



Clark County Local Emergency Planning Committee

CLARK COUNTY FIRE ADMINISTRATION
TELECONFERENCE

FINAL Minutes

February 19, 2025

9:00 A.M.

LEPC ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS:

Billy Samuels, Diana Clarkson, Gary Stevenson, David Milewski, Harriett Vegas, Misty Richardson, Bradley Iverson, Greg Chesser, Misty Robinson, John Tansley, Andrew Bennett, William West, Kathryn Foxworthy, Louise Hardy, Lucas Basham Murphy, Brian Mitchell, Karen Donnahie, John Turner, Lowel Smith.

ALTERNATES:

Ben Erickson, Sean Patterson, Alejandro Rodriguez, Cheryl Nagy, Guy DeMarco, Spencer Lewis, Skye Dunfield, Michael Atherall, Jeremy Crawford, Amber Stringer, Jeff Hanh, Robert Palumbo, Robin Davis, Andrew Roths, Diane Orgill.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Randy Willbanks, Jeremy Hynds, Brian Arboreen, Mario Perez, Sean Simoneau, James Rogers, Dean Hennesy, Carolyn Levering, Jayson Andrus, Brenda Pappas, Corey Ross, Warren Hull, Jason Manzo, Ortary Davila, Bowdie Young, Lori Mack, Judy Lopez, Daniel Berc, Karen Beckley, Nina Perez-Payumo, Tori Begay, Melanie Rouse, Bryan Ostaszewski.

I. Call to Order

Billy Samuels, LEPC Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:03AM on Wednesday, February 19th, 2025.

II. Roll Call

Katya Collins, quorum present.

III. Public Comments

Brian Arboreen commented that Sean Simoneau and Michael Denning are retired. The chair requested Katya Collins to work with Chief Arboreen for the roster to be updated.

IV. Comments from the Chair

The Chair commented that we will be tabling agenda Item IV, The Tesla Tunnels Presentation. Mr. Kassidy canceled last minute.

V. *Review and approve 11-13-2024 Meeting Minutes

Jeff Hanh mentioned last paragraph the work TEAKS needs to be corrected to TEEX.

Motion by Robert Palumbo to approve the minutes, seconded by Misty Richardson with the corrections by Jeff Hanh, no further discussion, motion carried.

VI. Tesla Tunnels Presentation

Canceled.

VII. LEPC Grants – Available Now

David Vaquero informed everyone that the deadline for the SERC OPTE grant is March 25th, 2024 and for the United We Stand grant application the deadline is April 25th, 2024. He proposed a LEPC special meeting around the 11th or the 12th of March. Requested applications to be submitted before the 3rd of March. This would give us enough time to create the special LEPC report and put everything together. If you have questions about the timeline, it was attached with the agenda, feel free to see the timeline but if questions please reach out to him. Wanted to make a comment about one of our previous SERC OPTE grants, several of our individuals that ended up going to a 4-day conference, unfortunately when they presented their paperwork, only showed 2 to 3 days. It's virtually impossible to reimburse that entity for the entire four-day session, because there is only proof, they attended 2. In the future, please make sure if you attend these conferences that you sign up or sign in and have proof you were there all 4 days. Otherwise, it becomes impossible to reimburse the entities for those conferences you are flying over to.

The Chair asked David if he was asking the applications to be submitted by the 3rd and then March 11th or 12th, whichever date we decide on the meeting, we will vote on those. Asked if that was David's intent.

David confirmed.

The Chair asked if anyone had questions about the submission of the grant's applications, no questions. The Chair commented regarding the conferences, totally understand there are sometimes that members need to come home and that is what it is. However, it is the expectation that this agency or jurisdiction will eat those costs. We can't submit those back to the State for reimbursement. Let's be cautious because that is money that basically we are giving back to the State into the Federal Government and that is not what we want to do. We want to show that we need these funds every year, so let's make sure we do a better job on that.

VIII. LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Plans Administration Subcommittee

Gary Stevenson, no updates on Plans but if anyone has any updates they want to present, please email him and/or Josie. Josie had nothing to add.

b. Training and Exercise Subcommittee

Gary Stevenson stated that all the training has been updated or added to the Wed EOC calendar. For those who are taking the cybersecurity suite of courses, we just added the MGT-452 course. That is the final one to close out the series. Again, that is on the Web EOC calendar and the Nevada NTQS.net website if you want to register for that. Misty Richardson reminded everyone to continue to use Web-EOC to keep that updated with your jurisdictional activities.

The Chair asked Katya to make sure of inviting SERC to our next LEPC meeting and add them in our distribution list.

c. Grants Subcommittee

David Vaquero, other than the deadlines nothing else to report.

d. Public Information Subcommittee

Cheryl Naggy, we have added a component to the public information subcommittee and that is communication. John and Cheryl are working on some statewide stuff. Plus, we will be tackling all these alert systems that we now have throughout the county to make sure that we are all in check with all of that.

e. Legislative Subcommittee

The Chair stated that Angeline Szymanski is our chair and sent about 26 pages, but will only read two of all the pages which are added to these minutes as sent by Angeline via email as follows:

The Nevada Legislative Session Started on February 3rd.

