



**STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
MEETING MINUTES  
NEVADA RESILIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

|                                                  |         |                                         |                         |                   |         |  |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|--|
| Attendance                                       |         | DATE                                    | June 23, 2021           |                   |         |  |
|                                                  |         | TIME                                    | 1:30 p.m.               |                   |         |  |
|                                                  |         | METHOD                                  | Zoom and Teleconference |                   |         |  |
|                                                  |         | RECORDER                                | Sherrean Whipple        |                   |         |  |
| Appointed Voting Member Attendance               |         |                                         |                         |                   |         |  |
| Member Name                                      | Present | Member Name                             | Present                 | Member Name       | Present |  |
| David Fogerson – Chair                           | X       | Kelly Echeverria                        | X                       | Tennille Periera  | X       |  |
| Billy Samuels – Vice Chair                       | X       | Andrea Esp                              | X                       | Matthew Petersen  | X       |  |
| Andy Ancho                                       | X       | Jeanne Freeman                          | X                       | Shaun Rahmeyer    | X       |  |
| Roy Anderson                                     | X       | Mike Heidemann                          | X                       | Misty Robinson    | X       |  |
| Travis Anderson                                  | X       | Eric Holt                               | ABS                     | Rachel Skidmore   | ABS     |  |
| Noah Boyer                                       | X       | David Hunkup                            | X                       | Corey Solferino   | ABS     |  |
| Elizabeth Breeden                                | ABS     | Jeremy Hynds                            | X                       | Malinda Southard  | ABS     |  |
| James Chrisley                                   | ABS     | Graham Kent                             | ABS                     | Cary Underwood    | X       |  |
| Jason Danen                                      | X       | Mary Ann Laffoon                        | X                       | Mike Wilson       | X       |  |
| Cassandra Darrough                               | ABS     | Chris Lake                              | X                       | Stephanie Woodard | ABS     |  |
| Bob Dehnhardt                                    | X       | Carolyn Levering                        | X                       |                   |         |  |
| Craig dePolo                                     | X       | Ryan Miller                             | ABS                     |                   |         |  |
| Appointed Non-Voting Member Attendance           |         |                                         |                         |                   |         |  |
| Bunny Bishop                                     | X       | Melissa Friend                          | X                       | Kasey KC          | X       |  |
| Rebecca Bodnar                                   | X       | Sheryl Gonzales                         | ABS                     | Selby Marks       | X       |  |
| Kate Callaghan                                   | ABS     | Mojra Hauenstein                        | ABS                     | Catherine Neilson | X       |  |
| Felix Castagnola                                 | X       | Jill Hemenway                           | ABS                     |                   |         |  |
| Mike Dyzak                                       | ABS     | Patricia Herzog                         | X                       |                   |         |  |
| Legal/Administrative Support Attendance          |         |                                         |                         |                   |         |  |
| Representative                                   |         | Entity                                  |                         |                   | Present |  |
| Samantha Ladich – Senior Deputy Attorney General |         | Office of the Nevada Attorney General   |                         |                   | X       |  |
| Sherrean Whipple – Emergency Management          |         | Nevada Division of Emergency Management |                         |                   | X       |  |

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

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

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Fogerson opened the first period of public comment for discussion. Chair Fogerson informed the Committee that he attended the Governor's Homeland Security Council meeting and wanted to share the five priorities discussed there with the group: public health preparedness; cyber; counterterrorism; natural disasters and extreme weather; and school safety. Domestic terrorism, public-health preparedness, cyber, and sustainable funding for Homeland Security concerns were the top focus items.

There was no additional public comment.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Fogerson called for a motion to amend or approve the draft minutes of the May 27, 2021, Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee (NRAC) meeting. Craig dePolo indicated that he was present at the May 27, 2021 NRAC meeting but arrived after roll call. Chair Fogerson indicated that the minutes would be amended to include Mr. dePolo. Jeanne Freeman, Public Health Preparedness Manager, moved to approve the minutes with the proposed change. Kelly Echeverria, Washoe County Emergency Manager, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. STATE OF NEVADA'S EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

Melissa Friend, DEM/HS, informed the Committee of the continued search of a 911 coordinator or designee for the state of Nevada to help the state move forward with pursuing available Federal Communication Commission (FCC) grants to help local jurisdictions. Ms. Friend thanked Committee members for providing her with the required, annual FCC data. Ms. Friend informed the Committee that the CodeRed alerting system can be used statewide and that the rural jurisdictions ran into some issues sending out WEAs (Wireless Emergency Alerts) as they are not as encompassing as the traditional alerting system and go out to cell phones only. Ms. Friend informed the Committee that the situation has been rectified so that warnings will be sent to all emergency managers statewide. Ms. Friend discussed some of the lessons learned when sending out WEAs: it is easier to send WEAs out on a computer than on an iPad due to the drawing of the polygons.

