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**Meeting Minutes**

**Nevada State Citizen Corps Council Quarterly Meeting**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attendance** | **DATE** | Thursday, October 16, 2014 | |
| **TIME** | 2:00 P.M. | |
| **LOCATION** | Legislative Counsel Bureau  401 S. Carson Street, Room 3137  Carson City, NV 89701  Grant Sawyer Building  555 E. Washington Ave, Room 4412E  Las Vegas, NV 89101 | |
| **METHOD** | Video-Teleconference | |
| **RECORDER** | Janell Woodward | |
| **Council Members** | **Present** | **Ex-Officio Members, Staff and Others** | **Present** |
| Adam Garcia | X | Valerie Sumner (Staff) |  |
| Alexandra Crocket |  | Janell Woodward (Staff) | X |
| Carolyn Levering | X | Colleen Platt (AG) |  |
| Chris Cappas |  | Bud Marshall |  |
| Christine Springer |  | Kendall Herzer |  |
| Dave Hunkup | X |  |  |
| Fernandez Leary |  |  |  |
| Gerald Antinoro | X |  |  |
| Irene Navis | X |  |  |
| Joan Jeffers |  |  |  |
| Kelsey Piechocki |  |  |  |
| Mary Ann Laffoon | X |  |  |
| Patrick Macan | X |  |  |
| Paula Martel | X |  |  |
| Rick Diebold |  |  |  |
| Rick Martin | X |  |  |
| Russ Peacock | X |  |  |
| Shirlee Rhodes | X |  |  |
| Stacey Belt | X |  |  |
| Tim Soule | X |  |  |

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Rick Martin, Chairman of the Nevada State Citizen Corps Council, called meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Janell Woodward, Nevada Division of Emergency Management (NDEM). Quorum was established for the meeting.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rick Martin opened discussion for public commentary in both the northern and southern venues. Adam Garcia stated it was difficult to hear and requested we check on volume which was done.

Randi Hunewill from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) gave a short overview of their inclusion of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training in their health science and public safety programs. They have taken the CERT curriculum and are utilizing it for their nursing, medical assistant, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and dental assistant programs; the Federal IS-317 course is also being integrated into their programs. They have added the CERT certificate to their state certification for the NDE. Randi would like to speak more about this as an agenda item in the future as they are excited that this is actually in the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS). They sponsor a student organization within the Health Science and Public Safety programs with over 6,000 students within the program and giving them the opportunity to become a part of Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) in both northern and southern Nevada. They also hold CERT contests utilizing the CERT training materials which Randi passed around for Citizen Corps members to view.

MaryAnn Laffoon indicated she recently met with Western Nevada Community College regarding CERT training and also works with the West Wendover High School cadet program teaching the CERT curriculum. She gave her support to the work Randi and the NDE are doing.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Rick Martin asked for any changes to or comments regarding the minutes from the July 17, 2014 meeting. A correction to spelling of a name was made. On page 4, from the Red Cross, Sean Ward gave the correct spelling of his first and last name. Carolyn Levering moved to accept the minutes with the name correction. MaryAnn Laffoon seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

1. **REPORT FROM REGION IX FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Bill Kuhn from Region IX introduced himself to the group as the new community preparedness officer for Region IX. He reminded everyone of the Great Shakeout and thanked everyone for participating in America’s Preparathon. They are currently looking to the next America’s Preparathon which will be April 30, 2015. He spoke about Youth Preparedness and recognized Maryann Laffoon from the Northeast Nevada CERT for her support and work with Youth Preparedness. Bill stated that he has spoken with Valerie Sumner regarding those who need CERT certificates and if those are needed, they should contact him.

1. **REPORT IN FLASH FLOODING AND THE RECOVERY PROCESS**

Rick Martin indicated there have been several flash floods in Nevada over the past several months all the way from Elko County to Clark County to Douglas County. The state has a team of about 40 members comprised of people from various backgrounds who function as damage assessment teams throughout the state as requested. These teams go to disaster locations and attempt to determine the cost for an area to return to pre-disaster conditions. The Moapa Band of Paiutes and Clark County damages from the July 8th event totaled approximately 7.3 million dollars. Nevada will move forward with a Federal declaration for this flooding disaster in Moapa Valley. The State will also request help from the Small Business Administration as many homes were affected in Clark County. Nevada has also requested assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers for Douglas County to carry out some studies to see what can be done to help in that area. The Army Corps of Engineers was also asked to help in the Mt. Charleston area. Of note, Northern Nevada is typically at risk during December and New Year’s for potential flooding events and this will be monitored.

Rick stated that the State looks to Citizen Corps groups to help with soft match during disaster events to help offset some of the Federal costs as declarations are made. Typically it is 75% Federal and 25% local jurisdiction cost and the soft match from Citizen Corps groups help to offset that 25% cost. This is done by attaching a monetary value to the hours worked by CERT groups during disaster events.

