

MINUTES
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION & DEFENSE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 18, 2018

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Palmer, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Gestrin, Kauffman, Packer, Youngblood, McDonald, Dixon, Harris, Holtzclaw, Monks, DeMordaunt, Syme, Blanksma, King, Wintrow, Gannon

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: General Brad Richy, Idaho Office of Emergency Management Director, Brandon Hardenbrook, PNWER Cyber Security Specialist, Savannah Renslow, IAHD, Siana Carsrud, Intern, Anthony Morales, Intern

Chairman Palmer called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Gannon** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2018 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Brandon Hardenbrook, PNWER Cyber Security Specialist, presented information to the Committee regarding the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER). The PNWER jurisdictions of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington in the U.S. and Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, and Yukon in Canada make up the Region. The vision of PNWER is to establish a collaborative, region-wide, bi-national organization to address common issues and interests. PNWER's mission is to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the Region, while maintaining and enhancing our natural environment.

In 2001, **Governor Otter** created the Idaho Center for Regional Disaster Resilience (CRDR) with the goal of improving the Pacific Northwest's ability to withstand and recover, and to protect critical infrastructure from all-hazards disasters. The CRDC's objectives are to (1) educate stakeholders on cyber threats and best practices; (2) continue to build cross-sector relationships and understand interdependencies; and (3) develop prioritized recommendations focused on top projects for Idaho to pursue. CRDR and PNWER are committed to working with states, provinces, territories, and communities to develop regional public-private partnerships, action plans, and undertaking pilot projects.

General Brad Richy, Director of the Idaho Office of Emergency Management, presented additional information regarding PNWER. He stated cybercrime is on the rise. Over 40 states reported attacks on their local and state agencies in 2017. Also, 132 attacks were reported nationwide in 2017. Ransomware alone has cost the world over \$5 billion dollars over the last several years, and it was the number one threat to Public Safety Entities last year. In addition, there were over 132 incidents nationwide just in the Public Safety sector.

General Richy also stated 32 of the 33 popular iOS and Android apps that were tested raised security and privacy concerns. The program turned up "critical flaws" in 18 of the apps, including some that made apps vulnerable to "man-in-the-middle" attacks, which is when a hacker intercepts communications between two systems.

General Richy made several recommendations, some of which include: (1) Establishing a cyber resource website; (2) developing a public-private information-sharing platform to send alerts, warnings, and share updates with stakeholders; (3) developing a cyber functional exercise for multiple sectors and industries in Idaho; (4) developing a charter and action plan for a formal Idaho Disaster Resilience Partnership; (5) developing guidelines and pre-established thresholds for how to escalate cyber events in organizations, as well as in local and federal law enforcement; and (6) providing cyber policy briefings for executive and legislative leadership.

Colonel Jeff Weak, Idaho Director of Information Security, presented information regarding the Idaho Office of Information Security, which partners with the Department of Homeland Security. It is also cultivating relationships with the Idaho National Guard. Colonel Weak further stated that his Office is using a proactive approach in identifying and resolving security breaches.

In answer to questions from the Committee, **Colonel Weak** stated there will be a random-access point throughout the State. Colonel Weak explained there are multiple protections in place to prevent a false missile alert from occurring in this, such as what recently happened in Hawaii.

Chairman Palmer named **Rep. Kauffman** and **Rep. Wintrow** as proofreaders for the Committee.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

Representative Palmer
Chair

Kimberly Lowder
Secretary