Jeanne Freeman asked if there was any plan of coming together for trainings and refresher trainings in the communities.

Melissa Friend indicated that there is training scheduled for the City of Las Vegas in the summer and that she intends to sit in on that training to confirm its appropriateness at the state level.

Jeanne Freeman further suggested education about the alerting systems and indicated that this might be a good way to bring in emergency-management partners to who tend to stay more on the fringe.

Melissa Friend indicated her support of this suggestion.

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, I answered an unidentified speaker's question by informing the Committee that Clark County will be hosting the training and the past NRAC Chair will be in attendance, supporting the backup.

Kelly Echeverria indicated that DEM/HS had done an alert training in 2018 or 2019 with Adrian Abbot (phonetic), which was very beneficial.

Jon Bakkedahl suggested that members take the ICS 247-B class prior to the in-person trainings as that training provides the historical process, the current status, the different programs run and coordinated in the state, as well as the uses of different messaging. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that this is a long training, running approximately four hours.

Chair Fogerson urged any members who have not yet provided the 911 data required by the FCC to do so in order to expedite the availability of grant funding for local jurisdictions.

## **5. STATE WAREHOUSE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

Jon Bakkedahl, DEM/HS, indicated that the plan is a high-level, strategic capability of the transition from DEM primarily to public and behavior health with the emphasis on partners in state purchasing being the owners of the facility. The current plan is called the Warehouse Transition and Internal Operational Controls and details the acquisition of the massive amounts of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) now owned by the state. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that there are currently two warehouses, one in the north and one in the south. Both are currently operational and have current leases through the end of the calendar year. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that come December 31, funding will need to be available to continue the operation. Mr. Bakkedahl next explained the long-term plan to close, dismantle, and disengage the northern warehouse operations between December 31, 2021 and June 30, 2022, and transport everything to the south and maintain a Southern Nevada operation in perpetuity.

Jon Bakkedahl explained that the plan details the purpose, mission, objectives, and primarily discussed a successful transition to the Division of Public and Behavior Health (DPBH) to manage PPE with DEM/HS oversight and state purchasing facilitating receipts and shipment to jurisdictions in times of need. Mr. Bakkedahl explained that the current Resource Request Form (RRF) process will remain in place so the form that DEM/HS uses currently is what the Division of Public and Behavior Health will use going forward, thus there will be no change for local jurisdictions in the submission process. DPBH will be coordinating to fill PPE. Mr. Bakkedahl further explained that in the case of expiration, that PPE will be distributed for exercise purposes so that local jurisdictions will not need to use their own PPE in training.

Jon Bakkedahl informed the Committee that July 1, powers will begin transitioning over to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health. DPBH will be taking over all COVID meetings as well as engaging in training to learn the process of taking resource requests and working with local jurisdictions to process those orders. Mr. Bakkedahl further explained that come September 13, there will no longer be a National Guard presence. In preparation for this, DEM/HS is working with local jurisdictions to demobilize as many resources as possible. Mr. Bakkedahl informed the Committee that with that practice, all resources in the EOC are no longer available but up to 12 staff will continue to maintain the warehouses until July 8, at which time they will then be under contract with DEM as contract employees through the end of the year. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that come the end of the year, DEM/HS will need to figure out warehouse operations and staffing based on the amount of funding.

Jon Bakkedahl discussed the organization chart that details where DEM/HS will fit under the Agency of State Purchasing, the ordering management, the receiving, the regional warehouse properties, and the plan for processing PPE moving forward. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated the need to include internal controls to help with the transition so that nothing changes in terms of PPE warehouse operations.

Jon Bakkedahl discussed the steps currently underway. The leases have been signed, and DEM/HS has been moving over the past two weeks from the convention center in southern Nevada to a rented facility that is under contract through the end of the year. After the end of the year, there is not yet a funding allocation so the state agencies engaged in this process will not allow for a longer contract. Mr. Bakkedahl explained the hope that this can be resolved over the coming weeks through different funding mechanisms, including federal funding, in order to maintain a lease in the north until June of 2022.

