



# Meeting Minutes Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>DATE</b>	Wednesday, June 27, 2022
	<b>TIME</b>	2:00 p.m.
	<b>METHOD</b>	Zoom/Teleconference
	<b>RECORDER</b>	Sherrean Whipple
<b>Voting Membership</b>		
Name	Designated/Appointed Representative:	Attendance Status
Harriett Parker – Co-Chair	Las Vegas Paiute Tribe	X
David Fogerson - Co-Chair Non-Voting	Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X
Marla Stanton	Battle Mountain Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	ABS
Emily Gould	Nevada Department of Health and Human Resources	ABS
Marian Perez	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	ABS
Alfreida Jake	Elko Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	ABS
Ross Rivera	Ely Shoshone Tribe	X
Jackie Conway	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	X
Duane Masters Sr.	Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe	X
Don Pelt	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	X
Daniel Thayer	Reno Sparks Indian Colony	X
Tanya Reynolds	South Fork Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	ABS
Sookaaki Charley	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe	X
Tashina Jim	Walker River Paiute Tribe	X
Kenneth Quiner	Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California	X
<b>Non-Member Representatives/Support</b>		
Name	Entity Represented:	Attendance Status
Samantha Ladich	Nevada Office of the Attorney General	X
Sherrean Whipple	Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X

## 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair Harriett Parker, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Sherrean Whipple, Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS), and a quorum was established for the meeting.

## 2. Public Comment

Co-Chair Harriett Parker opened the period of public comment for discussion.

Co-Chair David Fogerson indicated that he visited the Ely Shoshone Tribes the week prior and was able to discuss some issues with them. Co-Chair Fogerson further indicated that Washoe

County did a nice job of taking their community to the Emergency Management Institute for an integrated emergency management class and involved a Pyramid Lake Tribe in that, as well. Co-Chair Fogerson commented positively on seeing that representation from Washoe County's inclusion of the tribal nations.

There was no additional public comment.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Co-Chair Harriett Parker called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes of the March 16, 2022 NTECC meeting. Ken Quiner, Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California, moved to approve the March 16, 2022 minutes of the NTECC meeting. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **4. Discussion on the status of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security's (DEM/HS) efforts to assist our tribal nations**

Co-Chair David Fogerson indicated that DEM/HS has been talking internally regarding the fact that through COVID, more talking than listening was accomplished due to all the efforts, but now that the emergency has abated some, DEM/HS would like to take a step back and ask NTECC for their feedback on what they are doing well and where they could use improvement. Co-Chair Fogerson opened the floor to the members to provide this feedback.

Ken Quiner discussed a call with FEMA last week and explained that one of the big concerns discussed was that emergency management doesn't function over most tribes because it is short staffed. Mr. Quiner indicated that the available grants are critical to keep those programs running and although the tribes get things going, the funding runs out and what has been built dies away. As such, Mr. Quiner discussed the importance of consistently maintaining a sustainable flow of funding.

Co-Chair David Fogerson indicated that he discussed this same issue the prior week with Clark County and indicated that perhaps DEM/HS should start working with legislative partners to help with this from the federal level.

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, explained that DEM/HS will be coordinating workshops regionally this fall and is looking for larger tribal participation than there has been in the past. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that by the end of that week of workshopping, everyone should have gone through everything needed to prepare the EMPG application for the spring. Mr. Bakkedahl acknowledged that this is only one part but highlighted that this is something DEM/HS is undertaking in an effort to try and help all partners be more prepared. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated that these workshops will be assigned one week in each location, start with the THIRA, go through the JRA from health, that there will be a significant amount of information from DEM/HS covering grants, finance, recovery, and mitigation, and will conclude with the integrative preparedness plan in the EMPG work plan. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated that DEM/HS staff is always available to assist with the process.

Ken Quiner asked for confirmation that if a session is missed in one workshop that it is

permissible to attend a workshop in another location.

Jon Bakkedahl confirmed that it is.

Co-Chair David Fogerson encouraged the members of the Council to call either himself or Jon Bakkedahl with any ideas on how DEM/HS can be helpful to them moving forward as well as with feedback on what is not working or could be done better.

