



Meeting Minutes Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	DATE	Friday, December 12, 2014	
	TIME	9:30 a.m.	
	LOCATION	Nevada Highway Patrol – Southern Command Training Room A-105 4615 W. Sunset Road Las Vegas, Nevada 89118	
	METHOD	Video-Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Selby Marks	
Commission Members	Present	Legislative & Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others	Present
Governor Brian Sandoval	X	Karen Burke	X
Michael Haley	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Laura Bucheit	X	James Healey – Assemblyman	
Robert Fisher	X	Chris Ipsen	X
Adam Garcia	X	Christopher Smith	X
Dr. Warren Gilbert. M.D.	X	Pat Spearman - Senator	
Doug Gillespie	X		
Frank Gonzales		Selby Marks (Staff)	X
Alfreida Jake		Samantha Ladich (AG Rep)	X
Dr. Ikram Khan	X		
Tom Lozich			
William McDonald	X		
Charles Moore	X		
Richard Perkins	X		
Rosemary Vassiliadis	X		
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 Selby Marks, 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. Vice Chair Sheriff Michael Haley, Washoe County Sheriff's Office introduced Sheriff Elect Chuck Allen, Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Governor Sandoval called for approval of the meeting minutes from the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) meeting held September 22, 2014. Motion presented by Robert Fisher, Nevada Broadcasters Association with a second provided by Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

4. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Governor Sandoval welcomed and congratulated Sheriff Elect Allen and Sheriff Elect Joseph Lombardo, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department indicating that the Governor is looking forward to working with both of the Sheriffs in 2015. The Governor also shared his appreciation for the work done by the departing members of the Commission including Sheriff Michael Haley, Sheriff Doug Gillespie, LVMPD, and Chief Bertral Washington, Clark County Fire Department especially noting vision and leadership qualities throughout their terms on the Commission. Sheriff Gillespie, Sheriff Haley, and Chief Washington all thanked the Governor for his leadership and direction over the course of his Chairmanship of the Commission. Governor Sandoval also acknowledged Selby Marks on completing his doctoral program Ph.D. in political science, and on his dissertation focusing on Fusion Center collaboration. Governor Sandoval also apologized to the member body for not being present in Southern Nevada noting that due to severe weather, he remained in the North for this meeting.

5. UPDATE ON THE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE (CIC)

CIC Chair, Chief Bertral Washington, briefed the Commission on the recent activities of the Critical Infrastructure Committee (CIC) including the addition of both Jeff Maples, Southwest Gas Corporation, and Bruce Barnes, NV Energy as committee members. In addition, he briefed the Commission on an upcoming webinar on December 18, 2015 addressing the resilience implementation process. Chief Washington also presented information on future nominations to the SLTTGCC, as well as the recent nominations of a new Chair and Vice Chair for the CIC. Rachel Skidmore, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department will be the new Chair, with Dan Dundon, Nevada Threat Analysis Center as the new Vice-chair.

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

Chief Smith, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Chris Ipsen, Nevada Department of Administration briefed the Commission on the revised scope of the newly established Cyber Security Committee identifying the minimal sectors which will participate as members on the new Committee. The objectives were limited to 5 key points, with membership delineated to 10 voting members and 2 ex-officio members. The objective discussion covered the areas of:

- Cyber risk and cyber posture;
 - Statewide cyber security plan;
 - Enhancing and supporting security awareness;
 - Enhancing communication around the risk while actively engaging fusion centers with the goal of leveraging the existing communication structure.
- FBI and HS will be ex officio members

Membership suggestions included:

- CIC Chair
- Representation from the State of Nevada
- Representation from both a north and south county
- Representation from two key cities
- Representation from the University System
- Representation from the Nevada National Guard
- Representation from the power utility
- Representation from the water utility

There was also discussion on the possibility of including gaming as a member to the Committee body.

Governor Sandoval spoke to recent economic developments, indicating that private organizations such as Ghost Systems, Incorporated may be a good source of information to the new Cyber Security Committee. Mr. Ipsen indicated there are a number of challenges which private industry can address, noting that there are a number of great companies the state can work with so that outcomes are reflective of the state's needs.

The Commission discussed at length the Committee makeup, particularly with participation from the private sector. Sheriff Haley inquired about the efforts being applied in education outreach, with Mr. Ipsen indicating the University system can engage the private sector and work with businesses offering real opportunity to embrace and build out awareness. Dr. Khan presented concern on having additional information about private companies, such as Ghost Systems, Inc. on how they are set up, what they offer, and what their accomplishments have been. Sheriff Haley spoke to the volume of cyber-related attacks that come from vendors allowed into government systems, and stressed the importance of vetting those vendors appropriately. Bill Welch, Nevada Hospital Association indicated that having private sector input on the Committee is a great idea, but as the Commission looks for risk and potential solutions, having such a member as a voting member may compromise that private-sector member from being part of any solutions needed. Mr. Welch offered it may be more beneficial to have private sector participation on an ex-officio basis. Mr. Welch also asked for clarification on which counties would be included on the Committee, with Mr. Ipsen indicating both Clark and Washoe counties, particularly because they have staff specifically dedicated to cyber security initiatives. Mr. Welch also indicated his wish to have rural representation on the Committee.

