



Meeting Minutes

Nevada Commission on Homeland Security

Attendance	DATE		Friday, June 14, 2024			
	TIME		1:00 PM			
	METHOD		Zoom/Teleconference Conference line #: (669) 219-2599 Meeting ID# 686 738 8625			
	RECORDER		Sherrean Whipple			
Appointed Voting Member Attendance						
Member Name	Present	Member Name	Present	Member Name	Present	
Governor Joe Lombardo - Chair	X	Mitchell Fox	X	Chief John Steinbeck	X	
Sheriff Kevin McMahon – Vice-Chair	X	Chief Fernando Grey	ABS	George Togliatti	X	
Col. Brett Compston	ABS	Dr. Ikram Khan	ABS	Rosemary Vassiliadis	X	
Sheriff Darin Balaam	X	Chief Charles Moore	X	Patricia Wade	X	
Spencer Evans	X	Harriett Vegas	X	Bill Welch	X	
Todd Fasulo	X	Richard Perkins	X			
Appointed Non-Voting Member Attendance						
Karen Burke	X	Christopher Ipsen	ABS	Aakin Patel	X	
Gonzalo Cordova	X	David Fogerson	X			
Skip Daly	X	P.K. O'Neill	X			
Legal and Support Staff Attendance						
Samantha Ladich	X	Sherrean Whipple	X			

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo called the meeting to order. Roll call was performed by Sherrean Whipple, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS). Quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo opened the first period of public comment for discussion.

There was no public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo called for a motion to approve the draft minutes from the February 27, 2024, Nevada Commission on Homeland Security meeting.

Richard Perkins, Perkins Company, motioned to approve the minutes. Bill Welch, Citizen Representative, seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

No discussion was presented. All were in favor with no opposition, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. RECOGNITION OF NEW HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISOR

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo introduced Tim Rob, Chair's designee.

Tim Robb thanked the Governor for the additional role. Mr. Robb noted he was looking forward to working with the Commission and continuing the great work of Director Togliatti as Homeland Security Advisor, and here to be an advocate for you and be a conduit into the Governor's office.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo requested that Mr. Robb please email everybody that is a Commission, voting and non-voting members, his contact information for future reference.

5. REVIEW OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2024 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM (SHSP) AND THE URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI) PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

David Fogerson, State Administrative Agency (SAA), stated that Deputy Fire Chief Billy Samuels, Clark County Emergency Manager, and himself had worked with Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) to review the recommended programs. Mr. Fogerson noted that previously, anyone that has an approved grant and met the criteria were automatically approved and only new grants were heard. Mr. Fogerson stated it was decided that this year everything would be competitive and must have a presentation. Mr. Fogerson discussed the process in which NRAC reviewed the projects, grant staff looked at all the stabling security funds projects and UAWG projects to make sure the law enforcement requirement of 30% was met and then those special federal government requirements as mentioned by Sheriff McMahill previously was also met, then those projects were reviewed by NRAC and ranked. Mr. Fogerson explained that 38 members of NRAC spent a day hearing proposals and asking questions, and then each member ranked the projects 1-25 and voting members made recommendations to fund projects. Mr. Fogerson noted that the NRAC recommended 1-19 for funding, 20-25 has no funding associated with them, and one project pulled and was given cyber security funds to pay for the project.

Deputy Fire Chief Billy Samuels stated they followed the same guidelines as the NRAC and UAWG and viewed all projects as brand new, however they had to make 30% national priorities compliance and 35% had to go to Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA), and 3% had to go to election securities. The UASI did meet the requirements and only had two projects fall below the red line and any deobligated funds we will look at those projects to possibly make those funds available to them.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo asked what was specifically utilized for election integrity.

Billy Samuels stated that he met up with elections officials and their office Mr. Samuels noted previously funded were some of the Commanders 6400 that LVMPD uses for surveillance security on the mobile site. Mr. Samuels discussed their need this year to be mobile lighted generators. Mr. Samuels also explained that NRAC would be funding 11 of those at the current available price, but should there be a better cost, those numbers would increase to meet the \$141,000 threshold.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo asked where they are deployed.

Billy Samuels stated they'll be deployed wherever they're asked for, usually being for any of the temporary sites during early voting. Mr. Samuels also noted that they will also be for some of the sites at the main hall and then wherever they deemed low lighting is needed in conjunction with those surveillance trailers that LVMPD puts out for them.