Jon Bakkedahl informed the Committee that the health point of contact is James Phan, who is the DPBH strategic national stockpile SMS liaison for the federal government who manages all of their current PPE operations. Mr. Bakkedahl further informed the Committee that Malinda Southard, Public Health Preparedness (PHP) Program Manager, is Mr. Phan's supervisor and Amos Hollar is his direct supervisor, and together they comprise the team at DPBH to help facilitate information. Mr. Bakkedahl concluded his presentation by informing the Committee that NRAC will continue to receive updates throughout the process and as changes occur.

Jeanne Freeman asked if there is a way to ensure communication with healthcare coalitions as well as county emergency managers.

Jon Bakkedahl explained that this is currently in draft form and has not yet been approved by PHP and DPBH, but once it is released, it will be published on the listserv and health will push it out on their listservs so that everyone has all the information.

Jeanne Freeman explained that some of the multiple healthcare coalitions in the state have created PPE caches as a small stopgap and indicated the importance of being able to build into their plans and continue to update partners.

Jon Bakkedahl explained the complications with PPE stockpiles. Mr. Bakkedahl indicated that for anything purchased with PA, once the incident is concluded, a check will need to be written back to FEMA for the goods received. Mr. Bakkedahl informed the Committee that PPE purchased through CARES money has a more flexible avenue for use and distribution because there is no specific timeline such as with PA.

An unidentified speaker indicated the desire to include the PHP leads for the three health agencies and for the state on monthly EM calls, and asked if that was appropriate.

Jeanne Freeman indicated that this is appropriate and beneficial to have help entities closely tied with emergency management.

Chair Fogerson asked Misty Robinson, Southern Nevada Health District, if she felt it would be worthwhile for units to maintain the monthly emergency manager/public health preparedness phone call.

Misty Robinson indicated that it is worthwhile, particularly given that the positivity rate is increasing.

Chair Fogerson asked what else is in the warehouses besides PPE.

Jon Bakkedahl indicated that there are 6,000 Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR) and because the 60-day supply is 3,000 and because the PAPRs take up so much space in the warehouse, they are looking to decrease the PAPR supply. Mr. Bakkedahl further indicated the warehouse also contains high-flow nasal cannula kits as well as some things left behind by the American Red Cross such as 30,000 rakes, and several cases of green and yellow sponges.

## **6. INTENT OF THE NEVADA RESILIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NRAC)**

Vice Chair Billy Samuels indicated that he and the Chair Fogerson have been having discussions regarding what the Committee and subcommittees should be handling and indicated his desire to discuss attendance with regards to the bylaws.

Chair Fogerson indicated his belief that many of the members had been on the Committee since its inception three or four years ago since DEM/HS rolled 27 different groups into NRAC through the legislative process and through the power of the chief to dissolve committees for a total of five different groups. Chair Fogerson explained that he would send out emails to members assigned to the hazard mitigation work group, current members of NRAC, to see if those members wish to continue to serve on NRAC. Chair Fogerson further explained that the hazard mitigation workgroup originally was supposed to fall under NRAC, but NRAC lacked the ability to do a lot of

what needed to be done to meet the FEMA requirements to maintain enhanced hazard mitigation status. Chair Fogerson further explained that NRAC no longer needs to meet monthly and can meet quarterly. Chair Fogerson indicated that he needs to look at the legislation to see at what time that goes into effect and that this will be discussed at the July meeting.

Chair Fogerson next discussed going back to in-person meetings, but informed the Committee that the Zoom channel will remain open so that all meetings do not need to be in-person, but indicated that meeting in person will help folks to share ideas and thoughts.

Chair Fogerson further discussed the importance of continuing to secure grants, a job that was the responsibility of the homeland security working group in the past. Chair Fogerson explained that in the past, the grant securing process was very specific in the homeland side and didn't really look at the all-hazard nature of the grants, and as such, NRAC is now taking over that responsibility to ensure that grants are received.

Chair Fogerson explained that he would like NRAC to discuss emerging issues and seeing how to improve and be ready for things that arise, citing the example of the Governor's Homeland Security Council priorities he shared in the beginning of the meeting. Chair Fogerson further discussed the importance of sharing information and best practices in order for the Committee to work together to improve the profession and standing in the state and keep the public safer. Chair Fogerson further indicated the importance of brainstorming sessions and feedback as well as stewardship, cooperation, collaboration, leadership, and communication of how NRAC and the division can support the members and vice versa, citing the collaborative relationship between the state and locals to make sure that NRAC is on the right page with all FEMA, Homeland Security, and Department of Energy requests. Chair Fogerson next asked the Committee for suggestions and ideas as well as feedback on his suggestions.

