CLARK COUNTY
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

09/08/2026 MEETING MINUTES FINAL

MEMBERS ATTENDANCE: Brian O'Neal, Ana Chavez, Jeremy Hynds, David Milewski, Bill Hart, Michael Smith, Harriett Vegas, Carolyn Levering, Diana Clarkson, Greg Chesser, Skye Dunfield, Corey Ross, Misty Robinson, Toni Barnes, Jason Manzo, Ortary Davila, William West, Kathryn Foxworthy, Louise Hardy, Daniel Berc, Lucas Basham Murphy, Nina Perez-Payumo, Tori Begay, Melanie Rouse, Karen Donnahie, John Steinbeck.

ALTERNATES ATTENDANCE: Jamie Sypniewics, Ben Erickson, Andria Webster, Jason Yelle, Michelle Thackston, Josie Ross, Jessica Rodriguez, Jose Suarez, Jeff Hanh, Robert Palumbo, Vinson Valdez, Powell Hart, Diane Orgill.

MEMBERS' ABSENCE: Gary Stevenson, Randy Wilbanks, Brian Arboreen, Alejandro Rodriguez, Jana Valerie Andrion, Richard Simmons, Jayson Andrus, Jason Manzo, Yuri Graves, Bowdie Young, Nicole White, Andrew Bennett, Judy Lopez, Karen Beckley, Brian Mitchell, John Turner, Bryan Ostaszewski, Lowel Smith.

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions and Determination of Quorum.** Chairman Brian O'Neal called the meeting to order on Wednesday, September 8, 2026, at 9:01 AM in the Clark County Fire Department Administration, MACC, located at 575 E Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89119. Quorum was present.

2. **Public Comments.**
   No Comments.

3. **Review and approve the meeting minutes from the May 13th, 2026, meeting.** Motion to approve the meeting minutes from the May 13th, 2026, meeting by **Jeff Hanh**, seconded by **Diana Clark**, no further discussion. **Motion carried.**

4. **Presentation: HF Sinclair Terminal/UNEV Pipeline Awareness.**
   Jeremy Banfield, Terminal Supervisor with HF Sinclair provided an overview of the HF Sinclair Fuel Terminal at the Apex/Magic Valley Industrial Complex, including facility operations, pipeline infrastructure, safety measures, emergency response capabilities, and contact procedures. The pipeline currently operates at approximately half capacity, transporting approximately 1,500 barrels per hour, with a maximum capacity of approximately 4,000 barrels per hour. The facility has approximately 16 million gallons of storage capacity. Mr. Banfield also discussed pipeline block valves, inspection procedures, first-response resources, regional response capabilities, and leak detection measures. Potential increased throughput was discussed, with early 2028 identified as a potential timeframe.
   Key points of contact shared with the Committee:
   HF Sinclair Pipeline Control Emergency Line (877) 748-4464
   HF Sinclair Las Vegas Terminal (702) 643-2612 opt 0
   HF Sinclair Las Vegas Technician (702) 867-7003
   HF Sinclair Las Vegas Pipeline Technician (702) 308-2535
   Jeremy Banfield, office (702) 867-7012, cellphone (802) 207-2810.

5. **Presentation: Republic Services DDR Program Update.**
   Christene Klimek, Environmental Manager, City of Henderson, provided a brief update on behalf of Republic Services regarding lithium battery disposal. She explained that batteries that are not damaged, defective, or recalled (DDR) can generally be taken to locations such as Lowe's, Home Depot, Batteries Plus, or Republic Services for disposal/recycling. The main concern is with damaged batteries, such as bulging batteries. Republic Services' Household Hazardous Waste Program is currently the identified option for residents to dispose of certain damaged batteries. Residents can also use battery recycling resources, including Earth911, to locate nearby drop-off locations. Christene emphasized that residents should not transport a battery themselves if it is in an unsafe condition. Household hazardous waste collection alternates between the North Las Vegas Transfer Station and Henderson Transfer Station, with Henderson generally holding collection events on Saturdays.