Co-Chair Harriett Parker explained that she has just begun with the working group for the hazard mitigation plan, indicating that the workgroup is an annex under Clark County, and indicated that she may be reaching out to DEM/HS for help with this.

Ross Rivera informed the Council that the help from DEM/HS is there; members just need to reach out and ask for it as well as take advantage of the visits taking place across the state.

## **5. Update from the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)**

Clifford Banuelos was unable to attend the NTECC meeting. This item was tabled.

## **6. Update on Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts**

Donielle (DT) Allen, Public Health Preparedness (PHP) Program Manager, informed the Council that Melinda Southard has moved to a position as Executive Director for the Patient Protection Commission, and Mr. Allen has stepped into the position Ms. Southard previously held as program manager. Mr. Allen reminded the Council that Directive 11 and crisis standards of care were deactivated the previous month. Mr. Allen next discussed the Rural Preparedness Summit held in June, indicating that Dan Thayer and his team presented on some of the COVID activities and after-action reports from the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony. Mr. Allen indicated that PHP continues to work with DEM/HS on the distribution of PPE out of the warehouse, which is now fully in the south. Mr. Allen further indicated that PHP is continuing to process those resource requests through WebEOC. Mr. Allen informed the Council that if there are any needs for Flow Flex home tests, they are still available and can be requested through the normal requesting process. In addition, Mr. Allen indicated that Binax tests are available for any entity that has maintained its clear waiver and informed the Council that if the clear waiver renewal has not been paid for the year, the members will need to check with Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) in DPBH to ensure that the waiver is still active.

Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, asked for clarification regarding the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waiver.

DT Allen clarified that this particular waiver needs to be active specifically for the COVID Binax tests. Mr. Allen further indicated that his office could be contacted for help if needed.

Co-Chair Harriett Parker asked how far out the expiration dates were extended for the BinaxNOW tests.

DT Allen indicated that the expiration has been extended 12 months, but for Ms. Parker's specific tests with the March 21 expiration date, the specific lot number should be checked to

verify actual expiration and as such, asked Ms. Parker to reach out to him following the meeting for help with this.

## **7. Updates from the DEM/HS NTECC Staff**

Josie Burnett, DEM/HS NTECC, explained that Jay Martin is currently transporting all tribal PPE from the northern warehouse to ITCN as well as distributing it out to additional tribes still in need of their packages and as such, she would be covering today's report in its entirety. Ms. Burnett informed the Council that there is still an abundance of PPE for any tribes that would like additional supplies.

### **a. Intrastate Mutual Aid System**

Josie Burnett encouraged the tribes to opt into this system of mutual aid resource sharing between tribes, state and local agencies, and surrounding community partners. Ms. Burnett indicated that there are currently five tribes that have opted in: Washoe; Reno; Las Vegas; Yerington; and Pyramid. Ms. Burnett explained that each tribe that opts in formulates a resolution that needs to be submitted to DEM/HS and the governor's office.

### **b. Satellite Phone SIM Card Delivery**

Josie Burnett explained that these were distributed during Jay and Crystal's Tribal Tour with FEMA in the spring and indicated that there are additional SIM cards for distribution. Ms. Burnett pointed out that most of the SIM cards for the satellite phones are approaching expiration with a renewal subscription in July and as such, DEM/HS is looking at renewing that yearly subscription. Ms. Burnett explained that the rest of the SIM cards will be distributed.

### **c. National Incident Management System (NIMS) Preparedness Framework Document delivery**

Josie Burnett explained that DEM/HS will move forward regarding the communication boxes and training for tribes to learn how to use the equipment in those boxes more efficiently.

### **d. Fall Workshops: Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA), Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR), Grants, Finance, Mitigation, and Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW)**

Josie Burnett reiterated Jon Bakkedahl's earlier discussion regarding the fall workshops and explained that they will take place in Elko on 9/12 through 9/16, Carson City on 9/26 through 9/30, and Clark County on 10/3 through 10/7. Ms. Burnett explained that an agenda has already been created and will be distributed.

An unidentified speaker asked about their delivery of the SIM cards.

Josie Burnett explained that Jay has not yet made the southern tours.

Ross Rivera indicated that there are issues with the 800-megahertz radios and the channels.

