



**STATE OF NEVADA  
MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA  
NEVADA TRIBAL EMERGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**Name of Organization:** Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

**Date and Time of Meeting:** March 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

**Place of Meeting:** There will be no physical location for this meeting. The meeting can be listened to, or reviewed live, over the Internet through the Nevada Division of Emergency Management YouTube channel at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFGa6exzrZdlgA6PP55kfqq>

**Conference Line:** Conference Line #:669-219-2599  
 Meeting ID# 405 396 0059  
 When prompted for Participant ID, please press #

<b>Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council (NTECC)</b>			
<b>Current Membership</b>			
<b>Harriett Parker</b>	Co-Chair	Voting	Las Vegas Paiute Tribe / NTECC Chair
<b>Marla Stanton</b>	Member	Voting	Battle Mountain Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone
<b>Justin Blossom</b>	Member	Voting	Duck Valley Shoshone Paiute Tribe
<b>Marian Perez</b>	Member	Voting	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
<b>Alfreida Jake</b>	Member	Voting	Elko Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone
<b>Jill Ward</b>	Member	Voting	Ely Shoshone Tribe
<b>Jackie Conway</b>	Member	Voting	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe
<b>Duane Masters Sr.</b>	Member	Voting	Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe
<b>Don Pelt</b>	Member	Voting	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
<b>David Hunkup</b>	Member	Voting	Reno Sparks Indian Colony
<b>Tanya Reynolds</b>	Member	Voting	South Fork Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone
<b>Sookaaki Charley</b>	Member	Voting	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
<b>Tashina Jim</b>	Member	Voting	Walker River Paiute Tribe
<b>Lisa Christensen</b>	Member	Voting	Washoe Tribes of Nevada and California
<b>Non-Member Representatives</b>			
<b>David Fogerson</b>	Co-Chair	Non-Voting	DPS Division of Emergency Management
<b>Samantha Ladich</b>	Legal Counsel	Non-Voting	Nevada Office of the Attorney General



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Pursuant to Section 1 of the Declaration of Emergency Directive 006 signed March 22, 2020, as extended by Declaration of Emergency Directive 029, signed July 31, 2020, the requirement contained in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 241.023(1)(b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended due to the COVID-19 emergency. Please see Attachment A. This meeting will be teleconferenced beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council (NTECC) may act on items marked "For Possible Action." Items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda at the discretion of the Co-Chair(s). Items may be combined for consideration by the NTECC at the discretion of the Co-Chair(s). Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time.

**Please Note:** Witnesses wishing to have their complete testimony/handouts included in the permanent record of this meeting should provide a written or electronic copy to the NTECC administrative support staff. Minutes of the meeting are produced in a summary format and are not verbatim.

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call** – Co-Chair, David Fogerson, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS).
- 2. Public Comment** – (Discussion Only) – No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the Co-Chairs. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

Because there is no physical location for this meeting, public testimony under this agenda item may be presented by phone.

To provide testimony during this period of public comment, please call in any time after 12:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting by dialing (669) 219-2599. When prompted to provide the Meeting ID, please enter 405 396 0059 and then press #. When prompted for a Participant ID, please press #. When asked to provide public comment, please press \*6 to unmute your phone and \*6 again when your comments are complete.

**Please be advised that the YouTube stream will be between 60-90 seconds behind the live meeting. If you would like to present public comment, please call in using the above number to hear the meeting live.**

3. **Approval of Minutes** – (Discussion/For Possible Action) – Co-Chair, David Fogerson, DEM/HS. The NTECC will discuss whether to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2020, NTECC meeting.
4. **Discussion of Current Legislative Efforts Impacting Emergency Management** – (Discussion Only) – Co-Chair, David Fogerson. Co-Chair Fogerson will lead a discussion on legislative efforts impacting emergency management in the State of Nevada, including, an overview of the current status of Bill Draft Requests (BDR) submitted by the Division of Emergency Management. This presentation may include the status of the following items:
  - Senate Bill 14 – Revises provisions relating to certain emergency response plans and assessments.
  - Assembly Bill 14 – Revises provisions relating to emergency management.
  - Unassigned BDR related to the reorganization of the Division of Emergency Management.
5. **NTECC Logo Review** – (Discussion Only) Co-Chairs, David Fogerson, DEM, and Harriett Parker, will discuss the development of an appropriate logo to represent the NTECC.
6. **Update from Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)** – (Discussion Only) – Shelby O'Daye, COVID Coordinator, ITCN. Ms. O'Daye will provide the NTECC with an update of ITCN activities to include support of the COVID-19 response and other matters related to support of tribal emergency management and health clinics.
7. **Update from Nevada Indian Commission (NIC)** – (Discussion Only) – Executive Director Stacey Montooth, NIC. Ms. Montooth will provide the NTECC with an update of NIC activities to include support of the COVID-19 response and leadership of the COVID-19 Tribal Taskforce.
8. **Update on Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts** – (Discussion Only) – Malinda Southard, Public Health Preparedness (PHP) Program Manager. The NTECC will

be provided an update on the Division of Public and Behavioral Health's Tribal Health Preparedness efforts to include updates on COVID-19 response support.

