

Minutes of the
Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee
August 9, 2012

The Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (NHMPC) met from 9:47 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 9, 2012 at the East Fork Fire District, 1694 County Road, Minden, Nevada.

Attendees included:

Elizabeth Ashby, Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM)
Ed Atwell*, University of Nevada Emergency Management
Tod Carlini, East Fork Fire District
Joe Curtis*, Storey County Emergency Management
Kim Davis*, Division of Water Resources
Craig dePolo, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
Rick Diebold*, City of Las Vegas, Office of Emergency Management
Mike Dondero*, Nevada Division of Forestry
Robert Fellows*, Carson City Public Works
Linda Goar, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
Stephanie Hicks, RO Anderson
Chris Ipsen, NV Enterprise IT Services
Karen Johnson, Division of Emergency Management
Ron Lynn*, Department of Development Services, Clark County Building Department
Erik Nilssen, Douglas County Engineer
Jim Reagan*, NV Energy
Alex Trelease*, Clark County Regional Flood Control District
Ryan Turner*, City of Henderson Emergency Management
James Walker*, Nevada Department of Transportation

* Indicates a member of the Board of Directors

Members unable to attend:

Terri Garside

Welcome and Introductions

Craig dePolo chaired the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves. A quorum of the members of the Board of Directors was present.

Public Comments

Tod Carlini, Fire Chief, thanked the committee for the grant they were awarded for the update of the Douglas County Hazard Mitigation plan.

Minutes Approval

The minutes of the May 8, 2012 meeting of the committee were unanimously approved.

Nevada Cyber Security Presentation

Presented by Chris Ipsen
NV Chief Information Security Officer

There are two cyber data centers in Nevada – North and South.

Within the state, there are over 2 million miles of connections; protection is essential. The Governor lists Cyber as a #1 concern because it is very susceptible to attack.

Chris stated that there will be 20,000 attack attempts to our network just while he is speaking. Overall 2 million threats a day are thwarted in Nevada. Anyone with a \$25 laptop can attack us and their level of sophistication is high.

Robert Mueller, FBI Director states “terrorism is the #1 threat and cyber threat will become #1”.

The future is relying on technology more and therefore we will be more vulnerable to attack. If we are concerned about a cyber- attack we need to develop a premier training center in Nevada.

Things we can address now that could reduce 85% of problems:

- SOC monitoring (70 compromised machines in 1 month)
- Incident response
- Information sharing
- Cyber center

Currently we don't have enough people and not enough cohesiveness. We need to work together and make ourselves more aware. We need to be aware that both PC's and Mac's are vulnerable. Having Blue Tooth and WiFi makes you more vulnerable.

Douglas County Profile

Presented by Candace Stowell
Planning, Douglas County

Douglas County has 711 square miles of land area with a population density of 66 people per square mile. The largest land ownership is by the BLM. The state of Nevada owns only .3% of the land. Population growth was high from the 1970's until the last decade which has slowed. Average growth rate is now at approximately 1.4%.

The 2011 Master Plan has several hazard mitigation actions related to wellhead protection, floodplain management, storm water planning and hazardous fuel reduction. Some issues which need to be addressed are senior housing. Even though Douglas County has a high senior population, currently there is no senior housing. The county also needs to look at re-development at the lake.

One question from the floor regarding private water systems – can you use eminent domain? The answer is no, but usually they are in such bad shape, they don't need to.

Earthquake HAZUS-MH Report

Presented by Craig dePolo

Research Geologist – UNR

Nevada is the #3 most earthquake prone State. We have a history of preparedness and there has not been a recorded death in Nevada earthquakes.

Most of our earthquakes are caused by faults. Since active faults are nearly everywhere in Nevada, a 6.0 can occur anywhere in the state.

There are 3 sources for seismic hazards analysis: faults, earthquake records, and geodetic data. Geodetic data indicates Nevada is gaining .2 acre annually. About 20% of the Pacific plate movement is in Nevada.

We need to be prepared to respond . We need to mitigate structural risks, largely through building codes and avoiding faults areas of liquefaction.

Wildland Fire Hazard in Douglas County Presentation

Presented by Tod Carlini

Fire Chief, East Fork Fire District

Until 18 months ago, Douglas County had not experienced any major fires in 15 years. Since then, approximately 15,000 acres have burned which has cost local government over \$600,000. Total suppression costs are estimated to be \$10,000,000 in the County.

First, the hazards must be identified. Some criteria in assessing community design , construction materials, defensible space, suppression capabilities (personnel, equipment, water supply). East Fork Fire Protection District provides service to 96% of Douglas County with 14 stations, 150 suppression personnel. They handle 5200 calls for service/year.

Question from the floor: What criteria do you use to decide whether or not to fight for forest health? Rather than policy driven it is based on threat to property.

Planning Committee Report

Presented by Rick Diebold (sub for Jim Walker)

Subcommittee met on July 30, 2012 in Carson City.

1. Discussions included sources of funding impacted by the mitigation plan, either increased, decreased or eliminated not eligible.
2. Asked members to provide Elizabeth with information about mitigation activities, projects and public information events.
3. Risk assessment criteria – sent to Subject Matter Experts (SME) for review.
4. Reviewed avalanche, tornado, flood, earthquake and wildfire at SME's for review. Plan goals reviewed for adequacy/appropriateness.
5. Looked at goals and strategic actions.

Hazard Mitigation 2013 Grant Cycle Applications

1. Clark County School District – Seismic Valve Replacement – Conference call with Dimitri Theodorou of the Clark County School District
 - A. The goal is to mitigate potential fires as a result of earthquakes by installing seismic valves to schools and buildings.
 - B. There are approximately 357 schools impacted.
 - C. Question posed – Do new schools being built have these valves installed? Yes, and these are in all new plans.
 - D. Elizabeth pointed out there is a high cost-benefit ratio to this proposal.
2. Douglas County – State Route 88 Flood Mitigation Project presented by Stephanie Hicks, RO Anderson
 - A. State Route 88 in Minden is a major north/south transportation route with frequent flood occurrences due in part to an elevated highway embankment which acts as a dam, an insufficient sized bridge and an abandoned abutment.
 - B. Want to construct additional concrete culverts beneath the State Route. This would reduce exposure to roadway infrastructure consisting of approximately 204 homes, commercial buildings and public facilities.
3. Elko County – Hazard Mitigation Plan Update presented by Elizabeth Ashby, Nevada Division of Emergency Management
 - A. Apply for money through the county manager; if they can't, Elko County will be the only one without a plan.

NHMPC Update

Presented by Elizabeth Ashby

Discussed: 5 year strategic plan, the prioritization of grant applications was revised according to the strategic planning meeting, and orientation task force completed the package for new members. The applications will be ranked at the November meeting.

The next meeting will be held on November 15, 2012 in Henderson, Nevada

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Goar, October 10, 2012.