



# Meeting Minutes

## Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>DATE</b>	October 25, 2022			
	<b>TIME</b>	10:00 a.m.			
	<b>METHOD</b>	Zoom			
	<b>RECORDER</b>	Sherrean K. Whipple			
<b>Appointed Voting Member Attendance</b>					
<b>Member Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Member Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Member Name</b>	<b>Present</b>
David Fogerson – Chair	ABS	Kelly Echeverria	X	Tennille Pereira	ABS
Billy Samuels – Vice Chair	X	Andrea Esp	X	Matthew Petersen	X
Andy Ancho	ABS	Jeanne Freeman	X	Misty Robinson	X
Roy Anderson	X	Mike Heidemann	X	Rachel Skidmore	X
Travis Anderson	X	Eric Holt	X	Corey Solferino	ABS
Noah Boyer	ABS	Graham Kent	ABS	Cary Underwood	X
Elizabeth Breeden	ABS	Mary Ann Laffoon	X	Mike Wilson	ABS
James Chrisley	X	Chris Lake	X	Stephanie Woodard	ABS
COL. Brett D. Compston	X	Carolyn Levering	X	Aakin Patel	X
Jason Danen	ABS	Rachel Marchetti	X	Ken Quiner	X
Bob Dehnhardt	X	Ryan Miller	X		
<b>Appointed Non-Voting Member Attendance</b>					
Bunny Bishop	ABS	Melissa Friend	X	Selby Marks	X
Heather Lafferty	X	Kasey KC	ABS	Catherine Neilson	ABS
<b>Legal/Administrative Support Attendance</b>					
<b>Representative</b>		<b>Entity</b>			<b>Present</b>
Samantha Ladich – Senior Deputy Attorney General		Office of the Nevada Attorney General			X
Sherrean K. Whipple – Administrative Assistant		Nevada Division of Emergency Management			X

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice-Chair Deputy Billy Samuels, Urban Area Administrator (UAA), called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Sherrean K. Whipple. Quorum was established for the meeting.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes of the August 22, 2022 Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC) meeting.

Jeanne Freeman, Carson City Health and Human Services, motioned to approve the minutes.

Andrea Esp, Washoe County Public Health Preparedness, seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

All others were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed.

**4. Discussion on the Status of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS) Efforts to Assist its Partners**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, informed the Committee that DEM/HS is looking for feedback and input from the participants as to the job DEM/HS is doing and whether or not it is positively or negatively affecting partners.

Jeanne Freeman commended DEM /HS for their supportiveness to those at both the local level and the national level. Ms. Freeman indicated that she would like to see more communication from DEM/HS to the ESFs rather than just the emergency managers, noting that the information may not necessarily trickle down to the support-function partners who may need to be aware of some of those dynamics.

Jon Bakkedahl asked if Ms. Freeman is referring to local ESFs or the state-level ESFs.

Jeanne Freeman confirmed that the information is not making it down to the local ESFs from either the Emergency Managers or the state ESFs, indicating the importance from a public-health perspective for health-district administration to be included in disbursement of this information.

Jon Bakkedahl indicated that DEM/HS will see what can be done to help facilitate that communication.

Matt Petersen, Elko County Fire Chief, indicated that he would like to see the road trips DEM/HS make out to rural Nevada continue. Mr. Petersen noted that the interaction with DEM/HS staff is welcome and that the workshops are extremely beneficial. Mr. Petersen suggested adding available funding opportunities to the website in order to better publicize them for partners.

Cary Underwood, Director of the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center, expressed appreciation for how DEM/HS has brought in new staff and gotten them up to speed on security clearance processing and grant processing. Mr. Underwood noted that this crew has taken the approach of providing service, service orientation, and collaboration to many of the partners and encouraged that this collaborative approach continue as it is helpful to those out in the field.

Kelly Echeverria, Washoe County Emergency Manager, requested the opportunity to circle back with past requests that have been made, noting that this would be helpful.

Jon Bakkedahl noted that this would be addressed in agenda item 8.

Vice Chair Billy Samuels noted his appreciation with the turnaround on the grant side, noting that it is nice to be able to reach out and speak with approachable people.