9. **Nevada Public Bodies Updates** – (Discussion Only) – Tribal representatives appointed to the following Nevada public bodies may provide an update on their role with each public body, as well as initiatives and projects that impact Nevada tribes:
  - a. Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee – Dave Hunkup, Reno Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC).
  - b. Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) – Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribe of Nevada, and California.
  - c. NCHS Finance Committee – Co-Chair David Fogerson, DEM/HS.
  - d. Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) – Lance Chantler, RSIC.
  - e. Nevada Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee (IMAC) – Co-Chair David Fogerson, DEM/HS.
  - f. Nevada Legislative Commission on Wildfire Mitigation – Clifford Banuelos, ITCN.
  
10. **Update from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX** - (Discussion Only) – Chris Poehlmann, FEMA Region IX Tribal Liaison. Mr. Poehlmann will provide the NTECC with an update of FEMA Region IX activities at a regional and Nevada-specific level to include updates on the FEMA Region IX COVID-19 support.
  
11. **Interoperability Update** – (Discussion Only) – Melissa Friend, Emergency Management Program Manager, DEM/HS. Ms. Friend will update the NTECC on current interoperability efforts in Nevada to include the status of the Nevada Shared Radio System, First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) build out in the state, and an outline of the current status regarding the tribal communications equipment.
  
12. **Project, Grant, and Financial Report Updates from DEM** – (Discussion Only) – DEM representative's, Ryan Gerchman and Crystal Harjo, will be providing NTECC with updates on the following:
  - a. DEM/HS tribal-support contract positions.
  - b. Tribal preparedness outreach; and
  - c. Grant and financial updates for NTECC.
  
13. **Tribal Updates** – (Discussion Only) – Tribal representatives will be given the opportunity to provide an update on any initiatives, projects, current events, or upcoming training opportunities related to emergency management within their tribal jurisdiction. Tribal updates discussed have been provided to DEM/HS prior to this meeting for transparency, and any update provided that was not submitted in advance of this meeting may not be heard by the NTECC under this agenda item. Tribal updates will be heard from the following tribes:
  - Las Vegas Paiute Tribe

14. **Public Assistance Grants** - (Discussion Only) – Kelli Anderson, DEM will provide an overview of the status of the recovery efforts under the COVID-19 disaster recovery (DR) 4523, which includes a summary of recovery projects, total amount of disaster funding approved, and pending, for the State of Nevada.
15. **Public Comment** – (Discussion Only) – No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the Co-Chairs. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

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16. **Adjourn** – (Discussion/For Possible Action)

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This is a public meeting. In conformance with the Nevada Public Meeting Law, and pursuant to Sections 3 and 4 of the Declaration of Emergency Directive 006 signed March 22, 2020, as extended by Declaration of Emergency Directive 029, signed July 31, 2020, this agenda was posted or caused to be posted on or before 9:00 a.m. on March 11, 2021 at the following:

- Nevada Department of Public Safety’s Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Public Meeting Notifications/Information Website: [https://dem.nv.gov/DEM/2021\\_NTECC/](https://dem.nv.gov/DEM/2021_NTECC/)
- Nevada Public Notice Website: [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov)

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, or if you need to obtain meeting materials, please notify Sherrean Whipple, DEM Administrative Support, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, 2478 Fairview Drive, Carson City, Nevada 89701 or (775) 687-0300. 24-hour advance notice is requested. Thank you.



DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

DIRECTIVE 029

**WHEREAS**, in late 2019, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 11, 2020, the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses named this novel coronavirus "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2);" and

**WHEREAS**, on February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization named the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, "COVID-19;" and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization advises that the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 virus is highly contagious, and spreads through respiratory transmission, and direct and indirect contact with infected persons and surfaces; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization advises that respiratory transmission occurs through both droplet and airborne transmission, where droplet transmission occurs when a person is within 6 feet of someone who has respiratory symptoms like coughing or sneezing, and airborne transmission may occur when aerosolized particles remain suspended in the air and is inhaled; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization advises that contact transmission occurs by direct contact with infected people or indirect contact with surfaces contaminated by the novel coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, some persons with COVID-19 may exhibit no symptoms but remain highly infectious; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 5, 2020, Clark County and Washoe County both reported the first known cases of COVID-19 in the State of Nevada; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, I, Steve Sisolak, Governor of the State of Nevada issued a Declaration of Emergency to facilitate the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Donald J. Trump, President of the United States declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020, I formed a medical advisory team to provide medical guidance and scientifically based recommendations on measures Nevada could implement to better contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, infectious disease and public health experts advised that minimizing interpersonal contact slows the rate at which the disease spreads, and is necessary to avoid overwhelming healthcare systems, commonly referred to as “flattening the curve”; and

