



# Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

## Minutes

February 17, 2022 10:00 A.M.  
Regional Emergency Operations Center  
5195 Spectrum Boulevard, Reno, Nevada

### 1. CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM [Non-action item]

Chair Brian Taylor called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. A quorum was established.

**PRESENT:** Elizabeth Kunz – RPD; Tracy Moore – WCSD; Michael Perry – WCSD; Andy Ancho - RFD; Jim Kindness - SFD; Charles Moore – TMFPD; Ryan Rizzuto – TMFPD; Dale Carnes - RTAA; Mark Jongsma – RTAA; Francisco Vega - HD; Michelle Bays – DA; Kelly Echeverria – WCEM; Jessica Adams – WCEM; Brian Taylor – REMSA; Andrea Esp - WCDH; Jessie Latchaw – IHCC; Brittany Nevin – IHCC; Amanda Windes – UNR; Ben Davis – TMCC; Cody Shadle - RPSD; Sara Skroch - RPSD; Ian Dasmann – TMWA; Elizabeth Breeden – NV Energy; Tim Hill - NV Energy; and Stephanie Daus - NV Energy.

**ABSENT:** Daniel Bond - RPD; Jason Woodard - SPD; Clinte Bellamy - SPD; Marc Bello – WCSD; Bill Harvey - WCSD; Sierra Hooft - UNRPD; Eric James – UNRPD; Roy Anderson – WCSD; Shawn McEvers – SFD; Chris Jones - SFD; Ryan Sommers – NLTFPD; Russell Bamum - NLTFPD; Jim Nelligan – NLTFPD; Joe Kammann – TMFPD; Alex Kukulus - TMFPD; Nick Klaich - TRIAD; Eric Millette – SFD; Chris Hicks – DA; John Gurriere – DA; Julia Ratti - SL; Quinn Korbolic – WC Tech Services; Chris Long – WC Tech Services; Shyanne Schull – WC Animal Services; Tammy Wines-Jennings – WC Animal Services; Paul Burton – REMSA; Todd Kerfoot – REMSA; Kent Choma - NNMC; Mechelle Arenque – VA Hospital; Rob Reeder – RTC; Angela Reich – RTC; Wade Barnett – KOLO-TV; Ed Pearce - KOLO-TV; Matt Williams - UNR; Scott Alquist – TMCC; Rebecca Knapp – RPSD; Daniel Thayer – RS Indian Colony; Nida Harjo – RS Indian Colony; Lance Chantler – RS Indian Colony; Don Pelt – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; Jonathan Prichard - Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe; and David Paulon – Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

Also present: Legal, Wade Carner

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT –

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of December 16, 2021 General Membership Minutes – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Brian Taylor, LEPC Chair**

*It was moved by Charles Moore, seconded by Tracy Moore to approve the minutes as written.*

There was no public comment.

*The motion passed unanimously.*

**4. Secretary/Treasurers Report – Information on existing FY 22 Operations, Planning, Training, and Equipment (OPTE), FY 22 United We Stand (UWS), and FY 21 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Mid-Cycle Grants. Information and upcoming LEPC grants, member information, and trainings. – Kelly Echeverria, LEPC Secretary/Treasurer**

Kelly Echeverria explained that LEPC was awarded \$29,000 for the FY 22 OPTE grant and has a remaining balance of \$18,286. The Sheriff's Office has spent their \$10,000 for safety harnesses and Sparks Fire Department has not yet purchased their Toxic Vapor Analyzers with this grant. The remaining \$4,000 will remain in operations. \$2,000 of that is for transcription services. This amount will not be fully utilized as the former transcriptionist, Carly Mathat, resigned and there was a gap in which Kelly completed some of the minutes. A new transcriptionist, Erin Etcheverria, has been hired for the position. The remaining \$2,000 is for administrative costs.

For the FY 22 UWS grant, Washoe County Sheriff's Office has used their grant money to purchase lasers. REMSA and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District have not yet used their grant to purchase ballistic helmets and plates.

LEPC received reimbursement today for the FY 21 HMEP and the FY 21 HMEP for Fire Shows West. For Fire Shows West, LEPC was awarded \$12,870, however only a small amount of that total has been spent as it was only a small group from the office that attended. The staff's recommendation moving forward will be to look at who has requested grant money to attend Fire Shows West and failed to attend. This information may inform grant approvals moving forward, specifically for Fire Shows West, as this is an ongoing issue.

The FY 21 HMEP HAZWOPER grant came in just under budget and \$48 will be deobligated.

In terms of the Homeland Security Grant Program, FY 19 has been closed. Currently, the FY 20 COOP grants are in operation and there is \$63,306 in remaining balance. These grants are currently supporting Truckee Meadows Community College and College of Southern Nevada. The next step for their programs is to complete a tabletop exercise to test the plans they have created. Once those exercises are complete, the grant can be closed.

The FY 20 Homeland Security Program Assistant Grant has \$46,299 remaining. Once those funds are spent, LEPC will move on to the FY 21 Program Assistant grant for the position, after which, the county should take over responsibility for the position. There should not be an FY 22 grant.

The FY 21 COOP was accepted at the board level and is working on creating the request for proposals for that grant.

Kelly Echeverria reminded membership that later in the meeting, members will review the FY 22 HMEP Mid-Cycle application from the Reno Fire Department. These funds are to support backfill for the March CBURNE exercise.

There was no public comment.

It was determined that this item was not up for approval.

**5. Approval of New Secretary/Treasurer – Placeholder – Brian Taylor, LEPC Chair – Appointment of Francisco Ceballos as the Secretary/Treasurer of LEPC**

Brian Taylor introduced Francisco Ceballos as the new Secretary/Treasurer for LEPC. He added that Francisco worked for REMSA for a number of years and did a great job.