## **5. Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC) and Nevada Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) Programs**

Director Cary Underwood, SNCTC, provided a brief introduction to what the SNCTC is and what it does, noting that it is a fusion center in Las Vegas that is housed at LVMPD headquarters and is comprised of staff from the following agencies: Clark County School District Police Department; City of Las Vegas Department of Public Safety, Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations, CISA, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Transportation Security Administration, Henderson Police Department, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the National Insurance Compliance Bureau, Nevada Department of Public Safety, the US State Department Diplomatic Security Service, the North Las Vegas Police Department, the Nevada Department of Diplomatic Security Service, Clark County Fire Department, Clark County Marshalls, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, Nevada Gaming Control Board, Nevada Department of Parole and Probation, Southern Nevada Health District University Police Department, the US Marshall Service, the National Park Service, the Department of the Interior, Health District, University Police, the Nevada National Guard, and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

Cary Underwood next discussed grant funding and programs, noting that one of the biggest investment areas at SNCTC is the ability to develop and maintain a 24-7 situational awareness posture in critical infrastructure. As such, Mr. Underwood explained that SNCTC has invested heavily in Fusion Watch, where posture is leveraged by integrated technology capabilities that are used by Commission and civilian staff across six shifts at all times. Mr. Underwood further noted that there are 34 Commissioned individuals assigned to the Fusion Watch capability, where the integrated technology capabilities, including Automated License Plate Reader platforms, and social media atmospheric monitoring are largely housed. Mr. Underwood noted the importance of these in monitoring the approach of potentially hostile actors, who could potentially create conflict environments that could compromise public safety and critical infrastructure. Mr. Underwood indicated that the prioritization of SNCTC's grant expenditures arose from ensuring establishment of infrastructure allowing for interoperable integrated technology deployments, regardless of the type. Mr. Underwood further indicated that SNCTC envisions potentially increased use of drones in the future as first responder or safeguarding capabilities.

Cary Underwood informed the Commission that as of September 30, 2022, the SNCTC has processed almost 1,100 suspicious activity reports, 960 video captures, more than 3,000 requests for additional information or assistance, 2,200 Shot-spotter events, and more than 4,000 automated license plate reader alerts. Mr. Underwood further noted that the other 80 fusion centers are attempting to determine how this type of deployment can be done in such a manner so as not to create civil liberties concerns nationwide. Mr. Underwood indicated that SNCTC has a fully operational investigative NSAR vetting capability and has over 23 investigators from several different agencies following up on each suspicious-activity report received. Mr.

Underwood further indicated that due to the partnership with Director Robert Haigney, Nevada is one of the few states that is fully compliant with the FBI for receipt and timely follow-up and processing of dual-routed SARs (threats to life) received in FBI headquarters.

Cary Underwood discussed the counter-terrorism section and its investigators, noting that each of them are assigned to programs. Mr. Underwood explained that SNCTC was able to leverage some grant funds for its Threat Assessment Program (TAP), indicating the purpose of which is to have arrest not be the only solution available, citing things like treatment of mental-health-crisis related issues leading to long-term sustainable solutions rather than short-term incarceration solutions. Mr. Underwood indicated that SNCTC has been able to partner with government health providers such as the Veterans Administration as well as with private providers such as Summit Health and has developed relationships where these entities are capable of providing mental-health solutions to those that don't have the resources to obtain them. Mr. Underwood further noted that a major part of the partnership with the school district on threat assessments involve young students and young individuals in the community who are showing signs of carrying out acts of violence.

Cary Underwood next discussed the Counterterrorism Analysis Group, noting that they were recognized at last year's annual National Fusion Center Association conference among the 80 Fusion Centers. Mr. Underwood noted that they received the HSIN Intelligence Award, which awards the fusion center that provides the highest quality finished intelligence production into the HSIN platform. Mr. Underwood indicated that this fusion center was recognized by the Department of Homeland Security and peer fusion centers for the quality of its analytical production, which is a grant requirement given that when fusion centers are assessed annually, they are required to post all of their distributable intelligence products and share them with the National Network of Fusion Centers and federal partners. Mr. Underwood shared his pride in the group, noting that they produced an analytic writing style guide for which other fusion centers are asking, as well as having established a cyber analysis program that leveraged grant funds. Mr. Underwood indicated that particular grand fund will be unsettled as SNCTC transitions into more sustainable, local funding.

