



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee

Attendance		DATE	Tuesday, July 29, 2025		
		TIME	10:00 AM		
		METHOD	Zoom		
		RECORDER	Loren Borst		
Appointed Voting Member Attendance					
Member Name	Present	Member Name	Present	Member Name	Present
Brett Compston –Chair	X	Joe Colacurcio	X	Matthew Petersen	X
Brian O’Neal – Vice Chair	X	COL. Kyle Cerfoglio		Ken Quiner	
Andy Ancho	X	Tim Galluzi		Misty Robinson	X
Jayson Andrus		Kelly Echeverria	X	Bill Savran	X
Roy Anderson		Andrea Esp	X	Cary Underwood	X
Solome Barton	X	Jessica Brenner	X	Donielle (DT) Allen	X
Taylor Allison		Timothy Hill	X	Adam Miller	X
Jon Bakkedahl		Eric Holt	X	Diana Clarkson	X
Noah Boyer		Chris Lake	X	Corey Ross	
Lee Cabaniss	X	Carolyn Levering	X	Scott Means	X
James Chrisley		Greg Prestipino	X		
Ana Chavez	X	Tennille Pereira	X		
Appointed Non-Voting Member Attendance					
Sarah Fichtner	X	Melissa Friend	X		
Heather Lafferty	X	Selby Marks	X		
Legal/Administrative Support Attendance					
Representative			Entity		Present
Samantha Ladich – Senior Deputy Attorney General			Office of the Nevada Attorney General		X
Loren Borst – Administrative Assistant			Nevada Office of Emergency Management		X

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Brett Compston, State Administrative Agent (SAA) Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (OEM/HS), called the meeting to order. Loren Borst, OEM/HS performed the roll call. A quorum was established for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Chair Compston opened the first period of public comment.

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chief Compston asked for a motion to adopt the January 21, 2025 meeting minutes. Solome Barton, Emergency Management Specialist of the City of North Las Vegas, moved to adopt the January 21, 2025 meeting minutes. Joe Colacurcio, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. NRAC Membership Changes

Chair Compston, OEM/HS discussed the membership changes within NRAC, which include:

- Tim Galluzi replacing Bob Denhardt as Chief of Information Security
- Jessica Brenner replacing Jeanne Freeman from Carson City Health and Human Services
- Greg Prestipino replacing Desiree Matisse from NTAC
- Diana Clarkson replacing Ryan Turner from the City of Henderson
- Sarah Fichtner replacing Bunny Bishop as the State Floodplain Manager from the Division of Water Resources

5. 83rd Legislature Outcomes

Chair Compston, OEM/HS presented the 83rd Legislature outcomes that affect the emergency management and Homeland Security enterprise, beginning with Assembly Bill 553, the transition of DEM to become OEM, co-located under the Office of the Governor and out of the Office of the Military, which went into effect on July 1. Chair Compston next noted that Senate Bill 38, approval for the office to share school emergency plans as part of preparedness was also approved. The Chair indicated that OEM is working through a formal process on how to release those in a more efficient manner and reported that there is currently an interim process in place. Chair Compston next discussed Senate Bill 39, which was the approval to establish a revolving loan account to coincide with the STORM Act from FEMA so OEM will begin the process of bringing onboard a loan officer to stand up that program, and then applying for the first set of grants in 2026. The Chair added that as of the day prior to this meeting, FEMA did renew the STORM grant. Chair Compston next discussed Assembly Bill 57, which is related to the IMAS (Interstate Mutual Aid System) and recognized that the Division of Forestry is responsible from the state level for wildfire suppression activities. The Chair indicated that the bill also named the state fire warden and forester as co-chair or her designee. Chair Compston indicated that Assembly Bill 325 was an imposition of limitations on the use of AI to make resourcing decisions during emergencies and noted

that it passed but will not have any effect on how OEM currently does business. The Chair next discussed Assembly Bill 442, noting that this bill will require the office to notify nonprofit participants or applicants for grants when they seek reimbursement if they are unable to be reimbursed within a 30-day timeframe. The Chair explained that almost every nonprofit will receive a notification with every requested reimbursement while OEM awaits those reimbursements from FEMA.

6. Grant Status Report

Shea Slone, OEM/HS, informed the Committee that the latest grant status report, which provides the grant program, grant year, total amounts awarded, total amounts disbursed, and balances for each of the state OEM and Urban Area grants, is attached to the meeting materials. Ms. Slone noted that the report is based on the completed transaction from the state accounting system. Ms. Slone added that the NOFOS were released the day prior to this meeting for all programs except for UASI, and bulletins with guidance were sent out, as well, that will detail what's needed to apply for the programs. Ms. Slone asked that anyone with questions reach out to DHSgrants@dem.nv.gov.

7. Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant Cancellation

Laney Parow, OEM/HS informed the Committee that in FFY'22, Nevada anticipates cancellation of seven out of 10 BRIC grants, putting at risk roughly 12.2 million in mitigation funding, and 1.7 million in associated management cost allocations. Ms. Parow noted that the most vulnerable projects include backup solar power installations for fire stations, generators, and dam resiliency and repair efforts. Ms. Parow noted that FY22 is the only year facing significant cancellations and added that non-construction planning grants that include HMP updates and scoping remain intact. Ms. Parow indicated that state management cost allocations will decrease proportionately and the resulting funding gap will place additional strain on already tight budgets. Ms. Parow referred members to the attachment to the agenda for additional project-specific projections.

Vice Chair Brian O'Neal questioned if the study to analyze the impact of disruptions to the fuel supply both in southern Nevada and statewide is still moving forward.

Chair Compston explained that this was submitted as part of HMGP post-fire, and once it returns from FEMA, if it is blessed off, the project will move forward through a different avenue.

8. FEMA Review Council and Grant Updates

Chair Compston, OEM/HS, began with a discussion of the opportunities that the Office has had to provide input to the FEMA review council process for the evolution of FEMA. The Chair noted that there have been two opportunities thus far, with a third in another week and a half or so. Chair Compston indicated that the first opportunity to provide input was through a DHS Office of Inspector General report, for which OEM provided a memorandum, and the second was participation on behalf of the state through four different surveys related to preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. The Chair informed the Committee that the last opportunity will occur on August 13, where state emergency

management directors from Regions IX and X have been invited to meet with the review council in Los Angeles, and noted that the Chair will be providing them perspective from the state of Nevada. Chair Compston next talked about general themes that have been included in these different items and that will continue to be messaged from OEM: the limited workforce capacity within the state; the lack of dedicated individual assistance, damage assessment or technical experts; the inability to concurrently do blue sky and gray sky operations at 100 percent capacity; that many of the local agencies are one to two deep outside of the Las Vegas and the Reno area; that greater than 80 percent of the state is federal land under federal management and so any damages that occur on federal land are excluded from PCI thresholds, making it more difficult potentially in the future to qualify for disaster declarations, especially if those PCI thresholds are increased; and the logistical challenges of being a very large geographic state with a very sparse population, as well as the tyranny of distance.

Chair Compston next discussed ongoing actions that are in progress at OEM. The Chair indicated his belief that there are a host of services that FEMA currently assists with that will likely not continue into the future of FEMA and as such, OEM is looking through pre-incident contracts related to EOC surge support, debris removal, interim housing, initial or individual assistance, and damage assistance. The Chair noted that OEM has relayed the approval of the STORM Act in Nevada and its efforts to initiate that revolving loan account, and has also emphasized the investments in community resilience, whether through public or private partnerships, or volunteer entities and agencies. The Chair further noted that OEM has emphasized the importance of mutual aid agreements and synergy of resourcing, not just EMAC, but the state to state agreements in place with California and Arizona along with those being pursued with the other three border states, as well as the addition of several wildfire compacts.

Chair Compston next discussed recommendations, noting that OEM has asked the federal government to continue to support federal standardized NIMS and ICS training, to continue to support federal technical assistance to continue to support the federal USAR capabilities and the national warning and communications and intelligence sharing. The Chair indicated that OEM has proposed an increase or a streamlining of grants and grants management and reduction of bureaucracy focusing on pre-disaster mitigation. The Chair further indicated that OEM has requested that the federal government consider community-based resilience and emergency response and survivor-centric recovery with streamlined individual assistance and public assistance, expediting critical infrastructure repairs, and helping survivors to navigate programs without delay.

Chair Compston informed the Committee that another NRAC meeting is required on Wednesday, August 6. The Chair explained that the day prior to this meeting, the SHSP grant was released but the UASI grant was not, the EMPG grant NOFO was released with no information yet regarding the NSGP, NEHRP, DAM safety, NIMS, the Urban Search and Rescue, or local cyber grant. The Chair explained with only receiving SHSP and no UASI, the Committee must now operate under the assumption that there will be no UASI, which means that SHSP needs to now be spread across the entirety of the state. As such, the Chair indicated that it will be essential to only approve existential sustainment type projects at

