

Nebraska Homeland Security Policy Group/ Senior Advisory Council

January 23, 2014 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
 Lincoln Community Foundation Building
 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68508
 Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

Homeland Security Policy Group Members		
Name	Agency	Present
Joseph Acierno	Nebraska Dept of Health & Human Services (DHHS)	
Al Berndt	Nebraska Emergency Management (NEMA)	X
MG Daryl Bohac	Military Department – The Adjutant General (TAG)	X
Senator Tommy Garrett	Legislative Military & Government Affairs Committee	
Lt. Governor Lavon Heidemann	Lt. Governor	X
Jim Heine	State Fire Marshal (SFM)	X
Tom Jensen	NE Department of Agriculture	X
Senator Bill Kintner	Legislative Appropriations Committee	
Chancellor Harold Maurer	University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC)	X
David A. Sankey	Nebraska State Patrol	X
Kerry Winterer	DHHS	
Cheryl Wolff	Governor’s Policy Advisor	
Senior Advisory Council Members		
Name	Agency	Present
Scot Adams	DHHS	X
Marty Bilek	City of Omaha – Mayor’s Office	
Brenda L. Decker	Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)	X
Susan Epps	American Red Cross	X
Darrell Fisher	Nebraska Crime Commission	
Judi M. gaiashkibos	Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs	
Keith Hansen	Center for Preparedness Education	X
Steve Hinrichs	UNMC	
Debbie Kuhn	DHHS	
Greg Hollingsead	Department of Homeland Security (DHS)	X
Vice Chancellor Prem Paul	University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)	
Thomas Pristow	DHSS	
Jay Ringenberg	Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)	X
Jon Rosenlund	Hall County Emergency Manager	X
Tony Sambol	UNMC	X
Janice Satra	Legislative Council	
Dennis Snook	Omaha Public Power District (OPPD)	X
Eric Sergeant	DHHS	X
Janice Walker	Nebraska State Court Administrator	
Sherri Wren	DHHS	X

Others in attendance: Denise Bulling, Dan Hiller, Sue Krogman, Logan Lueking, Brian Monaghan, Kalie Saunders, Jayne Scofield, Hayley Sutter, and Nikki Weber

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Lt. Governor Lavon Heidemann called the meeting to order at 1:11 pm Central Standard Time.

II. **Overview of new Homeland Security Grant Requirements – Al Berndt, NEMA**

LB 940 was passed by the legislature in 2006 to create the director of Homeland Security for the state of Nebraska and the State Homeland Security Policy Group (SHSPG); state mandate 81-830 outlines the responsibilities of the SHSPG and mandated membership. Funding related to homeland security is received through the Department of Homeland Security through the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP). Federal homeland security grant programs are based on risk with a requirement for states to engage in capabilities based planning to outline how funding may be applied to manage this risk. Creation of a Senior Advisory Council was mandated in the FY2013 State Homeland Security Program to assist in implementing and carrying out programs in support of national preparedness. The responsibilities of the Senior Advisory Council include integrating preparedness activities across disciplines to maximize coordination and reduce duplication of effort, to create a cohesive planning framework that builds and implements preparedness initiatives to leverage DHS resources, assist with the application of funds aligned with the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis (THIRA) process, and other work to fill capability shortfalls identified in the state preparedness report. Members of the Senior Advisory Council (SAC) are tasked with disseminating information on integrating or implementing activities in support of the national preparedness goal to their core constituents.

a. **Review and discussion of Senior Advisory Council Charter – University of NE Public Policy Center**

The SAC is envisioned as a sub-committee of the HSPG. ; The SAC is an advisory body, not decision body. Recommendations from the SAC go to the SHSPG for further discussion; recommendations from the SHSPG are submitted to the Governor. The SAC Charter lists membership by agency. Members are tasked with establishing two way communications with their core constituents. The University of Public Policy Center is available to assist SAC members in this endeavor.

b. **ACTION ITEM: Adoption of Senior Advisory Council Charter**

A roll call vote of SHSPG members present was called to adopt the Senior Advisory Council Charter. The roll call vote is as follows: Al Berndt, yay; MG Daryl Bohac, yay; Lt. Governor Lavon Heidemann, yay; Jim Heine, yay; Chancellor Harold Mauer, yay; David Sankey, yay.

c. **ACTION ITEM: Formation of subcommittees**

The State Planning Team brings together agencies that have a key role in homeland security to create a cohesive planning unit. The State Planning Team oversees preparation for grant applications and makes state priority recommendations.

The Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council (NPSCC) has evolved from the SCAN Committee, the Nebraska Interoperable Network (N-WIN), and the Nebraska Council of Regions (NCOR). These groups have been integrated to form the NPSCC. This Council oversees development and implementation of communications projects across the state.