I am tracking the following bills and continue to track bills and bill draft requests. If there is anything I have missed up to this date that you feel I should be tracking both at the state and federal levels, please email or call me.

Bill	Summary	Status as of February 18
AB 50	Revises provisions relating to victims of a mass casualty incident: 1) Authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to establish and maintain an electronic database containing victim information to coordinate reunification, identification services and other appropriate follow up services. 2) Sets forth certain requirements for the database and who may participate in the database as well as its confidentiality. 3) Provides employees and agents of Clark County immunity from civil liability for any act or omission provided not willful misconduct, negligence or bad faith. 4) Requires a hospital or similar emergency medical care facility to report in the database certain information and provides immunity for civil liabilities if reports are made in good faith, and similar immunity provisions.	To Committee; Government Affairs
SB38	Revises provisions relating to school emergency operations plans: Section 3 of this bill authorizes the Division to disseminate a plan, an update to a plan or a deviation from a plan to a local public safety agency as the Division determines is reasonably necessary: (1) in the event of an act of terrorism or related emergency; or (2) for emergency preparedness, coordination and response efforts.	To Committee; Education.
SB39	Revises provisions relating to emergency management: This bill creates the Nevada Hazard Mitigation Revolving Loan Account in the State General Fund as a revolving loan account administered by the Division of Emergency Management and related administrative rules and regulations.	To Committee; Government Affairs

Regarding AB50, the Chair commented, we all know it as the impacted person database, if you have any questions please reach out to Misty or Lorea, they are our tops on information of what is going on. The Chair asked Misty Richardson if she had anything to add.

Misty Richardson added that next week will probably have the hearing on the 28th, Thursday and that is also the legislative day for Emergency management, we will have our DEM partners, our local entity John Baca dolls group and then our office in conjunction with County Legislative team and the Resilience Team and Justice Center will also be present, providing information about the IPD and how it's used. The coroner will also be present, Misty from the health district will be there, we have a robust team that is going up there to support that bill and if anybody has additional questions about, happy to entertain those or even be able to provide a demonstration.

Regarding SB38, the chair read it and asked about questions, there were none.

Regarding SB39, this is more for DEM, putting this through, it's going to help them get more funding and be a little more to pay their bills when a declaration comes, versus having to ask for it afterwards. In the County we actually improvise the same thing, we have a two million fund for our interim management team and Nevada Task Force to go out and pay those bills right away. And then we get reimbursed, so it's a revolving thing. We already have the same thing set up in the County.

At the Federal level, the administration change has created many changes or potential changes for emergency preparedness:

- Executive Order-Council to Assess the Federal Emergency Management Agency
 - Analyzes FEMA's performance in relation to state disaster aid and preparation.
 - Recommends changes to improve FEMA's ability to serve the national interest.
 - Solicits input from a wide range of stakeholders.
 - Produces a report for the President that includes an assessment of FEMA's performance.
- FEMA's Acting Administrator, Cam Hamilton, provided a 2025 Annual Guidance to establish priorities for FEMA personnel, I have attached to this report for attendees if they are interested in reading the document.
- Disaster Management Costs Modernization Act and the Disaster Assistance Simplification Acts did not pass through the 118th Congress.

The Chair asked if anyone had any questions regarding legislative bills, please reach out to Angelina. This is the only bill she is tracking, if there's something else that you feel she needs to track regarding the LEPC, please have her and follow up.

f. GIS Subcommittee

Nothing to report.

g. Specialized Response Subcommittee

Nothing to report.

SPECIAL REPORTS & WORKING GROUPS

a) Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

Diane Orgill, they attended NEPA and made some good contacts there and looking forward for the agency growing.

b) Nuclear Waste Division Yucca Mountain Update

The Chair welcomed Andrew Bennett since it was his first time in person for the meeting.

