MINUTES

Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday November 18th, 2020 9:30am Zoom Video Conference <u>www.zoom.com</u> Meeting ID: 894 9978 7212 Passcode: HAZMAT

Meeting ID: 867 1623 4184 Phone Passcode: 403460

The Commission may take action on items marked "Discussion/For Possible Action". Items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda at the discretion of the co-chairs. Items may be combined for consideration by the Commission at the discretion of the co-chairs. Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time.

1. CALL TO ORDER (Non-Action Item)

Ms. Christina Wilson, SERC Coordinator, welcomed everyone and called the November 18, 2020 SERC meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL, CONFIRM QUORUM, AND INTRODUCTIONS (Non-Action Item)

MEMBERS PRESENT (ZOOM):

Richard Brenner, Co-Chair Dennis Nolan, Co-Chair Jon Bakkedahl Lance Chantler Susan Crowley Augustine "Gus" Farias Eric Santos Jess Lankford Karen Luna Kelly Thomas David Sellen Matt Griego Debra Dailey Kimberly Ferguson "TJ" Qualls Carolyn Levering Sgt. Clay Madsen

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Clinton Hayes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jason Danen – Carson City Mike Heidemannn – Churchill County Billy Samuels – Clark County Karen Taylor – Clark County Patricia Anderson – Elko County Eric Millette – Washoe County Tabitha Hamilton – White Pine County Patrick Lazenby – Nye County Mike Dzyak – State Fire Marshal's Office Paul Fields – Department of Homeland Security Greg Bazley - USEPA Joyce Jeppesen – Eureka County Michelle Young – Lander County Derrick Bowman – Lincoln County Joe Curtis – Storey County Nathan Hastings, DAG Christina Wilson, SERC Staff Brandi Salisbury, SERC Administrator

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item) – No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments are limited to three minutes unless the Commission elects to extend the comments for purposes of further discussion. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

There was no public comment.

4. APPROVAL OF July 16, 2020, SERC MEETING MINUTES (Discussion/For Possible Action)–The SERC will review and may approve, with or without amendments, or deny the July 16, 2020 SERC Quarterly meeting minutes.

MOTION:	Approve the July 16, 2020 SERC meeting minutes as presented
BY:	Matt Griego
SECOND:	David Sellen
VOTE:	Passed unanimously

- 5. COMMISSION MEMBERS, STANDING COMMITTEES, SUB COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES (Discussion/For Possible Action) Staff will provide any updates regarding commission membership since previous meeting. The SERC will review and may approve, with or without amendments.
 - a. Commission Co-Chairs need volunteers as chairs for sub-committees. Possible action may include the appointment of vacant committee chairs by SERC Co-chairs.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he wanted to thank the new members Carolyn Levering and he would like to welcome her as a SERC commissioner and TJ, he would like to welcome them both as commissioners. He asked Carolyn if she would just give a little update about herself. He stated he knew she had been on the Planning and Training Committee many years.

Ms. Levering stated she was very honored to be part of this group today and to have received this appointment from the Governor's Office. She thanked Richard for inviting her to participate in this process. She stated she had been supporting the SERC Commission for a number of years as Richard said chairing the Planning and Training subcommittee, but she had not participated in the commission meetings directly in all this time. She stated she was I'm happy to be part of the group and participate in the process now. She stated she is the Emergency Manager at the City of Las Vegas and she has been in this position for 12 years. She stated she was with Clark County Emergency Management for six years before that. She stated she saw a lot of familiar names on the list and was glad to reconnect in this time of COVID, even though it is digitally, and she looked forward to contributing to the group.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he was going to jump to TJ.

Mr. Qualls stated he was the facility director at Sunrise Hospital Las Vegas and has been in Las Vegas for about five years now, previously at Southern Hills Hospital, work closely with the Health District and

the emergency manager at Southern Hills Hospital. He stated he did not currently hold that title at Sunrise Hospital but does help out a lot. He stated he found this commission being interesting and wanted to learn more about this region considering he was from the State of Mississippi and was excited to know a little bit more about Nevada.

Co-Chair Brenner stated to Christina and Brandi he knew they had talked at the last meeting about Air Liquide, Steven Spencer with being a member and we also talked about Tesla. He asked if they had any word about those individuals that have applied.

Ms. Wilson stated the only notification that they have received was for TJ and Carolyn being added and they received a notification for authorization of release for a Jason Nicholl out of Fernley. She stated that has not been finalized but that's the only notification that we had for future commission members. She stated they did send an email to the Board's Office at the Governor's Office to find out any updates and had not heard back yet.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if Jason was with which agency or fire department.

Ms. Wilson stated she believed it was Central Lyon County.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if she had contacted the Governor's Office.

Ms. Wilson stated it was about a week and a half ago and we've had constant communication with them but it's kind of intermittent response back. She thought they were working out of office if she understood correctly.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if she asked about Air Liquide and Tesla.

Ms. Wilson stated she did not ask specifically with names, she asked if they had any updates of any documentation being submitted for our commission directly, just to have a heads up for our meeting and she had not had any response back.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if she would please ask about those two. They have submitted their paperwork and it had been a long process. It's been over six months. He stated he wanted to keep them informed.

Co-Chair Brenner stated, in reference to subcommittees, we have some new members now and we do have some various subcommittees. We have a legislative subcommittee. We have a policy subcommittee. We have a planning and training subcommittee, a radiation subcommittee and a funding committee. Please, if you are interested in being a member of any of those subcommittees. Please let staff know. He stated he would be reaching out after this meeting to try to call out and get the new members to think about being on one of those subcommittees. So, if you have an interest, please think about it and let staff or myself know or Dennis and we're finally moving forward. Christina and Brandi have been doing a great job catching up and trying to work with the Zoom and everything else and I know we just had a radiation subcommittee meeting earlier this month. We're starting to have our subcommittee meetings and I'm looking forward to doing those meetings and getting them scheduled.

6. SERC COMMITTEES REPORT (Discussion Only) – This item includes and addresses updated reports from the Committees listed below regarding activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities.

a. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE- Committee will give an update since the last SERC meeting.

Co-Chair Brenner stated we have not met on the legislative committee. That's where we're putting legislation together. When we're in session every other year and if we want to change something in NRS or NAC, that's the group that works on that. He asked Christina who they have as members on the legislative committee.

Ms. Wilson stated we currently have a vacancy for the chair and we also have Susan Crowley,

Dennis Nolan and David Sellen actually volunteered for that committee as well.

Co-Chair Nolan stated we do have a legislative session fast approaching and throughout the meetings we've had this year, I think they've been disjoined like everything has been with the COVID. There hasn't been a lot of focus on legislative action and nothing's kind of percolated up, like usually happens. We usually have one or two concerns so I think something that the legislative committee will focus on is going through as soon as we the LCB starts putting out a bill draft request list from legislators. He stated he would keep an eye on that and start following through that to see if there's anything that would be pertaining to SERC but in the meantime, if anybody has any suggestions, recommendations or needs that you think SERC needs to address with regards to the legislature or NAC, please float those. When we put all the members together for the legislative committee, we'll decide on the chairman. But, in the meantime, I'll be glad to take any recommendations that people have.

Nathan Hastings stated if there are ideas that want to be put forth for that committee to evaluate, those should be emailed to staff so they can be put on an agenda. Commission members need to be careful about emailing amongst themselves, particularly in groups where any discussion that they might have about matters that would be official business of the commission or one of its subcommittees need to be taken up only in meetings that have been noticed and agendized and under the open meeting law just to be careful that we don't have any situation where emailing is going on amongst groups of the commissioners as opposed to sending something to staff to put on an agenda.

Co-Chair Nolan stated, just for clarification, are you saying that members of the commission can't communicate with each other regarding any issues that we might want to discuss and then forward to staff to put on an agenda or do we just have to throw everything at staff and then let them sort it out?

Nathan Hastings stated the operative language in the open meeting law has to do with conferring together about a matter that a public body would take action on. And so, outside the scope of an agendized and noticed meeting of the public body, members of that body should not confer and counsel together about the substance of action that that body might subsequently take. Administrative matters like putting something on an agenda is okay but what you want to avoid is talking about the substance of decisions you might make about, for example, supporting or not supporting a particular legislative like a bill or something like that. If you have a concern about a bill and it's SERC related and you want it on the legislative committee's agenda, it's okay to communicate about putting something on an agenda but I would not communicate outside of meetings about the substance of objection and things like that.

Debra Dailey stated if you're wanting to add something, clearly you cannot go and this is what we want to do and this is how we're going to vote on it but you can have a little working meeting to say here's some things that we just need to add to the agenda for discussion. That's not considered against public information on holding the meetings, is that correct?

Nathan Hastings stated communications about putting something on an agenda is fine and that should be primarily with staff but what you said is a correct summary. You shouldn't have communications outside of a meeting about substance of decisions about matters.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he appreciated his feedback and keeping us under the open meeting law and following the regulations. He stated they would continue moving forward to get the legislative committee, to get our members and then have a meeting and discuss any upcoming legislation that we want to put forward.

b. POLICY COMMITTEE- Committee will give an update since the last SERC meeting.

Co-Chair Brenner asked who they had on the policy committee, because that's going to be our next

meeting.