**WHEREAS**, since the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency, I have issued 28 Directives pursuant to that order to provide for the safety, wellbeing, and public health of Nevadans and the administration of the State of Nevada; and

**WHEREAS**, these Directives were promulgated to reduce interpersonal contact and promote social distancing to flatten the curve; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 2020, I introduced the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan that outlined a phased approach to reopening Nevada businesses and industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan set forth a collaborative partnership between state and local governments that included the formation of the Local Empowerment Advisory Panel (“LEAP”) to serve as a resource to local governments and local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 9, 2020, the State of Nevada entered Phase One of the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 29, 2020, the State of Nevada entered Phase Two of the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to entering Phase Two, Nevada experienced a consistent and sustainable downward trajectory in the percentage of positive COVID-19 cases, a decrease in the trend of COVID-19 hospitalizations, and a decline in our cumulative test positivity rate from a maximum rate of 12.2% on April 24, 2020 to 6.3% on May 27, 2020 with a 33-day downward trend; and

**WHEREAS**, the intensity of COVID-19 infections in Nevada is exceedingly fluid. As of July 28, 2020, the State of Nevada has experienced over fifty days of an increasing trend of hospitalizations for confirmed COVID-19 cases; and

**WHEREAS**, as of July 28, 2020, the State of Nevada has experienced forty days of an increasing trend in its cumulative test positivity rate of COVID-19 cases; and

**WHEREAS**, as of July 28, 2020, there is no cure or vaccine for the COVID-19 disease; and

**WHEREAS**, because the virus causing COVID-19 is novel, scientific and medical treatment knowledge about the virus and how to limit its spread is improving regularly; and

**WHEREAS**, NRS 414.060 outlines powers and duties delegated to the Governor during the existence of a state of emergency, including without limitation, directing and controlling the conduct of the general public and the movement and cessation of movement of pedestrians and vehicular traffic during, before and after exercises or an emergency or disaster, public meetings or gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, NRS 414.060(3)(f) provides that the administrative authority vested to the Governor in times of emergency may be delegated; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides: “The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada;” and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Nevada and the United States, and pursuant to the March 12, 2020, Emergency Declaration,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

SECTION 1: To the extent this Directive conflicts with earlier Directives or regulations promulgated pursuant to the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency, the provisions of this Directive shall prevail.

SECTION 2: The *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan is hereby reaffirmed. This plan provides for a federally supported, state managed, and locally executed reopening approach, under which county governments and local municipalities are delegated the authority to impose additional COVID-19-related restrictions on businesses and public activities. Restrictions imposed by county government or local municipalities may exceed the standards imposed by Declaration of Emergency Directives and any State or federal guidelines to the extent reasonable, or set forth under the LEAP guidelines, but in no case shall such local guidelines be more permissive than the provisions of this Directive and the disease management plans it authorizes.

SECTION 3: The importance of the State’s county and city governments committing significant energy, resources, and time to enforcing the provisions of this and previous directives and in mandating conformance with health and safety standards central to the continuing fight against COVID-19 is reaffirmed here in the strongest possible form. Local governments and individuals, businesses, and other organizations may adopt practices that exceed the standards imposed by Declaration of Emergency Directives and the disease management plans they authorize, guidelines promulgated by the Nevada State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NV OSHA) or LEAP guidelines, but in no case shall business practices be more permissive than the provisions of this Directive, its authorized disease management plans, or those imposed by NV OSHA and the LEAP.

SECTION 4: All directives promulgated pursuant to the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency or subsections thereof set to expire on July 31, 2020, shall remain in effect for the duration of the current state of emergency, unless terminated prior to that date by a subsequent directive or by operation of law associated with lifting the Declaration of Emergency. Of note, Phase Two of the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* remains in effect. Directive 026, Section 8, extending Directive 021, Phase Two of the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan, is hereby extended until the earlier of termination of these provisions by a subsequent directive or termination of the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency to facilitate the State’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



SECTION 5: The provisions of Section 4 do not extend to the recommencement of certain actions or directives, including Directive 025, previously terminated by express or implied order, or previously allowed to expire by operation of law.

SECTION 6: Pursuant to NRS 414.060(3)(f), I hereby authorize and renew my call to all local, city, and county governments, and state agencies to enforce this Directive and regulations promulgated thereunder, including but not limited to, suspending licenses, revoking licenses, or issuing penalties for violating business, professional, liquor, tobacco, or gaming licenses issued by the local jurisdiction for actions that jeopardize the health, safety, or welfare of the public; conduct which may injuriously affect the public health, safety, or welfare; conduct that may be detrimental to the public peace, health, or morals; or any other applicable ordinance or requirement for such a license.

SECTION 7: The State of Nevada shall retain all authority vested in the Governor pursuant to NRS Chapter 414.