Irene Navis stated Clark County also utilized the Medical Reserve Corps during the flooding event. Clark County also did some volunteer coordination through United Way. One of the biggest groups to help was the Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Church who Clark County relied on heavily for help with cleanup. Southern Nevada Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) also assisted.

1. **REPORT ON CITIZEN CORPS/VOLUNTEER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Mary Ann Laffoon, Northeastern Nevada CERT, indicated flooding in Northeast Nevada was not as bad as other areas of the state and therefore their Citizen Corps group was not activated. Northeastern Nevada’s Citizen Corps group has been active in many fairs during this past quarter. Mary Ann stated she was happy to be asked to work with the tribal nations in the Elko area. They participated in a multi-agency Earthquake tabletop exercise and the live earthquake exercise will be this spring of 2015; it will be registered as an America's Preparathon Event.  We are to participate in the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) training being held in November 2014 at Great Basin College in Elko. Their Preparathon event this year was a senior’s picnic day/outreach event. They talked about making a preparedness event with teaching the elderly how to use fire extinguishers and making sure they have a go-kit. Mary Ann had the opportunity to speak before Governor Sandoval at the last Homeland Security Commission quarterly meeting regarding CERT in the rural areas. Mary Ann wanted everyone to know that she was grateful for the help and work of all of the Citizen Corps Council members. Mary Ann let the Homeland Security Commission members know that she is only part of a dedicated team of volunteers throughout the state. Mary Ann became a part of the National Youth Strategy in September. Another note of interest is that Mary Ann is in the process of putting the CERT program into the second-year nursing curriculum as part of their nursing training. Mary Ann also stated she is attempting to spread out into the faith-based community as much as possible with regard to CERT with an event at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church this coming Monday evening. She additionally stopped at a church on her trip over to Carson City.

Mary Ann added that the Ely-White Pine County area was involved in their tribal health fair and White Pine County became a StormReady Community and received certification from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Russ Peacock stated that the Ely Band Tribe will be getting its own StormReady certification as well.

Sheriff Antinoro stated Virginia City received their official recognition as a CERT group. They have been working with Washoe County for training. They participated in National Night Out and Street Vibrations. Virginia City CERT also sent at least one volunteer to assist at the Reno Air Races. Sheriff Antinoro stated that his people are anxious to participate where they can so if any of the surrounding areas need any help, please contact them.

Tim Soule, Douglas County CERT, stated they were not deployed during the summer flooding event in Douglas County. They recently completed a joint training with Carson City. They have also attended health fairs, Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), and will be participating in the flu shot point of distribution (POD) coming up.

Stacey Belt, Carson City CERT, stated Clear Creek, Carson City and Douglas County had a fire event that required evacuation. The Carson City CERT team set up a shelter for about 24 hours for those displaced citizens. Carson City is collaborating a lot with Douglas County and a CERT academy was hosted in September. They will participate on October 22nd in a national CERT webinar. For the Western Nevada Medical Reserve Corps, the medical volunteers have been working with Carson City Human Services going into schools in Carson City giving flu vaccination clinics. They have also worked with Douglas County and are gearing up for their annual POD exercise on October 24th in Carson City and in Douglas County on November 8th.

Shirlee Rhodes, Washoe County Citizen Corps, stated their volunteers during July and August put in more than 1,400 hours each month respectively. They have had several training and small events including POD training with the health district training about 30 volunteers to prepare to conduct a POD for the sheriff’s office should that become necessary. They also had a large drill for a mega POD event should they be requested to help in a large scale event. They are really working on interagency relationships sending people to Virginia City to help with their wild horse fair. They have trained about 10 volunteers from Virginia City. They are in the midst of their final CERT training for this calendar year and expect to graduate about 12. While the Reno area has not had any recent flooding events, their volunteers are trained to man sandbag distribution and also trained to set up or assist with shelters. Shirlee also stated they are happy to discuss damage assessment training with Rick.

Dave Hunkup, Tribal Nations representative, stated Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission (ITERC) has been very active providing training throughout the state all year long. Dan Thayer provided POD training at the Yomba Reservation last week. Additionally, the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe brought their POD trailer out to Yomba and participated. Up and coming CERT training includes a CERT academy at the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe November 8th-9th. ITERC has a tribal communications drill on November 25th involving all of the tribes; (This involves many of the CERT members as well) this is done twice a year. The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony had an official signing last week for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Red Cross. This means that Red Cross can provide disaster relief services for the tribe as needed, and the tribe can provide meeting space for training, shelter space and such as needed by the Red Cross.