Ms. Wilson stated the policy committee chair is also vacant. We also have Susan Crowley, Matt Griego and Jon Bakkedahl currently.

Co-Chair Brenner ask her to put him on the policy committee. He stated since he just put myself on it, would anybody else like to put themselves on there? As I mentioned, we do need to meet. There's a couple of policies we need to put together and also go through some existing policies and clean them up. We'll be scheduling that meeting here in probably within a month.

C. BYLAWS COMMITTEE- Committee will give an update since the last SERC meeting.

Co-Chair Brenner stated the bylaws committee meets usually once a year and they go through the bylaws of each of the LEPCs and they also look at the SERC bylaws. He asked Christina who they had on that committee.

Ms. Wilson stated they currently had Jess Lankford and Eric Santos. We need members for that. We've been needing members for quite some time.

Co-Chair Brenner stated to put him on the bylaws committee. He stated they would be putting together a meeting probably in January or February for the new commissioners on that one and, as I mentioned in January is when all the LEPCs have to turn in their information and then we review it, the exercises and their bylaws and everything else so we'll be scheduling a meeting early next year.

Eric Santos stated they did not meet this year and asked if there was anything that they needed to do. He asked if they were out of compliance by not meeting this year.

Co-Chair Brenner stated they had not met in a while. He thought the last time the bylaws from SERC were reviewed was three or four years ago.

Ms. Wilson stated it was actually 2016 the last time that they met.

Co-Chair Brenner stated, of course with COVID, that threw a loop for this year and Brandi just came on board this year but we're going to get back to our normal schedule. He stated, just for the new members, it's an easy committee. We only meet once a year and unless somebody has changes to their bylaws, it really is a quick meeting.

Ms. Wilson stated if anybody is contemplating joining any of our committees or subcommittees, if you want more information, you can always email us here in the office and we'll get you that information or you could talk to Richard or Dennis because I know it's kind of an on the spot thing when we ask here in the meetings but if you'd like more information, just let us know.

d. PLANNING AND TRAINING SUB-COMMITTEE- Committee will give an update since the last SERC meeting.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he knew this is the one Carolyn Levering served on for many years, was the chair and did a great job and she's now a SERC commissioner which is great, but we are looking for a chair.

Ms. Wilson stated the chair is vacant and currently as members we have Aaron Kenneston from Washoe County, Patty Polish from Lyon County, Kelly Thomas, Alex Lanza and Mike Heidemannn who graciously volunteered.

Co-Chair Nolan asked if Aaron Kenneston was on the call.

Ms. Wilson stated she believed he was been busy with the fires just like you have. But he's not on this meeting right now, no.

Co-Chair Nolan stated he knew that he had announced his upcoming retirement so he was not sure if he plans to stay in the SERC or not but that's something maybe you can look at when he is.

Kimberly Ferguson asked for a little more information on what the planning and training subcommittee entails.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he was glad she read my mind; he was thinking of her. He asked Carolyn Levering to give Kim a little bit of information on what she had done and how she had run that committee for so long.

Carolyn Levering stated it's a very important committee because this is the team that reviews all the county hazmat plans on an annual basis and determines that they're in compliance with NRT-1A requirements. That's the major portion of the work that we do. We also review exercise or incident reports that are specific to hazmat exercises or responses and also review the level of response Cabilities for each of the counties. The bulk of the work is once a year. One fairly lengthy meeting in which all these plans are reviewed, and this component lends to ensuring that LEPCs are meeting compliance requirements in order to be eligible to apply for hazmat specific grants that are administered by the SERC. She stated she did the job for 15 years and was ready to pass the baton and is always there for support and guidance for the next chair.

Kimberly Ferguson stated she would be happy to join the committee but with her lack of experience in the process, she wouldn't put herself out there for a chair position quite yet but she would like to join the committee if she could.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he would be more than happy to mentor her in this process because he thought she would find it quite exciting. He stated he knew over our past history of working together, she has the importance of planning and having plans and being prepared. He stated she was going to see exactly how the counties develop hazmat plans and keep them updated and how they do exercises, all that Carolyn just mentioned. And, they do it on a yearly basis. It's a great opportunity so that they're eligible for grant dollars.

Billy Samuels stated he was more than happy to join as well if you guys need someone on that committee. He stated if Aaron is going to leave, he would be more than happy to join.

e. RADIATION COMMITTEE- Chair of this committee will give an update on the status of this committee since the last SERC meeting.

Co-Chair Brenner asked Jon Bakkedahl to give an update on how his meeting went.

Jon Bakkedahl stated they met on November 10th. We went through step by step each of the plans, the concept of operations as well as the sustainment plan to make sure that it was properly meeting the current intent since it had been written about two years ago. We do have members from all across the state from multiple modalities as well as a couple of SERC commissioners on there. So, literally went through the plans line by line so that we could update it, make corrections, meet the current intent behind what people are doing in response to hazardous material, specifically, radiological events and we've had several over the last couple of years in the state, so we were able to get all of that caught up and we have until 12/31 for anyone to submit to either-well, I asked them to send them to Christina but if they don't then to me so that Christina and I can meet together, put everybody's comments into a final draft, hold another RAD meeting next quarter, get the approval that it's good to go and then we will present those documents to the entire committee. We also went through a couple of other things. The current shipment operations that have been happening across northern Nevada. There are a bunch of waste shipments from Lawrence Livermore that are going through Nevada and making their way down to New Mexico. We had a very large training and exercise effort put in place prior to those happening. We literally went to four counties, three counties and another city along the border and did multiple days of radiological training for either refresher or new hazardous materials response as well as did an exercise in Humboldt County with HGH Hospital

from contamination on scene all the way to delivering contamination to the hospital. So, a really good fullscale exercise. We also have shipments in southern Nevada. There was a very large vessel that came from a reactor facility in California that went by rail through the valley. It took a couple of days to get through the valley and even longer to get it off of the rail out at Apex and put onto five semis, two pulling, three pushing to get it out to Utah to be buried for its permanent entombment. And then, we also have some additional shipments that are getting ready to happen. I believe they landed today in South Carolina from France. They're DOE owned material. They're called RTGs, strontium-90 radio thermoelectric generators that are going to be deposited out at the test site. A total of four semis, three of them have radioactive materials on them. One of them has the materials to get the packages off of the semis and get them buried out at area 5. Not being new here, we've done this a bunch of times over the years, real common source to be buried out there. Nothing is fizzal reactive, meaning it's not going to go boom. So, very good shipping plan. Everything's in order. We're expecting it go around Las Vegas and through Pahrump and enter on the 23rd. We'll be tracking that on our operations called HazTrac with DOE that we're able to monitor those shipments as well as Transcom which is a satellite communication that NHP has the availability to track those shipments. We talked about all that kind of stuff as well as additional training opportunities available to members across the state, specifically law enforcement hazmat responders and then looking for additional instructors so it's not just me all the time. So, I've been recruiting. I have a couple of good folks that have stepped up. So, working on some internal training as well as delivering training to the responders. Both the Division here of Emergency Management and Metro Las Vegas Armor have acquired radioactive materials licenses. I have acquired a lot of radioactive sources. I split them north and south. Armor now has sources as does DEM so we have the ability to do live source training north and south as well.

Co-Chair Brenner asked, the sustainability plan and the concept plan, are you folks going to review that in your subcommittee and make sure it's updated? And, is the transportation that you mentioned from France to the United States and then being transported, do you make contact with the Emergency Managers here in Nevada when that's happening or do they get that information some other way?

Jon Bakkedahl stated yes, they did. That was the plans we went through line by line so they were literally reviewed word by word, line by line. It took us a couple of hours. I'm sure Nathan can tell you how boring it was sitting in on that but it was a big accomplishment, having to do that virtually and get that done. Final comments are due by 12/31. We should have an updated plan hopefully at the next quarter meeting for RAD Committee as well as SERC as a whole to see those, review those, comment on those, whatever happens with that process. And then, finally, we are required by federal government, the statutes in the CFRs for radioactive materials that the Department of Energy has to notify the state three days prior to entering. Those notifications are given to the former radiation control program manager, now bureau chief over that program, Karen Beckley. She is the Governor's appointee, so it will go to her. I did send out an email today to Fred Dilger, who is the Office of Nuclear Projects a lone employee at this point. They're still waiting for a director to be appointed. He took Joe Strollins position as well as Don Plowman. He is the Captain here in northern Nevada that coordinates the radioactive stuff with me from the NHP side, asking if anybody's heard anything yet, any delays, are we still in line to get that three-day notification. So, it will be shared with, historically, NHP and Armor when things go through southern Nevada. We don't have a large disbursement of who it goes to. It goes to law enforcement. That way, the information is not released in some way, shape or form to friends, family, general public and then we end up with roadblocks and protests on the roads. So, that dissemination has historically been very tight and it's not required. So, for someone to ask for it, you may receive a little bit of resistance other than those two agencies to have that information.

f. FUNDING COMMITTEE- Chair of this committee will give an update on the status of this committee since the last SERC meeting.

Matt Griego stated they met at the end of September to go over approvals for fiscal year 20 HMEP midcycle and then the review of the fiscal year 21 HMEP grants for the various agencies and they've been approved. In the meantime, I did receive some grant change requests from Clark County and Washoe that were just some minor changes due to COVID where they couldn't have meetings and things like that, and I can have maybe Brandi or Christina go over the details of those if the full SERC wants to hear those.

