

**Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group (UAWG)**

PUEBLO ROOM  
CLARK COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
500 S. GRAND CENTRAL PKWY  
LAS VEGAS NV 89106

**FINAL MINUTES**

**Wednesday August 14, 2013 11:00 A.M.**

**ATTENDANCE**

**UAWG MEMBERS PRESENT:**

FERNANDEZ LEARY, MICHAEL JOHNSON, CAROLYN LEVERING, RYAN TURNER, MICHAEL JAQUES, JANE SHUNNEY,

**UAWG ALTERNATES PRESENT:**

DIMITRI THEODOROU, JASON MOYER, RICHARD RESNICK, JEFF QUINN

**UAWG MEMBERS ABSENT:**

KEVIN NICHOLSON, PAUL GERNER, JOHN HIGLEY, DAN LAKE, NICOLE HART, RICK DIEBOLD, CHRIS SPROULE

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Fernandez Leary, UAWG Chairman called the meeting to order at 11:01 A.M. on Wednesday August 14, 2013. Quorum present.

**II. Public Comments**

Irene Navis advised the members of a call that took place earlier in the morning of the SLTTGCC Executive Committee. A GAO report for Congress was discussed about critical infrastructure strengthening. She provided a brief overview and offered to send the full report to the membership after the meeting. Irene expressed a desire to information gather from the group at future meetings so that she could provide feedback from our community.

**III. Approval of the May and June 2013 Minutes.**

Motion, by Carolyn Levering: **To accept the minutes as recorded.**

Seconded, by Dimitri Theodorou.

No discussion, motion carried.

**IV. Comments from the Chair**

No comments

**V. UASI Status for 2014**

The Chair briefly advised that there had been no real changes, further that the UAWG would continue in the event of future opportunities to regain our status. He then advised that he and Carolyn Levering had participated earlier in the morning on a conference call with DHS and LVMPD Sherriff Gillespie. The Chair stated that neither he nor Carolyn provided input but just listened instead to what the Sheriff presented, which was primarily is his displeasure with our area losing status. The Chair stated that the Sherriff discussed his feelings that prevention wasn't represented nearly enough nor was there adequate law enforcement input and that there should be more effort in that area and some changes to address that in the future.

The Chair stated that DHS was very clear on how they ranked the Las Vegas Urban Area and that if one were to step back, without bias for the region it makes sense with the exception of not taking tourism into account more than they did and basing solely on

population which is the problem. The Chair advised that Sherriff Gillespie asked about the possibility of using a different ranking in the future and taking more from law enforcement into consideration with regard to prevention and DHS was agreeable to the possibility of that in the future. He also conveyed that he agreed that prevention needed to be increased but not at the expense of mitigation or response.

Carolyn Levering then discussed two critical items not necessarily discussed in the morning conference call but that were important in her way of thinking. She discussed tourism and that in her opinion it isn't accounted for enough and needs to be made more important in the formula, and a follow up component is Congressional action. Carolyn explained to the group that it was through the actions of Congress limiting the number of UASI's to 25 that prevented the Las Vegas Urban Area (LVUA) from getting funds this year. She reiterated her belief that there is a fundamental flaw with the formula and fundamental concern with Congressional action that prevents LVUA from making the funding. Carolyn further briefed the group on the actions of the City of Las Vegas in meeting with Senator Reid this past week at the Clean Energy Summit.

**VI. Status of current grants and status of FFY13 grant awards**

Diana Blake, Clark County Emergency Management, asked that if anyone from the group had received a sub-grant through CCOEM and intends to de-obligate those funds, to please let CCOEM know as soon as possible as the award closes on August 31, 2013. She further asked that anyone had received an extension to do everything in their power to spend down the balance but most importantly if there is an intention to de-obligate to do so as soon as possible and make CCOEM aware.

Diana advised the group that for FY13, everyone should have received emails from the State DEM asking for the contact information on who to send to and who the signing authority was as well as the address. She then instructed that if anyone had not received this email request to contact the State. It is anticipated that awards will be out in the next 45 days.

**VII. Review and discuss Las Vegas Urban Area Homeland Security Strategy to identify opportunities to leverage planning, training, and exercises, and other resources**

Irene Navis, Clark County Office of Emergency Management. Irene advised that in preparation for this meeting she looked at the strategy and saw a lot of opportunities for training and exercise (T&E) with at least one or two in every goal. She further stated that she felt there were a lot of opportunities to leverage training and exercise within the Urban Area to kill 2 or 3 birds with one stone. Irene urged the group to look at the Urban Area Strategy before the TEPW scheduled for tomorrow and hopefully come forward with some good ideas for T&E that can accomplish several objectives at the same time and work with others in the jurisdiction. Irene further stated that there are a lot of T&E's identified that possibly DHS can make up to the UASI for the lack of funding this year by providing free technical assistance.

