



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	Date	December 23, 2020	
	Time	10:00 a.m.	
	Venue	Teleconference – 888-273-3658; Access: 1453277	
	Method	Teleconference	
	Recorder	Karen Hall	
Commission Members	Attendance Status	Legislative, Ex-Officio, Nonvoting Members, Staff, and Others	Attendance Status
Governor Steve Sisolak - Chair	X	Karen Burke	X
Joseph Lombardo – Vice Chair	X	Gonzalo Cordova	X
Darin Balaam	Abs	David Fogerson	X
Lisa Christensen	Abs	Chris Ipsen	X
Todd Fasulo	X	William McCurdy II	X
Mitch Fox	X	Shaun Rahmeyer	X
Frank Gonzales	X	Aaron Rouse	X
Ikram Khan	X		
Kate Marshall	X		
Charles Moore	X	Samantha Ladich - DAG	X
Richard Perkins	X	Karen Hall – DEM/HS	X
John Steinbeck	X		
Rosemary Vassiliadis	X		
Patricia Wade	X		
Bill Welch	X		

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Governor Sisolak, Chair of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (Commission), called the meeting to order. Karen Hall, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS) performed roll call. Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Governor Sisolak opened discussion for the first public comment period. No written comment or public comment was presented.

3. Approval of Minutes

Governor Sisolak called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes as presented from the September 15, 2020, Commission meeting. Dr. Ikram Khan, Quality Care Consultants, motioned to approve the minutes as presented with no changes. No discussion was presented on the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Report on the Statewide Adoption of the National Incident Management System

Chief David Fogerson, State Administrative Agent (SAA), DEM/HS provided the Commission on this quarterly report mandated by Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 239C. In Quarters Two and Three in 2020, National Incident Management System (NIMS) training efforts were paused due to COVID-19 restrictions and response activities. In Quarter Four, limited training classes for mission critical topics were resumed in northern and southern Nevada. There was tremendous use of NIMS throughout statewide jurisdictions during this pandemic, and efforts to increase training will resume in 2021 to adhere to grant compliance requirements.

5. Brief on the Annual Selection of the Committee on Finance Chair and Vice-Chair

The Committee on Finance (Committee) Chair, Sheriff Joseph Lombardo, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) briefed the Commission on the new selection of the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions determined at the December 17, 2020, Committee meeting pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 239C.170(1). Sheriff Lombardo and Chief Deputy Greg Herrera were unanimously selected to represent the Chair and Vice-Chair positions, respectively.

6. Request to Reallocate Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Funds

Chief Fogerson presented the request for Project Change Request (PCR) NCHS-166 from the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP). NCHS-166 for the LVMPD Fusion Center FFY 2018 Sustainment Project is requesting to move \$113,269.84 in remaining funding, due to cost savings from the Planning and Organization categories to the Equipment category for Fusion Watch computer hardware in the amount of \$100,115.62, Contract Cyber Analysis in the amount of \$12,750.00, and Utilities in the amount of \$404.22. Total Request is \$113,269.84. Chief Fogerson indicated that this request was brought before the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC) and the Committee on Finance for review and recommendation approval prior to presenting it to the Commission.

Governor Sisolak called for any questions on this request, and no questions were presented. The Governor called for a motion to approve the request. Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department, motioned to approve NCHS-166 as presented. No discussion was presented on the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Update on the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Process

Chief Fogerson spoke to looking forward to the FFY 2021 HSGP process, and to date, there is no intelligence for the federal release of the Notice of Funding or the funding which may be allocated to the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) or Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Both the NRAC and Committee on Finance have also been apprised of the current situation as DEM/HS continues to work with federal partners to gain insight on the upcoming process, and to prepare statewide partners and jurisdictions for the upcoming process. Deputy Chief Billy Samuels, Urban Area Administrator (UAA), Clark County Fire Department, had nothing further to add to this update.

