



Meeting Minutes Emergency Preparedness Working Group

Attendance Record	DATE	Tuesday, June 3, 2025	
	TIME	2:00 p.m.	
	METHOD	Zoom Teleconference Conference line #: (669) 219-2599 Meeting ID# 202 331 8963	
	RECORDER	Sherrean Whipple	
Committee Members	Present	Non-Voting Membership	Present
Lee Cabaniss—Elko County	X	Jared Franco, Chair—NV Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS)	X
Eric Holt—Lincoln County		Tiffany Gamero-Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Nevada Field Office	X
Scott Lewis—Nye County			
Paul Melendrez—Esmeralda County	X		
Mathia Rieske—White Pine County	X	Legal Staff	Present
Brian O’Neal—Clark County	X	Samantha Ladich—Senior Deputy Attorney General	

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair, Jared Franco, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS) called the meeting to order. Sherrean Whipple, DEM/HS performed roll call, and quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Jared Franco opened the first period of public comment.
There was no public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lee Cabaniss, Elko County Emergency Manager moved for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the March 4, 2025, Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) Meeting. Paul Melendrez, Esmeralda County Emergency Manager, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. UPDATES FROM DEM/HS

Chair Jared Franco, DEM/HS, updated the committee on current funding balances for each county. Chair Franco informed the group that the balances can be sent to members upon request following the meeting and added that currently there are still relatively large balances for each county: Clark, \$550,000; Elko, \$475,000; Esmeralda, \$413,000; Lincoln, \$519,000; Nye, \$426,000; White Pine, \$566,000; and DEM, \$293,126. Chair Franco indicated that this is the official one-year mark until the grant closes and added that any money left over will be reverted back to DOE and DEM/HS will not be trying to

balance forward.

Tiffany Gamero, DOE/NNSA, indicated that she does not have any updates regarding EPWG funding. Ms. Gamero indicated that the five-year grant period is coming to the end and that DOE will do its best to extend that and further noted that if further information becomes available, the working group will be updated.

Paul Melendrez, Esmeralda County asked what format DEM would like for counties to use moving forward.

Chair Jared Franco indicated that DOE is being more strict regarding purchases and encouraged all counties to ensure that purchases are part of the submitted budget. Chair Franco noted that purchases outside of the submitted budget may not be denied, but may be more difficult to get approved than in past years.

Paul Melendrez asked if the project change request needs to be specific to a year given that this fund source spans multiple fiscal years.

Chair Franco noted that it does not.

Chief Brian O'Neal, Clark County, made a comment on submission of a hazmat response vehicle, noting that build time will be 22 to 24 months, well beyond the life of the grant, and asked about extensions to factor in delivery times such as these.

Chair Franco noted that as of now, DEM has not been told that this is an option.

Tiffany Gamero indicated that she would do more research but did note that EPWG funding has never been taken back given the funding from which it comes.

Mathias Rieske, White Pine County, asked what the best way is to utilize the additional surplus funds being received at the end of this period.

Chair Franco indicated that the budget was already built for the balance forward, and the funds have already been dispersed into county accounts. Chair Franco encouraged counties to reach out to Judith Lyman, DEM/HS with questions about the budget.

5. DEM/HS TRAINING CALENDAR FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS

John Fansler, DEM/HS provided updates on upcoming training. Mr. Fansler indicated that there will be both a modular emergency response radiological transportation training (MERRTT) class and a hospital radiation class in Las Vegas in July. Mr. Fansler added that an authorized user training is in the planning stages for August and that dates will be posted once they have been determined.

6. UPDATES FROM DEM/HS RADIATION (RAD) PROGRAM COORDINATOR

John Fansler, DEM/HS provided an update on the new RAD coordinator Jason Danen

DEM/HS. Mr. Fansler reported that Brett Harper has retired and that Jason Danen will be the future coordinator for all calibrations. Mr. Fansler asked the working group to watch for scheduling emails, noting that Mr. Danen is potentially looking to change the schedule from spring to winter when there is less fire danger.

7. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKING GROUP LETTER

Chief Brian O'Neal, Clark County, presented an update on the request in price increase for the classified waste, low-level waste, and mixed low-level waste delivered to, and disposed of at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) from 50 cents per cubic foot to \$1.50. Chief O'Neal explained that he has spoken with Director of Traffic Safety, Andrew Bennett, who is waiting on signatures from NNSS to complete the project.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Jared Franco, DEM/HS, opened the second period of public comment. Seeing none, Public Comment was concluded.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jared Franco, DEM/HS, called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chief Brian O'Neal, Clark County Emergency Manager, motioned to adjourn. Lee Cabaniss, Elko County Emergency Manager, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:21 PM.