



Meeting Minutes Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

Attendance	DATE	Tuesday, March 3, 2026
	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	X
Sookaaki Charley	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe	ABS
Jackie Conway	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	X
Don Pelt	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	X
Marian Perez	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	ABS
Kenneth Quiner	Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California	ABS
Ross Rivera	Ely Shoshone Tribe	X
Daniel Thayer	Reno Sparks Indian Colony	X
Laurie Thom	Yerington Paiute Tribe	X
Non Voting Membership		
Name	Entity Represented:	Attendance Status
Brett Compston - Co-Chair	Nevada Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X
Emily Gould-Monaghan	Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health	X
Non Member Representatives/Support		
Samantha Ladich	Nevada Office of the Attorney General	X
Loren Borst	Nevada Office of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

2. Public Comment

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

Malinda Southard, Nevada Health Authority (NVHA), stated that the Nevada rural Health Transformation Program was awarded nearly \$180 million, in year one. There are four primary initiatives that applications and requests for proposals (RFPs) will be solicited for. These are the rural Health Outcomes Accelerator Program, the Nevada Rural Health System Flex Fund, the Workforce Recruitment Access Program (WRAP), and the rural Health Innovations and Technology Initiative. Ms. Southard indicated she did provide a timeline graphic to Kimberly Palma-Ortega, OEM/HS, which is to be provided to members after the meeting. She also

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indicated the information is on their website, with ways to contact the Rural Health Transformation team.

Melyssa Dolan, Tribal Liaison for the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, presented a flyer to the members. She provided a verbal overview of the flyer. Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, asked Ms. Dolan to share her contact information with the members after the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, called for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the December 9, 2025, NTECC meeting.

Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, motioned to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025, meeting with the date of the meeting corrected. Laurie Thom, Yerington Paiute Tribe, seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Office of Emergency Management Updates

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, provided an update on personnel changes for the OEM/HS. He started by stating both the Homeland Security grant program, as well as the Emergency Management Program grants, were both changed from a one-year to three-year period of performance. Both grants also had the immigration enforcement terms, conditions, and the population verification for EMPG removed.

Co-Chair Compston noted the Homeland Security grant program investment justification hold was removed on Friday, before DHS went into their shutdown. Unfortunately, because of that shutdown, the Office of Emergency Management is unable to complete sub-awards to sub-grantees, also being unable to reimburse sub-grantees for expenses already incurred and requested reimbursement for.

Co-Chair Compston also stated the FEMA Review Council was extended by the President to 25 March. However, there has been no guidance or update from the Review Council. Therefore, the implications of the extension are unknown. For awareness purposes, Co-Chair Compston stated that community grant projects, or funding through the Nevada Congressional Delegation, are currently open. Also, if an appropriation is not passed, the ones that were approved for FY '26 will not be funded.

Co-Chair Compston then spoke about significant personnel changes. He stated there is a new training officer, Rachel Shadle for OEM/HS. He indicated she is doing an amazing job. Additionally, a new IT technician, James Inskeep OEM/HS has joined the team.

5. Information for Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Grant

Aaron Thacker, OEM/HS Tribal Emergency Management Coordinator, started by stating the IPAWS grant is still on the table, with the services expiring at the end of 2028. He indicated they have received letters of intent from a lot of tribes but are still waiting for others. He also indicated they are still waiting for the rural and frontier communities to send their letters of intent. Once received, they can move forward to putting the systems in place. Mr. Thacker stated he has been working with the chairman

of all IPAWS in the U.S., Joshua Kelilooa if anyone wants his contact information for assistance with their letters.

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, voiced his encouragement for the tribal and rural partners to get fix-based, satellite-based internet systems, which will operate outside of typical internet-outage situations. He stated these are free, federal dollars, and strongly suggested all members, and all tribes, to take advantage of this opportunity during these uncertain times, to put in place some infrastructure to alleviate worries.

6. Update on Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, introduced Emily Gould-Monaghan, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, who briefly spoke on the 14th annual Rural Preparedness Summit that is coming up. It will be in Elko, Nevada, on June 10th through the 14th. She pointed out that the 10th will be a pre-training day, in partnership with the Domestic Fairness Consortium. This will feature fatality management in rural communities. The actual summit will begin on the 11th and 12th. The theme this year is Wilder Times: Strong Roots, Stronger Futures; Where Deep Roots Grow Resilient Communities. She stated registration is open and hopes to see everyone there. She sent the registration flyer and link to Loren Borst OEM/HS.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan also indicated they are working on updating several larger plans, including their five-year strategic plan. Internally, they are finalizing the review with that plan, with distribution to partners for feedback and collection later. Once received, they will finalize and put it in the plan, then distribute it to partners. This will be around June 30th with continuous work groups right now. She indicated Kim from NTECC is currently helping but is open to anyone willing to participate.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan then stated they are updating their medical search plan, which is a larger lift right now. They are doing internal rebranding. Once finalized, that will be sent to partners, including NTECC representatives, for input. The plan won't be finalized until the next budget period, which starts July 1st.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan then moved to Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP), stating they are receiving notice of funding opportunities, which means the grants are opening for the year. PHEP through the CDC has also opened, and they are working on that application process. She stated they are waiting for the notice of funding opportunity for the HPP side, which is the healthcare preparedness side. Again, she stated they are working with Kim on updating that scope of work, indicating a couple of projects that will be completed this coming fiscal year that starts July 1st. These include improving the communication capabilities for tribal health clinics and working to add in more pediatric preparedness within tribal health clinics.

Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, asked if he had missed the pre-conference training for the Rural Preparedness summit.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan stated he had not, and that it will be held June 10th. She added the registration link for that training which is on the registration site. The flyer she is distributing has a barcode on it that can be scanned, which will take you directly to the site.

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

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, introduced Mr. Clifford Banuelos, Tribal State Emergency Liaison for ITCN, who gave the update.

Mr. Banuelos stated that he is the Tribal Liaison for the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) and that ITCN is his employer. He indicated that during this past legislative session, there was a bill passed in response to poor communication during a hazardous waste spill about a year ago. He indicated he isn't building language of the bill yet but wants better coordination with NDEP and OEM/HS and any other responding agency on how to communicate during a spill incident reporting and reaction. He stated he wanted to provide the Committee with adequate time for tribal comment to devise a better way to communicate with the tribes.

Mr. Banuelos stated he is hosting a tribal environmental manager's meeting on March 18th, that will be held at the U.S. Forest Office in Sparks. He will follow up on this matter to gather information. Then, based on ITCN's status, he may have to call a special meeting with the Chairs, which would be construed as consultation with state agencies. This would be gathering information to help in-state agencies develop a better process regarding spills.

He stated he will follow up at the NTECC meeting, and all issues will be addressed. Mr. Banuelos stated the Bureau of Corrective Action is the bureau that responds to these types of things and he works very closely with them and offered to coordinate with them on this.

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

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, introduced Dr. Stacy Montooth, DNAA, she expressed her appreciation of Chief Compston. She stated the DNAA is happy to distribute information about IPAWS. She stated she will connect with Mr. Thacker to get information to the tribes that have not explored this federal opportunity.

9. Public Comment

There was no additional public comment.

10. Adjournment

Co-Chair Harriett Vegas, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, asked for a motion to adjourn the March 3, 2026, NTECC meeting. Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, moved to adjourn the meeting. Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 10:35 a.m.

The motion passed unanimously.