Cary Underwood explained that SNCTC has fully integrated the mobilization indicators out of the National Counter Terrorism Center and has already taught more than 800 private sector partners on suspicious activity and how to report it. Mr. Underwood further noted that SNCTC runs an Operation Vigilance Program that includes sustained partnership with critical infrastructure sectors. Mr. Underwood explained that the current leaders in those environments are aware of how to contact SNCTC, the staff is trained by SNCTC, and SNCTC highlights critical areas each month in order to build those relationships and maintain them. Mr. Underwood further noted that SNCTC partners with the State Department and NGOs to ensure awareness of the infusion of people from other parts of the world into the state as well as to host training sessions with the NGOs so that as new citizens arrive in the community, their first interactions with law enforcement and fire are positive and provides information on how these citizens are supported in the community as well as providing them with resources.

Cary Underwood next discussed emergency management and the analytical component, noting that SNCTC has been able to reestablish the relationship with LVCVA so that there is a reimbursement of an analyst who focuses on special event assessments and tabletop exercise for the multitude of special events. Mr. Underwood noted that those special events, practice sessions, and tabletops, along with written assessments are a big part of what SNCTC does. Mr. Underwood next emphasized the importance of having a privacy

officer, nothing that not only is this required to remain compliant as a fusion center but is also a grant requirement to have a privacy officer. Mr. Underwood indicated that the privacy officer is a practicing attorney who sits on two national subcommittees for the National Fusion Center Association. Mr. Underwood further noted that SNCTC is driving national privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties policy from the state of Nevada.

Cary Underwood informed the Committee that he sits on the Executive Board for the National Network of Fusion Centers, one of his managers sits on multiple committees, including the grant committee informing the Fusion Center Network and the Department of Homeland Security as to ways they can better support the state of Nevada, the privacy officer sits on the legal subcommittee and the Civil Rights Civil Liberties Committee, and a lieutenant sits on the technology committee overseeing proper and responsible technology deployments in fusion centers. Mr. Underwood added that the counterterrorism, analytical, and investigative teams are currently on an effort with the Department of Homeland Security to reinvigorate the National SAR process through the national threat and reporting effort.

Cary Underwood concluded with discussion of one grant item to build out a top-secret facility in the SNCTC, which has already led to multiple agencies to house full-time staff members in the to-be-completed fusion center. Mr. Underwood explained that this will allow for real-time consumption and processing and sharing of information at the highest level, which is important given the number of potential threat actors that traverses Southern Nevada.

Vice Chair Billy Samuels encouraged anyone who has not yet toured the SNCTC to take the tour. Vice Chair Samuels indicated that he saw firsthand as the ALPR led to a subject being apprehended.

Cary Underwood elaborated on this tour, noting that the individuals caught that day had already killed multiple people and were trying to access the strip, and the capability prevented these individuals from being in a large group of people and potentially killing more people.

Lieutenant Robert Haigney, NTAC Director, indicated that many of the Nevada Threat Analysis Center (NTAC) programs overlap with those of SNCTC. Mr. Haigney explained that NTAC is a federally recognized fusion center with an annual grant funding of approximately \$670,000, which is a third of NTAC's full funding, 63 percent of which funds contract employee positions that help support the daily operations. Mr. Haigney indicated that the remaining two thirds come from the general fund. Mr. Haigney explained that the fundamental component of NTAC's operations is to receive and process tips, leads, and suspicious activity reports, analyze that information, and share it appropriately with federal, state, and local law enforcement partners. Mr. Haigney discussed the See Something, Say Something outreach program, noting that the grant funding supports NTAC's capability to achieve results. Mr. Haigney further indicated that the travel category grant funding allows NTAC to reach out to rural law enforcement agencies and provide training that otherwise might not be possible and explained that the FLO/TLO program requires extensive travel throughout the state to bring training resources and critical infrastructure assessment services to those partners. Mr. Haigney further indicated that travel funding allows analysts to attend required federal training to maintain and enhance competencies in the area of analytical studies as well as allows for essential outreach with other fusion centers, which helps garner information to assist the NTAC in the intelligence sharing process.

