



Meeting Minutes

Emergency Preparedness Working Group

Attendance Record	DATE	Thursday, April 18, 2024	
	TIME	9:30 a.m.	
	METHOD	Zoom Teleconference Conference line #: (669) 219-2599 Meeting ID# 686 738 8625	
	RECORDER	Colleen Fitzgerald	
Committee Members	Present	Non-Voting Membership	Present
Lee Cabaniss—Elko County	X	Jared Franco, Chair—NV Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (DEM/HS)	X
Eric Holt—Lincoln County	X	Gary Sampler-Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Nevada Field Office	ABS
Scott Lewis—Nye County	X		
Paul Melendrez—Esmeralda County	X		
Michael Dalton—White Pine County	X	Legal Staff	Present
Billy Samuels—Clark County	X	Samantha Ladich—Senior Deputy Attorney General	X

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair, Jared Franco, Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM/HS) called the meeting to order. Colleen Fitzgerald, DEM/HS performed roll call, and quorum was established for the meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Jared Franco opened the first period of public comment.

No public comment was provided during this period.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Billy Samuels, Clark County, noted an error in his last name on page 1. Billy Samuels moved for a motion to approve the draft minutes of the January 18, 2024, Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) Meeting with the edit of his last name. Eric Holt, Lincoln County, seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. UPDATE ON BALANCE FORWARD

Judith Lyman, DEM/HS Fiscal Manager, informed the Group that DEM/HS received

communication from the Department of Energy for an additional request for some payroll documentation from each of the counties. Ms. Lyman indicated that this information has been provided, and DEM/HS's hope is that this will suffice, but noted that she will be reaching out should the Department of Energy have any additional questions. Ms. Lyman concluded by informing the Group that there is an expectation that the balance forward money will be spent by June 30, 2026, which is the end of the performance period.

5. UPDATE CALIBRATION SCHEDULE

John Fansler, DEM/HS, explained that Brent Harper is finishing up calibrations this week in the Reno area, and that the Las Vegas area and some of the central counties were concluded earlier in the month.

Paul Melendrez informed Mr. Fansler that he will be contacting him in the near future to get things taken care of.

6. RAD TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

John Fansler, DEM/HS, explained that a radiation specialist course is available on the NV NTQS website. Mr. Fansler indicated that a MERC class in Storey County is also concluding this week, with follow-on classes taking place in Fernley, Winnemucca, and Elko later this month and into the next one. Mr. Fansler concluded his presentation by indicating that a one-day hospital decon class is being put together for the Las Vegas area as well as one for the Reno area later this year.

7. EPWG JURSDICTION PRESENTATION

Lee Cabaniss, Emergency Manager of Elko County, introduced himself as the emergency and communications manager for Elko County. Mr. Cabaniss explained that he is a Nevada Certified Emergency Manager, and a graduate of the National Emergency Management Basic and Advanced Academies. Mr. Cabaniss indicated that he has spent most of his time in public safety, with 25 years thus far spent in EMS as a paramedic, supervisor, and Chief Officer. Mr. Cabaniss explained that he has been in Elko County for eight years, approximately two-and-a-half of which have been spent as the emergency manager. Mr. Cabaniss next discussed Elko County's location in northeastern Nevada, noting that it is bordered by Idaho to the north and Utah to the east, as well as the counties of White Pine, Eureka, Humboldt, and Lander Counties. Mr. Cabaniss indicated that the most recent population estimate in Elko County was approximately 57,000. Mr. Cabaniss further noted that Elko County also has a transient population because it is kind of the main place where many mine workers from surrounding areas reside. Mr. Cabaniss explained that several cities, including Elko, Carlin, Wells, and West Wendover are all along I-80, but further indicated that there are unincorporated areas, such as Spring Creek, and tribal lands. Mr. Cabaniss indicated that more than 72 percent of the county is public lands managed by the federal government in some manner. Mr. Cabaniss next indicated that there is a rail line that passes through the cities of Wells, Elko, and Carlin,

and is used by Amtrak and Union Pacific. Mr. Cabaniss explained that the only scheduled passenger service airport is in Elko Regional Airport, but that there are smaller, FAA designated locations in Wells, Jackpot, and West Wendover. Mr. Cabaniss informed the Group that in addition to over 100 miles of I-80, US 93 runs basically top to bottom in the county from Jackpot all the way down into White Pine County, as well as a 93 alternate, and state routes 225, 227, and 228, which are connecting Elko to other areas such as Mountain City, the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, Spring Creek, and beyond. Mr. Cabaniss informed the Group that he is the only full-time employee but the staff also includes a deputy director, who also serves as the county fire chief, as well as two assistant directors, one of whom is the County EMS Chief, and the second of whom is the city of Elko Fire Chief. Mr. Cabaniss further noted that there is a reserve program, so there are three reserve personnel, all of whom have a public safety background, most of whom are retired and perform these duties as they are needed. Mr. Cabaniss explained that he manages the communication center and has one public safety answering point in Elko County, which consists of 14 employees, including a manager and a training and compliance supervisor.

Lee Cabaniss next discussed the way funds were spent from 2020 through 2022. Mr. Cabaniss indicated that in 2021, Elko County supported West Wendover Fire Department with SCBA bottles, as well as some cardiac monitors and defibrillators, the Zoll X series, as already used by all other departments in the county. Mr. Cabaniss explained that 2021 funds were used to support the Fire Protection District, which is the county fire department and regional emergency medical services operations, with the purchase of Stryker Power-PRO gurneys, which have the ability to support decontamination so as to allow the entire hazmat process to take place at the hospital. Mr. Cabaniss further noted that five-gas monitors were purchased to replace the previous four-gas monitors that had been in use, as well as some chlorine emergency response kits. Mr. Cabaniss informed the Group that 2022 dollars are being spent on fire, EMS, and law enforcement to ensure that all chief and duty officers within the county have SCBA packs and face pieces, as well as additional bottles, bringing the total to 16. Mr. Cabaniss added that individual bleeding control kits are also being purchased, noting that Elko prepares law enforcement with a POST-credentialed Stop the Bleed program, and indicated the need to supply officers with the individual bleeding control kits so as to improve the countywide emergency response. Mr. Cabaniss indicated that all 2020 through 2022 purchases were purchased with the goal of interoperability among the different districts.

Billy Samuels commended Mr. Cabaniss on his presentation.

Chair Franco noted that these types of presentations are very helpful in terms of Group members being able to work together and get ideas from each other, as well as to determine potential resources that will be needed in the future.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Jared Franco opened the second period of public comment.

There was no public comment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jared Franco called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric Holt motioned to adjourn. Billy Samuels seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.