



## Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>DATE</b>	Monday, September 22, 2014	
	<b>TIME</b>	1:30 p.m.	
	<b>LOCATION</b>	Nevada Division of Emergency Management Training Room 2478 Fairview Drive Carson City, NV 89701	
	<b>METHOD</b>	Video-Teleconference	
	<b>RECORDER</b>	Karen Hall	
<b>Commission Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Legislative &amp; Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others</b>	<b>Present</b>
Governor Brian Sandoval	X	Karen Burke	X
Michael Haley	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Laura Bucheit		James Healey – Assemblyman	
Robert Fisher	X	Chris Ipsen	X
Adam Garcia	X	Christopher Smith	X
Dr. Warren Gilbert. M.D.	X	Pat Spearman - Senator	X
Doug Gillespie	X		
Frank Gonzales	X	Karen Hall (Staff)	X
Alfreida Jake		Samantha Ladich (AG Rep)	X
Dr. Ikram Khan	X		
Tom Lozich	X		
William McDonald	X		
Charles Moore	X		
Richard Perkins	X		
Rosemary Vassiliadis			
Troy Wade	X		
Bertral Washington	X		
Bill Welch	X		

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Governor Brian Sandoval, Chairman of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security called meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Karen Hall, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (NDEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governor Sandoval opened discussion for public commentary in both the northern and southern venues. No commentary noted in either venue.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Governor Sandoval called for approval of the meeting minutes from the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) meeting held May 15, 2014. Motion presented by Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants, and a second was provided by Sheriff Douglas Gillespie, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD). All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

### **4. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Governor Sandoval expressed gratitude for the immense response shown by numerous responders including local, county, state efforts during the recent northeast Clark County flooding incident. Chief Christopher Smith, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (NDEM/HS) echoed the Governor's gratitude extending additional gratitude for the efforts displayed during this incident to Chief Bertral Washington, Clark County Fire Department including the staff which assisted the State throughout the process. Chief Washington also acknowledged the coordination efforts by Chief John Steinbeck, Irene Navis, and those that participated in coordinating help at the State level as well.

### **5. UPDATE ON THE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE (CIC)**

CIC Chair, Chief Bertral Washington briefed the Commission on the recent activities of the CIC Committee, indicating that this Committee is engaged in both public and private sector infrastructure issues. The Chair also updated the Commission on recent activities of the State, Local, Tribal, Territorial, Government Coordinating Council (SLTTGCC) noting representation efforts of Irene Navis, Clark County Fire. Ms. Navis indicated that the SLTTGCC is recruiting new membership, and they may be looking for at least one member including tribal and territorial members for representation as Region 9 is underrepresented. Ms. Navis also spoke to recent efforts with regard to regional resiliency, and the efforts of Mr. Gonzalo Cordova, Department of Homeland Security in relation to the waste water treatment exercise project which was unanimously endorsed by the CIC for application submittal. Both Mr. Cordova, and Rachel Skidmore, LVMPD provided an update on the ACAMS. Chair Washington spoke to the possible transfer of cyber security initiatives from the CIC to the proposed Cyber Security Committee. Chris Ipsen, Nevada Department of Administration, briefed the CIC briefly again on this initiative, and indicated that with the CIC's full support, that the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security will consider this stand-alone Committee. Governor Sandoval thanked Chief Washington for his work.

### **6. UPDATE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CYBER SECURITY COMMITTEE UNDER THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON HOMELAND SECURITY**

Chris Ipsen, Nevada Department of Administration spoke to the Commission regarding the increasing challenges in both volume and complexity of threats in the cyber security world. Stressing the need for a well-coordinated response to these threats, Mr. Ipsen spoke to the coordination efforts between the CIC and the proposed Cyber Security Committee in addition to recommendations for individuals to populate the new body, of which the final appointments would like with the Governor. Lengthy discussions will need to be had with key stakeholders, with a unique opportunity right now to address situational understanding of how this initiative relates to the state, its strategic plan, informed incident response teams to address cyber threats, appropriate education and understanding and leverage effectiveness on this committee on behalf of cyber security for those items that cannot be discussed in a public meeting.

Governor Sandoval inquired as to what the discussion points were with CIC, with Mr. Ipsen indicating that the discussion revolved around what cyber security does that the CIC may not be addressing. Although CIC addresses critical infrastructure, cyber security affects more than that as all lines of business and private enterprise are affected.

Governor Sandoval inquired on what the proposed makeup of the Cyber Security Committee would be, with Mr. Ipsen indicating that the committee would have representation from the CIC Committee, the Nevada National Guard, state, county, and city government, Public Safety, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Homeland Security, the private sector, higher education, the Nevada Hospital Association, and the broadcasting community.