Ms. Wilson stated those are under the Administrator update a little bit further down for the grant change requests.

Co-Chair Brenner asked Christina if they were looking pretty good on the funding committee for members.

Ms. Wilson stated they have Matt Griego as our chair. We have Susan Crowley, Dennis Nolan, Lance Chantler and Karen Luna. It wouldn't hurt to have a couple more people on that committee that's also one of the ones that's not a huge heavy lift, just review some of our applications when we get them in for the grant's applications, which they're put on our FTP site. We can provide the rest of that information.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if she would put my name on the funding committee.

7. NON-STATE AGENCY UPDATES (Non-Action Item) – This item includes, and addresses updated reports from the agencies listed below regarding activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities. Reports may include:

a. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Bill Jones

Greg stated we're really wrapped up with the California Wildfire Response. We've been doing that since September and it looks like we're going to be kind of heavy into that through the end of the year. I won't go too much into that since it's heavily California involved but if there's any questions on our household hazardous waste removal, please let me know. I do have three items for the good of the order. We're planning a virtual meeting that is called our Western States SERC- TERC and LEPC meeting. This is the chance for the western states and Rocky Mountain region is included in that as well to get together, crosspollinate ideas and have SERC talking. That's going to be virtual meeting. We're planning on February 3, 2021 and I'll make sure Nevada has that invite. The LEPCs can participate as well. I'll get that out to you guys. We also are developing tabletop exercises with our partner at ASTI, the Ammonia Safety & Training Institute. We have two that have been developed for an ammonia release. We have one for a propane release and we're developing a train derailment scenario. So, if there's any LEPCs, SERC, any really response agencies that are interested in that, please reach out to me. The COVID-19 pandemic looms over all of us but we're hoping sometime in 2021 we'll be able to do that socially distanced and to the best of our ability in person. Early 2021, we're going to roll out a couple of those exercises virtually. I think it's a little more challenging but we're going to try to make it work. My last update is we are close to finalizing some basic EPCRA training. So, this is for LEPCs, the community, first responders. There were some complaints, the EPA's former EPCRA training was like three and a half hours. People were ripping their hair out and it was not concise so this one is going to be narrated on our website. It's about 20 slides. It's just the basics for people that need entry level under EPRCA from SERC and LEPC involvement EPCRA 312 things like that. I'll make sure you guys get your hands on that. Richard, I actually sent that to you for review but it got kicked back. I think I have an old email address. I'll have to get a new one for you.

b. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - John Woytak

Co-Chair Brenner stated, if I remember right, we didn't have any response. He asked if anybody from FEMA sent any report.

Ms. Wilson stated there was no response from FEMA for this meeting and she did not receive any report from them as well.

C. U.S. Department of Homeland Security - (DHS) Marcie Stone

Paul Fields stated he just wanted to touch up on some information about COVID and the Chemical Security Summit. He stated he had sent Christina some flyers regarding the summit. Also, there's going to be a three-day period for the summit December 2nd, December 9th and December 16th. The Microsoft Teams link will be sent out to all registrants closer to the event. The email and flyers talk about who should attend. It should be chemical and related industry stakeholders, corporate and facilities, security

officers and environment health and safety professionals. CFATS (Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards) regulation has been extended for three years. It provides more stability to the industry and the government as we engage in the security planning. We still remain at full force during the COVID-19 pandemic CFATS is providing modified compliance activity. Basically we're requesting facilities who just have the main player on site when we come out to conduct an inspection. We don't want to have a whole room full of attendees because it could spread. We all also are available to assist facilities with identifying compensatory measures to secure their critical assets where needed and response and changes during the pandemic. I also have some flyers, Christina, that I can forward out to you regarding emergent responders and what vital role they play to our CFATS facility.

Ms. Wilson stated that would be great. Send them on over and she could get them disseminated to all of our contacts.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if he would be replacing Marcie.

Paul Fields stated he would be Marcie's stand-in for when she's unavailable.

8. STATE AGENCY UPDATES (Non-Action Item) – This item includes and addresses updated reports from the agencies listed below regarding activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities. Reports may include.

a. Nevada Highway Patrol Division (NHP) – Clay Madsen

Ms. Wilson stated she had just received an email from Clay Madsen stating that he was fighting his laptop. He's trying to get logged in, but the laptop isn't loading correctly. So, we'll bypass him and go to Chief Dyzak and then we'll come back around and check on him.

Clay Madsen stated he was sorry about the technical difficulties. He stated they were still just plugging along, trying to deal with the COVID ramifications with the trucking industry and the exemptions that are coming and going and with this uptick I can probably surmised that there may be some more exemptions for the trucking industry. But, as far as hazmat inspections go here in southern Nevada, we've had four new inspectors in the commercial in the last two years that are starting to ramp up hazmat classes to be able to do the full compliment. Up north, they did a couple, I want to say four or six WIPP (Waste isolation pilot plant) shipments that went across I-80 down here. Down south, I can't remember if it was between our last meeting or not. We did that decommission nuclear reactor pressure vessel from Apex all the way up to Windover. That was a long tedious trip but we got through it with no problem. And, other than that, just kind of status quo getting ready for New Year's and see what's going to happen.

b. Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM) – Chief Fogerson

Ms. Wilson stated Administrator Fogerson is unable to make it today. Jon Bakkedahl was going to be giving the update in his behalf.

Jon Bakkedahl stated Dave is currently on a Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Counsel call. He is the chair of that or co-chair with one of the tribal leaders in the state. So, he wanted me to go over a few things with you guys. One, so everybody understands a transition that happened here, he is the new administrator/chief. He doesn't like to go by the phrase chief, being a former division fire chief, so he is going by Dave. So, if you need anything, those that know him call him Fogey. He'll go by anything as you know but just call him Dave. Justin Luna is back in the administrative officer position for the accounting services. He's our ASO3 again. We're glad to have him back in that role. We're looking to coordinate a lot more with SERC on grant opportunities. A lot of what we do cross paths from the different Homeland Security grant opportunities from statewide as well as UASI, the Emergency Management Program granting and a lot of the Department of Energy grants that we help oversee. Our grant staff, Dave and hopefully working with Chief Dyzak and the folks with SERC to hopefully have some sort of awareness and information, doing some sharing and coordination. On our side of the house, we do get the Homeland Security grant that we push out for funding opportunities to the state.

It's been roughly about \$5.5 million the last couple of years for statewide opportunities and then the UASI, the Urban Area Security Initiative, basically Clark County's populous area down there gets an additional funding opportunity that's based upon senate ranking. And so, they've been historically the last couple of years getting a couple million dollars and it's used for all of their immediate Homeland Security needs just in the valley. So, we're also coordinating currently over \$120 million in public assistance due to COVID. That's how many dollars the local governments have put to the grant software looking to be reimbursed 75-percent by FEMA. So, obviously, this is all COVID stuff what we're doing, huge impacts here internally as well as externally. We share a building with five agencies and so the National Guard actually has a large number of cases right now, both in the air wing as well as some of their other more tactical groups that we all like to use. DEM, we've decided to split our shifts matching what the National Guard does so we're restricting who will be in the office at any given time. We basically have two teams keep clean to clean should anything happen that someone brings in the sickness and we don't have to take our entire operation. So, we've had internally illnesses. We've had deaths to family members of people who work here as well as some severe psychological impacts to our staff and people that we work with regularly due to the COVID operations. So, we try to shed a lot of light on that through, as Carolyn can reference, a ridiculous amount of calls and coordination of information trying to make sure everybody knows everything everybody has to try and help combat the personal, the mental health as well as probably your own health during this long, long-term response and we don't see an end to it in sight. DEM's (SWIC) State-Wide Inter-operability Coordinator is also coordinating with the California SWIC for the bistate communications plan, specifically affecting the Lake Tahoe Basin looking to continue to coordinate the planning, the operation and the funding of that. We do have some internal discussions that Dave plans on reaching out to Chief Dzyak to do some coordination with our two agencies and a lot of it has to do with, specifically hazmat's hazmat and emergency management's emergency management but we overlap a lot, especially when it comes to evacuations and sheltering and food and water and long-term sustainment, resources to operations so looking to have some coordination, better coordination between our two jurisdictions.

Co-Chair Nolan stated maybe this is not in your wheelhouse, but it's been asked of us several times as we're preparing to set up through the Reno Fire Department and our point of distribution sometime next year for the COVID vaccination. The question has come mostly from employees with regards to what is the after plan that the state might have for those individuals who do receive a vaccination and both parts of the vaccination and then are considered to be immune or protected while a portion of the population still will not be. We know there's a lot of trepidation perhaps on part of the population about this new vaccinated and who will believe that they should not perhaps have to wear masks and social distance and all the things that the other half of the population will do. So, I don't know if there's been any discussion on that and it's a big question but maybe you can help us out a little bit.