next week's ranking, and extras and enhancements simply will not be able to receive funding. The Chair explained that roughly the same amount of money was received the previous year, but there was a modification to the NPA categories which actually translates to less money to spread across the things that SHSP and UASI are normally used for. The Chair next discussed critical timelines. Chair Compston indicated that there are a host of new requirements for HSGP and EMPG and there will be work required to make adjustments to applications. The Chair noted that the grants and modifications to the applications will close on Saturday, August 2, and OCDC will do its review on Sunday, August 3. The Chair reminded the Committee that he had committed previously to get this body three days to review the applications, but unfortunately this year could only provide two, the 4th and the 5th, as there are only 13 days between now and having to have them turned back in. Chair Compston informed the Committee that the NRAC ranking meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 6 at 9 am. The Chair explained that the meeting was scheduled earlier than the traditional time because of the importance of having to spread these funds across the entirety of the state. The Chair added that on Friday, August 8 at 9 am there would be the Homeland Security Finance Committee to review the recommendations of the NRAC, immediately followed by the Homeland Security Commission at 1:00 on Friday, as well. Chair Compston emphasized the importance of members of the NRAC being present to participate on the 6th so as to represent the interest of the state and its different areas. The Chair added that there is no error room built into the calendar with only 13 days left to get grants turned in. The Chair indicated that on the 9th, 10th, and 11th, all of the SHSP grants will be uploaded into the FEMA GO portal. Chair Compston indicated that EMPG does have a slightly different timeline, and will be closed on Tuesday, the 5th and reiterated that modifications will be made to applications. The Chair noted that there are definitely some different requirements in the application, and those will be reviewed and modified on the 6th and 7th so as to upload the 8th through 10th. Chair Compston noted that if SLCGP comes out with the anticipated deadline of 8/11, a cybersecurity task force public meeting will need to be added within the next two weeks. Chair Compston requested that everyone get a full court press of the nonprofit security grant into the hands of every agency or entity that might qualify, noting that there is no time to advertise and everyone's help is needed to get this publicly known given the short amount of time people will have to put their applications together.

Chair Compston discussed the national priority areas for SHSP, noting that 30 percent must be spent over five categories. The Chair explained that Category 1, enhancing protection of soft targets and online security task force infusion centers has not changed from last year. neither has a minimum spend; enhancing cybersecurity also has no minimum spend; election is still a 3 percent minimum spend; and the new category, Border Crisis Response and Enforcement, is ten percent of the total value of the \$4,000,000 grant, so \$400,000, and must be dedicated to border crisis response and enforcement. The Chair explained that this is a new category that will force OEM to dedicate funds specifically to issues related to illegal immigration, information sharing, support to ICE and DHS, and as such, new applications that use those funds in that manner as a minimum spend of 10 percent of the total grant, which will reduce the 4 million to about 3.6 million that will need to be spread across the entire state. The Chair indicated that the requirement for 35 percent to law enforcement remains, and that there are a host of new requirements related to EMPG and SHSP as far as what

money can be spent on.

Cary Underwood explained that he did speak with the DHS Intelligence Officer at the center and questioned if the watch listing of transnational organized crime actors meets or qualifies, and if that would then already potentially be covered with some of the Fusion Center information sharing intelligence projects.

Chair Compston indicated that he did not have the answer to that question, but would pass that along to the team doing the research and will provide the answer back to Mr. Underwood as quickly as possible.

Misty Robinson asked if submitted for UASI, did this need to be resubmitted in Zoom grants under the HSGP.

Suz Coyote, OEM, noted that resubmissions are not necessary unless the application needs to be modified in some way, the adjustment can be made internally, and that OEM will flag those that are UASI.

Chair Compston informed the Committee that he and Chief O'Neal discussed the limited funds and how to spread those across the entirety using the traditional categories such as sustain, enhance, and new and noted that this year the only categories that can be funded are sustaining capabilities and most critical capabilities.

Vice Chair Brian O'Neal indicated that a lot of time has been spent across the state building capability, and when looking at the essential capabilities that have been built, it is important to ensure that capacity and capability are not lost and that the state is able to continue on with the mission and sustain prior to trying to build new programs.

