



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

Attendance	DATE	Tuesday, September 30, 2025	
	TIME	10:00 a.m.	
	METHOD	Zoom/Teleconference	
	RECORDER	Loren Borst	
Voting Membership			
Name	Designated/Appointed Representative:	Attendance Status	
Harriett Vegas – Tribal Co-Chair	Las Vegas Paiute Tribe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sookaaki Charley	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe	ABS	
Jackie Conway	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	ABS	
Don Pelt	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Marian Perez	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	ABS	
Kenneth Quiner	Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ross Rivera	Ely Shoshone Tribe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Daniel Thayer	Reno Sparks Indian Colony	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Laurie Thom	Yerington Paiute Tribe	ABS	
Non Voting Membership			
Name	Entity Represented:	Attendance Status	
Brett Compston - Co-Chair	Nevada Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (OEM/HS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Emily Gould-Monaghan or appointee Doug Dame	Nevada Department of Health and Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Non Member Representatives/Support			
Samantha Ladich	Nevada Office of the Attorney General	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Loren Borst	Nevada Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (OEM/HS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Loren Borst, Nevada Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (OEM/HS), and a quorum was established for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Co-Chair Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, opened the period of public comment for discussion.

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There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, called for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the June 3, 2025, NTECC meeting.

Ken Quiner, Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California, motioned to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2025, meeting. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously

4. Office of Emergency Management (OEM/HS) Updates

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, provided updates on Fiscal year 2025 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grants, legislative results, and upcoming events. Co-Chair Compston began by noting that all grants expected for 2025 were awarded by FEMA and immediately put on hold as expected, and an increased amount of Homeland Security Grant was received, but public release of details was pending answers to a litany of questions. Co-Chair Compston announced a new competitive grant awarded called Next Generation Warning to provide satellite-based internet to rural communities and tribal partners. Co-Chair Compston thanked everyone for all the effort in the accelerated and abbreviated grants timeline. Co-Chair Compston explained that the period of performance for Emergency Management Preparedness Grant (EMPG) and Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) were both amended from three years to one year, which will have significant impact if there are delays due to grants being put on hold and reviewed, as it means spending three years' worth of money in one year's time. Co-Chair Compston next provided an update on Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC), as it had been suspended. Co-Chair Compston noted that the FEMA Review Council has been meeting across the country and the report to the President is expected in the December timeframe. Co-Chair Compston then moved to upcoming events, noting that Regions One and Two of the RIPS have been completed, and Region Three is scheduled to be completed in October. Co-Chair Compston next discussed the four-state emergency management transportation workshop, OEM has transitioned to a new Microsoft Teams EOC based platform due to the cyber-attack, a visit from a National Incident Management Assistant Team (IMAT), name changes at OEM for portfolios, and supporting upcoming Formula One and New Year's Eve events.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, opened discussion for feedback and questions.

Ken Quiner, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, asked if there could be a demonstration and more information given on the new web EOC alternative, which Co-Chair Brett Compston confirmed.

Cliff Banuelos, Tribal State Environmental Liaison with Inter-Tribal Counsel of Nevada (ITCN), asked if the Homeland Security Grant changes meant that it is a one-year

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contract or a multi-year contract that gets renewed each year. Co-Chair Brett Compston clarified that all funding must be spent in the one-year performance period. Mr. Banuelos also asked if contracts would be allowed to intersect if there was carryover. Suz Coyote, Chief Grants Officer, OEM, explained that generally the grants do not intersect, but would have a specific scope of work for each grant year approved in advance.

5. Update to NTECC Membership

Aaron Thacker, Tribal Coordinator OEM/HS, explained that due to Fort McDermott Paiute-Shoshone Tribe no longer having Dwayne Master Senior as a member, he is working on a membership letter to send out to all tribes on the Chief's approval. Mr. Thacker also welcomed input from NTECC members regarding this.

Co-Chair Compston requested the NTECC members assist in reestablishing membership by reaching out to peers, as the more perspectives there are, the more valuable the services can be.

Co-Chair Vegas asked if Daniel Thayer or Crystal Harjo had any previous letters sent to Tribal Chairmen in the past that they could share or suggestions moving forward.

Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, commented he had a copy of the letter signed by the new Chairman appointing him to represent Reno Sparks on behalf of NTECC that he would share.

Crystal Harjo, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), commented that everything she had was transferred but she would do a deeper dive to see if she could find previous records.

6. Update on Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts

Emily Gould-Monaghan, Public Health Preparedness Program, discussed updates to include funding being received, the work on recovering from the cyber-attack, and the annual process of working through the strategic plan. Ms. Gould-Monaghan noted the program would like more input from the tribal partners concerning the Behavioral Health Grant Group, and she would be more than happy to share information with anyone interested in joining. Ms. Gould-Monaghan also spoke to the project of decommissioning the Mass Casualty Incident trailers, and how those are being offered to each rural county that it resides in. Ms. Gould-Monaghan explained that many county partners had accepted their trailer, but for those that have not responded or not accepted the trailers, they would be offered to the tribal partners.

There were no comments

7. Update on Nevada Cyber Event

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Christopher Daniels, OEM/HS, discussed how OEM was affected by the cyber-attack by losing their share drive, which mainly affected the majority of the finance operations, and that rebuilding efforts have been focused on rebuilding the day-to-day templates and spreadsheets that are so heavily relied on.

Co-Chair Compston commented that big lessons learned are knowing the totality of the system architecture, who's connected to what systems and the cascading effects of those getting disconnected, along with learning how to balance keeping the public and workforce informed and concerns and considerations balanced when using messaging during these times. Co-Chair Compston also expressed appreciation to Arizona, who will be building a Microsoft Teams EOC baseline template for Nevada to then customize as needed.

8. Update from the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)

Cliff Banuelos, Tribal State Environmental Liaison for ITCN, discussed the 24-hour HAZWOPER Training ITCN is hosting with the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) the week of March 23, 2026, at the Tribal Air Monitoring System (TAMS) Center near the University of Las Vegas, with the training being Perry Hoskins from Spectra Training. Mr. Banuelos also noted that he would get more information for everyone after funding has been nailed down. Mr. Banuelos also pointed out that this is a 24-hour class aimed at more support services and environmental programs that offer support, which is why it is not a 40-hour certification.

There were no comments

9. Update from Nevada Department of Native American Affairs (DNAA)

Tabled

10. Tribal Nations Training Week

Tabled

11. Grant Status Reports

Shea Slone, Preparedness Grants Supervisor, OEM/HS, shared the breakdown of the Grant Status Report and also noted it can be sent out following the meeting.

Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, asked when the Tribal Homeland Security Grant will reopen, noting that he recently discovered all the 800-megahertz radios would be terming out at end of life, including mobiles and portables, and will have to be replaced.

Shea Slone, OEM/HS, explained that if it is similar to Homeland Security, it's done annually, but since it is not managed by OEM/HS she would have to find out for sure.

12. Public Comment

Co-Chair Vegas called for any public comment.

Melyssa Dolan, Tribal Relations Specialist for the Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest, shared that a flyer went out for fire hire for a number of positions in the forests, and she would be happy to forward that information to the Council. Ms. Dolan also noted that there is an available grant process for firewood banks that rose from \$15,000 to \$50, 000 that includes a number of things, like equipment needed to cut firewood, and that she would also share that information with the Council.

Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, commented that there were several members missing from the last meeting and also this meeting, and maybe there needed to be a reminder sent since there are so few members.

Cliff Banuelos, Tribal-State Environmental Liaison for ITCN, commented that Nevada DNAA released the Native American Strategic Plan 2026-2031, and he hadn't seen anything on the mission statement regarding safety. Mr. Banuelos noted that the mission statement had four bullet points, and one was access to Ed Equity and Health and Human Services but suggested someone from OEM/HS or NTECC should comment on the policy to assure that there is something on the mission statement regarding safety or emergency management of some sort. Mr. Banuelos offered to contact Stacey Montooth on anyone's behalf if they had not received that Strategic Plan, or they could reach out directly.

13. Adjournment

Co-Chair Vegas asked for a motion to adjourn the September 30, 2025, NTECC meeting.

Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, moved to adjourn the meeting. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas adjourned the NTECC meeting at 10:50 a.m.