Bob Fisher, Nevada Broadcasters Association spoke to Public Awareness as being the third priority chosen by the Commission, offering should there be anything the Committee wanted to communicate through statewide television or radio, there may be that avenue available.

Mr. Ipsen spoke to the fact that negotiations are ongoing with the Nevada National Guard regarding security feeds going into the county, noting that the Guard can be used at this key point. Incident response plans should address how once a hacking even occurs, how it is kept from spreading to other places.

7. OVERVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) REGIONAL RESILIENCY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (RRAP)

Gonzalo Cordova, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) briefed the Commission on the Regional RRAP, speaking to the project chosen for Clark County Water Reclamation District as highly rated as one of the 15 projects across the nation presentation. Mr. Cordova discussed the timeline of this project speaking to a February kickoff event which all partners will be conducting assessments focusing on physical and cyber, products, vulnerabilities and strategies to mitigate vulnerabilities., Those products will be provided to partners and the state. One of the biggest projects will be a capstone exercise looking a vulnerabilities with a cyber component. Strategies for mitigation measures will be protected, and a lot of these strategies and be addressed HSGP can be used to address this if the need exists.

The Governor inquired when the key findings will be submitted. Mr. Cordova indicated it will be submitted to the HAS and primary partners by the end of 2015 or early 2016.

Chief Smith inquired if there a way to engage waste water specialists across the state to make this a whole-state event. Mr. Cordova indicated that all partners are welcome to attend the kickoff meetings. When it comes down to specific assessments, in terms of general vulnerabilities or issues, those will be made available to all industries around the state.

Chief Charles Moore, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District spoke to what could happen in the event other sectors went down which also affected reclamation efforts like power, etc. It is possible to lose many sectors at once.

Dr. Khan inquired on the status of the findings of this report taking up to a year, with Mr. Cordova indicating that though it seems like a long time, though during the process of analysis, information is being shared with stakeholders and it's a feedback process. It doesn't mean that the information is kept without being shared. It will be shared as the process develops.

Richard Perkins inquired how these projects are chosen initially. Mr. Cordova indicated that the decision was to look at a lifeline utility, of which water is such a utility.

Sheriff Haley spoke to the recent wind event which shut down the Washoe County complex as well as the Judicial complex. At the same time this occurred, there was a suspicious package which illustrates what can and will happen that affects numerous areas at once. It is a difficult process to get arms around when infrastructure is affected.

Bob Fisher spoke to the need to receive a briefing on how to protect the public during large scale outdoor events in Las Vegas.

Sheriff Gillespie spoke to resiliency assessments, and the advantage of DHS doing an assessment allowing individual feedback on where Nevada is at with its current infrastructure. Another advantage is that agencies outside of government learn from the assessment. What will come of this assessment is that many people will see best practices are in place but there is still room for improvement. The process does take a while, Clark County is as prepared as any other community is prepared in response and mitigation. Because time and effort has been put in on the traditional homeland security side, it has prepared for the disasters as well.

Karen Burke, DHS spoke to the fact that although this particular assessment was not broad in nature, it is a good first step that may be helpful for emergency response. Hopefully DHS

will provide money for us to analyze important factors. That, over the long term, will make us successful.

Governor Sandoval thanked Mr. Cordova conveying his gratitude to the DHS Secretary for this study. As the Chair of the Western Governors Association, the Governor spoke to the current drought crisis in Nevada, of which he has chosen to be a top priority. The Governor expressed interest in working with Mr. Cordova and others for input regarding the report which Mr. Cordova's office will be presenting on water studies. Mr. Cordova indicated there are also water studies available through California and Arizona. Mr. Cordova thanked Irene Navis for her efforts on the SLTTGCC.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Director Jim Wright, Nevada Department of Public Safety spoke to the strides that have been made in communications translation in addition to the ability of differing frequencies now being able to speak to one another in the first responder community as a result of equipment projects now in operation. The Director, on behalf of DPS, thanked the outgoing members of the Commission appreciating having worked with each of these outstanding individuals.

Kevin Schaller, Emergency Management Coordinator for the University of Nevada, Reno invited the Commission to attend a full scale exercise on March 19, 2015 from 9:00am to noon. The exercise will deal with active assailants. The Governor indicated interest in attending inquiring if sister agencies have been invited as well, and they have from both the north and the south.

Governor thanked the Commission and support staff for a great year speaking to the impact the Commission has on the state of Nevada. The Governor also thanked the departing membership and wished the Commission, support staff, and the public attendees happy holidays and to remain safe during the holiday season.

9. ADJOURN

Governor Sandoval called for a motion to adjourn. Motion presented by Sheriff Haley, and a second presented by Sheriff Gillespie. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.