

LAS VEGAS URBAN AREA WORKING GROUP

Clark County Fire Administration
575 E Flamingo Rd., 2nd floor, MACC
Las Vegas, NV 89119

FINAL MINUTES
Tuesday, June 3, 2025
8:00 AM

UAWG ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian O'Neal, Thomas Touchstone, Carolyn Levering, Ben Erickson, Ana Chavez, Misty Robinson.

ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Michelle Thackston, Jeremy Hynds, David Milewski, Josie Ross.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jennifer Wyatt, Diana Clarkson, Greg Chesser, Jayson Andrus, Warren Hull, Harry Dubray, Bryan Ostaszewski.

Please be noted that by the time the agenda was publicly posted, it was stated that the Chair was Billy Samuels, however the agenda on the meeting reflected Brian O'Neal as the new chair for the Las Vegas Urban Area Working Group, UAWG.

I. Call to order

Brian O'Neal, UAWG chair called the meeting to order at 8:00AM on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

II. Roll Call

Quorum present.

III. Public Comments

No comments.

IV. Comments from the Chair

The Chair stated that originally we were holding this meeting to meet our quarterly meeting requirements, when the meeting was set up, we didn't have any NOFO for the Homeland Security Program or any guidance from the Federal or State agency regarding priority areas, however, yesterday it was released in the initial budget proposal for this grant program that moving forward the Homeland Security Grant program would have a 25% reduction from fiscal year 2024, which was also a 32% reduction from funding levels from fiscal year 2023 and moving forward will require a 25% local cash match. As a result of seeing the diminishing funds available to this program and our need for continued advocacy for this program to our elected officials, as this is an initial step in the Congressional budget that we will have the opportunity to advocate as the Urban Area. It would be an appropriate time for us, as group to develop a subcommittee that was looking specifically at the outcomes of our funding so that we are able to more accurately communicate the impact of this funding stream and the consequences of cuts to it to our elected officials. This subcommittee would be able to create an outcome measurement assistance tool that could be used by all jurisdictions to report the success of funded programs and the capabilities that this grant program creates for our valley and be able to integrate both qualitative and quantitative assessments, because not all things are measure by how many times this thing worked appropriately and so some of it could be a survey tool, but it would have to point us back towards being able to accurately and consistently communicate to our elected officials and stakeholders in the community. The Chair addressed the group and asked if anyone would like to Chair this subcommittee and any additional members that would be willing to serve as members of this subcommittee. Ben Erickson, Carolyn Levering, Ana Chavez and Jeremy Hynds offered to serve. The Chair asked Jeremy Hynds about being the chair for the subcommittee, Carolyn Levering stated that they will battle that out. The Chair continued, this subcommittee don't have to necessarily be scanning members of this body alternates for voting members, we can pull people from outside the group as well. Four gives us a good place to start. Misty Robinson also offered to serve. The Chair continued, the initial expectation for that group then would be to report back at the next quarterly meeting, that would give you about 3 months of work to get you started and then we would have further discussion on this and look to vote

that assessment tool into the bylaws. Carolyn Levering added, in preparation of this working group to meet to discuss the assessment tool, she requested, that even though we don't have a NOFO deadline, the zoom grants applications have been open for some time now, it would be really useful for you as an administrator and also for this working group to have some information as to how many draft applications are in the system, what kind of dollars are being sought attached to those applications, not that necessarily drives what this assessment survey tool looks like but gives us some foresight into what our challenges are as far as what the perceived needs are in the valley and that we are able to further cross reference those when NOFO does come out and has new eligibility requirements that we all have to comply with. If that is something that you as an administrator are comfortable with, asking or pulling that data out of zoom grants, I think that would be useful. The Chair addressed David Martin and asked him if he can see everything that is in there. David Martin stated that he is only able to see what the Clark County has submitted, so far, we have five applications without including the EMPG grant application. The five applications we have so far, equal \$509,000.00. The Chair added, we might have to reach out to the state and Carolyn Levering agreed that it will be a state ask to be able to visualize everything that's in there. The Chair stated will work on that later.

V. Review and approve 12-19-2024 and 02-19-2025 meeting minutes

Motion by Carolyn Levering to approve both meetings' minutes, Ben Erickson seconded, no discussion, motion carried.

VI. Public Comments

No comments.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Carolyn Levering: To adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ben Erickson, no discussion, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Next Scheduled UAWG meeting: August 13, 2025, 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.