Francisco then introduced himself and explained that he is coming from a background of public health, community interest and program administration. He thanked Kelly for bringing him on for the position.

**6. Approval of HMEP Application – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION – Kelly Echeverria, LEPC Staff – Presentation and approval of the Reno Fire HMEP application**

Kelly Echeverria explained that the FY 22 HMEP application from Reno Fire has already been approved by the Executive Board, but needs to also be approved by General Membership. The request is for \$14,488 to support Reno Fire in the CBURNE exercise coming up. The application fulfilled all requirements and Grants and Finance didn't need to ask for clarification on the application for approval. The funds will be used for overtime and backfill to support the CBURNE exercise.

Brian Taylor commented that he supports this grant and the exercise, saying that it will be very realistic and helpful training. Kelly Echeverria added that the grant also supports LEPC's goal to increase readiness and response to HAZMAT and transportation incidents.

*It was moved by Andrea Esp, seconded by Tracy Moore to approve the FY 22 HMEP grant application from the Reno Fire Department.*

There was no public comment.

*The motion passed unanimously.*

## **7. Presentation from TRIAD on Grant Allocated Items – Andy Ancho, LEPC Vice Chair**

Andy Ancho requested that the TRIAD presentation be moved to the next meeting as the intended presenter was not present.

Brian Taylor explained that LEPC would like to have more presentations from groups which have received grants which have helped the community.

Kelly added that Francisco has started a detailed inventory of grant-allocated items, dated back to 2005, to determine their status and may be in contact with grant-receiving members.

## **8. Update on Regional Emergency Management Events - A briefing of regional meetings, events, trainings and exercises. – Kelly Echeverria, Washoe County Emergency Manager**

Kelly said that the past two months have been pretty eventful. Francisco Ceballos has been brought on board as the Program Coordinator and will be working on grants, finance and, eventually, recovery.

The School District had a HAZMAT incident where a number of students got rashes. The community worked together to determine the source of the rash.

Tracy Moore thanked everyone who was involved in responding to the incident. The Reno Fire Department HAZMAT team tested various items, but the source of the rashes has not yet been determined. He explained that the school was new and so has a different design to what they are used to in terms of air filtration. Each classroom has its own intake. The only common denominator that could be determined was that it appeared to be coming from the South East side of the property, near water-shed locations. Various samples were taken but nothing has been determined as of yet. Tracy said he is hopeful that more information will come out in the following weeks.

Kelly explained that coming up, LEPC is continuing to plan with the State, Health District and community health partners for the CBURNE exercise on March 22nd-24th. Kelly said that if anyone would still like to join the training, to please reach out. LEPC is also preparing for the May training in Maryland. She reminded members to register if they have not already. Kelly explained that 75 regional partners will be heading to Maryland for the training at the FEMA Emergency Institute for two days of training and two days of tabletop exercises.

## **9. Update on the Radiological Task Force - A briefing on current radiological issues within the region - Scott Alquist, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)**

Kelly Echeverria said that Scott had emailed her and explained that he would not be available for the meeting and that there were no updates at this time.

**10. Update of Washoe County Citizen Corps** - A briefing on events and activities supported by the Washoe County Citizen Corps including, but not limited to, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) – Joe Oleciregui, Washoe County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO) or Designee

Michael Perry explained that the Washoe County Citizens Corps had 199 active volunteers in 2021 and participated in over 20 events. These volunteers contributed 17,840 hours for COVID and/or community events. There are 11 active events planned already for this year and volunteers continue to increase. The next academy is scheduled for April.

Brian confirmed that they had recently held a training in January and thanked Michael for the work they do.

Michael said that numbers have not been the same since COVID for the academy, however those who have been involved have gone on to volunteer and get involved.

**11. Update on State Emergency Response Commission** – A briefing on grants status and State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) happenings – Tami Beauregard or designee

Tami was not present, but Kelly offered to speak to the grant portion of the report. Kelly said that she recently sent out an email to inform members that the OPTE grant is open for applications. The award is \$25,000 with \$4,000 on top of that for administrative costs. Applications are due by March 9th and to be sent to Francisco. She added that the grant can be used for operations, planning, training, and equipment and does not need to have a terrorism nexus like the UWS grant. HAZMAT items tend to be ranked higher on the list and they try to align with the goals of the Homeland Security Resilience Commission. Brian Taylor commented that a big part of the goals of LEPC is to provide support for things which fall into the grant’s provisions. He encouraged members to reach out to Francisco if they are interested in applying but unsure if they would qualify.

Chief Dennis Nolan added that the Mid-Cycle HMEP grant has a surplus in CERC of roughly \$250,000 primarily for training, backfill and overtime for HAZMAT training. He said that if anyone has a need for these services to please apply.

**12. Training Review** – Briefing on trainings that have occurred in the past 2 months and requests for future trainings. Upcoming trainings. – Brian Taylor, LEPC Chair

Brian Taylor said there has not been very much training in the last two months, however there is a great deal of planning going into future trainings. Kelly added that on March 9th there is a one day workshop on airport family assistance and transportation disaster assistance. The training will be virtual. They held the training before in 2015 and LEPC reached out to ask them to hold it again.

Brian said there will also be trainings for hospital evacuations coming up.

Jessica Adams added that there is an ICS 300 and 400 training happening March 7th-11th

**13. LEPC chairman/board member announcements/items and selection of topics for future meetings**

- No discussion among committee members will take place on this item. The next regular meeting is scheduled at April 21, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Brian Taylor encouraged members again to consider presenting if they have received LEPC grants for equipment or training to help the community.

**14. Public Comment –**

There was no public comment.

**15.** Brian Taylor adjourned meeting at 10:43am.