Andrew Bennett introduced himself as the Director of Traffic Safety for the County, for about a year now. For those of you who maybe have known Phill, he was in comprehensive Planning under the direction of the County Manager. We moved to the Nuclear Waste Office into the County Manager and into the Office of Traffic Safety. We are about to rebrand my office to include my nuclear title, but for now is just Traffic Safety. There's a heavy transportation component to be our focus of the county when it comes to nuclear waste. We believe currently under this administration that we are not ramping up to fight the opening of Yucca Mountain at this point. We are going to continue our focus on the transportation of low level mixed and classified nuclear waste coming through the valley. Just in case you haven't heard this update in a while, we have about one million cubic feet of nuclear waste coming through the valley primarily on state route 160 on any given year, that's about 160 transports every quarter based off truck loads. The route largely comes over the old bridge in Laughlin goes up the 95 to Searchlight, takes the left up to 15, goes up the 15, takes the left at 160 and goes through Pahrump to the test site. Last quarter, we had 104 trucks, approximately make that trip. Some of the things we are currently working on is we are actively renegotiating that route as everybody in this room knows, Enterprise is the fastest growing part of town and we don't believe it's appropriate for those trucks to be on State Route 160 as well as our partners over at NDOT have about a 10 year plan to tear up Blue Diamond, so we want to make sure we have an alternative path, largely, we believe that's going to be taking the California 127 up around the mountain in the valley, almost in it's entirety. We do have one shipment of notes that's unclassified, that we can talk about. We have some nuclear material coming from France that's being repatriated back to America. It was part of the Atoms for Peace Program, it's our waste, we are responsible for it, the only place we can safely store it is going to be at our testing site, we continue to track those shipments. Working with the Chief, with Armor and their task force. It's been an interesting year to learn all this and happy to provide any updates to anybody as they need but focusing mostly on the transportation. A few months ago, we talked about NHP is no longer doing the escorts, that was the decision made by other state divisions, not by NHP, the County still arguing that some of these transports do need to be escorted and we are working through that process. We are working on raising the funding, we currently receive is \$0.50 per cubic foot and we don't believe that cost has been raised in 21 years, we are working with the Chief to try to increase that.

The Chair mentioned that it would be exciting if we can get that across the finish line. Thanked Andrew on the good report.

c) Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Chair addressed Misty about this being just a placeholder. Misty Richardson mentioned that as of this meeting it was, the intention is that we have these quarterly in alignment with the LEPC so we can keep eyes on projects that have been put forward for hazard mitigation. By the next meeting, not the special meeting, but the next quarterly meeting will have at least a core group of representatives from the individual jurisdictions to be able to talk about their projects.

d) Regional Working Groups

The names for AIR and CAER were backwards, this will be fixed for next meeting agenda. Gary Stevenson pointed out.

A. CAER

Josie Ross, we are holding our bimonthly meeting next Tuesday the 25th. We have a drill at Olin on March 6th. We are working on our pre-planned meetings, and we have 80% of them scheduled right now, we are really excited about that. Our number one goal this year is to increase outreach and membership; we are doing well so far. Our annual full scale scheduled for October 23rd, we are still working on the location, but we got the date narrowed down and all our stakeholders are engaged for that. Gilbert Doucet didn't have anything else to add.

B. BEIR

No updates.

C. NIR

Brian Pearson explained he was just recently asked to be a part of this group, and this was his first NIR meeting. He will reach out to the other four participants. He got the chance to go to the CAER meeting in Henderson and was really impressed and can't wait to go with our emergency responders to restart up again as we used to. He has been with here over 25 years and can't wait to get onsite training drills and get our area back up and running. He appreciates the opportunity to serve as chair and be there to do whatever he can to promote safety in his area.

The Chair mentioned how we can do only so much on the public side, it's the private partnerships that really make these working groups stronger.

Brian Pearson addressed everyone on this call, if you need ice this summer, ready ice, we are here to support our first responders and Emergency Management. His number is available for anyone that would like to call for ice needs.

D. AIR

Gary Stevenson for Sean Carr, there's nothing to report. However, they are working on an exercise out for the Apex Junior station with a date later to be determined.

IX. Public Comments

Harriett Vegas with the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, mentioned Chief Owens retired last month. Currently Captain Harry Dubray is interim Chief, they are fully staffed, it shouldn't affect any of their operations but wanted to let everyone know. We will miss Chief Owens but are happy to have Captain Dubray step into that role.

Lucas Murphy with the NNSS, wanted to invite anyone who might be interested in their quarterly meetings with EOC Cadre folks and anybody who would be interested in being a guest at one of those meetings. We love inviting folks from the outside to speak and share their knowledge and what they do with the team. If anybody is interested in being a guest speaker, please reach out to him. The Chair asked if this was normally at Mercury or downtown? Lucas replied that is normally Mercury, sometimes it's held in downtown, but if they couldn't come to Mercury, they can make accommodations.

Dayvid Figler with City Cast Las Vegas, they are doing a report about the Tesla tunnels and the emergency response and stuff. This is the second meeting in a row where Tesla tunnels was going to make a presentation, and it seems like they abruptly cancelled. Just curious on what's up with that? Then also with the time finding what the emergency response community's feelings about the Tesla tunnels are, was hoping to get some insight today. If there's someone who might be willing to talk to him or point him in the right direction.

The Chair thanked Mr. Figler for coming in personally, but this agenda item is discussion only, there will not be any comments based on this one, will sidebar with him afterwards. Won't answer those questions that you just posted on a discussion format.

Next Regularly Scheduled LEPC meeting: May 14, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. hybrid meeting via Teams or in-person at the Clark County MACC, 2nd floor Clark County Fire Administration, 575 E. Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89119

The Chair mentioned the preference for meeting attendance in person. We will be having a special meeting based upon your guys' grant applications for the United. Be on the lookout for that.

II. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Misty Richardson, Robert Palumbo seconded. No further discussion, motion carried.