



Meeting Minutes

Emergency Preparedness Working Group

Attendance Record	DATE	November 9, 2022	
	TIME	11:00 a.m.	
	METHOD	Zoom Teleconference Conference line #: (669) 219-2599 Meeting ID# 686 738 8625	
	RECORDER	Shari Grennan	
Committee Members	Present	Non-Voting Membership	Present
Lee Cabaniss—Esmeralda County	X	Jon Bakkedahl, Chair—NV Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security	X
Eric Holt—Lincoln County	X	Yuri Graves—Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Nevada Field Office	X
Scott Lewis—Nye County	ABS		
Paul Melendrez—Esmeralda County	X		
Brett North—White Pine County	X	Legal/Support Staff	Present
Billy Samuels—Clark County	X	Samantha Ladich—Senior Deputy Attorney General	X

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair, Jon Bakkedahl, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS) called the meeting to order. Shari Grennan, DEM/HS performed roll call, and quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Jon Bakkedahl opened the first period of public comment.

No public comment was provided during this period.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Bakkedahl called for any suggested changes on the Minutes, noting that Scott Lewis' name is misspelled in the Committee Members.

Billy Samuels, Clark County, moved for a motion to approve the draft minutes of July 21, 2022, Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) Meeting with the amendment to Scott Lewis's spelling of last name. Lee Cabaniss, Elko County, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKING GROUP (EPWG) -

Chair Bakkedahl introduced Paul Melendrez, new Emergency Manager for Esmeralda County.

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Paul Melendrez introduced himself to the group, noting that he is a former California fire chief, retired after 30 years, who moved to Esmeralda County approximately nine years earlier. Mr. Melendrez informed the group that his contact information is listed in his email and indicated that he is looking forward to working with EPWG.

5. UPDATES FROM THE NEVADA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/HOMELAND SECURITY (DEM/HS)

Chair Bakkedahl provided a quick overview of the details of DEM's annual calibrations, equipment purchases, and future training and exercise opportunities. Chair Bakkedahl noted that annual calibrations were completed back in the spring for calendar year 2022, and that this same coordination schedule will continue for 2023. Chair Bakkedahl indicated that there are two briefs coming to Nevada to which emergency managers are invited. Because these are considered secure briefs, Chair Bakkedahl explained that they will not be done via any sort of telecommunications. Chair Bakkedahl indicated that the Office of Secure Transport from the US Department of Energy will be in Las Vegas on December 5 at the Las Vegas FAST Center, which is the NHP Center on Sunset, and they will be briefing local emergency managers, law enforcement, fire, as well as other invited guests as to what they do to support the nuclear transportation around the country. Chair Bakkedahl next noted that the same briefing will take place on December 6 at the NHP Facility in Reno. Chair Bakkedahl informed members of the group aware of anyone who would like to attend the briefing that he would be the point of contact that could provide the invite and indicated that although no clearance level is necessary to attend, the event is by invite only because of the sensitive information being shared. Chair Bakkedahl next addressed MERRT (Modular Emergency Radiological Response Training) that would be held in southern Nevada on December 12, December 14, and December 15, and consist of one-day technician level classes for radiological response.

Brent Harper, DEM/HS, informed the group that DEM would be in the Carson-Reno area for calibrations during the last week of March 2023, in northeastern Nevada during the first week of April, and in southern Nevada during the third week of April. Mr. Harper indicated that DEM has been distributing new meters and reported that by the end of the fiscal year, will be caught up with the new Ludlum 26-3s, which are much more user-friendly than their predecessors. Mr. Harper explained that a lot of the meters have not come in for calibration in quite some time and as such, the goal is to try and find all the old meters when doing calibrations as a state, and replace them. Mr. Harper indicated that DEM is looking for some of the EPWG money to help pay for some of these 26-3s, particularly in Nye County, which has the most meters, many of which are older meters. Mr. Harper noted that Lincoln County is in relatively good shape, as are Ely and Eureka County. Mr. Harper indicated that DEM will be meeting with Chief North in White Pine to try and get some of the older meters located and provide them with newer ones. Mr. Harper concluded his presentation by noting that he would also like to get some of these 26-3s for Reno Airport.

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Chair Jon Bakkedahl informed the group that the acronym WIPP stands for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Chair Bakkedahl further explained that the meters to which Mr. Harper referred are Ludlum radiation detection instruments.