9. Emergency Management Plans: Important Dates

Bill Elliott, OEM/HS, informed the Committee that the industry plans include schools, political subdivisions, utility plans, and hotel resorts. Mr. Elliott noted that the deadlines are as follows:

- For school plans, required under NRS 388 for public and charters and NRS 394 for private, submissions are due August 15
- For political subdivisions, required under NRS 239(c).250, the submission deadline is December 31
- Utility plan submissions, including emergency operations plans and vulnerability assessments, required under NRS 239(C).270, are due December 31
- Resort hotel plans, governed under NRS 463, have a submission deadline of November 1

10. Nation State Threats

Adam Miller, Deputy Director, Office of Information Security and Cyber Defense (OISCD), explained that OISCD is a newly created office merging former OCDC Office under DPS with OIS within the Governor's technology office. Mr. Miller began the discussion by pointing out three key areas, starting with China activity and noting that it is 150 percent across all sectors and 200

to 300 percent activity in key targeted industry. Mr. Miller next discussed vishing attacks, which differ from phishing in that they use voice instead of written word in terms of malicious email or phone call attacks. Mr. Miller noted that the third key area is the time it can take a malicious cyber actor to infiltrate a system following clicking on a malicious link, noting that the time is no longer hours to days, but is an average of 48 minutes with the fastest breakout observed at 51 seconds. Mr. Miller next discussed the targeted industries, noting that it is fairly spread out, but that technology, consulting and professional services, and manufacturing lead those services for 2024. Mr. Miller indicated that the main types of attacks that are seen to date are ransomware, phishing, and vishing, followed by government-backed espionage.

Adam Miller moved into geopolitical tensions, focusing on China. Mr. Miller indicated that China focuses its energy across all sectors in the US but do tend to target a lot of the sectors with personal information, critical infrastructure. Mr. Miller warned that as the US moves towards potential geopolitical contact with them in the next few years, there will likely be a lot more of China malicious cyber activity popping up in industries and sectors that the US relies on in the event of a conflict.

Adam Miller discussed the increasing threat to critical infrastructure, noting that as water resources, wastewater resources, energy, electricity, and all of those things start to rely on more digital infrastructure, that will exponentially increase risk. Mr. Miller discussed ransomware incidents that have shut down pipelines, citing Colonial Pipeline as an example.

Adam Miller next discussed evolving cyber threats, noting that this is going to be incorporation of more AI actors and exposing gaps in technology that were previously discovered but may not yet have been patched. Mr. Miller discussed the numerous healthcare ransomware attacks and the expansion of AI phishing, as well as recent hacks and intrusions such as the breach of Microsoft SharePoint, which was a zero day vulnerability in the cloud and was exposed across numerous countries and sectors.

Adam Miller walked the group through vishing versus phishing, beginning with a malicious cyber actor, curly spider. Mr. Miller explained that this is when an actor will spam bomb someone and then present themselves as the help and then basically mass blast spam emails and then call pretending to be the IT professional charged with helping through the incident. The actor will then have the user log in and share credentials, allowing them to infiltrate the network. Mr. Miller next discussed the chatty spider, who sends a number of phishing emails with a phone number to call, presenting themselves as IT and then getting the user to download programs, allowing them to infiltrate the network. Mr. Miller noted that all of this information is posted on NRAC's page for anyone needing a reference.

Adam Miller next discussed some of the trends going forward, beginning with AI powered threat detection. Mr. Miller indicated the importance of leveling up cyber defenses through AI powered threat detection as malicious cyber actors use AI for attacks, noting that it can do the work of numerous amounts of people in a shorter amount of time. Mr. Miller discussed proactive threat management, noting that this ensures vulnerability scanning, patching, pen testing, and all things that should be part of normal cybersecurity hygiene, as well as training programs. Mr. Miller explained that the weakest part of any system is usually people and noted that properly trained people can harden those systems more than anything, thus making training key in cyber defense.

Adam Miller informed the Committee that under NRS480.935, political subdivisions are required to submit a cyber incident response plan to the OISCD annually, and noted that the contents of that incident response plan is further highlighted in NAC 480.200. Mr. Miller indicated that last year, out of 37 political subdivisions that include counties, cities, tribes, and incorporated cities, only four incident response plans were received.

Adam Miller next provided his recommendations for organizations, beginning with regular security assessments. Mr. Miller explained that OIS already provides these services to state agencies, including things like vulnerability scanning and pen testing as well as help with incident response plans. Mr. Miller indicated that in terms of threat intelligence sharing, OIS can reach out to NTAC or SNCTC, all of whom are involved in information sharing and threat intelligence sharing from malicious cyber actors. Mr. Miller further recommended continuous monitoring, as well as patching when appropriate and on a good schedule. Mr. Miller informed the Committee that cybersecurity frameworks following SIS and NIST have the latest and greatest of updates and ways to ensure cyber hygiene is increased. Mr. Miller encouraged members to ensure that their staff are partaking in training courses on phishing and cybersecurity awareness on a regular basis. Mr. Miller also informed members that every state agency has an agency ISO who can be reached out to for questions about anything. Mr. Miller indicated that anyone who is not a state agency should feel free to submit a ticket to the service desk and then will be parsed out to whoever within GTO is best equipped to handle the issue. Mr. Miller noted that OISCD, that is the email domain and if ever anyone has questions or sees something potentially questionable, they should feel free to reach out to the team for help.