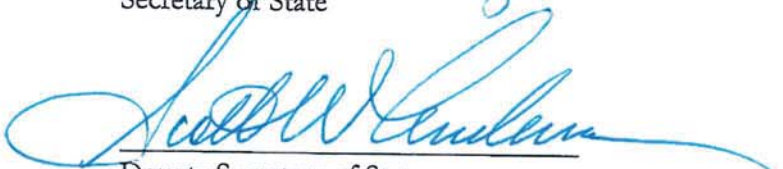
SECTION 8: This Directive is effective at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2020 and shall remain in effect until terminated by a subsequent directive promulgated pursuant to the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency, or dissolution or lifting of the Declaration of Emergency itself, to facilitate the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, in the year two thousand twenty.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Nevada

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Secretary of State



## Meeting Minutes Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>DATE</b>	Friday, December 4, 2020
	<b>TIME</b>	2:00 p.m.
	<b>METHOD</b>	Teleconference Only
	<b>RECORDER</b>	Karen Hall
<b>Voting Membership</b>		
Name	Designated/Appointed Representative:	Attendance Status
Harriett Parker – Co-Chair	Las Vegas Paiute Tribe	X
Marla Stanton	Battle Mountain Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Abs
Justin Bloom	Duck Valley Shoshone Paiute Tribe	X
Marian Perez	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Abs
Alfreida Jake	Elko Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	X
Jill Ward	Ely Shoshone Tribe	X
Jackie Conway	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	X
Duane Masters Sr.	Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe	Abs
Don Pelt	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	X
David Hunkup	Reno Sparks Indian Colony	X
Tanya Reynolds	South Fork Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	X
Sookaaki Charley	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe	X
Tashina Jim	Walker River Paiute Tribe	X
Lisa Christensen	Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California	Abs
<b>Non-Member Representatives/Support</b>		
Name	Entity Represented:	Attendance Status
David Fogerson, Co-Chair	Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X
Samantha Ladich	Nevada Office of the Attorney General	X
Karen Hall	Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair David Fogerson, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS), called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Karen Hall, DEM, and a quorum was established for the meeting.

### 2. Public Comment

Co-Chair David Fogerson opened the period of public comment for discussion. There were none.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Co-Chair Fogerson called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes of the August 21, 2020 NTECC meeting.

Jill Ward, Ely Shoshone Tribe, requested her name of record be changed from Perez to Ward. Karen Hall made note of the change.

Harriett Parker, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, indicated that on page 1 of the minutes, her name is spelled incorrectly, and requested a change to the correct spelling.

Duane Masters Sr., Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, made a motion to accept the minutes as proposed. Dave Hunkup, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, and Jill Ward seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Introduction of new Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security Administrator David Fogerson**

Co-Chair Fogerson, Homeland Security Administrator for the Division of Emergency Management, introduced himself. He has worked in Nevada for 27 years and 31 years in the fire service before retiring out of Douglas County. His background is in fire, emergency management, and emergency medical services. His goal is stewardship, cooperation, and collaboration. He recognizes that emergency management needs to be delivered at a local level led by the state and supported by the federal government. He is looking forward to working with the committee. The members should feel free to call, email, or text Mr. Fogerson with any needs.

**5. Update from Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)**

Deserea Quintana, ITCN and Clifford Banuelos, Tribal-State Environmental Liaison, ITCN, began the discussion. ITCN is currently being impacted by employees that have family members who have tested positive for COVID-19. Ms. Quintana has sent a memo to all staff and to the ITCN Executive Board to notify them they are implementing stricter guidelines for persons who will be allowed on any work sites, or their field offices in Las Vegas or Elko. They now require authorization for any essential personnel or those who have an immediate need to be on site, pushing for rapid testing of employees. Ms. Quintana hopes to hear a response shortly.

ITCN recently responded to the needs of those affected by the Walker Fire. They were able to coordinate an immediate fleet distribution with coordination with the Knights of Columbus and with the Red Cross, to people who were being housed at the Carson Valley Inn. They had two additional food distributions, one coordination to Big Pine, and another with the use of ITCN staff, the Walker River Paiute Tribal Chairperson, Amber Torres, that went directly to tribal members in Coleville. ITCN is open to assist for any short term or long term needs.

ITCN has continued their partnership with the Knights of Columbus, who have been dropping off food bags once or twice a week. These bags normally contain essential non-perishable items. ITCN has also been accepting other sample items like milk eggs, bread, and other pastry items. Most recent food drops included fruits, vegetables, cold salad, sandwiches, and

condiments.

ITCN recently coordinated a pickup with the Walker River Paiute Tribe, and they hope to work on a pickup calendar of ongoing distribution, and that it continued past December.

Ms. Quintana has made a request for additional PPE, including masks, gowns, shields, and cleaning supplies needed by tribal communities, who were more affected by the virus than previously. ITCN will be working with Crystal O’Ryan to work out a distribution plan.

Mr. Banuelos added that ITCN has a Centers of Disease Control (CDC) grant for around \$200,000 to support their COVID-19 work and wanted to ask NTECC to put it on their schedule for ICS 100, 200 training and Public Information Officer (PIO) training for staff. ITCN anticipates wildfires due to climate change and wishes the staff to understand the National Incident Management System (NIMS) process language and how everything functions. Through the CDC grant, they have a COVID coordinator who is handling logistical concerns.