**VIII. Citizen Corp Council**

- Amateur Radio Emergency Service  
No report
- Community Emergency Response Team  
Carolyn Levering reported that they have been doing a lot of training. CERT volunteers supported the Carpenter 1 Fire and area supporting National Preparedness Month as well. Training figures for this year are up 15% with no additional funds to support.
- Medical Reserve Corps  
Paula Martel, MRC Coordinator, expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to stay involved on this committee. Paula advised that they are very busy supporting the public health initiatives with back school fairs and other vaccination clinics. There

is also a new vaccination team that is now able to go out and hold clinics, which was just recently done in North Las Vegas last year. They actually held all of their clinics. They do not provide vaccine but do have the ability to administer it should you have it and need help. Paula announced that there is a new training officer with SNHD office of Public Health preparedness, Trish Beckwith. Last night they offered training on traumatic incidents, IEDs and medical responders there were about 70 people in attendance, 40 from MRC and the balance from 8 or 9 other agencies from around the community. The foundation for this course being presented was the Boston Marathon bombing. MRC volunteers were there and went from providing first aid to full blown disaster response. Because of the training in that community they were ready and knew what to do. There will be another opportunity to attend this training in the future.

Paula discussed the need to have large animal rescue training as there is no large animal rescue team in Southern Nevada. She referenced Trish Beckwith, and the fact she is a horse person, and issues with the Carpenter 1 Fire and the lack of information about evacuating (domestic) horses. Trish has been working Scott Morris from CNLV and with Sgt 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mike O'Connell with the Army /Nevada National Guard joint operation center on a class that is sponsored by DEM. This training is tentatively scheduled for Oct 11 and 12, 2013 and she wanted everyone to spread the word as they are happy to spearhead this endeavor.

Paula then reminded the group that there is a Veterinary component to the MRC and that after the Carpenter 1 Fire there was a lot of discussion from them to the affect of "if you aren't going to use us now, what is the point?" Paula stated that she had to do a lot of back pedaling in telling them that there really wasn't a large need for those services during the fire. She conveyed the groups' position that it is unacceptable to have animal control take a pet to Lied when they were available to staff the mobile shelter so that pet and owner could remain together. Paula advised that the community for years has been told that it was our commitment that owners and pets would not have to be separated. Paula stated that she understands that there were not a lot of pets and it wasn't like the pets were put into the general population but she is trying to keep the program going, keep volunteer veterinarians and it's hard when they aren't used as planned. Paula expressed that it is her hope that with the large rescue training that it will help to keep those volunteers engaged. She urged the group to read Annex W in the Clark County EOP and note that it states right under animal control that they will set up the mobile shelter and then the second bullet is that they will call the MRC to provide veterinarians and veterinarian technicians. The volunteers were very disappointed that it didn't happen as they would like to have had the opportunity to utilize the event as an exercise and use some of their supplies. Paula stated that it was a disappointment that it was a missed opportunity.

Paula announced that there is a new acting Surgeon General, who is a great friend of public health and the MRC.

- Neighborhood Watch  
Jason Moyer, LVMPD, reported that LVMPD currently has 1,501 Neighborhood Watch programs in its jurisdiction. Last week they hosted several National Night Out events with one at Clark H.S. that had almost 1,500 attendees.
- Volunteer In Police Service  
Jason Moyer, LVMPD, reported that they have 458 volunteers contributing 40,479 hours of service. In the last quarter they issues 1599 parking citations responded to 71 traffic call outs and had almost 61,000 visitor contacts at McCarran.

**IX. Public Comments**

- Ryan Turner, City of Henderson, announced that the City of Henderson was awarded the Integrated Emergency Management Course (a community specific course) in Emmitsburg, MD. This is a week long course that has 75 seat available though he has hopes to push it to 85. The training will be September 13 – 18, 2014.

**Next Regularly Scheduled UAWG meeting: November 13, 2013, 11:00 AM CCGC Pueblo Room**

**XI. Adjournment**

Motion, by Jane Shunney: To adjourn

Seconded, by Ryan Turner.

No discussion, motioned carried.

*In accordance to Nevada's Open Meeting Law, this meeting was properly posted and electronically recorded.*