Josie Burnett confirmed that this feedback had been received from other locations as well and as such, DEM/HS will be checking up on that.

Jon Bakkedahl asked Ross Rivera to email DEM/HS with the specifics of the issues.

Ross Rivera asked if there would be funding to send people to the workshop.

Jon Bakkedahl confirmed that DEM/HS would look into assisting with that.

Don Pelt provided some troubleshooting steps for the problematic radios.

Co-Chair Harriet Parker asked about restarting twice annual drills that were tabled due to COVID.

DT Allen indicated that they are in the process of getting those drills back up and running and that everyone should watch for communication regarding this.

#### **8. Updates from the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC)**

Sari Nichols, NIC, indicated that NIC does not have an update at this time.

#### **9. Updates from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

Crystal Harjo, FEMA Region IX Tribal Liaison for Nevada was unable to attend the NTECC meeting. This item was tabled.

#### **10. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access and Functional Needs Integration**

Heather Lafferty, CDC Disability Preparedness Specialist, indicated that she has 20-plus years' experience in physical security operations as a training coordinator and liaison and her role as wife and mother has inspired her to advocate for individuals with cognitive impairments. Ms. Lafferty described the difficulty during the COVID shutdowns to obtain resources within the disability community. Ms. Lafferty next discussed her job title and broke down the meaning of it. Ms. Lafferty explained that access and functional needs refers to individuals with and without disabilities who may need additional assistance due to any condition that may limit their ability to act in an emergency. Ms. Lafferty further explained that if we want mitigation and preparedness response and recovery programs to be truly equitable, a framework that makes equity accessible to emergency managers to make preparedness efforts equitable for the entire community is needed. As such, Ms. Lafferty explained the building and use of the Communication, Maintaining Health, Independence, Support, Safety, Self Determination, and Transportation (CMIST) framework, indicating that the CMIST

framework is a tool to guide planning and help operationalize the five basic functional needs that need to be addressed in an emergency with its truest power being helping the communities share that mental model of accessibility and make it actionable. Ms. Lafferty further indicated that accessibility kits have been prepared to help aid the community in their communication for anyone who has lost their assistive technology that they require to communicate. In addition, Ms. Lafferty noted that contracts have been put in place with pharmacies and third parties to provide resources almost immediately to meet these functional needs. Ms. Lafferty indicated that her mission is to be in the room where preparedness is happening and help train and support emergency managers and communities throughout the state on the how-to of incorporating access and functional needs.

Heather Lafferty next discussed DEM/HS's mission of inclusion, explaining that a five-year access and functional needs strategic plan is in the works. Ms. Lafferty noted that the adoption of the motto, "Nothing about us without us" will include building a coalition of community partners and subject-matter experts and stakeholders to show DEM/HS the best practices and supports that have already been developed and are working. Ms. Lafferty further indicated that DEM/HS is working towards the development of CMIST response teams at the county jurisdictional level and would love the opportunity to partner with Tribal nations to provide guidance on how they too could launch seamless response teams in their communities. Ms. Lafferty informed the Council that DEM/HS is developing a dedicated Emergency Operation Center position for access and functional needs a part of command staff. Ms. Lafferty offered to make herself available to anyone wanting to discuss these initiatives further.

Ross Rivera discussed the difficulty of identifying the special needs of a patient if a caregiver is not available, and suggested outreach to these people in order to create something explaining their needs that could be on hand should emergency responders need them.

Heather Lafferty thanked Mr. Rivera for his feedback and indicated that DEM/HS is working with first responders and can develop that training.

Co-Chair David Fogerson indicated that it was discovered during the pandemic that the mark was sometimes missed on these populations and that it is important to focus not on the political connotations of diversity and inclusion but on how best to care for everyone in the community. As such, Co-Chair Fogerson indicated that the Division is pushing to make these components part of its everyday mission. Co-Chair Fogerson further indicated that the governor's office will be hiring another employee that will be dedicated to help DEM/HS with these issues along with Ms. Lafferty. Co-Chair Fogerson next discussed the meetings he, Mr. Bakkedahl, and Ms. Lafferty have had with the Office of Minority Health at the Health Human Services Director's office about how to embed them into some of these processes as well.