Vice Chair Billy Samuels suggested a standing quarterly meeting on a set day of each quarter in order to ensure Committee members know in advance to be available.

Chief Fogerson concurred with Vice Chair Samuels' suggestion.

Jeanne Freeman indicated that this would also impact attendance requirements for the Committee, indicating that with only quarterly meetings, it would be inappropriate for members to miss half the meetings but then be present for the half of the year that includes the funding meetings.

Chair Fogerson suggested adding the bylaws and discussion of the bylaws to the next meeting's agenda and including the intent of the meetings so that future generations will have a clear guide as to what an NRAC meeting should entail.

Jeanne Freeman suggested looking at the timing of when funding comes through and schedule the quarterly meetings accordingly so as not to struggle for approval.

Chair Fogerson concurred and indicated that although meetings are only required once quarterly, it is possible that during funding times, the Committee may need to meet more frequently.

Jeanne Freeman further suggested the Chair Fogerson and Vice Chair Billy Samuels discuss the intent regarding the timing of the meetings and preparing Committee members for the time commitment required in order to remain a Committee member.

Chair Fogerson indicated that he does not anticipate meetings running more than a couple of hours, with potentially the exception of the grant meeting, which could run significantly longer.

Jeanne Freeman reminded the Committee that the Committee's responsibilities are to the state and not jurisdiction-related.

Vice Chair Billy Samuels indicated his agreement with Ms. Freeman's reminder and further stressed that this needs to be at the forefront of the Committee's mind when voting and in the ranking structure for funding.

Chair Fogerson concurred with Ms. Freeman and Vice Chair Samuels.

Jon Bakkedahl concurred, stating that SERC follows the same guidelines of state over jurisdiction without defining where jurisdictions are from.

Craig dePolo, Research Geologist Nevada Bureau of Mines, discussed the loss of public engagement and influence and leadership, stating that this was not necessarily a bad thing, and suggested that the Committee keep in mind that there is a shift in the way things are done as opposed to how they were done in the past.

Chair Fogerson discussed the importance of the hazard mitigation working group and their focus on how to help locals. Chair Fogerson further indicated that come July 1, the public information officer will be heavily involved in pushing media messaging via social-media platforms as well as in getting involved in seeing how to get mitigation messages out. Chair Fogerson explained that now, after COVID, people are aware of what emergency management is and indicated his desire not to lose the momentum that has been gained through the process.

## **7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Chair David Fogerson explained that the passing of the bills in the legislative session will promulgate some changes, such as quarterly meetings, the creation of a state disaster identification committee that will meet once a year or at the call of the Chair, and Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordination Council (NTECC) and NRAC will now meet quarterly. Chair Fogerson explained that an emergency operations plan was required for presentation to the Division. Chair Fogerson explained that some of the smaller companies that didn't actually have any infrastructure in Nevada were removed. Chair Fogerson further indicated that the goal to move NRAC under the Office of the Military did go through. No changes were made to the operation of the Division other than the old language regarding depositing money in the treasury of the state of Nevada. In addition, Chair Fogerson indicated that the person to whom Committee members may go with grievances about the Chair has changed from the Director to General Barry. Chair

Fogerson also indicated that he does have a full listing of all the Bill Draft Requests (BDR) that affect emergency management that he will be sending out to the group.

Jeanne Freeman asked if email addresses were going to change.

Chair Fogerson indicated that they will change and that NRAC is still working with the state on the email addresses. Chair Fogerson explained that he is hoping to do the same as what is on the website, which is [dem.nv.gov](http://dem.nv.gov), for the sake of consistency.

Jeanne Freeman asked if that would change things as far as where things like RRF forms are sent.

Jon Bakkedahl explained that DEM/HS uses Gmail for redundancy in the case that the state system goes down, and as such, the submission email for RRF forms will not change. Mr. Bakkedahl further explained that Melissa Friend is working on a transition where if something is sent to the old email address, it will be forwarded to the new one.

#### **8. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **9. Adjourn**

Chair Fogerson called for a motion to adjourn. Mike Wilson, Clark County School District Office of Emergency Management, moved to adjourn the June 23, 2021 NRAC meeting. Bob Dehnhardt, State Chief Information Security Officer, seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.