Jon Bakkedahl stated with our ESF8 partners, the Division of Public and Behavioral Health here, our Emergency Support Function 8 desk, we've been talking about this. As the vaccine rolls out, because there's going to be the emergency responders and healthcare workers, they get that first round and then it drops into vulnerable populations, then it drops into other needed populations and then general public so as we work through that, there's going to be a multiphase approach to where some people will have had the vaccine and others won't. They are working on this to have multipage frequently asked questions as well as CDC guidance as it comes out readily available. It will be given out at pods, it will be given out through PSAs and other information so people fully understand how the vaccine program will work. As you've all heard, 90 to 95-percent effective by the first three vendors that have put that out, that's consistent with measles types of vaccinations where it's around 97-percent successful. So, that requires herd vaccining, everyone has to get it for it to achieve that 100-percent success rate and as we've seen in Oregon and other communities around the country that don't necessarily believe in vaccines or don't want to take vaccines, they then therefore lower that percentage and it reintroduces those viruses or those diseases back into communities. So, this is on the planning effort. We have several long-term planners on contract, and this is one of their plans that they are working on to facilitate for health.

C. Nevada State Fire Marshal Division (SFM) – Chief Dzyak

Mike Dzyak stated he did not have a lot on the updates since the last time he talked to you. We did

manage to get the system up and running that is now collecting the 12-percent late fees on companies that fail to report in a timely manner. I'll get updates from Danny on how that's going but, other than that, we are slow rolling.

d. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (DEP) – Kelly Thomas

Kelly Thomas stated the Chemical Accident Prevention Program is continuing its 2020 site inspections but we're currently performing them 100-percent virtually. Essentially, we're doing a document review for the year and kind of hoping early or at least some point at least next year we'll be back on site to our 55 facilities. We're currently permitting two chemical manufacturing plants in the Nevada. One is in the City of North Las Vegas and the other facility is near the Tahoe/Reno Industrial Complex. Both of those have finished up their permit to construct applications and are moving into or finishing up their permit to operate. So, things are still busy. We're seeing a lot of activity and we're seeing a lot of interest in new facilities coming to Nevada but we're not anticipating any new applications until probably the first quarter of next year.

Co-Chair Brenner asked Kelly if he planned on coming down to southern Nevada to do the CAPP inspections or is that going to be postponed until next year.

Kelly Thomas stated whey were doing everything virtually right now. We probably have six facilities in southern Nevada still left to do this year but those facilities have all been contacted and essentially we're just requesting information be provided in a share site and we're reviewing documentation and providing a report. So, we're not anticipating traveling to southern Nevada the rest of 2020 but of course hopeful that everything will turn around early next year, and we should be able to start traveling again. But, right now, we're either working from our homes or occasionally in the office. Actually, the NDEP building is still closed to the public and everybody's working off their desktops at home and getting all their work done from remote locations.

e. Nevada Division of Industrial Relations, OSHA Unit – Jess Lankford

Jess Lankford stated Nevada OSHA's working very closely with the Governor's Mitigation Task Force for COVID right at the moment and we are currently gearing up for what we anticipate to be an enforcement effort that runs through the state some time starting in the beginning of December running through the middle of February and the beginning of legislature. We have identified certain counties that we're going to take a closer look at because of increasingly poor numbers in those particular counties. Right now, we're almost completely dedicated to this effort at the moment and it's been a challenge for us.

Jon Bakkedahl stated here from the DEM side, we're currently coordinating a daily call with county emergency managers and county health authorities across the state in regards to the Governor's recommendation of stay at home 2.0 last Tuesday. We were instructed by his office to have these daily calls and we've gotten a request today from Eureka County emergency manager that their government offices as well as private sector businesses were visited yesterday by your staff and he had asked how he would get a copy of those reports as the county emergency manager to assist with any enforcement or operation that needs to be supported in that jurisdiction. And he didn't get an answer. Do you have anything that I could get back to him?

Jess Lankford stated he should probably have him call him directly or contact him directly on his address and his telephone is on the website. Eureka County-I do not recognize if I had staff in those areas. So, ask him again if he was sure it was OSHA individuals that were at the location because OSHA-I currently don't have anybody employed up on that side of the state.

Jon Bakkedahl stated he had specifically said OSHA and he was going to do some research for him today. He had some point of contacts. I asked him to email those to me. I have not received that yet. We just got off of that call at like 9:36 and that's why I was running into this one. So, I will get that information over to you and go from there.

Jess Lankford stated that they have tightened up the belt on their enforcement practices a little bit and if a county is in the red in two columns on the county tracker on the state's website, we forego the

observations and we will site on upon visually seeing noncompliance with the guidelines as they are right now. So, that's the next step and the deterrent.

Joyce Jeppesen stated they did have one of his gentlemen here yesterday, very nice fellow and she did not remember his name. She believed it was Mr. Hassen or Mr. Hansen.

Jess Lankford stated it did not sound familiar.

Joyce Jeppesen stated he was very nice. He did circle through our building and through a few other places here in Eureka County.

Jess Lankford stated he would check with staff to see who he had there. He stated they had a number of complaints come from that location, so he was glad he was professional. He stated his staff was running a bit roughshod right now so.

Debra Dailey asked if he could give her a call after this meeting, that she needed to ask him a question that didn't really pertain to this.

f. Nevada Radiation Control Program – Jon Bakkedahl

Jon Bakkedahl stated he had the previous update under the RAD Committee and then the additional information that NHP added about the transportations that have happened. He stated he did want to correct the northern Nevada, the whip, it was several, three trucks on each convoy so the convoy of trucks each time, it happened over five weeks and then it was suspended due to what's going on now, the weather and it will kick back up in the spring. We have an additional similar allotment of shipments that will need to be escorted by NHP in the spring.

- LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) UPDATES (Non-Action Item) This item includes and addresses updated reports from LEPC activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities.
- **Carson City:** Jason Danen stated he was the new emergency manager, deputy emergency manager taking Tom Raw's place. As far as updates, we had a lot of resignations and retirements multiple positions and currently they've all been filled. We've taken advantage of the hazardous materials, the hazmat training program online that was sponsored through this I believe and we're currently working on a hazardous mitigations plan, waiting on the state I believe.

Ms. Wilson asked if he was referring to the hazmat training, the Fire Shows West Virtual Training. Jason Danen stated yes, that was the first one. And the other one is the hazardous mitigation plan which would've been through FEMA and we're just waiting on them.

- Churchill County: Mike Heidemann stated we too put in for the mitigation grant through FEMA, working extremely hard through the COVID process and all of our agencies including the city of Fallon and working with the tribe. We are just staying swamped. We've had lots of incidents this year so really haven't done a drill. Most of our stuff will be from actual incidents we've had, fairly substantial and other than that, I don't have a whole lot for you this morning.
- **Clark County:** Billy Samuels stated they did their fourth quarter LEPC meeting last week to keep us in compliance with that quarter. They updated all of their LEPC memberships. Their next LEPC meeting is scheduled for February 9th of next year at 0900. Southern Nevada agencies, we are working on purchasing projects. And we have updated and received our SERC OPTE and United We Stand grant. That's all I have from my side on our county unless Karen has something else she'd like.

Karen Taylor stated the only thing officially that she would like to add is Clark County did receive an HMEP grant that we will be using to update our hazard mitigation plan.

Carolyn Levering stated just at our last meeting we did a approve the hazmat plans so that'll be submitted in time for review at the planning and training subcommittee.

Douglas County: Mike Heidemann stated he should have mentioned their next LEPC meeting so you have that on record. It will be December 10th.

Ms. Wilson stated Chief Carlini was unavailable for the meeting due to several fires that they are

handling down there. He did send in an update that she was going to provide on his behalf. The Douglas County Local Emergency Planning Committee remains a strong group of both committee and government agency representatives serving as an all hazard LEPC. The Douglas County commissioners over 10 years ago recognized the LEPC officially as an all hazard LEPC, serving Douglas County. Our local emergency planning committee is managed by the East Fork fire protection district serving in its contractor capacity as Douglas County Emergency Management. Over the course of the last year, Douglas County's LEPC has been challenged with a global COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 situation has been front and center for all agencies. businesses and the committee in the Douglas County area. Nonetheless, the LEPC was able to accomplish not only the mandated task of compliance but also participated in the participation and review of several important grant opportunities. They included the following: A State Emergency Response Commission grant, United We Stand grant, Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness, also known as the HMEP grant. The Douglas County LEPC was able to meet four times this past year and one grant funding committee was also held. Key meeting agenda items included the presentation on the results of the Casper survey, presentation and update of COVID-19, approval of grant requests, update on the SERC grant status. While we had intended to hold a meeting at two local business locations, i.e., Harvey's Casino in Lake Tahoe and the GE Bentley building in Minden, the COVID-19 situation dictated otherwise. The Douglas County LEPC also conducted a complete review of its bylaws and on its guarterly basis now updates its membership roster. The LEPC has also extended an open invitation for the Washoe tribe of Nevada and California to participate with our LEPC group. General membership meeting attendance over the past year averages 87-percent which included the participation of 15 to 19 persons at each meeting. We were able to secure a guorum of membership at each meeting. In closing, I would like to apologize for not being able to attend the meeting today. Yesterday's devastating fire activities required my attention today. I also want to thank the State Emergency Response Commission for all of their support that they have provided to the Douglas County over the years. We look forward to working with SERC in the year ahead. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Sincerely, Todd F. Carlini.