   Steve Orrico, Manager, Community Relations and Marcia Benker, Area Safety Manager; Republic Services representatives provided an update on its efforts to establish a safe process for handling and recycling damaged, defective, or recalled (DDR) lithium batteries. Redwood Materials has been approved as a Republic Services vendor and will receive and recycle DDR batteries at its Reno facility. Republic Services is currently finalizing appropriate storage containers, transportation logistics, and regulatory requirements.

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Republic Services explained that the storage containers can be reused, while the materials used to secure the batteries will need to be replaced as necessary. Transportation requirements have been addressed, and the remaining work involves determining the appropriate volume and incorporating the battery shipments into existing transportation routes to Reno. The company anticipates having the process ready around the beginning of the year. Republic Services emphasized that residents should not be instructed to transport unstable or damaged batteries themselves due to the safety risks associated with DDR batteries. Republic Services will coordinate with Henderson, North Las Vegas, and other participating jurisdictions before implementation. The jurisdictions will be given an opportunity to review the proposed process, identify potential safety concerns, and recommend necessary changes. The goal is to establish a coordinated community program for the safe collection, transportation, and recycling of DDR lithium batteries.

6. **Southern Nevada UAS/CUAS Subcommittee**
   The Southern Nevada UAS/CUAS Subcommittee was established, approved and added to the bylaws as a subcommittee for the Local Emergency Planning Committee, LEPC. Based on the nature of this committee, it needs to be moved to the Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group, UAWG. The Chair asked for a motion to move this subcommittee to the Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group, UAWG.

7. **Bylaws Review and Approval**
   As a result of item 6, the subcommittee UAS/CUAS will be moved to the Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group, UAWG. The Bylaw change will be incorporated and brought back to the Committee for review at the next meeting.

   Jeremy Hynds **motion to move the subcommittee to the UAWG**, Ana Chavez **seconded**, no discussion. **Motion passes**.

8. **LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
   - **a.** Plans Administration Subcommittee
     Jessie Ross reported that the draft for the HazMat Plan will be distributed next week for final updates.
   - **b.** Training and Exercise Subcommittee
     Robert Fisher reported that CARE group will have an exercise with Water Reclamation on October 21st.

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c. Grants Subcommittee
David Martin-Vaquero announced that interlocal agreements will be sent out during the week to agencies that applied for the 2027 grants. The grants have been established in the internal accounting system, and obtaining signed interlocal agreements is the final step needed to move the projects forward. Project managers are encouraged to complete their projects by March 31. Agencies needing additional time to complete their projects or obtain requested products or services should contact David to coordinate an extension with the state. The goal is to ensure projects are completed and agencies receive reimbursement in a timely manner.

d. Public Information Subcommittee
Nothing to report.

e. Legislative Subcommittee
The Chair provided an update regarding a bill currently being tracked that addresses baseline Emergency Management funding. It was noted that the legislation could affect agencies statewide and reported that it is continuing through discussions and has received support statewide, including support from the National Association. The Chair stated that they are encouraged by the progress and will continue to monitor the legislation.

f. Specialized Response Subcommittee
Nothing to report.

g. Lithium-Ion Battery Subcommittee
Nothing to report. The Chair expressed his excitement at having private sector participation in this group work.

9. SPECIAL REPORTS & WORKING GROUPS

a. AIR
Jeremy Banfield reported that he will be presenting a tabletop exercise at ELRM the following day. He noted that representatives from Southwest Gas, NV Energy, and other participating agencies are typically in attendance and stated that he would provide an update regarding attendance.

b. BEIR
Nothing to report.

c. NIR
VACANT.

d. CAER
Josie Ross provided an update on the upcoming exercise scheduled for October 21st. She noted that the exercise will involve multiple agencies and expressed appreciation for the participating partners and coordination efforts.

Jossie also provided an update on the CARE Quarter 3 meeting, noting strong participation from industry partners and continued communication among participating agencies. She reported that approximately 97% of planned visits have been coordinated and stated that additional training is anticipated later in the year.

10. Public Comments

No public comments.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Jeremy Hynds: **To adjourn the meeting**. Second, Jeff Harper, no discussion, motion carried. **Meeting adjourned**.

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