

Summary Minutes
Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee
6 May 2004

The Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (NHMPC) met from 9:00 a.m. to 12:23 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, 2004 at the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology in Reno, Nevada. These minutes and related documents, including a list of members of the Board of Directors, charges and membership of subcommittees, and the Bylaws are posted on the Web site for the Committee (<http://www.nbmng.unr.edu/nhmpr/nhmpr.htm>).

Attendees included:

Elizabeth Ashby, Nevada Division of Emergency Management
Press Clewe* Washoe County Resident
Terri Garside, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
Kim Groenewold*, Division of Water Resources
Ben Hutchins*, City of Sparks
Gale Fraser*, Clark County Regional Flood Control District
Rick Diebold*, Las Vegas Fire Department
Ron Lynn*, Building Official, Department of Development Services, Building Division, who also held the proxy for Marge Gunn Nutman*, Lincoln County Office of Emergency Management
Chet Malesski, Truckee Meadows Water Authority
Rick Martin, Nevada Division of Emergency Management
Jim O'Brien*, Clark County Office of Emergency Management (attended via teleconference)
Bert Prescott, Nevada Division of Emergency Management
Jon Price*, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, who also held the proxy for Frank Taylor*, Nevada Department of Transportation
Jim Reagan*, Sierra Pacific Power Company
Jeanne Ruefer*, Washoe County Department of Water Resources

*indicates member of the Board of Directors
A quorum of directors (the necessary 7) was present.

Board members unable to attend or send a proxy included:
Bob Ashworth*, Nevada Division of Forestry

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 12th meeting were approved.

DEM Update

The State's Hazard Plan has been reviewed by FEMA. FEMA has returned it with their courtesy review comments. DEM met with the contractor that assisted in the Plan's preparation. The contractor is revising some of the language so it complies with FEMA's comments. Elizabeth Ashby will scan the Plan, as returned to DEM by FEMA, and send it in electronic format to Terri for distribution to the NHMPC Board Members.

When FEMA's comments are received from DEM, distributed, and reviewed, the Ad Hoc Mitigation Plan Subcommittee will be activated. Potential members of the Subcommittee are Elizabeth Ashby, Kim Groenewold, and Jon Price.

ACTION ITEM

Elizabeth Ashby will provide Terri Garside with an electronic version of FEMA's comments on the State Hazard Plan. Terri will distribute the electronic version to the Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Project Subcommittee (Kim Groenewald, Chair)

No Report

Proposal Review Subcommittee (Ron Lynn, Chair)

The Subcommittee met on April 27th at Sierra Pacific Power Company's Ohm Place offices. They reviewed FEMA's requirements for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grants, which can be found at www.fema.gov/fima/pdm.shtm.

Ron circulated a Project Rating Worksheet and a Project Narrative Checklist/Worksheet that the Subcommittee prepared based on the information from the FEMA Web site. After reviewing the requirements, Ron felt that it may be too expensive for the rural communities to apply for the PDM grants as the rural communities may need to hire a consultant to assist in the proposal preparation process. The Worksheets were reviewed by the entire Committee. There are a number of questions on the Worksheets that may be difficult for the communities to answer. To assist the communities, members of the NHMPC will provide the answers to questions S2-4, S7-9, and S19.

ACTION ITEM

Kim Groenewold will supply Ron Lynn with the answers to questions S2, S3, and S19. Elizabeth Ashby will provide the answers to S4, S8 and S9. Ron will compile the answers (incorporating answers to questions he knows) on one answer sheet for distribution to all Nevada communities interested in applying for the PDM grants.

Questions S10-18 will need to be answered by the applying community; Committee members with Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) training can assist the communities with questions that pertain to the BCA; the remaining questions will need to be answered by the applying community.

Elizabeth Ashby recommended that communities try to answer as many of the questions as possible (they may need to contact other agencies in their communities for some of the answers). DEM will assist with finding answers to any questions that the communities can't answer.

There was a discussion on the best way for the communities to submit e-grant proposals directly to DEM. It was decided that after DEM receives the proposal, they will then forward the proposals to the Proposal Review Subcommittee for review and prioritizing.

Kim Groenewold mentioned that she has been in contact with Robert McCord at FEMA Region IX. Robert is trying to arrange BCA training for interested parties in Nevada. Terri Garside and Rick Diebold have attended the BCA training and may be available to assist the communities with the analysis needed for their pre-disaster mitigation proposals (planning proposals do not need a BCA analysis). Jeannie Ruefer is scheduled to attend the training the end of this year.

The question was raised: "Can a community get a perfect score on the Project Rating Worksheet?"; the answer was "yes."

When the first proposal is received, a Proposal Review Subcommittee member will meet with Elizabeth Ashby. That review will determine if more information needs to be given to the communities to assist in their proposal process.

In order for the entire proposal process to meet the FEMA final submission deadline, it was decided that the deadline for applicants to submit proposals to DEM this year will be July 22nd. The proposals will be

sent electronically to DEM. DEM will send the proposals in .pdf format electronically to the entire NHMPC Committee. Applicants that submitted grants for FY'03 will need to notify DEM if they want those proposals to be resubmitted for FY'04.

The recusal process was discussed. The full Committee believes that if an agency submits a proposal, and a Subcommittee member directly works for the submitting agency, that Subcommittee member should recuse themselves from voting on that proposal.

The Subcommittee will write a recusal policy and submit it through DEM for review by the Attorney General's Office. Once approved, it will be presented to the NHMPC Committee for adoption.

Report from the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council

Jon Price discussed the Year-end funding proposal process that the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC) goes through at its May meeting. (The NESC was made aware a couple of years ago that there are possible FEMA funds available through DEM. The funds are given to DEM for the Emergency Management Planning Grants, funds not spent by the end of the fiscal year (September 30th) are returned to FEMA. The NESC forwards the prioritized projects to DEM for possible funding from any unspent funds.) At the May 5th meeting, the NESC went through the one-page proposals submitted through the NESC Subcommittees. The proposals received were ranked and prioritized. The proposals will be submitted to DEM for consideration. The ranked list of proposals submitted are:

Project	Dollars needed from DEM	Cumulative dollars needed from DEM
Top priority, #1 Earthquakes in the Classroom Association of Engineering Geologists- Jenelle Hopkins	\$1,200	\$ 1,200
Priority #2 Earthquakes in the Classroom: K-12 Workshops in Las Vegas UNLV-Catherine Snelson	\$16,342	\$ 17,542
Priority #3 Mapping and Timing of the California Wash Fault, Nevada UNLV-Catherine Snelson and Wanda Taylor	\$26,661	\$ 44,203
Priority #4 Real-Time Earthquake Recognition in the K-12 Seismic Network NSL-Ken Smith	\$15,000	\$ 59,203
Priority #5 V30 measurements at ANSS and NSL stations and Ground Motion Amplification in the Reno area NSL-Aasha Pancha and James Scott	\$20,000	\$ 79,203
Priority #6 Fabrication of a Low-Cost Educational Shake Table	\$5,000	\$ 84,203

UNR-Civil Engineering –Sherif Elfass

Priority #7

Seismic Microzonation for the Las Vegas Valley (continuation)	\$20,742	\$104,945
UNLV-Barbara Luke		

Priority #8

Bearing Capacity Under Developing Liquefaction	\$10,000	\$114,945
UNR-Civil Engineering, Sherif Elfass		

Total requested

\$114,945

John Louie from the Nevada Seismological Laboratory gave a presentation to NESC on May 5 on a plan for seismic microzonation in the Las Vegas area that uses a technology that determines one-dimensional shear-wave velocity to a depth of 100 feet. John requested the support of the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council.

Also at the NESC meeting on May 5, Professor Rakesh Goel, California Polytechnic State University, discussed effects of the earthquake at Paso Robles, Atascadero, Oceano, and San Luis Obispo.

Outreach Subcommittee (Rick Diebold, Chair)

Burt Prescott gave a draft PowerPoint presentation on the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant (PDMG) Program process. The presentation was prepared for members of the NHMPC to take on the road to Nevada communities requesting the presentation. After Committee review, recommendations were made to revise some of the slides to provide more clarification. As some counties may not understand their local hazard, it's recommended that the HAZUS run for that county be presented at the time of the PowerPoint presentation.

Gale Fraser suggested PDMG Program funds be used to promote mitigation through Public Service Announcements (PSA). Jon asked Bert if there may be funds available through the State's PDMG program for use for a PSA grant.

Rick Diebold recommended that Frank Siracusa, Chief, DEM, request time on each county's commissioners' meeting agenda to give the PDMG PowerPoint presentation. It was noted that there are thirteen of the seventeen counties that have not either started or completed their Hazard Mitigation Plan. It was further recommended that a NHMPC member meet with each County Manager and County Commissioner to explain the PDMG program and see if there is an interest in reviewing the PowerPoint presentation at a later date.

ACTION ITEM

Jon Price and Frank Siracusa are to write a letter to Nevada County Commissioners offering to have a NHMPC Committee member attend their next Commission meeting in order to discuss the PDMG program.

Risk Assessment Subcommittee, Ron Hess, Chair

The Subcommittee met. It was decided that Nevada does want to have a HAZUS Users Group. HAZUS is FEMA's computer model for estimating losses from earthquakes, floods, and wind damage. FEMA is supportive of arranging a Nevada HAZUS introductory class for those interested. Elizabeth Ashby, Rick Martin, and Kim Groenewold expressed interest in being on the Users Group. Ron Hess requests that anyone that would like to be on the Users Group contact Ron and he'll add them to the contact list (rhess@unr.edu).

Ron Hess reported that last month he attended training on the new version of HAZUS. Ron will run the new HAZUS version for each county using an earthquake scenario. The run will use the closest known fault, customized for each of the county seats, based on their projected hazard. The output data will be provided to each county manager and county emergency manager.

Old Business

Action items from the February 12, 2004 meeting were reviewed.

New Business

Jon Price discussed ideas for possible funding sources for NHMPC needs. One project recommended was for PSAs on hazard mitigation.

Review of action items:

Terri Garside will allocate about 45 minutes on the next Agenda for a discussion on mitigation needs.

Elizabeth Ashby will ask the State's Public Information Officers (POI) to see if they are interested in doing the PDMG PSA. Elizabeth will also check into the costs of the production and running the PSAs throughout the State.

Kim Groenewold will supply Ron Lynn with the answers to questions S2, S3, and S19. Elizabeth Ashby will provide the answers to S4, S8 and S9. Ron will compile the answers (incorporating answers to questions he knows) onto one answer sheet for distribution to all Nevada communities interested in applying for the PDM grants.

Jon Price and Frank Siracusa will write a letter to Nevada County Commissioners offering to have a NHMPC Committee member attend their next Commission meeting in order to discuss the PDMG program.

Announcements of Future Meetings

Thursday, 5 August 2004, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Las Vegas, the day after the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council meeting)

Thursday, 18 November 2004, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Reno, the day after the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council meeting)

Public Comment Period

No comments from the public were made.

Meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Garside, 13 May 2004
c/o Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, UNR/MS 178, Reno, Nevada 89557-0088
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