

Minutes of the  
Combined Meetings of the  
Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and its  
Proposal Review Subcommittee  
1 February 2007

The Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and its Proposal Review Subcommittee met from 9:00 until 10:57 a.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2007 at the offices of the Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors, 1775 East Plumb Lane, Suite 130, Reno, Nevada. These minutes and related documents are posted on the Web site for the committee (<http://www.nbmng.unr.edu/nhmipc/nhmipc.htm>).

Attendees included:

Elizabeth Ashby, Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM)  
Bob Ashworth\*, Nevada Division of Forestry  
Mike Cyphers\*, Henderson Emergency Management  
Rick Diebold\*, Las Vegas Fire Department  
Gary Dunn\*, City of Sparks  
John Flansberg, City of Reno  
Gale Fraser\*, Clark County Regional Flood Control District  
Terri Garside, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology  
Christine James\*, Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources  
Cathy Ludwig, Washoe County Emergency Management  
Maurene McKissick, City of Reno  
Rick Martin, Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM)  
John Plattsburg, City of Reno  
Jonathan Price\*, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology  
Jim Walker\*, Nevada Department of Transportation

\* indicates a member of the Board of Directors.

Members of the Board of Directors of the Committee who were unable to attend include:

Press Clewe\*, Washoe County resident  
Ron Lynn\*, Clark County Department of Development Services, Building Division  
Jim Reagan\*, Sierra Pacific Power Company  
Margie Gunn Nutman\*, Lincoln County Emergency Management  
Jeanne Ruefer\*, Washoe County Department of Water Resources

A quorum of directors (seven) was present.

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Jon Price chaired the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM November 8, 2006

The minutes of the 8 November 2006 meeting of the committee were unanimously approved.

C. NEW BUSINESS

**Proposal Review Subcommittee–Jon Price**

The Subcommittee conducted its review and prioritization of proposals submitted to DEM for consideration to submit to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for funding under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Competitive Grant Program 2007 (PDMG).

Elizabeth Ashby reported that there is \$500,000 in federal funds guaranteed by FEMA to be available to Nevada (and to each state) for proposals that meet the program requirements. All grant proposals compete equally for funding, whether they are Planning or Project proposals.

The Subcommittee considered five proposals:

*Planning*

Esmeralda County requests funding to prepare a single-jurisdiction hazard mitigation plan.

Storey County requests funding to hire a consultant to assist in the formulation of its hazard mitigation plan.

Washoe County Emergency Management requests funding to update and enhance the existing hazard mitigation plans of Washoe County, City of Reno, City of Sparks, and the Reno/Sparks Indian Colony and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe into one regional plan.

*Projects*

The City of Henderson requests funding to reduce or eliminate possible damage to a sanitary sewer from erosion associated with flood events by relocating the sewer under the drainage channel and lining this portion of the channel.

The City of Reno requests funding to install mechanical seismic guards on the elevator cables in the Reno City Hall building; anchor elevator machinery and control units to prevent the units from sliding and toppling; and install a cutoff system that will prevent collision of elevator cabs with the counter weights, during an earthquake.

The Subcommittee recommended the following priorities for the proposed projects:

First priority to the City of Henderson Pittman-Pecos Sewer Infrastructure Protection Project (\$377,853 in federal dollars)

Second priority to Esmeralda County Multi-hazard Mitigation Plan (\$24,950 in federal funds)

Third priority to Washoe County Emergency Management (\$38,609 in federal funds)

Fourth priority to Storey County Hazard Mitigation Plan (\$26,378 in federal funds)

Fifth priority to the City of Reno Elevator Non-Structural Retrofit (\$63,750 in federal funds).

The total federal dollars requested are \$531,540, \$31,540 above the \$500,000 guaranteed to be available.

The Committee reviewed the Subcommittee's recommendations.

A Motion was made and seconded to submit the proposals, as prioritized, to DEM. The motion was amended to include that all the projects are highly worthy of funding and should therefore go forward to DEM. A third amendment was made to the Motion that if in the end, only \$500,000 in federal funding is awarded, the committee will request DEM go back to the applicants and request that they help fund the shortage (up to \$31,540) so all projects can be funded. The motion, with these amendments, passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Ashby reported that FEMA will hold a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Competitive Grant Program 2007 Federal Peer-Review Committee meeting in Lansdowne, Virginia, March 5-9 and 12-16, 2007. FEMA will cover the costs for 3-5 people from each state to attend one or both sessions. Jon Price

requested that those who attend the meeting report back to the committee with their views on what makes a good proposal.

**The Planning Subcommittee on the State Mitigation Plan Revision—*Elizabeth Ashby***

Elizabeth Ashby reported that she and a typist have been working on updating the State's Plan. Elizabeth and Jim Walker will call a meeting of the subcommittee when a draft is ready for review.

DEM sent out fourteen surveys to local jurisdictions that have not submitted Plans, requesting that they identify their perceived hazards and any mitigation actions they feel should be done. Four surveys have been returned. Elizabeth will contact those that have not returned their surveys and prompt them to do so.

DEM has also compiled a summary of potential mitigation projects by reviewing hazards identified in completed plans. This will allow future mitigation projects to be considered for future PDMG funding opportunities.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Rick Martin reported that DEM has requested continued funding for the NHMPC group. The funding would include travel and meeting costs. They've also included a request to fund workshops in the north and south on the PDMG proposal process to encourage more application submissions.

Jon Price commented that it appears that the Benefit-Cost Analysis is the largest stumbling block to applicants. He recommended that we see if we can determine what other states have done in the past to be successful in receiving federal funding. Rick Martin will investigate this through DEM's collaboration with other states. He noted that Utah has been successful with several seismic retrofit projects.

Jon Price was requested to give a short presentation at the May meeting on Nevada's earthquake hazards. At future meetings, reports will be given on flood and fire hazards.

**E. ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

- a. Wednesday, May 23, 2007 – (Henderson)
- b. Wednesday, August 1, 2007, – after the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Meeting(Carson City at the Emergency Operations Center)
- c. Wednesday, November 14, 2007 – after the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Meeting (Las Vegas)

**F. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Garside, 8 February 2007