Sheriff Gillespie inquired if any current CIC members, aside from Mr. Ipsen, have cyber security expertise. The Sheriff is in support of a committee to deal with cyber security specifically as it's in the forefront of threats not just from what we hear in the news, but the ability for people to data mine. The Sheriff suggested that prior to creating a large committee, leading experts across the state from both private and public sectors are brought together to discuss recommendations for participation on the new Committee.

Chief Washington indicated that one thing that came out of the CIC meeting is that cyber security needed to stand alone or be a priority because it's a vulnerable point in the sectors. Focus has been on federal partnerships and closed meeting debriefings. All of the sectors are important, but cyber security is the most vulnerable. The new Committee doesn't need dozens of people but it does need a good representation from law enforcement, technical, state, local, federal and private agencies.

Chief Adam Garcia, University of Nevada appreciated the comments so far, and wants to ensure that higher education is a part of this new Committee as educators play a vital role in cyber security.

Senator Pat Spearman spoke to her concerns over high tech companies coming into Nevada, and the impact to Nevada infrastructure. The Senator asked what, if anything, the Commission was currently doing to protect the public from terrorism activities targeting Nevada. Mr. Ipsen indicated that he has considered cyber security on several levels including how to protect businesses moving into the state. The provision of more security, may increase the likelihood that businesses would want to come to Nevada. Providing better infrastructure is beneficial. Mr. Ipsen also spoke to the Brookings Institute Report. Cyber Security is emerging as an industry employer. It's important to proliferate the job market with security professionals.

Richard Perkins indicated agreement with discussions so far, but questions the investigative agencies and consulting services which may be involved in line with what is the mission of the Cyber Security Committee will become. Mr. Ipsen indicated that one of the key components is to provide situational understanding as to what our risk is relative to our governmental entities. There are national movements on how to monitor common types of threats against infrastructure. A goal would be to coordinate efforts to provide situational understanding. Secondly, to send a report to Commission to build a strategic plan to ensure the Commission is doing all they can to prevent cyber-crime. 80% of risk can be alleviated by standardizing methodologies. Third, there are a number of grants coming up as well as many ad-hoc committees with no authority or structured authority other than all the professionals coming together. There needs to be more form and authority, and this Commission could be that entity to empower this to make recommendations on how to apply limited funding and things.. It's important that not just one person sees the threat and a group engage in possible response action. Mr. Ipsen stressed the need to be well

coordinated and have the ability to act. Mr. Perkins spoke to fusion centers current capabilities in coordination and as long as it's not redundant to investigative activities already handled, he would be in favor.

Mr. Ipsen spoke to the inbound connections to Nevada on a daily basis. Nevada receives a million shuns per hour in both the north and south which adds up to 48 million shuns per day. It is an avalanche of information. The state needs a well-coordinated system to respond effectively. With authority, partnerships with initiatives to have the best solution moving forward will be the best solution.

Gonzalo Cordova stressed the importance of understanding the relationship between business enterprises, information technology, and industrial control systems. Utilities rely on these systems. The membership of this new committee needs to ensure these sectors are represented. There are experts available in the lifeline utilities sectors. Mr. Cordova also spoke to regulation knowledge and decision making. Many state and local agencies utilize industrial control systems. The conversation led to discussion about DHS approval for a Clark County project for regional resiliency assessment looking at some of these systems which will include a cyber-component.

Dr. Khan agreed that cyber security is significant, suggesting that the scope of this new committee be narrowed to the essential elements necessary. That decision cannot be made today.

Governor Sandoval spoke to the challenge of cyber security being a challenge that affects everyone. It is important to limit the composition of the new Cyber Security Committee in terms of how sectors will be covered. As the next Commission meeting will be in December 2014, the Governor suggested that the Commission authorize the creation of the new Committee with the additional request that Mr. Ipsen and Chief Washington come back to the Commission with a detailed composition of the new committee and a mission statement. This information would then be reviewed by the Commission for input to ensure this is done correctly.

Dr. Khan motioned that the Commission hereby authorizes the creation of the Cyber Security Committee with the caveat that Mr. Ipsen and Chief Washington bring before the Commission the proposed composition and mission statement for this new body at the next Commission meeting scheduled in December 2014. Sheriff Gillespie seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition.

## **7. UPDATE ON THE NEVADA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (NPSCC)**

Director James Wright, Nevada Department of Public Safety briefed the Commission on the current activities of the NPSCC, membership, and responsibilities of this newly created Executive Order committee. Co-Chair, Director Michael Barnbeck, LVMPD, indicating his desire to ensure the right membership be created for this new body to ensure open dialogue and foster common goals. Director Wright indicated that the first drafts of the Committee's bylaws have been completed, noting the next meeting will occur on October 21, 2014 to discuss the needs and benefits of a Statewide 9-1-1 Coordinator and the Nevada Department of Transportation's need for a statewide radio upgrade. The Director also expressed the need to leverage assets to make interoperability meaningful, in addition to indicating that the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator has performed 14 outreach sessions throughout the state, reaching out to 410 individuals briefing on SLIGP initiatives and the broadband process. The Director indicated that the grant funding for this outreach ends in 2016. A Request for Proposal Committee has been appointed to assist NDEM staff

to get an outreach specialist to work with the SWIC in performance with the SLIGP grant to be released at the end of this month.

Bob Fisher spoke to the handout he provided regarding the first responders program for broadcast engineers, and those ultimately involved in television and radio.

## **8. REVIEW AND UPDATE ON THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2011, 2012, 2013 AND 2014 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) ALLOCATIONS**

Richard Martin, NDEM briefed the Commission on the current status of the HSGP from FY 2011 through FY2014. Emphasis was placed on the inability to spend down the FY2011 grant award, showing that \$92,000.00 had to be returned. In FFY2012, the amount returned was dramatically shortened to \$20,000.00. In FY2013, grant funding is in the process of being spent, and the performance period will end next year in 2015. For FY2014, Nevada has received \$3,733,000.00, and the UASI has been reinstated at \$1,000,000.00. Mr. Martin praised the grant team for pushing out the grant awards 35 days ahead of schedule this year.

Governor Sandoval inquired with regard to FY2014 monies if all grant funding had been spoken for, with Rick Martin indicating that this was the case.

Sheriff Gillespie spoke to the \$92,000 left unspent in FY2011 noting his experience that as project costs are projected in advance of grant award, often funding doesn't match what is needed. There are limitations on what surplus funding can be spent on throughout the process. Rick Martin agreed with the Sheriff stating there were projects that were not complete, and projects that were changed. Sheriff Gillespie voiced concern over media coverage that there would be the perception of inappropriate spending not understanding how much work goes into preparing budgets so they do not exceed awarded amounts.. Kelli Anderson confirmed that as the Finance Committee met, 100% funds were pushed out to projects. As projects close, sometimes vendors give a better price, and federal restrictions often come up that are out of the purview of the grant section. It tends to happen that we have more funds as a result of the closeout process. In 2011, the grant funding close out process happened quickly. It is important to consider how much money was received versus the closeout process. Governor Sandoval indicated that what was left unspent represented less than 1% of the funding granted, so the process was not being administered poorly.

## **9. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) PROJECT REPORT**

Mary Ann Laffoon, NE NV CERT Coordinator for Elko – refer to presentation material. Thanked for all the support from the State team, Sheriff Morris, and the other CERTS for their guidance.

Governor Sandoval expressed appreciation for this presentation and how meaningful this important program is for rural Nevada. Senator Spearman inquired if outreach was possible to faith-based organizations, with Ms. Laffoon indicating that training has been done in some of the faith-based community, however she would be happy to reach out to any organization requesting her training, funding permitting. Chief Smith expressed how the work of Ms. Laffoon's CERT efforts, as combined with other CERTs throughout Nevada, sets the groundwork for what true first responders represent. Often it is the neighbor, or a friend that first responds to emergencies. This effort is valuable throughout Nevada, and it is no coincidence that this is highlighted this month during the Emergency Preparedness month proclaimed by the Governor. Chief Smith thanked the Governor for this proclamation.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Governor Sandoval opened discussion for public commentary. Sheriff Gillespie spoke in support of the 1033 Program which allows law enforcement to gain access to surplus military equipment. Without this program, LVMPD would not have some of the equipment it currently has today to protect the citizenry of Las Vegas and its surrounding areas. The Sheriff stressed the importance of this program as Las Vegas is looked upon as a named city in terrorist networks. Sheriff Gillespie is concerned about the current federal grant guidance and the restrictions to obtain necessary funding due to the standards put in place which often rank the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) consistently lower than the cutoff established for funding. Robert Fisher inquired if this was to be Sheriff Gillespie's last meeting, with the Governor indicating it would not be at this point. Sheriff Haley added the northern part of the state also benefits from the 1033 Program in that there are helicopters which provide Washoe County and surrounding areas with services related to law enforcement as well as a firefighting component. It's important that the public knows this is a good program. Sheriff Haley also spoke to revenue derived from city and county services, and when thinking about the new Cyber Security Committee formation, to please include those information technology people that have access to boards and councils which can add revenue to the cause.

## **11. ADJOURN**

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion presented by Dr. Khan with a seconded provided by Chief Washington. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.