

MINUTES  
CITY OF FALLON  
Workshop Session  
May 23, 2008

The workshop session was held on the above date at 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers.

Mayor Tedford inquired if the agenda had been posted in compliance with NRS requirements.

City Clerk Treasurer, Gary Cordes, advised the agenda was posed in compliance with NRS 241.

Mayor Tedford then turned the workshop over to Steve Endacott.

Steve Endacott presented a briefing on Vigilant Guard 2008 Disaster Preparedness Exercise that the City will be participating in.

- The purpose of the briefing:  
Informational to explain exercise background, exercise objectives, who are participating and the venues for City of Fallon and Churchill County. I received a letter/press release from Governor Jim Gibbons which was forwarded to Valerie and is attached to the agenda package.
- Background:
  - Vigilant Guard was established as an annual exercise for National Guard and local and state government emergency responders to coordinate and practice response techniques.
  - The weeklong Nevada exercise will demonstrate and evaluate various emergency response operations that could be expected to occur in Washoe, Carson City, Douglas, Storey, Lyon and Churchill counties.
- City/County Approach
  - Design Venues that support training objectives at the individual organizational level. Extensive local input received during LEPC and exercise planning meetings.
  - Maximize opportunities to coordinate and integrate venues between organizations and agencies.
  - Less emphasis on boots-on-the-ground.
  - Leverage available training grants.
- Exercise Timeline: This exercise will start on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and go through June 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - There will be a lot of security will be available. Need to know how to control traffic flow, get in and out of the schools, etc.
  - Unique to Churchill County is flying unmarked aircraft. The airspace is open and you are able to see neighborhoods and all the outline areas.

- We have ready made airspace.
- Need to figure out how to get trucks in and out of certain areas with package transport and distribution.
- There will be a mass casualty drill at the base.
- Tabletop Exercises
  - There will be lots of media attention.
  - Pen Pal will do training on helping animals. Continuity of services will be introduced at Rotary and will meet at the County Offices since the convention center was occupied.
  - Scenario: no food, no gas, no water. What is the industries doing, how are they coordinating their efforts, and how to keep people from be distressed.
  - We will be participating only on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Exercise Logistics: Public Affairs
  - The Nevada State PIO (Mr. Steve George), the National Guard PAO (Captain April Conway), and the Commission on Tourism representative (Ms. Chris Crystal) coordinate and manage PA messages during Vigilant Guard.
  - Participating State PAOs will coordinate operations with the Nevada PAO wherever appropriate.
  - Real-World media will be included as part of the Vigilant Guard Exercise.
  - Churchill County PIO will be Commissioner Lynn Pearce.
- Communications: The Exercise Control Cell will use a combination of emails, phone messages and radio transmissions to deliver injects during the Vigilant Guard Exercise.
  - Churchill County will conduct a scripted communications test on June 12<sup>th</sup> (all technical means).
  - On June 13<sup>th</sup>, no land lines, cell phones or internet systems will be allowed in Churchill County by exercise participants until backup systems have been exercised.
  - Worked a lot with the ham radio operators and they are checking all the radio frequencies. They have been meticulously working on this project and doing a wonderful job.
  - If you want to use your emergency command post – go for it!
- Venues:
  - Venue #11: The base is simulating a building collapsing.
    - Casualties have overwhelmed NAS Fallon Medical Facility. Casualties will be transported to Banner Hospital for further treatment and processing.
    - Churchill County School Buses will be manned and activated to transport personnel to Banner.
      - How will they get on base? How do they get buses off base and to Banner Hospital? Etc.
    - NAS Fallon Security coordinates bus entry onto NAS. Also flies EVAC flights from NAS to Banner Hospital
    - 49<sup>th</sup> MP provides security support as directed.
    - There will be a lot of coordination with all agencies to make this work.

- Venue #11.5: Churchill/City of Fallon Bomb Threat
  - A bomb threat is received at dispatch and a suspicious package is found at the described location.
  - NAS Fallon EOD and the Fallon Police Department coordinate the disposal of a suspected bomb.
  - 49<sup>th</sup> MP Battalion provides security support as directed.
  - The drill includes evacuation of some local residence. The police department made a form for the evacuees to fill out with all pertinent information for family members to locate them, their animals, etc. at a later time.
  
- Venue #12: Churchill County/City of Fallon UAS IAA Drill
  - Local officials request use of military platforms (Predator and Raven Systems) flown from Creech AFB to aid in Incident Awareness and Assessment (IAA).
  - County makes official request to SEOC for assets.
  - Three Predator flights planned and scheduled for exercise
  - Flights will remain in NAS Fallon Airspace. Video sent to County EOC and/or Mobile Command Post via full motion video data link direct from aircraft to National Guard unit.
  - National Guard support from 991<sup>st</sup> Troop Command.
  - Use of UAS in IAA is designed to validate CONOPS.
  - The data link to first responders is new. The use will be extremely useful at night for looking at the canal system, dam, roads and rural areas.
  
- Venue #12.5: Churchill County/City of Fallon Building Search and Rescue.
  - This will take place at Numa Elementary School on June 14, 2008.
  - Portion of a school has collapsed. Local SAR team is called to execute rescue and recovery efforts.
  - Sheriff's office initiates call.
  - SAR team works with Churchill County school system to execute effort.
  - 49<sup>th</sup> MP Battalion provides security support as directed.
  - The drama class will be used as victims.
  
- Summary
  - The county will be going to the fairgrounds where they keep their generators and fire them up to make sure they are working.
  - The State EOC will provide a SIMCELL member when not active.
  - Counties will provide a SIMCELL inputs when not active, especially for the times resources are requested.
  - There will be times when you receive a call and have you do administrative things.
  - In addition from the State perspective they will want to know how your responded so they will call and ask question.
  
- Desired Results
  - Participants will have worked together and forged relationships with regional emergency response partners.
  - Have experienced, first-hand, the strengths and weaknesses of their plans, procedures, and protocols.

- Received immediate feedback from data collectors and other participants in the form of an After-Action Review.
- Receive detailed feedback, recommendations for improvement, and a roadmap for the next steps to be taken in a formal After-Action Report/Improvement Plan.
- Have the attention of regional and national leadership, leading to an unprecedented opportunity to make real, productive changes addressing major policy, personnel, and resource shortfalls.

Mayor Tedford asked if the county would need the City's electric to be present when the county went to turn on the generators since they don't have any electricians. Sheriff Ingram stated that the generators are already to go and just need to be turned on. He said that the Building and Grounds crew can do it but it might be a good idea to have the city electric crew there. Mayor Tedford said it would be good for Ryan or Dennis to be there.

Mayor Tedford stated that he thought we would need a resolution and Steve Endacott stated that we already have one. Steve also stated that when declaring a state of emergency for an earthquake you will need one and it is already prepared it just needs a signature.


Mayor Tedford stated that for families that get separated and spread out is there a friend or someone else to use as a central point.


Steve indicated that an Emergency Preparedness Guide was developed in coordination with the State. Sheriff Ingram inquired what has been done up to this point and Steve told him that Mert Mickelson has them and is not sure what he has done with them.

Sheriff Ingram suggested getting this brochure out to Search and Rescue but was told there are not that many.

Steve advised that the LVN did a great article and the Reno Gazette Journal put in a great insert on disasters. As time gets closer to the exercise there will be more releases.

This completed the presentation and no further questions the meeting ended at 9:10 a.m.

  
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 Mayor Ken Tedford, Jr.

Attest:   
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 Gary C. Cordes  
 City Clerk/Treasurer