6. UPDATES FROM THE NEVADA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/HOMELAND SECURITY (DEM/HS) GRANTS SECTION

Jared Franco, DEM, informed the group that a spreadsheet of all the open grants is attached to the agenda in the meeting materials, a spreadsheet with a dashboard at the top that provides the overview of all current open years. Mr. Franco apologized for the delay in getting out the FY21 EPWG grant but noted that it is out and ready for members to spend down and to report and indicated that the FY22 EPWG grant will be ready for spend down and reporting in the upcoming weeks.

Paul Melendrez, Esmeralda County, informed Mr. Franco that he would be calling the DEM office following the meeting for clarification on the fiscal years that are available for utilization. Mr. Melendrez reported that Esmeralda County has been successful in locating a piece of equipment this past week and as such, will close out the approved fiscal years. Mr. Melendrez thanked Mr. Franco and DEM for their support, and noted the county's appreciation.

7. EPWG JURISDICTION PRESENTATION

Chief Eric Holt, Lincoln County, presented on how Lincoln County spent EPWG funds for years 2018-2021. Mr. Holt explained that the Lincoln County Emergency Manager falls under the duty of the Lincoln County Fire District Chief, who is responsible for coordinating and responding to 10,638 square miles of rural Nevada. Mr. Holt indicated that due to the five Nevada State Parks located in Lincoln County, there is a significant amount of tourist traffic in and out of the county although the population of approximately 5,000 is relatively small. Mr. Holt explained that as the county is relatively large in square mileage and area, it is broken up into two sections: the southern most populated areas, which consist of Alamo, Hiko, Rachel, and Coyote Springs; and the northern most populated areas, which consist of Caliente, Panaca, Pioche, Eagle Valley, and Mt. Wilson. Mr. Holt indicated that because no facilities in the south had resources to continue operations in the event of an emergency, the FY18 funds were used to install a generator for the Alamo Fire and EMS station. Mr. Holt further indicated that 50 percent of the emergency manager's salary is covered through this grant, as are some basic office supplies and some volunteer EMT training. Mr. Holt informed the group that 100 percent of EMT service in the area is volunteer. Mr. Holt reported that in 2019, an end-of-life, undersized backup generator was replaced at the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, which doubles as the Lincoln County Dispatch Center. Mr. Holt indicated that given the frequency of power outages and blackouts, this is an essential piece of equipment and the same brand and style of generator was used as down in Alamo. Mr. Holt further indicated that 50 percent of the emergency manager's salary is covered along with operating supplies out of that funding. Mr. Holt informed the group that in 2020, some of the funds were used to replace an old command vehicle and again, supported 50 percent of the emergency manager's salary and operating supplies. Mr. Holt next indicated that some of the 2021 funds have been requested to replace the current, long-

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distance transport, frontline ambulance, one of the four needed to support EMS in the north. Mr. Holt explained that the funds put towards this from the EPWG will cover only a small portion of the new unit given that ambulances are extremely expensive. Mr. Holt indicated that the funds also covered 50 percent of the emergency manager's salary as well as some operating and office supplies. Mr. Holt next discussed some of the incidents in the county and the responses to these incidents before providing a breakdown table of funding for the years discussed. Mr. Holt noted the following: in 2018, out of \$92,838.17, only \$1.34 was de-obligated; in 2019, out of \$87,675.95, only \$114.09 was de-obligated; in 2020, \$93,662.41 was received; in 2021, \$87,859.50 was received. Mr. Holt concluded his presentation by thanking DEM Staff and everyone involved in the program, noting that it is a huge benefit to small rural counties.

Chair Jon Bakkedahl informed the group that the presentations given by Billy Samuels and Eric Holt are exactly what DEM is looking for to provide visual information behind the spending not only for DEM, but also for DOE partners. Chair Bakkedahl asked Mr. Holt if there are any statistics regarding the number of times the generators have been used.

Eric Holt indicated that he does not have any specific statistics, but reiterated that power outages are a regular occurrence that creates issues, particularly at the dispatch center. Mr. Holt offered to reach out to the power district to get some numbers from them given that they have many times supported critical response efforts during outages.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Jon Bakkedahl opened the second period of public comment.

No additional public comment was provided during this period

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jon Bakkedahl called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Melendrez motioned to adjourn. Eric Holt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.