• Elko County: Patricia Anderson stated they were able to hold a LEPC meeting on September 10th. Obviously, like this meeting, it was a virtual meeting but we did have full quorum and all members were able to participate. We were able to discuss the distribution of funds through the grants that the SERC has approved for us. Our next meeting is scheduled for December 10th and so we will be able to finalize all of the yearly required documents at that meeting. At the September 10th meeting, we were able to introduce the new Elko County manager, Matt Peterson and he, unfortunately, was not able to join this meeting today because he had a COVID meeting to be at. We split the duties. Matt will be taking over as chair of the LEPC at the December meeting and I will be stepping back down to the vice-chair position. So, those types of changes will be occurring but, other than that, we were able to do an emergency drill at the Elko Airport and we did have a hazmat component with the quote plane crash and so that will be the document that we'll be sending in to you, other than calls that we had to deal with but that was the only live drill we were able to accomplish this year. So, you will be seeing that coming in when we put all of our documents together at the December meeting. That's all I have for you for Elko unless Matt has something else he'd like to add.

Matt Peterson stated he thought that covers it. The only other thing we did do is we did have the Rhodium training on October 20th and 21st.

- Esmeralda County: Ms. Wilson stated Patricia Brownfield was unable to meet though she did send in an update for her to present as well. She started off with SARA Title III notice would be running in our newspaper by the last week of November and the first week of December. Our LEPC is working on a tabletop exercise report and we are working on the year-end stuff to be turned into SERC by the end of January. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance, Patricia Brownfield.
- Eureka County: Joyce Jeppesen stated they held their last meeting on September 8th. They did appoint a new member, public works director, Jeb Roley, also known as emergency management director. He will also be serving as our vice-chair for the remainder of calendar year 20. We did attempt a tabletop exercise. I think considering we don't do a lot of those, we usually do our reports off live events, I think we did pretty well. We did identify some areas that we need to think about, given our location in Eureka. We will be submitting that report here shortly probably by the end of December. We have another meeting scheduled December 7th and if we

can't do a quorum, then of course, we'll shoot for December 21st at which point we'll look at our year-end documents.

- **Humboldt County:** Ms. Wilson stated she didn't have a response from them, if they were able to provide an update.
- Lander County: Michelle Young stated her LEPC group had a meeting on November 7th where she was elected as chair for LEPC. She did not attend that meeting because she had a family commitment somewhere else. She asked Christina if Holly Heath, the vice-chair sent any kind of update for them.

Ms. Wilson stated she did not. The last word she had was from Lincoln that you would be able to provide just a quick update.

Michelle Young stated she believed they did their hazmat drill in August or September. She stated Holly should have forwarded that report to you guys. It was very well done. She does an amazing job at those. We did a full pod in October. That went off very well. If that requires a report to you guys, Holly should've sent that to you also. She stated she was looking forward to getting more involved with their group moving forward into this year. She stated she had some plans to update their membership, update their bylaws, make sure that they are in compliance with everything. Holly and I are going to start working together really soon on timelines of when all this has to be done so that I can get back up to speed. I haven't been involved in LEPC in about 15 years so I need to get back up to speed on what's required and what we need to do and I'm looking forward to getting all of that online, up to date and working with you guys as best we can.

- Lincoln County: Derrick Bowman stated they met as a LEPC July 14 and October 13. Our LEPC meetings, we've been doing them over Zoom virtually just to try to maintain social distancing and minimize contact. Our next LEPC meeting will be January 12. All of our departments have been actively securing the items from United We Stand grant, the SERC grant which most of the departments have secured all the items from those grants and are in the process of submitting invoices. So, things are going well there. We had an extremely busy fire season. We had five major fires that burned about 112,000 acres. In addition, those five major public land fires, we had a couple of private land fires in addition to that. The first six to seven months of COVID have been pretty much uneventful in our county but the last two months we've seen a pretty big spike with very little change in how people are acting in the county. So, we're seeing a pretty big spike right now in COVID cases. That's kept our hospital staff busy testing. I think our highest testing day right now is about 22 cases. So, that's what we've been up to. We'll be getting our hazmat write up done and into you shortly, Christina.
- Lyon County: Ms. Wilson stated also Mineral County, nobody has joined the meeting since we have started and there was no updates from either of those counties.
- **Nye County:** Ms. Wilson stated she believed Mr. Lazenby did come on but he was having problems. We have an email from the county for Nye County. It said not a lot to really update. All COVID-related all the time. We had our last meeting November 4 of 2020. They reviewed the hazmat plan, in the process of updating, getting in training plans from all the stations for 2021. EPCRA public notice has been submitted and done. Next meeting is going to be February 3, 2021 and that was submitted to us via email from Patrick Lazenby from Nye County.
- **Pershing County:** Ms. Wilson stated Shawn Burk presented this. That he was in a training class this week that couldn't be avoided or missed. Pershing County submitted that their LEPC held its last meeting on the 21st of October 2020. They filled two remaining positions for the transportation and media membership stuff. All positions are now full and active for our membership. LEPC members participated in tri-county hazard mitigation plan development with a member of Far West Engineering, a contractor for that project. LEPC members also reviewed and refined plans for a hazmat response drill that was held on October 24, 2020. Pershing County LEPC sponsored a hazmat response drill in Lovelock, Nevada. The drill included responders from Lovelock Volunteer Fire Department, Grass Valley Volunteer Fire Department, Pershing County School District and Pershing General Hospital. An after-action report is being drafted currently to be, to be submitted. Pershing LEPC continues to oversee the OPTE and the United We Stand grant. Our United We Stand grant planned equipment purchases for the Pershing County Sheriff's Office and our OPTE grant recent-recently completed purchase of equipment for the Volunteer Fire Department. Our next LEPC meeting is scheduled for January of 2021.
- **Storey County:** Chair Brenner stated he didn't hear Joe in the introductions.

Ms. Wilson stated he said that they were going to try to make it but she hadn't seen them join the meeting at all.

Washoe County: Eric Millette stated first and foremost, he just wanted to give thanks to all the responders in the last 24 hours. Luckily, we've only lost seven structures in the Pinehaven fire, minimal loss as far as that and we did have some firefighters that got injured in the fire last night or vesterday, so our hearts and pravers go out to them. As a report for Washoe County LEPC, currently the chair. Quite an extensive last year. Obviously, COVID has hit Washoe County extremely hard. Responders especially. We do have quite a few fire agencies and some law enforcement agencies that have been directly affected with staffing and family members that have been affected so we're struggling on that aspect of it. Kudos to Washoe County District Health for them just to continue to work diligently and long hours in that aspect of it. We had various different incidents happen throughout the last year from spills to TNT found at one of the new housing developments we had to mitigate with the bomb squad and FBI. Some other things in particular was various grants that we've received. We have had a couple of change requests based on the lack of participation due to the COVID crisis and Christina at the SERC office has worked well with us on those. Membership is up and full. We had transitions that are being worked through as always. We are currently making updates to the hazardous materials enforcement plan for Washoe County, including that triad response team plan and also our law enforcement hazardous materials. December 17 is our next meeting. We're going to be voting to approve the hazmat ops plan in coordination with the plans should all be concise at that point. Quite an extensive project we've been trying to do for about 10 years, so, that should look good at that point. Aaron Kenneston has announced his retirement and his replacement is going to be Kelly Echeverria and I think they've made a decision on her replacement so that will be known by next meeting. And, other than that, the last thing would be just to thank you for our CERT team, our civilian response team. There again, they've been phenomenal in the evacuations that we've had to do in the last 24 hours and some of the other big incidents that we've encountered this season

Co-Chair Brenner asked Dennis if he wanted to give any report, that he knew he was up there too in Washoe.

Co-Chair Nolan stated not on behalf of LEPC but just a quick shoutout to all of our neighboring counties who assisted in the Caughlin Ranch fire. Those were within the city limits last night and it really taxed, it drained all of our engine and company resources on that fire. We really appreciate the help from Lyon County, North Lake Tahoe, Carson City. We got a lot of support. It was a big enough fire that Cal Fire had sent two strike teams in. So, thank God for some rain and snow and put it down and so we're in mop up mode today.