Robert Haigney next discussed the importance of prevention and NTAC's attempts to achieve this prevention, noting that without outreach and information sharing, NTAC would be unable to work on preventative measures. Mr. Haigney indicated that preventative measures include: officer safety notices; state intelligence summaries; special event or threat assessments; and responding to requests for information from law enforcement partners. Mr. Haigney informed the Commission that grant funding allows NTAC to not only maintain capabilities, but also to build new ones to keep Nevada safe through an all-threats and all-hazards approach, which includes homegrown and international terrorism. Mr. Haigney explained that this is done in coordination with: the national network of fusion centers; state, local, and federal partners including Interpol, the FBI, Partner and Homeland Security, CISA, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis. Mr. Haigney further explained that NTAC also received grant funding for the purpose of strengthening its capabilities through services and equipment, which includes maintaining its criminal intelligence database and the purchase of specialized computer hardware and software.

Vice Chair Billy Samuels commented on the positivity of the north and south coming together.

## **6. Cyber Security Task Force**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, reported that DEM/HS is working as quickly as possible towards appointments to the task force in hopes of having a meeting within the next two weeks. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that there will be a Chair appointed from the Governor's office who may or may not be Tim Robb. In addition, Mr. Bakkedahl noted that there is a list within the executive order that details the positions that will be selected and that as those appointments are made and the meetings scheduled, DEM/HS will be working on getting the grant application submitted in a timely fashion. Mr. Bakkedahl reported that the submission will be of an exception with a request for additional time for submission of the statewide plan, which is a requirement but was not well supported by 55 of the 56 states and territories. Mr. Bakkedahl highlighted that there are agricultural, rural, and coastal areas that are quite sequestered and low in population and may not necessarily have the same requirements as urban areas and as such, there is some discussion about potential changes regarding these issues.

Jon Bakkedahl noted that the internal team is in place and prepared to submit the grant application. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that the team has been in contact with both CISA and FEMA regarding the minimum requirements that have to be part of the plan and indicated that there are several options that DEM/HS was allowed to schedule for the funding of the money. Mr. Bakkedahl reported that most states are indicating that they will be focusing on a training program, that South Dakota has declared that it will not be applying for the money, and that there are a minimum of 10 other states saying the same thing pending approval from the SAA and their government inner bodies. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that states have to either accept it or deny it and then submit the application. Mr. Bakkedahl concluded by indicating that the task force needs to be created in order to decide what to do with the money in this first year as well as how that will move forward over the next calendar year.

Vice Chair Billy Samuels noted his appreciation of the fact that Tim Robb will be coordinating the task force, particularly with all the funds coming available to the state, opining that this will help Nevada to be safer and more protective of its residents and visitors.

## 7. Update the State Disaster Identification Coordination Committee (SDICC)

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels indicated that the proposed draft request to update the SDICC relating to the ability to share protected health information from healthcare providers to emergency responders for a reunification effort during an incident is included in the packet and indicated that the Committee may suggest edits to the BDR for consideration. Vice-Chair Samuels indicated that the changes have been highlighted under NRS 414.270. Vice-Chair Samuels indicated his interest in receiving feedback from a health perspective, noting that disseminating information is difficult, and opened the floor to discussion.

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, explained that this committee has been in effect for a long time in statute but did end up losing some character in the legislative process as to what the committee should withhold and/or hold. As such, Mr. Bakkedahl explained that this is a cleanup to try and bring back the required support that local health districts and health partners need to be able to communicate specific information about people. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated that during COVID, this committee met monthly and for a while were meeting weekly. Mr. Bakkedahl informed the Committee that DEM/HS does have someone that sits on the committee as a non-voting member to ensure that agendas are in place and information is coming across as well as to address any questions regarding what DEM/HS is doing and why they are doing it.