Co-Chair Fogerson relayed information about his experience with the Walker fire. He drove past the fire with the OES Director for that county. The destruction, he said, was unfathomable, including that of the Tribal Health Center. This is something that could easily happen to the greater Nevada community. He said that Crystal Harjo, DEM, and ITCN really stepped up to help the community and wishes to thank them for it.

Co-Chair Fogerson called for any questions for ITCN. None were asked.

## **6. Update from Nevada Indian Council (NIC)**

Stacey Montooth, Executive Director of the Nevada Indian Commission, provided the NTECC with an update on NIC activities to include support of the COVID-10 response and leadership of the COVID-19 Tribal Taskforce.

Ms. Montooth began by thanking the council and various organizations for their civic mindedness, empathy, and their critical roles in the response to the emergency.

For her report. Ms. Montooth emphasized that the NIC is the point agency for the Tribal Task force, which originally focused on food distribution. They have met the needs of the vast majority of the Tribal nations. The Food Bank of Northern Nevada had already established services in the majority of communities in Northern Nevada in addition to expanding the delivery and distribution to Tribal lands. That organization is now providing thousands of food boxes through the month of December on Fridays to Tribal nations who can pick those boxes up. This takes place at the Sparks warehouse near USIA Parkway. Staff from the Nevada Indian Commission has had the opportunity to be on sites on more than one occasion and feel that it is working well. Ms. Montooth thanked Chris, their onsite contact. Ms. Montooth will keep the Council up to date on the extension of dates for their services.

Ms. Montooth mentioned the Tribal Nations Taskforce and wished to underscore that meetings are taking place every other Tuesday. The next meeting will be on the December 8th at 3:15 p.m. via conference call. They will discuss food and potential partners. Ms. Montooth encouraged the Council to join the call to discuss any special Tribal needs.

Ms. Montooth wanted to mention the Three Squares, who are working in Southern Nevada. They have partnerships with the Southern Paiute relatives as well as the Department of Agriculture (DOA). The DOA has continued their regular food deliveries to Tribal nations and the school system, even for students learning from home.

Ms. Montooth encouraged the Council to participate or send a proxy to Tribal Taskforce meetings. Six Tribal relations participated. Governor Sisolak has expressed concern that he does not know where the needs are and wishes that every Tribal nation participated in the jurisdiction call. This call will be at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Ms. Montooth then asked for questions about her update.

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM, updated the meeting for the jurisdictional call. The next one will be Tuesday, December 16th at 11:00 a.m., and takes place every two weeks.

David Hunkup suggested that Ms. Montooth send out another email to asking for the emergency managers, if they can't participate in these jurisdictional calls, to pass this on and send a proxy.

Ms. Montooth suggested that Bethany Spam, the Reno Sparks Indian Colony Public Information Officer, serve as a surrogate as she has done so before.

## **7. Overview of Behavioral Health Resources**

Co-Chair Fogerson called for a discussion and overview of Behavioral Health Resources. Dr. Stephanie Woodard, Senior Advisor on Behavioral Health, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services of Division of Public Behavioral Health (DHHS), will provide this information.

Dr. Woodard assured the council that DHHS is working diligently to ensure availability of resources in response to COVID-19. In addition to the large number of hospitalizations, DHHS recognizes the secondary and tertiary impacts of COVID-19, including job loss, housing, instability, and food insecurity.

What they know from disaster behavioral health in general is that there is a somewhat predictable course that follows the onset of a disaster and the response. However, COVID-19 and other pandemics typically do not follow the usual aftermath of a disaster, where the disaster has a very clear beginning, middle and end. The pandemic is not following the same linear trajectory experienced in other disasters.

At nine months into the pandemic, we are starting to see coping strategies breaking down, so part of the response and recovery plan is focusing on wellbeing and prevention of behavioral health issues such as depression and anxiety. The plan also focuses on assistance and support in healthy coping techniques, supporting individuals, and building a resilience plan. Dr. Woodard stressed that early response is important to support struggling individuals, supplemented by strengthening existing behavioral health systems.

When the emergency declaration was accepted, the State was eligible to apply for FEMA and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant funds for a program called Crisis Training and Assistance Program. This has

**DRAFT MINUTES – For approval at the March 16, 2021 NTECC Meeting**

allowed Nevada to bring in 39 resilience ambassadors, who are embedded in community agencies statewide, including crisis support services. The resilience ambassadors, since July, have had almost 35,000 encounters, and they are still in the process of ramping up for a second cohort.

In the last month, DHHS has launched the Nevada Resilience Project website. It is connected to Nevada 2-1-1, and the website is [nevadaresilienceproject.com](http://nevadaresilienceproject.com). The site contains information on the meaning of resilience in this context, a resilience toolkit, as well as behavioral health resources.