Storey County: Joe Curtis stated the Tahoe Reno Industrial Complex is what keeps them up at night. It's a big change and big difference over the last several years for little Storey County when you've got 4,000 people in a county and you've got 25,000 people working in your county. We have invited a lot of those people that are large businesses out there, the Walmart, Tesla, what have you to participate with our LEPC. And, they have been participating and have been a great value to us and our active participants with our LEPC. This last year, during the last guarter, we did two significant full-function hazmat exercises. One was a guad county transportation. It was initially going to be with railroad, but something happened, and they were unable to do it so we changed in a big hurry and with the transportation-related hazmat exercise with sulfuric acid. We also held an exercise with AUECC (Asian Union Electronic Chemical Corporation) and that is a company that came in. It's under a CAPP program that the gentleman mentioned earlier in the NDEP report. What we did is we met with them and did a full-function exercise along with the team that they have for functioning within their facility. We were able to give them a lot of ideas, direction and support to build their immediate response hazmat team for that facility. That is working really good. That's another one we invited to participate in our LEPC. This last quarter as well as in the other quarters, COVID has absorbed 99-percent of our time this year and it has set us back on being able to do a number of things, COOP updates for one of them. Our emergency management here is responsible for various, almost all aspects of anything that has to do with COVID, whether it deals with the schools, the CARES Act, we have to set up our testing sites multiple times a month. We've developed a specialized trailer and I guess we could kind of consider COVID as hazmat situation in some respects I suppose. We have developed a trailer that we can go and take to a site and be set up within about 30 minutes to do testing, which is what we have to do this afternoon. And, we had an inch and a half of snow this morning so I

think most of it will be gone away hopefully. We're Capable of setting up for testing and for vaccinations when that comes down the road. We've not had any spills this quarter of any significance and we continue to become deeply involved with our guad county health and health group consortium and our quad county MAC (multi-agency coordination) group or multiagency coordination group. The four counties, Carson, Douglas, Lyons, Storey, work extremely closely together on all of these matters. Having set up an EOC for much of the early portions of the COVID matter with personnel from each of the four counties. Tomorrow, I'm taking federal Homeland Security infrastructure people on a tour of our industrial complex and meeting with Tesla. We required all major companies that have companies at TRI (Toxics Release Inventory) to submit emergency operation plans for their businesses and their facilities. We then review those and give them information that they need to be able to up those things. It's amazing how many of those companies send us these plans and they think they are in the city of Reno or they think they're in Sparks, they think they're in Washoe County and their information is just all out of whack. So, we spend a lot of time going through their EOPs. As things got major problems with smoke situations in the last several months, we installed several air sampling stations within the county. We have two in Virginia City and one out in the Highlands area and those have become very functional, very useful. We're now working with the Desert Research Institute on how we did this and, and the reasons we did it, what it's done for us. So, we continue to meet on our quarterly meetings, and we have usually anywhere from 12 to 20 participants, both public and private members. So, we keep moving and we definitely are a all-hazard LEPC anymore. Co-Chair Brenner stated that was very informative and the folks at Tesla, I must tell you, you hooked me up with them to try to get them on the SERC and they've been very professional. Mr. Will Roberts I think his name was, he's heading to Texas but Mike Mallner, we're trying to get him on. So, just you tell him we're still working on it but they're very professional. A lot of good feedback from them and I'm looking forward to trying to get them on the SERC. Joe Curtis stated Mike Mallner will make an excellent member of the SERC. He's a very sharp guy.

Co-Chair Brenner asked about Union Pacific as per their last conversation, he was having some heartburn with them. He asked if they had come along or if he got in touch with the gentleman. Joe Curtis stated that guy that you referred me to has never returned my four phone calls.

- White Pine County: Tabatha Hamilton stated their last LEPC meeting was September 22. Their next one is scheduled for December 8. We have a tabletop exercise that is set for December 1st. We've been mostly working on expending funds from our grants. Our previous chairman, Ross Rivera, has retired and we have a new chairman, Pat Stork. He is our city fire chief. In October, we did a flu pod vaccine drive-thru that doubled as a COVID vaccine exercise. I believe that currently we are working on getting together for a COVID vaccine drive-thru when we get those available.
- **Tribal Native American group:** Lance Chantler stated he did not have any further updates. As Jon mentioned earlier, the NTERC meeting is going on right now. It started at 10:30. I chose to stay in this meeting because I know my attendance is required to make a quorum, so I don't have any updates from them. Hopefully, I will get them and send them to staff as soon as their meeting concludes.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT (Discussion Only) – The following items may be addressed under this report:

a. Grant Change Requests – Report on Grant Change Requests received by SERC.

Brandi Salisbury stated Clark County had two grant change requests for OPTE and one for their United We Stand, which basically was a decreased and increased in the number of items they had requested. Washoe County had a grant change request for OPTE. They wanted to move \$10,503 from training to equipment because Continuing Challenge was cancelled. I sent this request to the Chair of the Funding Committee for approval and It was approved. Elko had a grant change request for United We Stand to increase the number of GPS software. It didn't change the amount of their grant. They found the items at a lower cost. Storey County had a grant change request to decrease their United We Stand budget from \$32,000 to \$31,426. The original quote for the compressor was \$38,145. They got the compressor for \$31,426. LCB submitted a grant change request for their United We Stand to decrease the award amount from \$31,548 to \$31,505. They also received a lower quote and they also asked with the savings

if they could purchase 19 duty holsters. Humboldt had two grant change requests for their OPTE. The first approved request was to use in their operation funds to purchase grant management software. The second request was due to an increase cost of the Harris radios. They decided to decrease the number of other items to still get all the radios that they had been approved for.

b. LEPC Compliance- Report on LEPC compliance issues occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities.

Brandi Salisbury stated all counties are currently in compliance, but she knows Christina wanted to talk about some reminders.

Ms. Wilson stated annual compliance item is coming up to be due at the end of January. It's always due at the last day of January of each year. A couple of questions that have been asked multiple times-your tier 2 facility, it does have to be printed out of the hazmat database and it has to be included with the packets. It can't just be a page saying please see tier 2 database. The other item is the equipment list. We're looking for the equipment list and the reason for that is because it's part of the federal compliance side. The best way I could describe this is if somebody out of a different county or out of a different state was there to help with the incident, they could take that binder and flip to that section and see where they can locate the different equipment. So, I just wanted to give that reminder before we start having everybody submit their items. We've had a couple of counties already submit a couple documents, which has been great. That gives us a chance to review them before it's the end of the deadline.

C. Budget Update- Report on the budget activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities.

Brandi Salisbury stated since our last SERC meeting, the FY20 budget closed balancing forward \$639,689 in the SERC account and \$771,779 in the United We Stand account. SERC OPTE awarded out \$375,466 in grants. We currently have paid out \$102,631 in reimbursement claims. For the United We Stand, we awarded out \$353,491 and currently have paid \$113,945 in reimbursement claims. So, thank you for everybody getting your quarter reports in.

d. HMEP Grant – Report on the progress of this grant since the last SERC quarterly meeting.

Brandi Salisbury stated on September 29, SERC completed the closing of the 2016 HMEP Grant. The performance period for this grant was from 09/30/2016 to 06/30/2020. SERC was awarded \$543,554 in federal funds. We've closed this grant spending \$506,791. For the current FY19 HMEP grant, we have a remaining balance of \$328,000, \$102,000 of this was from year one. So, we have a lot of money that we didn't use from year one. Year two, we only received two applications which totaled \$27,302 so we've really need to get these funds spent.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if HMEP grant was hazmat related and transportation.

Brandi Salisbury stated 50-percent in transportation.

Co-Chair Brenner stated, the LEPCs that are out there and state agencies too that are listening, there's \$328.000 available. And we need to spend that down. So, start putting your thinking Caps on. You can use it for doing exercises, you can use it for planning, updating plans, hazmat plans. response plans, that relate to hazmat. He asked Brandi if they could use the HMEP for exercises.

Brandi Salisbury stated they were going to allow PPE for training, so PPE equipment or supplies for your training activities, you're able to apply for that as well.

Co-Chair Brenner stated they definitely need to spend that down so if you folks have any questions, please get in touch with Brandi or myself if you have concerns where your ideas or concerns, where you think you can't use that, you could possibly use that money and you're not sure, please get in touch with us. We need to spend that down, definitely.

Karen Taylor asked what the performance period end date for that money was.

Brandi Salisbury stated it's a three-year grant but each federal year they give us so much so we started out with like, I want to say \$179,000 in federal funds for year one but because COVID, PHMSA is allowing us to roll that, they're not going to deduct it from year three. So, we're able to keep that money. So, it's kind of a three-year period that we get to spend it this year because of COVID. If you can get me any grant applications and I will get them submitted over to PHMSA right away. I know we're going to be opening up the year-three grant applications soon because I have to fill out the application for year three in like March so if I could get everybody's already approved, I won't have to do all these activity requests that kind of holds up the process.

Karen Taylor asked which application would you like it to be submitted on, year 19 or year 20.

Brandi Salisbury stated there's only the mid-cycle out right now that's on the website. It's for the year two application. So, just submit it on the one that's on the website. Year three hasn't opened yet.

Karen Taylor stated she would send it out to Clark County LEPC members.

11. REVIEW OF OPENING THE UNITED WE STAND GRANT FOR A SECOND ROUND OF GRANT APPLICATIONS (Discussion for Possible Action) - The Commission will discuss opening the grant for a second time this fiscal year. This discussion and possible action may include deciding if this will be open to all counties and state agencies and deciding if the funding amount will remain the same or change the amount of funding. Discussion and recommendations from the Commission may approve, approve with contingencies, or deny grant funding.

Co-Chair Brenner asked Brandi, in this situation, if the balance on the United We Stand was \$700,000.

Brandi Salisbury stated the balance is \$1,195,019 but we awarded out some money. It was \$353,491 that we awarded out to 12 counties. So, we have plenty of money. Even if you wanted to award out to the counties the \$32,000 again, we would still have plenty of money.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he was worried about this at their last meeting because when we had the Nevada State Legislature meeting for the Special Session, he was worried they were going to swipe the money like they did back in 2008 or 2004. But they didn't and I think this is something we as a commission need to move on because we're going to lose that money. That's an awful lot of money and I think we need to go with a second round of a grant to our LEPCs and state agencies. I put this on the agenda for discussion purposes. Please, give me your feedback.