Dr. Chris Lake, Nevada Hospital Association, added that there was a real issue between government entities and hospitals related to interpretations of HIPAA regulations and enforcement by the Office of Civil Rights following the Harvest Festival shooting. Dr. Lake noted that after this shooting, Nevada Hospital Association worked with all its partners to develop some language that ultimately, through the legislative process, did not end up included. In addition, Dr. Lake indicated that it was determined that the only way for hospitals to have absolute immunity to share the whereabouts of patients and their situations would be through the existence of a legislative requirement for hospitals to report that information. Dr. Lake explained that the issue is about getting what would be considered patient private information such as names, ages, things of that nature, to non-HIPAA related or non-HIPAA regulated entities such as law enforcement and areas that are working on things like family reunification, which would give an absolute affirmative defense to hospitals should someone allege a HIPAA violation. As such, Dr. Lake indicated that hospitals are supportive of this group and interested in hearing comments and concerns.

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels reiterated that not all emergency management falls under fire and as such, it can be difficult for emergency managers when working on reunification centers, and this BDR would solidify this for jurisdictions statewide.

Jeanne Freeman indicated that section 639.043, under 2D, discusses the information needing to stay confidential and remain securely managed, and raised the potential concern regarding how the transmission of that data would occur. Ms. Freeman further suggested that there should perhaps only be certain people who have access to this data or can request this data and reiterated the importance of secure transmission of the data to those people.

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels acknowledged this as a legitimate concern and indicated that he and Dr. Lake would address this via their notes.

Jeanne Freeman further raised the issues of potential usability of the data, retention of the data, and ultimately destruction of the data and the documentation of this destruction process needing to be addressed.

Dr. Chris Lake concurred with Ms. Freeman and suggested including these things in the accompanying regulations, which are easier to change, rather than in the law itself given that specific details such as this could potentially change with technology.

Andrea Esp concurred with Ms. Freeman before noting that most of this falls in line with the HICS 254 form that hospitals should be generating in the event of an incident, which includes everything but the individual's telephone number and email address and as such, raised the potential concern of duplicating efforts on the hospital's end. Ms. Esp noted the importance of hospitals understanding this process in order to incorporate this into future trainings as well as awareness as to whether or not any tracking boards need to be modified in generated reports.

Dr. Chris Lake noted that the HICS 254 is not a required document for hospitals and is therefore likely not being completed on a statewide level. Dr. Lake indicated that the existing language notes that this is only if the county or the jurisdiction having authority needed to make the request and thus, if there is already a process in place with local facilities, the new language might not even need enacting.

Jeanne Freeman questioned if the revisions are able to get through the BDR whether or not this be something that the state would want to collaborate with other states down the road, perhaps using something like EMAC.

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels noted that although one state cannot regulate what happens in another state, this would still help Nevada residents when visiting other states.

Jon Bakkedahl indicated that EMAC could be used for state-to-state resources capabilities, as could FEMA's DMAT and DMART teams for state-to-federal requests. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated that the counties have their own mutual aid agreements with their partners across state-to-state, as well, which doesn't necessarily need to run through DEM/HS but gives the EMAC protections of the insurances as well as the assurances that payment will come through in the end once the resources do move.

Andrea Esp noted that there has been discussion regarding an electronic system that captures all of this and wondered if this would help to support this.

Dr. Chris Lake noted that EM and patient tracking are not the goals, are difficult to maintain, and that this proposed change will not take the place of these. Dr. Lake further indicated that there will be more information available following this week regarding dissemination and collection of information.

Andrea Esp requested that she or a member of her team be included should there be discussion regarding this in the future.

Dr. Chris Lake concurred but noted that this would be at the direction of the Chair. Dr. Lake further noted that the difficulty here is that every hospital does not use the same registration system, and as such, it is difficult to create a one-size-fits-all approach. Dr. Lake reiterated that reunification in the case of a large-scale emergency is the end goal and welcomed the feedback of hospital systems in the north and in the south moving forward.

## **8. State of Nevada's After-Action Report and Improvement Plans**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, explained that this will be a policy level review of what DEM/HS is doing due to the request to be more transparent. As such, DEM has decided to create a committee following each exercise and



each real-world event to which relevant policy group partners will be invited. Mr. Bakkedahl further noted that once the committee is established and creates the report/plan, a draft will be presented to NRAC for feedback prior to release of the report/plan to local partners via email and Listserv. Mr. Bakkedahl noted that these will never be posted on the website in order to prevent nefarious characters from capturing this information that is intended for official use only and released only to select people or emergency management partners.

Jon Bakkedahl next discussed the intent to create an improvement plan change to the way things have been done up to now, and that this will happen in multiple phases, including a policy group followed by an internal draft that will go to NRAC for approval and then to public release, and concluding with a follow up on improvement plans.

Rodney Wright, DEM/HS, explained that this is a long-awaited change and expressed hope that the system will better help to track things that need to be accomplished, as well as show progress in some of the corrective actions DEM/HS has identified. Mr. Wright provided a presentation and description of the model that DEM/HS intends to use for these improvement plans and corrective actions. Mr. Wright noted that following committee review, an owner is assigned to the improvement plans on corrective actions, which are listed in the five elements of the POETE Model: capability; elements in planning; organization; equipment training; and exercise. Mr. Wright noted that once a corrective action is identified, it is assigned to one of these capability elements and then listed on the dashboard, which will then note any corrective action for the event that identified as a planning capability element. Mr. Wright further noted that the dashboard will outline the issues identified, the corrective action, the primary organization responsible, as well as a percentage complete of the corrective action.

Jon Bakkedahl noted that there are additional columns that indicate things like data assigned, due date, and additional information. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated the intent to include visual graphs and components along with a detailed narrative in order to track and see failures on the part of DEM/HS. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that this will help DEM/HS to prepare its Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and improvement planning process, which is part of the Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW), where all information is collected, and gaps are defined. Mr. Bakkedahl noted that similar gaps continue to be seen, indicating trends, that information can be used to help associate the funding to make true improvements. Mr. Bakkedahl informed the Committee that the after-action report illustrates what DEM/HS did well, what things need work, and what has been identified as best practices to share with partners. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that this is a state-level after-action report rather than a local-level one. Mr. Bakkedahl concluded his presentation by noting that there will be a long list of improvement plan lists that DEM/HS will be working on over the next 1.5 to 2 years with an end goal of improvement.

Andrea Esp commended the dashboard and its format and explained that she would like input from Mr. Wright in hopes of creating this same sort of program for her environment.

Rodney Wright informed the Committee that there will be password access to the SmartSheet system so that only those who need access will have it.

Chris Lake commended the dashboard and its format and asked about the possibility of receiving a draft before publication in order to see the format in order to mirror it.

Jon Bakkedahl asked Chris Lake if his timeline could wait two weeks in order to see it in its entirety, noting that DEM/HS is choosing to release it in its entirety via email to all the members.

Chris Lake noted that this timeline works for him.

## **9. Regional Preparedness Workshops**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, thanked all attendees to the workshop and noted that it was a very successful three-week tour around the state, beginning with Elko, moving to Carson City, and concluding in southern Nevada. Mr. Bakkedahl noted that a lot of information was shared, THIRA was completed within those first two days, and then all the different teams discussed what they do, how they do it, and why they do it. Mr. Bakkedahl reminded the Committee that this is not DEM/HS-driven, but rather federal-rule, state-rule, and local-rule driven. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that the Jurisdictional Risk Assessment (JRA) information sharing was not quite prepared to present a workshop as not all information has yet been received from Federal Health Partners. Mr. Bakkedahl discussed the Integrative Preparedness Plan Workshop, which provided an opportunity to discuss training and exercises for the next three years, as well as a discussion of the EMPG grant requirements, which included an application from last year and plans for this year. Mr. Bakkedahl discussed the tabletop exercise based upon the requests from the specific region holding the workshop: in Elko, there was an evacuation sheltering process exercise; Carson City did a sheltering tabletop exercise that included contributions from Kelly Echeverria; Southern Nevada's tabletop exercise focused on the Intrastate Mutual Aid Forms, how they worked, and how they are used. Mr. Bakkedahl concluded that four exercises were held throughout the week: THIRA; the tabletop; the Integrated Preparedness Plan; and the preparedness workshop throughout the entire week. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that DEM/HS has received significant feedback about the workshop from multiple tribes, multiple cities and counties, EM partners and transportation folks, public safety, and health folks. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that all of the information will be available on the page on the front of WebEOC once all presentations are captured from presenters. Mr. Bakkedahl informed the Committee that all members will receive an email once all documents have been uploaded and noted that the forms will be in soft form to allow for editing and for use by members to the extent needed. Jon Bakkedahl noted that the feedback included a shorter-duration workshop of two to three days rather than a week, as well as including mandatory grants training. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that the end goal is to alternate NEPA with the workshop every six months.