Dr. Woodard wished to make the council aware of some specific resources available, those being: a 24/7 crisis hotline through Crisis Support Services of Nevada, including texting capability, and the expansion of the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) Children's Mobile Crisis Team, which is a team in Northern Nevada, Washoe County, that operates 24/7. There is also an expansion team in rural Nevada, along with a Mobile Crisis Team for adults.

In an effort to alleviate some of the burden on our emergency rooms in our urban centers, DHHS has also funded through grants funds Desert Parkway Hospital in southern Nevada and Reno Gabriel Healthcare Hospital up in Washoe County to provide not only 24/7 triage for individuals in behavioral health crisis, but also to fund inpatient stays. They have also certified Community Behavioral Health Centers, whose contact information is on the web page, and whose availability is statewide. There is one in Elko, two in Carson City, three in Park County, one in Washoe, and one in Silver Springs. These clinics are able to provide care regardless of pay.

Dr. Woodard underscored that the behavioral stress in the state has become universal, and so DHHS has been watching its level closely through the CDC household pulse survey. In the last measurement period, which was October 28 through November 9, Nevada ranks first in the number of adults endorsing symptoms consistent with depression, with 34% estimated to meet the criteria for depression. Nevada was ranked number 8 for anxiety with just under 40% of respondents endorsing symptoms consistent with anxiety. Overall, Nevada was ranked number two for 47% of respondents endorsing symptoms of depression or anxiety.

Dr. Woodard noted that it is important to recognize how prevalent these conditions are now, and to break down the stigma associated with them, encouraging people to talk about their experiences. The more resources DHHS can provide, the better off the State will be.

Co-Chair Fogerson called for questions of Dr. Woodard.

David Hunkup commented that it might be helpful to provide links that DHHS could send out from intake to provide to all information seekers for easy access rather than attempting to find the information through a search engine. Dr. Woodard thanked him for his feedback.

Chris Poehlmann, Tribe Liaison for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), requested to talk offline to get feedback for individual assistance to ensure it is working well, and to provide support where needed.

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Dr. Woodard mentioned that anyone who wished to be in contact with a resilience ambassador could go to the website and fill out a brief form, after which DHHS can place the applicant with a resilience ambassador within 24 to 48 hours. Staff are in office Monday through Friday and have had 50 individuals reach out to them through the website. Each has been reached quickly. Dr. Woodward stressed that this form is not for crisis, and those in crisis should call the crisis services number on the page.

**8. Update on Tribal Health Preparedness Efforts**

Emily Gould, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), Public Health Preparedness (PHP), provided the NTECC with an update on the DPBH Tribal Health Preparedness efforts to include updates on COVID-19 response support.

Regarding the BinaxNOW test, DPBH has not met their 50% mark to resume regular federal direct shipments. They are redistributing as many as possible. Those already approved for antigen testing will have to undergo a short quality control inspection with Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) to be approved for the BinaxNOW testing.

Reports indicate that Elko has been 100% accurate when compared to a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR). The best results with BinaxNOW are suggested to be on individuals with symptoms within seven days of symptom onset. They are also working on finishing touches to the latest crisis standards of care for COVID recommendation document, only awaiting official CDC updated quarantine guidance.

DPBH continues to provide support with the FFA desk. Ms. Gould encourages the Council to reach out and they will be happy to help however they can.

DPBH has been working closely with rural communities and the state immunization program. They are tentatively receiving the vaccine on December 14, and distribution could begin between the 15th and 16th. All tribes aside from Fallon have opted in to the Indian Health Service (IHS) receiver program. If there are any tribal communities who are not near a Tribal clinic, they should let Ms. Gould know and DPBH will assist with coordination of distribution. She noted that it is not required to start with the indicated tiers, but a recommendation. It is up to each community to decide which members need the vaccines most.

Co-Chair Fogerson called for questions for Ms. Gould.

Crystal Harjo, DEM, elaborated on the information provided by Ms. Gould. The ongoing issue with the tribes is that they could not get information out of HIS on which Tribes exactly had submitted to IHS for direct recipient status and who was going through the state. She would like to follow up with them after today's vaccine meeting to know whether or not the tribal health centers need to report similar to counties and local jurisdictions. IHS released their own vaccine plan, which is available to NTECC.

Tribal health directors were concerned in regard to storage, dissemination, and rollout. They wanted to do a consortium of tribes to organize these. Ms. Harjo has not received any information after her invitation to join the taskforce.

IHS continues day-to-day deliverables with the Tribes. They recently had a training

workshop for emergency preparedness and public health preparedness.

Ms. Gould has additional questions and will follow up with Belinda to have them answered.

## **9. Nevada Public Bodies Updates**

Co-Chair Fogerson opened the discussion on the Nevada Public Bodies updates. The following are the highlights from each update provided:

- a) Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee – Dave Hunkup, Reno Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC).

The NRAC met on Monday, November 30th. They discussed the reallocation of Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Funds. These have been sent to a fusion center in Southern Nevada, which does not affect the Tribes.