A roll call vote of SHSPG members present was called to adopt the formation of subcommittees. The roll call vote is as follows: Al Berndt, yay; MG Daryl Bohac, yay; Lt. Governor Lavon Heidemann, yay; Jim Heine, yay; Chancellor Harold Mauer, yay; David Sankey, yay.

III. **Review of revised State Homeland Security Strategy – Dan Hiller/Al Berndt, NEMA**

The State Homeland Security Strategy provides the strategic direction for mitigation, response, and recovery from threats to the state. The vision of the State Homeland Security Strategy is to reduce vulnerabilities of people and properties in the state. The State Homeland Security Strategy incorporates goals and objectives for each of the investment justifications found in the State Homeland Security Grant: Planning, Exercise, & Training, Communications, Hazardous Materials Responses, Intelligence Sharing, Health and Medical, Agriculture, Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources, Citizen Corps, and Administration of Funds.

a. **ACTION ITEM: Adoption of Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy**

Brenda Decker made a motion to amend the Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy Objective 2.2 to reflect 95% signal coverage across the state; the current goal states 100% signal coverage. This motion was seconded; the motion passed by consensus. Lt. Governor Heidemann called a voice vote to adopt the amended Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy. The SAC recommended adoption of the Nebraska Homeland Security Strategy. The document was subsequently signed and adopted by NHSGP members in attendance.

IV. **Review of 2013 Processes and Products**

a. **2013 Investment Justification Workshop – Dan Hiller, NEMA**

The 2013 Investment Justification (IJ) Workshop was held on October 22-24. The Homeland Security Planning Team, along with stakeholders from across the state participated.

b. **2013 State Preparedness Report – Dan Hiller, NEMA**

The State Preparedness Report identifies the state's current level of preparedness for each of the 31 FEMA established core capabilities. Future investments can then be directed to bolster the capabilities with low levels of preparedness as identified in this report.

c. **2013 State Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis (THIRA) – Dan Hiller, NEMA**

The THIRA was used to create desired outcomes for core capabilities in Nebraska. This information informs the state preparedness report and the training calendar for the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

d. **2013 Training, Exercise, and Planning Workshop – Dave Reisen, NEMA**

The State Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan is a mandated grant requirement and is part of the Training, Exercise, and Planning Workshop (TEPW); the TEPW is held annually in the fall. All partners involved in state homeland security are invited to the TEPW to develop the multi-year training and exercise plan. The plan and resulting calendar helps ensure collaboration and reduces redundant trainings and exercises across the state. The Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan for 2014 is published and can be found on the NEMA website.

e. **Status of Nebraska's State Homeland Security Grant Program Funds – Nikki Weber, NEMA**

The Homeland Security Grant Program is comprised of three program areas: State Homeland Security, Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), and Citizen Corps (CCP). The State Homeland Security Program supports planning, exercise, and training in regards to the state homeland security strategy. MMRS supports the integration of emergency management, health, and medical systems into a coordinated response to mass casualty incidents. CCP focuses on getting community members activated during an emergency response. MMRS and CCP were stand-alone programs equal to the

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Homeland Security Grant Program; MMRS and CCP recently became allowable activities under the Homeland Security Grant Program and have been absorbed under the Homeland Security Grant Program.

The grant program requires an 80/20 split requiring 80% of funds to be awarded at the local level; the additional 20% may be retained at the state level. IJs supporting with these funds include interoperable communications, planning, exercise, and training, law enforcement, hazmat, agriculture, MMRS, and CCP. Three grant years are currently open: FY2011, FY2012, and FY2013. The FY2011 and FY2012 grants will close on August 31, 2014; the FY2013 grant will close on August 31, 2015.

f. Communications projects update – Brenda Decker, OCIO

The Statewide Radio System (SRS) is installed, operational, and is being used as an operational system. Nebraska is undergoing coverage and equipment reviews and has not taken acceptance of the system from Motorola. Three additional towers are expected to be added in 2014 and additional channels are being added to some high usage areas. The SRS was the subject of a legislative study, LR 244. An independent consultant hired to examine the system provided five to seven recommendations. Continued work is being done with local entities to determine how they will connect with the SRS when needed. Local entities have the option to connect with consolettes, interface, or become full partners in the system. The NRIN project is progressing similarly; no links are approved until they are found to be redundantly working. Sixty-five percent of the network microwaves are hung; not all are connected. NRIN representatives are attending the NACO meeting to educate local officials on the network.

V. Next Steps

a. 2014 Meeting Schedule – Lt. Governor Heidemann

The next meeting of the Homeland Security Policy Group / Senior Advisory Council is yet to be determined; the meeting logistics will be determined following the release of the 2014 Homeland Security grant guidelines. Lt. Governor Heidemann adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm Central Standard Time.