Patrick Macan, Red Cross, echoed Dave Hunkup’s comments regarding the MOU with the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony. Red Cross responded to a multifamily apartment fire on Saturday helping 8 families for a total of 20 people with housing, food and clothing. The Red Cross is in the midst of its fire preparedness campaign. They signed up 100 homes for smoke alarm installation this Saturday. Patrick stated that most homes need between two and three smoke alarms to be installed. This is a 5-year campaign and a national effort. The goal is actually to reduce home fire deaths by 25% within five years. The Red Cross is going through some reorganization and at this point it looks like Northern and Southern Nevada will be joining forces into one Nevada Red Cross with a Chapter in Reno and in Las Vegas. This should not impact their ability to provide services. This is in process and he should have more information on changes by the January meeting.

Carolyn Levering, Las Vegas CERT, stated they participated in National Night Out. For America’s Preparathon, they helped Las Vegas Metro Police in their “First Tuesday” events. On the first Tuesday of the month, all Metro Police stations open up to the public and have a set routine of agenda items for their neighborhood. Bud Marshall and Kendall Herzer worked hard with the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) and the Las Vegas CERT was able to tailgate at the first home game and show off a lot of their command vehicles and assets as well as recruiting about 200 volunteers. They were able to unfurl a field-sized American flag for the event which was very exciting. The City of Las Vegas hosted their first emergency kit cook-off for America’s Preparathon. They had a lot of fun challenging the City of North Las Vegas and the City of Henderson to a cook-off with VIP judges. The City of Henderson won the event and will host it next time. The award was a golden backpack. Everyone had a lot of fun with this event.

They held their first emergency management twitter chat; the handle for the City of Las Vegas Emergency Management is @CLVAlerts. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Chief Smith from NDEM participated in the chat; as well as others organizations and individuals. They fielded a lot of questions from the community.

They helped Red Cross supplement their volunteers with response to the flooding events. About 4-5 people will be sent to Emmitsburg for Citizen Corps Train-the-Trainer courses and hope to have more qualified instructors soon. They are recruiting volunteers to help with the sesquicentennial parade, first ever Nevada Day parade held in Las Vegas. Carolyn has three high school interns working in her office for the next two years, students from Veteran’s Tribute Career and Technical Academy.

Irene Navis, Clark County Office of Emergency Management, stated they decided to have events instead of just practicing. She thanked the Red Cross and Medical Reserve Corps for all of their help with these events. There were many transportation challenges with I-15 collapsing so they did hold back volunteers until transportation cleared up. They reached about 700 people through a variety of events. Clark County also worked with the Las Vegas Metro Police Department on their First Tuesday events. They did Clark County Fire Department open houses as well. Clark County participated in the Las Vegas cook-off and took second place. They also worked with UNLV with the National Emergency Managers Association student group for an event as well as Mesquite Night Out. Clark County has been working on employee training with sessions about emergency preparedness. More will be held this month as well. This month of October they are focusing on earthquake awareness as well as cyber security awareness.

With the standing water from the flooding, testing was done which was positive for West Nile Virus and education was provided regarding the West Nile Virus.

Paula Martel, Medical Reserve Corps, stated they assisted with the flooding event by exercising their MOU with the Red Cross, assisting with the Red Cross shelter. Mental health volunteers were also utilized for this event.

Additionally, Paula stated they participated in the Great Shakeout and staff had people take pictures of them in the “duck, cover and hold” position. The Medical Reserve Corps is helping with flu vaccines with health district employees. Their next meeting is November 13th and will focus on discussion and education about Ebola as well as a veterinarian talking about Ebola and pets. They have been asked to possibly staff a call center regarding Ebola if needed. Psychological first aid training is scheduled for this month.

Sean Ward, Red Cross in Southern Nevada, stated they responded to the Moapa flooding event and opened a shelter. He thanked both CERT and Medical Reserve Corps who helped. Red Cross has been working with the home fire preparedness campaign and placed or changed batteries in 135 smoke alarms. They did a metro event at the various command posts to talk about home preparedness and needed items to be prepared.

1. **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENT ON HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) GRANT FUNDING FOR CITIZEN CORPS PROJECTS**

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)11 and FFY12 are closed. We do not yet know what has cleared the system for FFY13 and FFY14 and the information distributed to the committee is what was current at that time the report was created. Rick encouraged everyone to pay close attention to their balances.

Rick also reminded everyone that we are in a 2-year cycle now and not the 3-year cycle as we previously have been. FFY14 was just submitted and all awards have gone out.

Irene Navis stated they have a couple of amounts that will likely be deobligating including funding for the Elko Band and the Clark County Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) award for FFY2011. Sonja Williams indicated that FFY11 and FFY12 are closed and the amounts have indeed been deobligated

Shirlee Rhodes indicated that due to change in staff in the Washoe County CERT, they are aware that a considerable amount of their funds have not been spent, but, they are now ready to move that along being fully aware of the deadlines.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rick Martin opened discussion for public comment. No public comment was noted in either venue. Rick indicated his appreciation for NDEM staff and their work for this committee.

1. **ADJOURN**

Carolyn Levering moved to adjourn the meeting and Stacey Belt seconded; the meeting was adjourned.