## **10. Grant Status Report**

Suz Coyote, DEM/HS, informed the Committee that the grant status report is attached in the meeting materials. Ms. Coyote indicated that all grant programs with open sub-awards are listed in the report, which includes the sub-recipient, agency project, original award mount, any re-obligated funds received, amounts spent as of the last reporting period, the funding stream of the grant, any de-obligated amount, and the percentage of the award spent as of the last report received. Ms. Coyote informed the Committee of the following dates: the FY22 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) grants have been issued as of October 19; the FY21 Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) grants have been issued as of October 21; the FY22 EPWG grants will be issued in the upcoming weeks; the FY22 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) grants are pending the Chief's signature and will be issued in the coming days; the FY22 EMPG grants are being prepared for the Chief's signature and will be issued in the coming days. Ms. Coyote concluded her presentation by informing the Committee that the application for the State and Local Cyber Security Grant program is due November 15 at 2:00 PM Pacific Standard Time.

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels requested that the report be emailed out to members in the interest of having it quicker so as to provide the report to grant people and some of the funding recipients.

## **11. Discussion of Potential Legislative Requests for the 2023 Session**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, reported that in terms of BDRs, there are dates as to when things have to be submitted and dates when they are made available to the public. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that current BDRs that have been submitted are not available for public communications beyond just the title of what has been done, and details cannot be provided until after mid-November once the Governor's budget has gone through the finance office and the document is available for public release. Mr. Bakkedahl reminded the Committee that the number-one thing discussed is the SDICC changes as it involves the Committee and public input to ensure the changes happen appropriately. Mr. Bakkedahl further noted that DEM/HS is looking for some changes in the Emergency Assistance Account (EAA), which allows DEM/HS to have access to its reserve account to facilitate needs during emergencies and non-emergencies. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that a couple of legislative cycles ago, DEM/HS submitted a bill draft for IMTs to develop Incident Management Teams, which was supposed to include Incident Management Assistant Teams in order to facilitate support to EOCs as well as field actions. Mr. Bakkedahl noted that there was some bad verbiage included in this and as such, DEM/HS is looking for some changes in terminology for this bill draft. Mr. Bakkedahl next discussed the DEM/HS departure from the Department of Public Safety in the last legislative cycle, noting that there are currently no representatives from DPS or Nevada State Police (NSP) on the Nevada Commission for Homeland Security, and as such, DEM/HS is looking to adjust this representation. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that the usual budget information was submitted to help move the budget forward for the next two year. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that the final submission was a request to change the due date for school plan submissions. Mr. Bakkedahl informed the Committee of the importance of its feedback to DEM on potential Bill Draft Requests on which DEM/HS should be focusing.

Kelly Echeverria asked if there has been any discussion on changing the NRS regarding the word mandatory as far as evacuations are concerned.

Jon Bakkedahl confirmed that there has not yet been discussion but that this can certainly be circulated through the Governor's Office following the election.