Chief John Steinbeck, Clark County Fire Department, noted funding available for the Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) and questioned how any of these projects were taking care of any gaps that have been identified through the THIRA in the past.

Billy Samuels stated anytime the THIRA identifies gaps, projects will be looked at that will meet those needs, which also go with the state priorities and the state acknowledges. Mr. Samuels explained most of those also fall under the NPA's from the federal government side, but whatever gaps identified get pushed through those prior projects.

David Fogerson commented that the biggest gap the THIRA identifies is intelligence and information sharing, which speaks to highly prioritize the money to the Southern Nevada Counter-Terrorism Center and, on the state of Homeland Security side, giving the money to the Nevada Threat Analysis Center (NTAC). Mr. Fogerson indicated there had been much discussion at NRAC and with Sheriff McMahon at the Finance Committee about ensuring that these grants are going for the right purpose and the right items.

Chief John Steinbeck asked Billy Samuels and David Fogerson to highlight one project each, telling the Commission about it and why they were proud that that project got funded this year.

Billy Samuels spoke on the Clark County Fire Department Hazmat Unit project. Mr. Samuels stated that he was impressed with the innovation that LVMPD is making and the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC) with their remote drone program. Mr. Samuels explained that he liked their ideas, the philosophy, and having remote flights. Mr. Samuels also noted they've already gone through the FAA with some non-live site flights that they can have deploying from rooftops and still managing them from their office. Mr. Samuels discussed how has helped in the past in some avalanches, floods, and two alarm or greater fires.

David Fogerson noted a project that stood out for him was Washoe County asking for their perimeter program, which is a nice regional partnership that will first be funded with some de-obligated funds that test drive for Washoe, Carson, and Douglas. Mr. Fogerson stated

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this year four additional counties will be added. Mr. Fogerson explained that this project enables using Emergency Alerting Systems to put a map in and go to a website that is a low bandwidth website, allowing the ability to denote areas to evacuate, where shelters need to be, and giving first responders and Incident Commanders the ability to put information on that map for the general public to see. Mr. Fogerson stated this has been used quite frequently in Northern Nevada for wildland fires, but also in densely populated areas in Douglas County and Washoe County with the special events to provide immediate messaging for people who might not be familiar with the area but can quickly pull up on their phone with low bandwidth and see the map of where they need to go to get out of a hazard zone.

Sheriff Kevin McMahon added that there had been additional conversation in regards to this, the Commission was unanimous in their approval of pushing this forward to the larger homeland security effort, Sheriff McMahon stated that it was encouraged that, moving forward, the focus should continue being on making sure that the monies that are coming into the state are not consistently eaten up by personnel costs to fund the types of things these grants are intended for, which is to strengthen the ability to interrupt and prevent terrorist attacks.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo asked what the trend line associated with the total amounts funded is and if there had been significant change over the last few years.

Billy Samuels replied that the trend was a 10% decrease received on the allocation itself, but the numbers that come through on what is funded through the LETPA is pretty consistent. The LVMPD and SNCTC took a little more than 50%, but we're close to 55% for all law enforcement projects through the Las Vegas Valley. Mr. Samuels continued and stated that there is still 30% towards the national priority areas but, they weren't specific on which ones we had to fund at that 3% like we did in the past. Mr. Samuels said that gave us a little more flexibility as long as we met 30%. Mr. Samuels said the 35% was the 3% for election security. Mr. Samuels stated the trends have all been pretty much similar to the same. Mr. Samuels stated many of it goes through the Community Emergency Response Team for counter terrorism and then to EOC upgrades. Mr. Samuels also stated that jurisdictions are also looking at new technology for remote drones.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo asked if there was any percentage of obligation mandated for cybersecurity.

Billy Samuels responded that there was not on this one because with last year's cybersecurity grants, they started looking to move away from making a mandatory funding part due to the cybersecurity grants being from the feds.

Chief John Steinbeck motioned to approve. Patricia Wade, President, Wade Development, seconded the motion.

No discussion was presented. All were in favor with no opposition, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. DISCUSS THE AFTER-ACTION REPORT (AAR) OF FORMULA ONE

Deputy Fire Chief Billy Samuels discussed the November 2023 F1 race held in Las Vegas, the first since 1982. Mr. Samuels explained this event involved Clark County, regional partners, and a startup company called Las Vegas Grand Prix and was a 3.8-mile race on prime real estate within the resort corridor with an overall attendance of 316,000. Mr. Samuels went on to speak on the challenges faced by independent departments, stating the county is looking to create a high impact special events process, comprised of multiple departments that would funnel through to one person making decisions to make sure things aren't getting left behind or missed. Mr. Samuels noted some of the items to work towards would be the need to increase advanced communications, prevention, better deadlines, and putting better coordination with partner agencies, especially the federal partners, in place. Mr. Samuels expects it will be better due to this template in place from last year and advanced notification to the general public with traffic updates and messaging. Mr. Samuels explained the need to train more people as adjustment of shifts is difficult but necessary in a 24-hour city. Mr. Samuels indicated Clark County did create a template where everyone is tracking their hours and can submit towards the end of the year when they need to get that reimbursement. Mr. Samuels also spoke to Coordination Center credentialing and making sure people will have the badges and access needed. Mr. Samuels concluded with the issue of pedestrian and vehicle traffic and ADA capabilities. Mr. Samuels indicated there was a 110-page brief used to generate this information that is public knowledge on the Clark County's website and is open to the public.

Dori Koren, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, recognized that this event was the most complex security operation in a major urban area and deemed successful event in the sense that there were no major attacks, no major incidents or mass casualty issues, and everyone was kept safe. Mr. Koren also commended teams on the police, the fire, and the EMS side who worked on F1 well over a year ago along with noting the coordination amongst first responders was stellar. Mr. Koren also stated that the training exercises, tabletop scenarios, and preparations were invaluable and instrumental. Mr. Koren did note that although there was heavy congestion, the successful traffic plan helped mitigate gridlock, and allowed people to get into the event and out. Mr. Koren also discussed the adaptability of all agencies involved. Mr. Koren addressed the communication and trust issues between the event organizers and the first responders or government entities, recognizing an internal communication gap. Mr. Koren also stated the need for more effective and efficient meetings, putting pressure on the organizers to submit everything in advance, and better operational readiness, especially for decision making after hours. Mr. Koren agreed with Billy Samuels on revising how credentialing will work and making sure that first responders can get to where they need to get. Mr. Koren discussed the challenges of the pedestrian bridges, preventing congestion, but noted the plan for changing the design and working with the event organizers to ensure that visual obstructions work, negating serious safety issues. Mr. Koren noted there are 34 recommendations that will be worked on for the next event.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo asked David Fogerson to put an agenda item on the next Homeland Security Commission meeting for an open discussion on the after action of F1, giving the Commission members time to read and ready their questions, and also noted he eagerly awaited the same report on the Super Bowl.

Karen Burke, Federal Security Director – Transportation Safety Administration, commented that the Grand Prix is a CR three, not a CR two, so no federal coordinator or automatic resources are given. Ms. Burke offered to work informally to make sure there is TSA commitment to canines, noting the sooner the better.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo asked if Karen Burke and Rosemary Vassiliadis, Director of Aviation – Harry Reid International Airport, were included in the after action for both F1 and the Super Bowl.

Dori Kern noted a few small team meetings with some of the federal counterparts but was unsure of who exactly.

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo suggested a more comprehensive study of the traffic flow and security issues at Harry Reid International Airport and adjacent satellite airports, due to them not having as robust of security, as part of the Super Bowl feedback.

Rosemary Vassiliadis stated they were not included in the after-action report and appreciated the recommendation, especially for reliever airports in North Las Vegas and Henderson since they do have activities such as customs and border protection for special events.

Billy Samuels added that they had requested for the Nevada National Guard to assist at two different locations, the boots on the ground support for LVMPD and Nevada National Guardsmen that helped the hospital area command kept at the trauma centers. Mr. Samuels noted this will go to the interim Finance Committee from the legislative side and will hopefully get approval on 80 to 90 Nevada National Guardsmen that assist the medical component.

7. REPORT ON THE STATEWIDE ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

David Fogerson, State Administrative Agent (SAA), indicated the training and education continues, including a very robust website with a lot of training opportunities on it for, not only position specific, but also the typical NIMS classes, ICS 300, 400. Mr. Fogerson noted that work on writing down the updated policies for the Incident Management Assistance teams and staff is due September for review in order to publish them. Mr. Fogerson also stated that there is a public body called Interstate Mutual Aid System Committee that is working on it in addition to Staff Force.

Chief John Steinbeck once again suggested a functional tabletop exercise going through the process and the reimbursements of local to state resources.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo opened the second period of public comment for discussion.

There was no public comment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Governor Joe Lombardo motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Fire Chief Charles Moore, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, seconded the motion.

All were in favor with no opposition. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:47pm.

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