Carolyn Levering stated she thought one of the challenges with the limitations on the size of the grant awards is it limits the scope of any particular project that any given LEPC would want to be able to embark upon. And, certainly, when you have a county the size of Clark, those kinds of caps, limitations on the funding amounts, makes it really challenging to do a project of scope and significance that's meaningful to the community. Plus, I think most of the people on this call who deal with grants also recognize the effort that goes into putting together the application, the project, putting it forward, getting it approved, it becomes a cost benefit issue, how much effort has to go into being eligible to have the grant, then get the grant and execute it for these relatively small dollars in comparison with some other funding sources. So, maybe if we can talk about considering grant projects that exceed dollar limitations, to be reviewed upon based on their merit rather than being too concerned about equity across the state.

Co-Chair Brenner stated that was why he worded it the way he did in the agenda, because he wanted to discuss that. He thought they needed to look at this differently. He did not think they should put the cap on there. He thanked her for bringing this up because it does limit, especially the bigger counties. The frontier counties are important here too. Remember, United We Stand really focuses on preventing terrorism, as NRS combating terrorism. But, when we put a motion together, I would like to really not have that limit on there. But, again, please, other commissioners, please provide feedback and our guests too, please. Feel free to, to speak out here.

Jon Bakkedahl stated hear a number of times from all of the jurisdictions that the grant award is not enough to actually do something with. So, we've talked about it a couple of times on increasing the dollar values. I know we can't change the scope because of the way Department of Transportation writes those and coordinates those. But, I think having a larger offering available so that a larger jurisdiction or even the mid-size rural counties would be able to use a larger grant to do something. A small grant value like this, it costs a facility still thousands of dollars in time and effort for an FTE to manage that grant. So, there's really no benefit and I think that's some of the delay and resistance in people wanting to put forth a lot of effort for a small dollar amount.

Co-Chair Brenner stated this grant is United We Stand. It's a state grant, state of Nevada, so it really doesn't fall under the DOT regulations. But, I just want to make that one correction for you.

Eric Millette stated he mimicked the concerns with Clark County as far as the amount of time and energy and then the actual fiscal opportunity we have to be able to make that happen. He would like to be able to somehow coordinate resources to where we could get a grant fund and have our neighboring agency understand the equipment that it is so that if they have, our neighboring counties, that they have any issues at all, whether it be training or equipment, that we open it up beyond the county award that we're given and, say for Washoe, that the quad-county team with all four counties could participate in that type of an exercise. The equipment that we're awarded in Washoe is readily available and the resources are available to be distributed out through DEM and communicated well that we're not limited as a state, we're actually truly contiguous with the equipment and training and resources available. And, I don't know how that would work. I don't know how politically we can make that happen, but we certainly don't need a whole bunch of widgets in a bunch of people's hands without the next agency or the next county being able to come and just help.

Derrek Bowman stated he thought that this is valuable. Geography-wise, we're pretty large but population-wise we're one of the smaller counties definitely. But getting another round of funding, even if there is a cap will be beneficial. Thus, we have critical needs that we weren't able to cover with the first round of grants and so for us it would be definitely helpful to be able to get another round.

Karen Taylor stated she agreed with Carolyn that, in the past, the grant application as you well know when you were here, always surpass the need surpasses the amount of money and we kind of whittle the projects down to fit into the \$32,000.

Co-Chair Brenner stated before that, it was 30 and 25,000. We have the opportunity here. I think it'll put some burden on the funding committee in going through that and I remember the early days in the funding committee where we would sit down and it took all, a little bit longer to go through the meeting and trying to juggle the needs and having the counties come in. But, I think it's worth it, than putting the limitations on there.

Matt Griego stated they were on board with increasing those limits. We just want to make sure that we're not going to exclude any rural counties that talked about. We just want to make sure that our counties out here have the eligibility to apply for those because we are remote from the staff in the north out here and we can share resources but we're talking a day or two to get those resources. So, we just want to be able to make sure we can get the stuff to have here and it's available to us immediately.

Co-Chair Brenner stated it seems we've got the one grant that's already gone through. That's why I wanted every county who put in for the United We Stand grant pretty much got what they put in for. This would be something where the larger counties or the smaller counties, frontier counties, could come up with something a little different so they don't have those limits.

Carolyn Levering stated she was just kind of thinking out loud as she was hearing all the inputs. She was wondering if we shouldn't consider looking at a model similar to the FEMA assistance to fire fighters grant where jurisdictions submit applications with kind of a rank order priority and then they award in rounds. So, let's say larger counties like Washoe and Clark put in a lengthy list with rank-ordered items of what's the highest priority to them and if the funding committee looks at that and looks also at the applications from the smaller counties that maybe don't have the same kind of complexity or level of some of these programs, that they can award to each LEPC in a round format until all funds are

distributed. That way, you don't have the problem of leftover funds on the table. Everything gets awarded but that it's done based on the communities' priorities as well as the priorities of the funding committee and the commission itself. Obviously, it would take a little bit of doing to kind of put that process together to do that but at least that way, if it is a slow year for Clark and they're not going to apply for anything, or it's not a priority for Clark to get certain things in that particular year, then, or vice versa for any other county, people can bow out without a problem or put in for a larger project than they normally would've been able to be eligible for. That could be prioritized in that way. Those are my thoughts on awarding in rounds. Seems to work for AFG. I've done it that way for a long time.

Michelle Young stated due to the leadership issues that Lander County has had, she believed she heard some discussion in that they missed the opportunity for some of the grants for this year. She stated she would appreciate the opportunity to be able to reapply for some of these grants if they're available on behalf of her county.

Co-Chair Brenner stated once you pass the deadline, it's pretty much over with and I think Lander was really just putting in for operational funds. He asked Matt help him out too because with the funding, you're the chair. He thought that's all they really applied for. He didn't even think they applied for United We Stand.

Ms. Wilson stated that was correct and it was due to they had somebody leaving and somebody coming in. They weren't really sure, so they just put in for the operational because they weren't sure if they were in compliance or not. So, that's all they were awarded, was the operational as of right now.

Patricia Anderson stated with this kind of funding balance not being committed at all, it would be worth the SERC looking or talking to the state if need be to be able to do a regional request where-prior to COVID, we were attempting to put together a regional hazmat response group that included four to five of the eastern counties and it was good move. We were working down the road and everybody was very committed to it. If that type of group could apply as a group and not have the cap and be able to distribute things so that they're staged in specific locales in that four or five-county region, so that the response times for distance are much shorter, it would be ideal to be able to use some of this money in that format.

Co-Chair Brenner stated that was a good idea and not to forget that HMEP money is out there too for planning, if you would like to do that with the frontier counties where four or five frontier counties you could apply for that one.

Ms. Wilson stated she wanted to correct herself. It was not Lander County that had the \$4000 operational, it was Esmeralda County.

Co-Chair Brenner stated it sounded like they want to take the limits off and have a second round of United We Stand. I can't make a motion but if somebody would like to put a motion together and we can get a second and have some discussion, I'm willing to work on it.

Ms. Wilson stated before we vote on this, she did have a question just because she was reading the SERC policy regarding the United We Stand (UWS) grant. She just wanted clarification of this before we set forth any boundaries or anything. It states during the procedures that as determined by the LEPC or state agency, the request in regards to the application may be made to support preparedness to combat terrorism as outlined in the Homeland Security strategies including without limitation planning, training, supplies and equipment. She asked if that limitation was talking about the use of it or the monetary part of it.

Co-Chair Brenner stated, to him, actual use. It's not that-because we changed the dollar amount.

Co-Chair Nolan stated if Richard was looking for a motion with the cap and then reopen the opportunity for grant consideration, he would make that motion.

Co-Chair Brenner stated he did not think, as co-chairs, they could make motions.

Nathan Hastings stated he was not sure if there's anything in your bylaws that disallows that. That's

not something I've researched or looked at. I don't think there's anything in the law about the SERC that defines that. That's something I'd have to look into but I don't know off the top of my head.

Co-Chair Nolan stated to err on the side of caution, if there's somebody else who'd like to make that same motion, just to make it clean.

Kimberly Ferguson stated she would like to make a motion for an order to open a United We Stand grant for a second round.

Carolyn Levering seconded the motion.

Matt Griego asked, with the way that motion is made, does that allow for a regional request as well as individual LEPCs.

Co-Chair Brenner stated they could add that verbiage to it and asked Kim if she had any problems adding that verbiage that Matt put together.

Kimberly Ferguson stated she would like to revise her motion, to open a United We Stand grant for a second round grant with the ability for regional LEPCs to come together as part of that grant as well as individual LEPCs.

Carolyn Levering accepted the amendment.

Brandi Salisbury asked if this was going to allow state agencies as well.

Co-Chair Brenner stated that was correct. He asked the group if they needed to have anything about not having a cap on this grant application.

Eric Millette stated maybe the first round has a cap so that everybody has an opportunity to be able to put in for their first round and have equal prioritization throughout the state. So, let's say that somebody's priority is number one and they put in for a large amount, say Washoe puts in for 100 and Clark puts in for 200,000 and they are priorities number one and two, we certainly don't want to discount some of the lesser maybe priorities and/or we want equal distribution through all counties initially on the first round, is my opinion. And secondly to that, how does this effect if we start doing regionalization of LEPCs, how does it affect any compliance situation with inventory and accountability? That's just something for commission to consider.