## **12. Updates from the DEM/HS Tribal Liaisons**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, informed the Committee that in addition to the existing 27 tribes, another tribe will be federally recognized as a Nevada tribe, bringing the number to 28. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that there are three tribal liaisons who participate in all things trauma: trauma preparedness; trauma response; trauma recovery; and trauma mitigation. Mr. Bakkedahl noted that there was great representation, 11 tribes in person and one remotely, at the three DEM/HS Preparedness Workshops in Elko, Carson City, and Clark County. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that this was the greatest participation to date in the entire THIRA process. Mr. Bakkedahl next discussed the Tribal Region IX Workshop held in Reno that included all of the Region IX Conus states, California, Arizona, and Nevada, represented. Mr. Bakkedahl reported that Nevada's tribal liaisons and state liaisons received positive feedback whereas feedback for the other states and FEMA was not as positive. Mr. Bakkedahl further reported that in private breakout by region, Nevada tribes had good listening and participation in informing DEM/HS of what can be done to better support the tribes. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that both the FEMA and Nevada workshops showed that tribes felt the same way regarding the COVID response that local governments felt, noting that tribes could benefit from having the G402 NIMS (National Incident Management System ICS) for elected and appointed officials to help identify where they fit into a policy group type role. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that the Tribal liaisons are still working on the tribal communication boxes,

which are beyond end of life and many of which no longer work. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that the communications team inside of DEM/HS has developed a plan and is working with tribes to implement a more affordable and more user-friendly platform to use off of satellite phones that will continue to be funded through DEM/HS programs. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that there is no plan to reach out to Homeland Security or EMPG for additional funds at this time.

Bill Elliott, DEM/HS, informed the Committee that the tribal liaisons are very diligent in their work with the tribes as well as with the county in which the tribes reside in order to enhance communications between tribe and counties.

### **13. Supporting the Upcoming 2022 and 2023 Elections**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, thanked all members for their work locally. Mr. Bakkedahl discussed election security and integrity, noting that DEM/HS has been planning at a state level with the Secretary of State's Office, how have been routinely briefing DEM/HS staff on the programs federal government partners are working to counter. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that a three-tabletop exercise will be held the following week with the Secretary of State's office, DEM/HS, and some of DEM/HS's immediate private partners and will include: a rural bomb threat tabletop; an urban active assailant threat; a statewide power outage threat.

Jon Bakkedahl next discussed measures that state will take to support local clerks and local emergency management to ensure Election Day runs smoothly. Mr. Bakkedahl informed the Committee that every sheriff in the state is up for election this year and discussed the possible complications that could arise in terms of response should issues arise with the elections. Mr. Bakkedahl noted that five of the sheriffs won their elections during the primary, so there are only the other 12 up for election across the state. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that DEM/HS is planning for ESF partners, and their capabilities and limitations should a statewide or majority state power loss occur for any reason. Mr. Bakkedahl noted that the Secretary of State's money was awarded through the Homeland Security Grant, roughly \$214,000 two years ago in the 2020 application and was intended specifically for this type of work. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that the money has been used to coordinate with local clerks for hardening areas, and for securing areas both with personnel and with cameras. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that more than half of the clerks are new this year due to resignations and retirements following the previous election, noted that this also presents challenges, and encouraged Committee members to talk and work with local clerks to gain an understanding of what support they may need from the Committee. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated that DEM/HS intends to be a presence at the state level, as well, noting that there could be several issues that arise for weeks and months following the election such as protest, recounts, and requests for disqualifications. As such, Mr. Bakkedahl explained that the Secretary of State's Office is hoping that there is some sort of understanding no later than by the time legislature is in session.

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels indicated that as Election Day approaches, Clark County will keep DEM/HS apprised of what it is doing, as well.

### **14. Public Comment**

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels opened the first period of public comment for discussion.

Jon Bakkedahl informed the Committee that Kelly Echeverria, who was experiencing audio issues earlier in the meeting, had asked in regard to the SDICC agenda item whether or not work was being done on progress with

the Red Cross for reunification purposes given that the Red Cross has the ability to get around HIPAA. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that because no action could be taken on this under public comment, DEM/HS would take this question into consideration.

There was no additional public comment.

## **15. Adjournment**

Vice-Chair Billy Samuels called for a motion to adjourn.

All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.