## Volunteer Homeland Reserve Unit (VHRU) General Membership Meeting, January 19, 2015 (Railroad Pass Hotel Casino)

- Call the meeting to order.
- Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Frank Bruton our Treasurer will give us his report on the status of the Treasury. Please remember 2015 dues are due.
- The organization has lost a long time member and very involved one, Tom Hewitt. Tom passed away and a long illness. He will be missed. When you have a moment, please check our website, <a href="www.vhru.com">www.vhru.com</a> and take a look at the images of our members who have passed on (Honor Roll)
- I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and most important a safe and healthy one.

This will be the start of our 13<sup>th</sup> year as a volunteer organization. Over the past 12 years we have dealt with two Las Vegas Metro Sheriff's and now a third elected, Joe Lombardo, Two Chiefs in North Las Vegas PD and four Chiefs in the Henderson PD.

Every time the administration changes in those agencies we have to go back and inform the new leadership of our mission and remind them of the MOU we have with each. This has been very frustrating, repeating our mission over and over. If we were aliened to one police agency, it would be easier but we decided to assist all three and remain independent.

Since 911 our law enforcement and Homeland Security have done a great job of preventing any major attack. Things are changing every day with the new global threat of ISS. Most police agencies in Nevada have been down playing homeland security and placing the emphasis on crime. I hope that these agencies are now focusing on the possible terrorist threat and are planning for such.

I would like to open this topic for discussion this evening and see if any member wishes to take the lead to meet with these agencies to remind them that we are still here and ready to assist. To be honest, new blood is needed to achieve this.

 Congratulations are in order to our Lifetime Member, Sharon Wehlry who was elected at the end of last year as the new Nye County Sheriff. I have been in contact with her and we will meet soon to establish a relationship with her department. I'm hoping we can achieve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to assist her when and if needed.

- Our Vice President Paul Wagner is not here this evening. He was organizing the Las Vegas Metro New Years Eve detail. I was told that all went well and we were able to cover most of the substations. Thanks to those member who have up their time to help.
- Our Adopt A Highway program continues in Vegas, Pahrump and Mohave County Arizona. We did the clean up in December and thanks to those who came out to help, it's appreciated. It is getting easier with less and less trash to pickup.
- I handed out this evening the corrected list of meeting dates for 2015. My apologies on having January 26<sup>th</sup> listed when it was scheduled for this evening. The buffet is still available to all those who wish to remain after the meetings to eat.
- Tonight we have one of our members, Jack Spear who has ventured out into a new career, a comic. Although we all knew that was his skill prior to this announcement. Please welcome Jack to say a few funny words (I hope) to cheer us up.
- Dan Christian met with the new Fire Chief at the Mohave County Fire Department to introduce him to the VHRU and give him an overview of our capabilities. If you recall, we installed a base radio in their communications center, which will be used when we are involved with assisting the Fort Mohave Indian tribe. The Fire Department command center is located on the reservation.
- Dan Christian our Tri Sate Coordinator has solicited his members from Laughlin and Mohave County Arizona for volunteers to assist Metro with the upcoming Laughlin River Run. The Las Vegas Metro Lieutenant has only requested we supply members for the surveillance rooms, at this time. If Dan can't fill those positions, I will come back to the membership to see if anyone else is interested.
- Just a reminder, our next meeting will be on Monday, March 23, 2015. Thank you for attending this evening.

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