## **11. Nevada Public Bodies Updates**

Tribal representatives appointed to the following Nevada public bodies provide an update on their role with each public body, as well as initiatives and projects that impact Nevada Tribes:

### **a. Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee**

Co-Chair, David Fogerson, indicated that the last meetings were focused on the Homeland Security grant process and the collaborative process of deciding how to spend the monies. Co-Chair Fogerson reminded the Tribal Nations that they can go for HS dollars directly to FEMA, as well. Co-Chair Fogerson next announced that the ITCN has provided a recommendation for Harriett Parker to be assigned to the Governor's Homeland Security Commission and indicated that once the paperwork is complete, Co-Chair Fogerson will be asking the governor to appoint her.

**b. Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS)**

Co-Chair, David Fogerson addressed this in Agenda item 11a.

**c. NCHS Finance Committee**

Co-Chair, David Fogerson addressed this in Agenda item 11a.

**d. Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)**

Lance Chantler, RSIC, indicated that SERC has been working with Josie Burnett on getting NTECC as a grant-eligible agency through SERC grants. Mr. Chantler explained that as it is grant season, SERC is in the process of doing the United We Stand grant and the mid-cycle HMEP grant. Mr. Chantler explained that the next meeting is July 14 in which review and approve of the grants will take place. Mr. Chantler informed the Council that SERC has a new member, as well.

**e. Nevada Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee (IMAC)**

Eric Wilson, DEM/HS, explained that at the last IMAC meeting on June 15, it was announced that the Washoe Tribe of California/Nevada had opted into the system and became the fifth tribal nation to opt in. Mr. Wilson further indicated that the Committee approved as amended the meeting minutes from December, the bylaws, the policies and procedures, and the IMAS reimbursement forms. Mr. Wilson further indicated that a year-end fiscal report and information on IMAC and EMAC real world deployment requested through the system over the past fiscal year was also presented to the Committee.

**12. Discussion of Potential Legislative Requests for the 2023 Session**

Co-Chair, David Fogerson, asked the Council if there is anything from the legislative session that should be included in the legislative bills moving forward. Co-Chair Fogerson explained that there are some small minor language changes in the Division that are being pursued as well as looking at some changes to the State Disaster Identification Coordinating Committee. Co-Chair Fogerson further indicated that his plan is to keep this to the standard item on each of the future agendas so as to add ideas into open BDRs.

**13. Nomination and Selection of the NTECC Tribal Co-Chair**

Co-Chair, David Fogerson, indicated that this agenda item involves discussion and possible action pursuing the NTECC bylaws that members will nominate and vote for a

member to serve as the NTECC Tribal Co-Chair. Co-Chair Fogerson explained that he and Co-Chair Harriett Parker are working on ensuring their awareness of all the different pieces of this process. Co-Chair Fogerson explained that he is reserving his right to stay as a Co-Chair and is looking for a Tribal Partner voting member to co-chair, indicating that he feels that Co-Chair Parker is a very effective and outstanding Co-Chair that could certainly continue on in the position, but where he is not a voting member, opened up the floor for nominations from the Council.

Co-Chair Harriett Parker reminded members can nominate themselves.

Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, moved to appoint Harriett Parker as NTECC Co-Chair. Jackie Conway, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Co-Chair Harriett Parker thanked the Council and thanked Jackie Conway, who held the job as Co-Chair prior to Ms. Parker, for her leadership and in showing Ms. Parker the ropes in taking over this position.

#### **14. Public Comment**

Co-Chair, Harriett Parker opened the floor for public comment.

Fergus Laughridge, Health Director Fort McDermitt, asked if DEM/HS could encourage or mandate the local emergency planning groups to include tribal representation in their discussions in hopes of fostering a better relationship between tribes and emergency planning, indicating that the tribes are often overlooked because they are viewed as standalones rather than as members of jurisdictions.

Co-Chair David Fogerson indicated that he would speak with DEM/HS to see if this could be facilitated.

#### **15. Adjournment**

Co-Chair, Harriett Parker called for a motion for adjournment.

Duane Masters Sr., Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.