11. State of Nevada Wildfire Update

Kacey KC, Administrator, Nevada State Forester/Fire Warden, explained that Nevada is experiencing a higher fire season than has been experienced in the last five years, which were lower than average. Ms. KC indicated that there are currently 341 fires to date, burning about 115,600 acres statewide, 75 percent of which are human starts as of today. Ms. KC did note that some 70 percent of the acres burning is lightning caused. Ms. KC indicated that the rain has helped a little but noted that predictive services indicated that this would be a higher than normal fire season. Ms. KC pointed out that July was above normal for much of the western part of the state, some of the southern part until monsoons came in, and then the northwest. Ms. KC explained that the eastern side drops off into August and September, as does southern Nevada if the monsoons hit correctly. Ms. KC informed the Committee that the next predictive services update will come out August 1, but looks to be busy as the state heads into the drier months.

Kacey KC next discussed staffing, noting that the Division of Forestry is staff as it has been historically, and noted that wildland fire protection agreements are in place but did go out late. Ms. KC indicated that federal partners are as staffed in-state as they have been historically, but did lose quite a few individuals, approximately 15,000, across the US, 4,500 of whom were red-carded. Ms. KC explained that there is an impact, but as far as firefighters and contractors, there are as many as in previous years in state.

Kacey KC addressed some of the legislative items that have had an impact, including AB 57, the clarification of mutual aid, and SB 19, the compacts law. Ms. KC indicated that the state is in the compacts as of a couple of weeks ago, both the Great Plains and the northwest, which means that a federal agreement is in place to mobilize assets state to state without having to have 50

individual state agreements. Ms. KC noted that the only state not in the compact is California, with whom Nevada already has a state to state agreement for response. As such, nothing will change other than the ability to move faster all over the US and into Canada. Ms. KC noted that the Division of Forestry received a one-time allocation on July 1 for its shared stewardship program of \$6 million, a big win for the program. Ms. KC indicated that about \$190 million in federal funding has been leveraged to mitigate the risk of fire in the highest risk areas, so this is the state now putting in funding. Ms. KC noted that this is primarily for state and private land, and that a lot of that federal money was primarily for federal land. Ms. KC informed the Committee that work is taking place with the executive committee and the local working groups as to where those projects are going to, noting that there are seven currently active landscapes of the 13 with five-year plans of action. Ms. KC explained that mitigation is working, noting that there are examples on every fire that's happened so far other than the two in the DOD areas. Ms. KC next discussed SB 499, indicating that the Division of Forestry now has two separate emergency response accounts, which is why the Wildland Fire Protection Program Agreements didn't go out on time this year. Ms. KC indicated that she's very excited about this because it will enable quicker bill payments and noted that the quicker bills get payed, the quicker they can get reimbursed from federal partners.

Kasey KC provided an update on the federal grant programs, noting that the primary grant funding source is the Forest Services, state and private forestry program, which funded the volunteer fire departments to get training and equipment, to help assist in fire response, funded mitigation work, and funded prevention work. Ms. KC indicated that these were all zeroed out in the president's budget for next year, and up until last week, the '25 allocation was being held by the federal government. Ms. KC expressed hope that the federal grant programs will continue to move forward and have funding.

Kasey KC next informed the Committee that the nation's capital will be hosting Nevada's tree for Christmas for the first time ever in history. Ms. KC indicated that the tree is coming from the Humboldt-Toiyabe Forest and will be harvested sometime in October and then likely come down the parade for Nevada day before heading to the capital over a couple of weeks, making multiple stops before arriving in early December. Ms. KC noted that the tree lighting would be early in December--the 2nd or 3rd. Ms. KC further indicated that there would be lots of opportunities across the state for school kids and adults to get involved and make ornaments as somewhere around 40,000 ornaments are needed for the capital.

12. Public Comment

Chair Compston opened the second period of public comment.

Chair Compston reminded the Committee that on Monday, August 4, they would receive the SHSP applications and would have two days to review them prior to reconvening on Wednesday, August 6 at 9 am to work through the 2025 SHSP grant.

There was no additional public comment.

13. Adjournment

Chair Compston, OEM/HS called for a motion to adjourn.

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Solome Barton, Emergency Management Specialist of the City of North Las Vegas, motioned to adjourn. Vice-Chair Brian O'Neal, Deputy Fire Chief of the Clark County Fire Department, Office of Emergency Management, seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:01 AM.