Regarding the Mitigation Grant Program update and funding, the NRAC received an overview from Janelle Woodward, DEM.

Dr. Woodard provided her overview of Behavioral Health Services.

The NRAC discussed the HSGP process.

There was a recommendation for the strategic capacity to be maintained for the fiscal year 2021, led by David Fogerson, DEM, and Deputy Chief Billy Samuels.

- b) Nevada Council on Homeland Security (NCHS) – Lisa Christensen, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California.

Lisa Christensen was not present on the call to provide this update.

- c) Nevada Commission of Homeland Security Committee on Finance (NCHS) – David Fogerson, DEM/HS.

A commission meeting is scheduled on December 17th, and the NCHS Finance Committee meeting will be taking place shortly before.

- d) Nevada State Emergency Response Council (SERC) – Lance Chantler, RSIC.

Lance Chantler was not present on the call to provide this update. Jon Bakkedahl of DEM provided the update.

SERC has focused on filling empty roles on the Council due to leaving members. Several new Commissioners have been introduced across the state.



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There was a large discussion on the grant operation inside of SERC to look at increasing several of the grants that SERC offers in dollar value to make them more of an award to the sub-grantee. They hope to expand those grants from \$25,000 to \$35,000 to much larger awards.

SERC was stagnant for well over a year, and now in the last six months they are very active.

Federal partners attended this meeting.

- e) Nevada Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee (IMAC) – David Fogerson, DEM/HS.

IMAC normally meets only once a year, but they have changed to meeting twice a year. They are working on scheduling that meeting for IMAC in March and September of 2021. I

In Nevada, all local government is a member of Mutual Aid and Tribes have the option to opt into Mutual Aid. Four tribal nations have opted in. Co-Chair Fogerson invites other Tribes to opt in.

- f) Nevada Legislative Council on Wildfire Mitigation – Cliff Banuelos, ITCN

Cliff Banuelos, ITCN, took the place of Jackie Conway for this subitem. He has replaced Ms. Conway as the representative for ITCN.

ITCN is focusing on wildfire mitigation. Mr. Banuelos does not yet know when the next meeting will take place.

Karen Hall updated Mr. Banuelos' information.

## **10. Update from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX**

Chris Poehlmann, FEMA Region IX Tribal Liaison, provided the NTECC with an update of FEMA Region IX activities at a regional and Nevada-specific level to include updates on the FEMA Region IX COVID-19 support.

FEMA training campuses are open again. Mostly, FEMA is training remotely. It will conduct tribal training next year March 20th to 27th and will be conducted on campus. The program will limit in-person attendance to 130 students due to COVID concerns, but other students will be able to attend virtually.

FEMA has 580 courses that are specific to Tribal interest.

Mr. Poehlmann is serving in his capacity with DHS on the Lady Justice Initiatives, which is for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Program. He has been working closely with the CDC in their Tribal Support Unit, which can send out a team for contact tracing, in addition to other services. At the moment, most of their assistance is virtual. They do not need to be tasked by FEMA to send services.

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FEMA has been working with the Tribal Task Force specifically on COVID-19 and fire. They have also been implementing the Brick Program, which has \$600,000 set aside for Tribes.

FEMA is working directly with Tribes in California so that they can go directly to FEMA instead of through other bodies.

Co-Chair Fogerson called for questions for Mr. Poehlmann.

Cliff Banuelos asked whether FEMA could roll out fire training after the pandemic is over. Mr. Poehlmann said he would pass along this request to his supervisor.

David Hunkup commented that, at Reno-Sparks, they had a plan in place a number of years back, but it needed to be updated. They contracted with a consultant hired by Aaron Kenneston, Washoe County Emergency Manager, who contacted all department directors. They did a resolution for the Tribal council as an action item and got it approved. Over 18 departments contracted.

### **11. Interoperability Update**

Melissa Friend, DEM, was not available for this update. It has been tabled until the next meeting.

### **12. Project, Grant, and Financial Report Updates from DEM**

Crystal Harjo, DEM, provided the NTECC with updates.

Ms. Harjo is looking at the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) supplemental grants. They just finished that, got the funds finalized, and need to get the funds released for NTECC to purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). There have been some challenges, namely COVID, and their response is coded differently, so they have not been able to draw down as many funds as they would like.

Regarding training, Ms. Harjo has been in contact with Katie Herr at Emergency Management Institute (EMI). She sent NTECC and DEM resources in terms of bringing the EMI travel curriculum to Nevada. Much of the training will be virtual. At the moment, they are trying to spend as much money as they can before the grants expire, so they do not encounter a loss of funding.

### **13. Tribal Updates**

Co-Chair Fogerson opened the discussion on tribal updates.

- Elko Band of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone

Alfreida Jake had no updates at this time.

### **14. Update on State Response to COVID-19**

Caleb Cage, State of Nevada COVID-19 Response Director, updated the council on the State's response efforts to COVID-19. Nevada is experiencing a surge in cases, over 2,500 in the last week or so. The Governor has implemented a pause in activities and

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reopening, putting back in place a 25% capacity limit across the board, for the next three weeks, at which point he will reevaluate.