8. Review of the Recommendation to Approve Strategic Capacities to be Maintained for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)

Chief Fogerson spoke to the process of developing the Strategic Capacities to be Maintained (SCTBM) for the FFY 2021 HSGP process. Chief Fogerson referred to agenda handouts including existing SCTBM from 2020, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Core Capabilities, a Gap Analysis DEM/HS completed for the state, and the SCTBM recommendations reviewed by both the NRAC and Committee on Finance which are presented for approval consideration by the Commission for FFY 2021. Looking at the current SCTBM list and current gaps, it is important to make sure programs are identified to fund; however, it is important to also open the process to other programs with gaps. These gaps may or may not be addressed with HSGP funding, but they need to be identified so an appropriate funding source can be found to support such programs. There are two SCTBM added in FFY 2021 because of identified gaps in 2020. This includes Election Security, and Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services. These emerging SCTBM as listed do not mean funding has to be applied this year; however, it is a roadmap to the future. Election Security and Public Health components.

Chief Samuels spoke to the amount of time spent on building out these capabilities, and all were in support of the recommendation now before the Commission. Chief Steinbeck commended the work done on the SCTBM and agreed on the suggested new priorities. Chief Steinbeck presented concern on the potential dilution of the original intent of the SCTBM. The original intent was to identify programs that have significant investment such as Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC) and Citizen Corps/Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs. If there was a gap in funding, it would significantly hurt these programs. Chief Steinbeck also is concerned this is going away from that original intent; however, many core capabilities and gaps can be considered. Moving programs and projects from the competitive category to the prioritized maintenance category could present issues.

Chief Fogerson concurred with Chief Steinbeck's assessment, and spoke to the specific programs noted for sustainment due to the heavy investment in those specific programs. In looking at the FEMA process, the areas of Election Security and Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services could still go through the competitive process and the decision to fund or not fund could be made at that time. There are still some concerns with Election Security which is addressed previously in the Cybersecurity SCTBM and a requirement to expend funds from the FFY 2020 HSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The Public Health component needs to be tied in because Public and Behavioral Health has a special program called Public Health Preparedness that gets additional funding. The question is how to frame the discussion on having gone through the pandemic and identifying a huge gap that may exist on the HSGP side. The intention is to see if there are funding opportunities to appropriately address this gap. Chief Steinbeck agreed as long as there is delineation between new projects trying to invest or tie into HSGP funding or from other sources. Chief Steinbeck agreed that the NRAC and Commission should be involved in setting those priorities to get a holistic view. These programs may eventually move into the maintained category once established.

Sheriff Lombardo wanted to ensure that the Planning SCTBM was included in the recommended SCTBM for FFY21. This does not ensure funding for the SCTBM listed, only a prioritization for the funding received.

Richard Perkins, the Perkins Group, spoke to the growth of maintained projects over the past decade, and the necessity to look at those programs through the current lens. Mr. Perkins inquired at what point do newly suggested programs become relevant enough to replace those programs that have been funded year after year. Chief Fogerson spoke to the NRAC and Committee on Finance processes on establishing recommendations for the SCTBM. Some of the SCTBM noted are programs that keep the state safe. It is possible to push information back to the NRAC to have additional discussion as directed by the Commission. Mr. Perkins asked that at some point in time, new priorities may have to be set in lieu of existing priorities.

Sheriff Lombardo urged Commission involvement in setting HSGP priorities. The Governor voiced appreciation for the work done on those involved with these priorities.

Chief Steinbeck asked Chief Fogerson to set an agenda item with the NRAC and the Commission to further discuss priorities that may be vital and to re-evaluate the current recommendations. Both Chief Fogerson and Deputy Chief Samuels have addressed this issue extensively this year, but the Commission should participate further. The Governor asked that Mr. Perkins and Sheriff Lombardo be involved in those discussions as well.

Governor Sisolak called for a motion to approve the SCTBM as presented. Bill Welch, Nevada Hospital Association motioned to approve the SCTBM for FFY 2021 as presented. No discussion was presented on the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Public Comment

Governor Sisolak called for the second period of public comment. John Steinbeck congratulated Chief Fogerson on his new position. The Governor wished everyone happy holidays.

10. Adjourn

Governor Sisolak adjourned the meeting.