



Meeting Minutes Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

Attendance	DATE	Tuesday, December 9, 2025
	TIME	10:00 a.m.
	METHOD	Zoom/Teleconference
	RECORDER	Sherrean Whipple
Voting Membership		
Name	Designated/Appointed Representative:	Attendance Status
Harriett Vegas – Tribal Co-Chair	Las Vegas Paiute Tribe	ABS
Sookaaki Charley	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe	ABS
Jackie Conway	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	ABS
Don Pelt	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	ABS
Marian Perez	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	X
Kenneth Quiner	Washoe Tribes of Nevada/California	X
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	ABS

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 Sherrean Whipple, OEM/HS, and a quorum was established for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, opened the period of public comment for discussion.

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, called for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the September 30, 2025, NTECC meeting.

Ross Rivera, Ely Shoshone Tribe, motioned to approve the minutes of the September

30, 2025, meeting with the date of the meeting corrected.

Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Office of Emergency Management Updates

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, provided an update regarding the FEMA review council, Homeland Security and Emergency Management grants. He indicated the FEMA review council will be meeting December 11th to provide overall recommendations for presidential consideration, the contents of which are unknown. He emphasized the importance of this information, as it is to have a dramatic effect on the future of emergency management, nationally. He recommended participation by watching the meeting.

Co-Chair Compston then spoke about the Homeland Security and Emergency Management grants for 2025. He indicated that both categories are on hold. EMPG is on hold, pending the acceptance from FEMA of the population certification statement. The Homeland Security grants are also on hold for a review that would have happened last summer; however, due to the delayed release of the grants and the closing of the government they have not yet completed reviews. He also gave a reminder that the performance period for both grants has changed from three years to one year, encouraging awardees to be extremely effective with awarded monies.

There were no questions or discussions from the members.

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

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, introduced Mr. Aaron Thacker, OEM/HS Tribal Emergency Management Coordinator, to provide the IPAWS update.

Mr. Thacker started by stating that OEM/HS received the IPAWS grant to assist tribes with satellite communication systems and early warning systems, and that the proposal is to deploy a satellite based alerting receiver in designated tribal locations. This would provide a resilient and independent pathway for emergency alerts that does not rely on local infrastructure. It would support all major alert types, such as evacuations and missing/endangered person notifications, which will remain operational during cellular outages, power failures, or broadband disruptions. He was looking for response on who would like to be a part of the grant. He indicated he could be contacted via email and would move forward from there.

Ken Quiner, Washoe Tribes of Nevada and California, inquired on the timeline for feedback from the tribes on the IPAWS grant.

Mr. Thacker indicated the sooner the better. He also stated they are working with rural communities, as well, so the more information that is provided by the tribes, the better.

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, asked if the performance period was one year or three years.

Mr. Thacker indicated it is three years.

There were no additional questions from the members.

6. Update on Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, introduced Emily Gould-Monaghan, who gave the update on the overall program, staffing, plan reviews and revisions, and a five-year strategic plan.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, started by informing the members that Start Albert, a Health Preparedness Program (HPP) plan writer, will be leaving this coming Friday. She followed up by stating they still have Doug Dame as a plan writer, so if assistance is needed, he can be reached for this service. She also indicated that if anyone is ever unable to be reached, you can email Ms. Gould-Monaghan herself.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan then indicated the MCI trailer decommission is delayed, stating they will be reaching out February/March to get those out to the three tribes that are acquiring the trailers. If there are any questions, please contact Amos Hollar.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan indicated the annual rural preparedness summit is in the planning phase, stating this will be the 14th year of the summit. The theme is still being worked on, but keynote speakers are being tentatively scheduled. She requested input on other tribal specific trainings or sessions, and to let her know about any ideas or input that you have. She noted there seems to be a lot of behavioral health focus, thus far. She stated the dates so far seem to be June 10-12, 2026. There will be more information in the coming weeks on this.

Ms. Gould-Monaghan then spoke on the current cold/flu season. She indicated there hasn't been a big uptick, thus far, the peak of the season hasn't hit yet, but to be vigilant and maintain good health practices, especially during the upcoming holiday travel season. If members need any assistance, please reach out to her.

There were no questions or comments from members.

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

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, introduced Mr. Clifford Banuelos, Tribal State Emergency Liaison for ITCN, who gave the update.

Mr. Banuelos, ITCN, indicated the HAZWOPPER Walker Training that ITCN is putting on in Last Vegas, is upcoming. Solid dates or not set yet, but it will be at the end of March 2026, for 24 hours. He stated it will be focused on support personnel, such as natural resource or public works employees, but not the responder level. He did indicate they do PPE and DECON training on that. There will also be an eight-hour refresher for HAZWOPPER, but that contract has not yet been finalized. He hopes to have a date before Christmas.

There were no comments or questions from members.

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

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, introduced Dr. Stacy Montooth. Dr. Montooth did not appear to be present. Agenda item was tabled.

9. Public Comment

Laurie Thom, Yerington Paiute Tribe, informed members that the flyer for the Tribal Nation’s APHIS training, which is happening January 6-8, 2026, in Reno, is going out. This training will help tribes establish MOUs for animal/plant health and emergency preparedness. She indicated they may also have a mock scenario. This will be a free training through UNR, USDA, and Tribal Emergency Management OEM.

Melyssa Dolan, Tribal Liaison for the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, shared some forest fire data. She stated that, year-to-date, they have had 69 fires this year. 48 were from natural causes, 19 were caused by humans, and two were undetermined. She indicated the forest service caught every fire during the initial attack, with no fire extending into additional attacks. If members would like additional information, Ms. Dolan can email that information.

There was no additional public comment.

10. Adjournment

Co-Chair Brett Compston, OEM/HS, asked for a motion to adjourn the December 9, 2025, NTECC meeting.

Laurie Thom, Yerington Paiute Tribe, moved to adjourn the meeting.

Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Compston, OEM/HS, adjourned the NTECC meeting.