The State is working with school districts to reopen in-person schooling, placing vulnerable children in the back of the classroom.

Two major announcements: The Nevada National Guard has been extended in the State for another three and a half to four months, and there has been a rollout of the first shipment of vaccine to Nevada, which will be distributed over the next four to six months. COVID-19 Response is working with various partners throughout the State through the Division of Emergency Management in order to meet resource demands.

Co-Chair Fogerson called for questions on Item 14, and asked Mr. Cage to speak more on the immunizations that will be rolling out.

Mr. Cage stated that the two available vaccines are at present under review by the federal government and going through the final process. Nevada will be receiving its first shipment of 164,000 vaccines in the next two weeks, and the government anticipates another shipment in January. As this is a two-shot vaccine, there are 21 days between shots, so those vaccinated in December would need to wait for January to receive the second shot. The second group could begin in January. Indian Health Services is coordinating a vaccine to tribal governments in the state. Vaccines will be received to address tier one.

Co-Chair Fogerson stated that all the Tribes have opted into the Indian Health Services for the vaccine help from DEM or the state, and Mr. Cage confirmed that was also his understanding.

Stacy Montooth from the Nevada Indian Council asked for a confirmation that the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe is going through the state process.

Mr. Cage stated he would follow up with State Health to answer that question.

Co-Chair Fogerson suggested that Ms. Montooth ask that of Jackie Conway when she becomes available in the call.

Emily Gould with State Public Health confirmed that the Fallon Paiute Tribe will receive their vaccinations through the state.

Co-Chair Fogerson asked whether Ms. Gould knew if any other Tribes were receiving the vaccine through the state or the remaining tribes are all signed up with IHS.

Ms. Montooth believes all other Tribes have opted into this but stated that if there are no Tribal clinics nearby, State Public Health can coordinate with the county for Tribal members to receive vaccines.

David Hunkup asked about the December distribution for the vaccine, and what kind of person qualifies for the vaccine under tier one.

Mr. Cage stated he would send the vaccination distribution playbook to Mr. Hunkup at the end of the call. Tier one, he stated, is vulnerable populations and healthcare workers, essential employees, and front line workers. The playbook matches the

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federal CDC guidelines and has been developed over the last few months. He will send the playbook after the meeting to ensure the council has access to it.

Co-Chair Fogerson stated that the councilors can make use of the joint information center for COVID-19 information, and thanked Mr. Cage for his help.

**15. Update from Nevada Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)**

Jill Hemenway, American Red Cross of Northern Nevada was not present to provide this update.

**16. Public Comment**

Co-Chair Fogerson opened up the discussion to public comment.

Don Pelt, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, asked whether Kevin is going to be in contact with the Biden transition team with regard to extending the COVID Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act past December 31st or going to pursue an additional CARES Act to help rural agencies continue. He suggested that we address that comment in an agenda item next month.

Mr. Pelt also commented that on Saturday the 5th of December, they will be doing drive-through COVID testing, which is available to anyone Tribal or non-Tribal at the Wadsworth Community Center on the corner of 8th Street and State Route 447 in Wadsworth, Nevada. This is being done in conjunction with the Nevada National Guard. It takes place from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or until all 200 tests are exhausted. He urged others to advertise this opportunity on their social media.

Chris Poehlmann reminded everyone that FEMA is having a listening session with all Tribes on December 8th. He sent out information to call in. It will be a virtual listening session from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time in a Zoom meeting.

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM, inquired whether Ms. Montooth had any information in regards to the Biden transition and the extension of any programs.

Ms. Montooth stated she has been in conversation with Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto's staff, and that is a topic on the agenda. It appears the federal government will extend the deadline for spending CARES. As soon as Ms. Montooth knows something, it will be sent to all tribal chairs.

Co-Chair Fogerson noted that the Governor's office and the federal delegation are working together on COVID concerns.

Co-Chair Fogerson called for additional public comments. Hearing none, he closed public comment. DEM will post Mr. Pelt's information regarding the COVID testing tomorrow.

Hearing no further questions, Co-Chair Fogerson closed public comment.

**17. Adjourn**

Co-Chair Fogerson called for a motion for adjournment. Don Pelt made a motion to adjourn. Duane Masters Sr. seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition. Meeting adjourned.

**Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council  
Tribal Update Item #7**

<b>From:</b>	
<b>For Which Meeting:</b>	
<b>Tribal/Other Entity:</b>	
<b>Presenter:</b>	

**Summary of Update Information to be Provided**

*(Please provide high level discussion points associated with your update)*

<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	
<b>5</b>	

**Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council  
Tribal Update Item #13**

<b>From:</b>	
<b>For Which Meeting:</b>	
<b>Tribal/Other Entity:</b>	
<b>Presenter:</b>	

**Summary of Update Information to be Provided**

*(Please provide high level discussion points associated with your update)*

<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	
<b>5</b>	