

LAS VEGAS URBAN AREA WORKING GROUP

Clark County Fire Administration

575 E Flamingo Rd, 2nd Floor, MACC Las Vegas NV 89119

2026 Q2 MEETING MINUTES FINAL

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

11:00 AM

MEMBERS' PRESENT:

Brian O'Neal, Ben Erickson, Ana Chavez, Diana Clarkson, Greg Chesser, Misty Robinson.

ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Michelle Thackston, Jeremy Hynds, Jeff Quinn, Harriett Vegas, Diane Orgill.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kenny Holding, Carolyn Levering, Jayson Andrus, Toni Barnes, Harry DuBray, Bryan Ostaszewski.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Brian O'Neal call the meeting to order at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

II. Roll Call

Quorum present.

III. Public Comments

No comments.

IV. Comments from the Chair

No comments.

V. *Review and approve 02/18/2026 meeting minutes

Misty Robinson motion to approve the meeting minutes. **Ana Chavez** seconded. No further discussion. **Motion carried.**

VI. Presentation: LVMPD DFR program Results/Impact

Jeff Gonzalez presented the DFR program operations, results, and impact. The Chair noted the group's continued support of the program and highlighted its positive results. The Chair continued that access to pilot communication channels has improved situational awareness during building fires, allowing chief officers to receive and relay timely information to firefighters on the ground. Appreciation was expressed for the coordination efforts and the program's ongoing success.

VII. NRAC update

The Chair reported that no anticipated changes to NRAC were included in the recently released Homeland Security Grant Program guidance, and federal priority areas will remain unchanged. The only action taken at the last meeting was to update the state agency name from the Division of Emergency Management to the Office of Emergency Management. The Chair also noted that future NRAC discussions will broaden their focus to include a wider range of hazards, including natural disasters, rather than concentrating primarily on man-made hazards.

VIII. *Bylaws review and approval

The Chair reported that the annual review of the Urban Area Working Group bylaws was completed. No revisions were proposed or made, and the bylaws will remain in effect as previously adopted. No discussion occurred, and no action or vote was required.

IX. *Strategic Plan Working Group update

Diana Clarkson provided an update regarding efforts to develop a report highlighting Homeland Security Grant Program-funded projects and successes. A plan has been established but has not yet been implemented due to time constraints. Diana suggested utilizing a background-checked City of Henderson volunteer, currently pursuing a master's degree in emergency management, to assist with data collection and report development. An annual EMPG report was identified as a model for presenting both quantitative and qualitative project outcome. Diana Clarkson indicated that an email will be distributed in the coming weeks requesting participating agencies to submit project-specific data and success stories for inclusion in the report. Group members expressed support for utilizing the volunteer, and no questions or concerns were raised.

X. Public Comments

The Chair commented on ongoing efforts to develop comprehensive stakeholder lists and requested that jurisdictions provide stakeholder contacts aligned with their Emergency Support Functions to ensure broad representation in the THIRA/SPR process. A stakeholder survey is expected to be distributed early the following week and will remain open through May 29. Due to funding-related constraints and a compressed project timeline, the Chair emphasized the importance of early participation to support timely analysis of survey results and planning of upcoming workshops. The survey will gather input on threats and hazards of greatest concern as well as current response capabilities. The Chair thanked members for their support and indicated that additional information would be forthcoming.

XI. Adjournment

Ben Erickson motion to adjourn the meeting. **Michelle Thacktson** seconded. No further discussion. **Meeting adjourned.**

Next Scheduled UAWG meeting: **August 12, 2026, at 11:00 A.M.** hybrid or in-person meeting, via Microsoft Teams or in-person at the **Clark County MACC, 2nd floor Clark County Fire Administration, 575 E Flamingo Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89119.**