Co-Chair Brenner stated they already do it with the quad-county. Joe works real closely with that group and they do everything together. They have their response plans, and they work very closely. In sitting on planning and training with Carolyn over the years and they mimic the quad-county, they have the same information and what they share amongst themselves. In reference to the dollar amount, in the first round we had everybody eligible up to \$32,000. He asked what would he want to put as a limit, did he have a number that he would like to discuss.

Eric Millette stated if this is the motion that's going to actually change how we do things in the future, then I would like to make sure that it's put something where we have a limit set for the first round of \$32,000 and then maybe the next round is not-that doesn't have a limit. For this particular motion, this is just a motion for this grant cycle, then there doesn't need to be any addition to that. I'm just thinking of future years, if we don't have a multiple cycle grant application, then maybe limit the first round, open it up to everybody and then next round prioritize based on the funding committee's decision and awards based on that. Just so that everybody gets equal funding.

Co-Chair Brenner stated that is what we've kind of done in the past where we've, instead of having a second round, it was adjust the number, where it used to be \$25,000 but we've got more in there, raise it to 30 or 32 and that we cannot have as much in the account. But this might be something that we're going to have to address and we want to put it in writing and have a policy for it, I agree.

Carolyn Levering stated she was under the impression that this vote was intended to reference our current and specific situation and not necessarily in future years. That was her expectation anyway.

Co-Chair Brenner stated she was right, this is right now but we've never had this in my 25 plus years with SERC, having this amount of money. That's when we did have it taken, went back to zero and it takes a good year to two years to build it back up. So, there may be something there, but this agenda item is for this circumstance right now.

Carolyn Levering thanked him for clarifying that.

Kimberly Ferguson stated that was her intent, just the second round, right here and now, and not for future years.

MOTION: Open a United We Stand grant for a second-round grant with the ability for regional LEPCs to come together as part of that grant as well as individual LEPCs.

- BY: Kimberly Ferguson
- SECOND: Carolyn Levering
- VOTE: Passed unanimously
- **12. REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE EXCEPTION FOR CLARK COUNTY (Discussion/For Possible Action) -** The Commission will review the request pertaining Clark County's Non-Compliance and it's stated inability to hold a quarterly meeting. Discussion and possible action may include granting an exception, including with contingencies, of compliance for this county.

Co-Chair Brenner asked Billy Samuels if he wanted to give a little update on why he wanted to have the exception.

Billy Samuels stated, obviously dealing with COVID, the third quarter LEPC meeting, we did not have our meeting with our group so we actually missed that whole third quarter. We tried to file an exception with Brandi and I want to bring that up to the table to make sure that, obviously, I know we were not in compliance with that and so that's we filed for that exception.

Co-Chair Brenner stated it didn't help being retiring either.

Billy Samuels stated they had some changes in their division, so they had little hiccups-really no excuses though.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if anybody from the commission had any comment or feedback for Chief Samuels.

Carolyn Levering stated being caught up in the same circumstance that Chief Samuels is describing, just put forth, that she did not think they have ever had this kind of situation in the past where we weren't able to meet the quarterly meeting requirements and, given the extraordinary circumstances that we're all under these days, she hoped that the commission could see fit to accept this request.

Co-Chair Brenner stated this is the first. At our last two or three SERC meetings, COVID had changed a lot of things and we're going to have a lot of exceptions and this is the first but speaking as one of the co-chairs, I don't have a problem with this exception. That's why I wanted to put this on the agenda and have a discussion openly with the commissioners. A lot of people think the big cities like Washoe and Clark, they've got all kinds of personnel and staff, but they wear multiple hats just like the rural and frontier areas though and it's a struggle.

Nathan Hastings stated he wanted to point out and thought probably ought to be discussed is being prepared to maintain consistency in any action that's taken in connection with this motion item, depending on what may come up and with other LEPCs in the future. You don't want to be in a situation where you grant certain relief to one entity or municipality or other entity over which the SERC has some kind of jurisdiction for these decisions without being

prepared to evaluate and decide to be consistent moving forward for similarly situated other entities that might make similar requests and being aware that granted certain relief in one situation while you may appropriately be able to consider that to be an isolated thing you may not. And, maybe in a situation where setting a precedent that you need to be prepared to act consistently in the future so that you don't have this unfair treatment as similarly situated entities.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if somebody would like to put a motion together.

Karen Luna stated she was wondering if they shouldn't submit something to say that they missed it due to COVID. She knew that's what they had to do for some other regulatory issues. Like for example, if some training that expired or whatever, that way SERC has something on file, not just in these minutes and something easier to find.

Billy Samuels asked Karen Taylor if they submitted something.

Karen Taylor stated they did.

Brandi Salisbury stated she submitted it to the Co-Chairs, so they do have it for review.

Chair Brenner called for the vote.

MOTION: Grant exception to Clark County for missing their third LEPC meeting, the number three LEPC meeting

BY: Debra Dailey

SECOND: James Madsen

VOTE: Passed unanimously

Billy Samuels thanked Richard and the committee. He stated myself and Clark County will not let this happen again and he was not happy to be the first of this happening.

Co-Chair Brenner stated they understood. These are unique times, so, we'll work with you.

13. REVIEW AND SCHEDULING OF SERC MEETINGS FOR 2021 (DISCUSSION/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) – Discuss potential Meeting Dates and Times for 2021 Meetings to be held. Possible action may include scheduling tentatively for February 11, May 13, August 12, and November 11.

Co-Chair Brenner stated they had the different dates for the meetings. He stated their fourth meeting usually corresponds with Fire Shows West so that November 11th meeting may change but it's always good to put these dates on our calendar so that we're prepared for next year and we're better attended for our meetings. He asked if anybody had any questions for staff in reference to these dates.

David Sellen stated he believed November 11th is Veteran's Day.

Ms. Wilson stated it was. Once we get dates for Fire Shows West for 2021, that's usually when we update the fourth quarter date, so it's more tentative. It is the second Thursday of the first month of each quarter. That's where those dates came from. So, as soon as we have information from the Fire Shows West group, Joanna, we will get that updated as soon as possible so everybody can get that coordinated.

Mike Heidemann stated in regard to Fire Shows West, we are planning on having it next year. We're having our board directors meeting on December 8 and we'll coordinate the dates with you once we put them down on the 8th of December.

Co-Chair Brenner asked Nathan if they had to take a vote on this, that they really didn't change much, or was this more for just information.

Nathan Hastings stated the action item was to tentatively schedule these meetings. He thought the conservative approach in terms of open meeting law compliance would be to make a motion, to take

action on the agenda item.

Co-Chair Brenner asked for a motion.

MOTION: Approve the schedule as published on a tentative basis pending scheduling around the Veteran's Day holiday

BY: Carolyn Levering

SECOND: Kimberly Ferguson

VOTE: Passed unanimously

14. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item) – No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments are limited to three minutes unless the Commission elects to extend the comments for purposes of further discussion. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

Co-Chair Brenner asked if there were any public comment.

Co-Chair Nolan stated he knew everybody was ready to get out the door and get some lunch, but he just wanted to do a quick kudos and shout out to Richard. Although we're co-chairs in this, Richard has always done a great job, even when he was fully employed and now he's enjoying, I hope, the luxury of being retired but he really does a yeoman's job on this and kind of holds up these committees while I'm juggling a bunch of stuff on our end of the state between COVID and our little fires and things like that. So, from one co-chair to another, thank you, Richard, for really pulling more than your share of the weight on chairing these committees.

Co-Chair Brenner thanked him and stated he couldn't do it without staff and without the other commissioners.

Karen Taylor asked if the SERC staff had any idea when the United We Stand additional grant application will be available and how quick the turnaround process will be.

Brandi Salisbury stated once the Co-Chairs give them the go ahead and then we'll have to do a funding committee meeting to approve everything. And then, we'll get it done right away.

Co-Chair Brenner stated to give them a little bit of time, at least a month but they would get it done within that month time.

Ms. Wilson stated with our new administrator, Brandi, she's been jumping in, learning as much as she can and everything she can and I just want to say thank you because she's been making this job super easy and it's a lot more enjoyable to get into the office and work with all ya'll and everything. So, I want to say publicly thank you.

Co-Chair Brenner stated Brandi had been wonderful. Dennis and myself interviewed her and I mean she was spot on when it comes to numbers and that's one thing that we really needed help on. Thank you, Brandi. You've been doing an excellent job.

Jason Danen stated he was still trying to figure out what was going on with this and my new position and so forth. I'm not sure what needs to be documented as far as last meeting dates and current meeting dates but I have a September one that we had a LEPC and December 1st is our next one and probably somebody, maybe a point of contact that I can talk to, to ask a million questions to.

Ms. Wilson stated that would be her or Brandi. She stated he could always reach out to Richard and Dennis. But, if he needed information on compliance stuff, he could always email or call their office and she could send that over to him. That is absolutely no problem.

15. ADJOURNMENT (Discussion/For Possible Action)

MOTION:Adjourn the November 18, 2020 SERC MeetingBY:Matt Griego

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.