover some of the lessons learned over the last few years via the problems encountered through the grant process. Chief Fogerson indicated that this virtual training is being held in hopes of resolving some of these problems prior to their becoming issues in the future. Chief Fogerson explained that the date has already gone out to the recipients of Homeland Security funds for the state and Homeland Security funds for UASI and the nonprofit organizations, including religious communities requiring some extra protection from DEM/HS.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Steve Sisolak opened the second period of public comment for discussion. There was no public comment.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Governor Steve Sisolak adjourned the meeting.