

Minutes

Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

Monday, July 25, 2011, 1:30 pm

Division of Emergency Management, Executive Conference Room

2478 Fairview Drive

Carson City, NV 89701

Attendees:

Mike Dondero, Temporary Chair, Nevada Division of Forestry
Elizabeth Ashby, Nevada Division of Emergency Management
Will Bergquist, Washoe Tribal Representative
Bill Elliott, Nevada Division of Emergency Management
Dr. Keith Forbes, D.V.M. Nevada Dept. of Agriculture (*via teleconference*)
Rajat Jain, Nevada Division of Insurance
Angela Krutsinger, Nevada Hospital Association (*via teleconference*)
D. D. LaPointe, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
Maureen Martinez, Nevada Risk Management Division
Rhett Milne, National Weather Service, Reno
Robin Palmer, Nevada Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources
Branden Pearson, State Public Works Board

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Temporary Chair Mike Dondero, opened the meeting at 1:30 P.M and welcomed attendees who introduced themselves. Copies of the April meeting minutes and meeting materials to be discussed were distributed to attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike asked if there were any changes needed to the April minutes. As there were none noted, Maureen made a motion to approve the minutes, Raj seconded the motion and the April subcommittee meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

NEW MEMBERS TO THE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

Elizabeth reemphasized that the planning process should include as broad a stakeholder base as possible in order to produce a comprehensive mitigation plan and to that end, with input from existing members and other plans, additional subcommittee members were sought, some of whom are with us today:

Branden Pearson represents the State Public Works Board. Angela Krutsinger, attending via teleconference is representing the Nevada Hospital Association. Rhett Milne, who gave us input on mitigation aspects of climate change at our last meeting, is representing the National Weather Service. Will Bergquist from the Washoe Tribe is

representing the Intertribal Emergency Response Council. Rajat Jain is representing the Nevada Division of Insurance Emergency Support Function 14 (Recovery & Mitigation).

Elizabeth provided all new members with information packets containing the following mitigation plan materials:

1. CD of the current Nevada Hazard Mitigation Plan
2. List of currently recognized hazards
3. Spreadsheet of the mitigation process
4. Outline of the funding of the Plan. There was brief discussion of the importance of having an updated plan in order to obtain funding from FEMA for hazard mitigation and public assistance for reconstruction funding.
5. Status of county & tribal hazard mitigation plans

Maureen requested that Elizabeth provide existing members with copies of the same packet materials as well, as they may have become scattered or outdated.

Elizabeth asked all subcommittee members if they know of any legislative changes that might affect or have any impact on hazards, risk, or mitigation, and to please convey that information back to the subcommittee.

Maureen mentioned that there is a change in the insurance certificate notification process; the insurance company will not notify a third party if an insurance policy is cancelled – only the insured will be notified. Will this have an impact or be of interest to FEMA? Elizabeth says it may affect our emergency declaration process. Maureen will look into it and report back.

Bill Elliott mentioned that there might be some repercussions from the recent train/truck collision and derailment. Once the NTSB report on it is in, we should review it and determine if it contains anything that should be addressed in the mitigation plan. Angela mentioned that Amtrak will be doing an After-Action Review on the same train-truck accident dealing with the handling of the burn victims and the existence of only one burn center in the state (in Las Vegas). Angela and Bill will report back after the After-Action Review.

Angela asked about Mutual Aid Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding that must be in place first in order for FEMA to reimburse hospitals for treatment rendered following certain disasters. Also MAAs and MOUs should address putting victims up in local hotels while being treated but rate needs to be decided in advance in order for federal reimbursement to occur. These are issues that should be addressed in the individual emergency response plans of the entities such as the hospitals, cities, tribes or counties. Angela's input should be referred to Bill Elliott at NDEM for further consideration by these entities in their response plans.

Raj brought up a concern faced currently by Arizona of floods caused by fires burning off all the vegetation in an area and asked – Where can we get information on that and the probability of it happening here following wildland fires? Mike Dondero answered that they are on top of it (NDF) and have Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) completed for all counties and communities susceptible and have identified risks and hazards by vegetation type etc. The Western States are in the process of producing a Wildfire Risk Assessment which is expected to be published in October. This information

will be openly available to the public and all agencies. County-wide plans are online and available in NDF offices. Elizabeth added that communities and counties update their fire/flood/earthquake plans at least every 5 years and these are integrated into the State Plan every three years.

Bill asked if emergency response plans have been made for watersheds affected by new dam construction, specifically dams related to mining operations such as tailings dams? This is a question for NDEP/HazMat and should be referred to Rob Martinez and Rob Palmer for further clarification.

The Completed Mitigation Activity/Project Report Form was discussed - this is an annual review of completed mitigation projects and is what we are "graded" on by FEMA every year. Elizabeth asked Subcommittee members to review it and complete it for any projects they know of as they are completed.

D.D. reported on Planning Team meetings and progress: we reviewed FEMA's Crosswalk comments and our plans to address recommended revisions; invited new stakeholder representatives to join the Subcommittee; revised Section Zero statistics and added climate change comments; and added a Hazardous Materials Section. Elizabeth also expanded on some of these activities.

Mike opened the meeting for public comment; there was none.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 31, 2011.

Bill Elliott moved to adjourn the meeting, Rhett Milne seconded the motion and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, 18 August 2011

by Daphne D. LaPointe

Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology