



Committee Reports

**2013 Annual Emergency Management Policy &
Leadership Forum
September 9-12, 2013
Anchorage, AK**

**EMAC Executive Task Force Meeting
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 9, 2013**

Meeting Summary

EMAC Executive Task Force Chair, Joyce Flinn (IA), opened the meeting.

Joyce Flinn provided an update on activities:

- EMAC Operations Update: Since March 2013, states have deployed 44 personnel in support to Colorado wildfires, flooding in Alaska, tornadoes in Oklahoma, the Boy Scout Jamboree in West Virginia, and continued support of New Jersey in response to Hurricane Sandy.
- Hurricane Sandy support lasted from 10/25/2012 to 8/31/2013 – 310 days of support.
- The State and Resource Provider Guide to Implementing EMAC will likely be done by the end of October. NEMA is working very closely with the contractor on the course to ensure the intent of the course is met.

Angela Cople: EMAC Missions & Logistical Information:

The Hurricane Sandy after action surveys and meeting identified the need for additional logistical information for incoming teams as an area where we can improve the system. Cople asked for areas where the ETF thought this could be improved.

Jonathan York discussed the importance of hotel rooms being reserved for deployed personnel close to the State EOC. Closest hotels might be listed in the request, or the Requesting State may block rooms for incoming personnel. There may be other issues, such as parking. Possibly an FAQ on accommodations/common issues could be developed for incoming personnel.

Other areas that may be a concern were discussed:

- Parking for deploying personnel may not be available
- Varying state laws such as not being allowed to drive with a cell phone
- Headlights must be turned on when driving
- Base camp provided or not
- Responsible for own lodging arrangements
- Rental car availability
- Where/if meals will be provided

Kim Ketterhagen: EMAC Past-Chair SATF Lead Update

Kim Ketterhagen reviewed the creation of the EMAC ETF Past-Chair strategic assignment task force (SATF) by EMAC ETF Chair Joyce Flinn. The task force is comprised of former ETF chairs that are still employed by their state emergency management agencies.

The task force has been working on the review of a number of documents being developed by NEMA prior to review by the EMAC Executive Task Force to save the ETF membership time in reviewing the documents.

National EMAC Liaison Team (NELT) Standard Operating Guidelines:

Following the deployment of teams to the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC), we compared the NELT SOG to reality and found a number of areas that needed to be updated, such as who teams reported to (the chain of command) and where documents are stored within the FEMA system. The SATF and NEMA made these very minor edits to the document and the document is available online for EMAC members.

National Coordinating State (NCS) Standard Operating Guidelines:

The second document that the task force has reviewed was the NCS SOG. This is a new document that was developed to provide operational guidance to the National Coordinating State as they fulfill their operational role during EMAC events.

There are two major changes in this document that will require updates in other EMAC documents and training materials that are open for adoption and discussion by the ETF.

The first major change is replacing “EMAC Span of Control” with “EMAC Operational Management”. Feedback from current EMAC training has identified this change as necessary as EMAC does not have a true span of control as understood through the Incident Command System (ICS).

The second change recognizes that the NCS is in a constant steady state watch as the lowest operational level, Level 3. Because EMAC spans response and recovery, events are also staying open much longer on the EMAC website. As an example, Hurricane Sandy support lasted over 300 days. This change would align reality with our current EMAC operational levels. There would be no changes to Level 2 or Level 1.

The ETF reviewed the proposed document and wholesale changes and were very positive.

EMAC ETF Chair asked for a motion to adopt the NCS SOG.

- Allen Phillips (MA) made a motion to adopt the NCS SOG by the ETF as a living document that would receive periodic review and updates.
- Jonathan York (KS) seconded the motion.
- The motion passed.

Discussion items of note:

- Carol Walton (AR) said that FEMA Region VI has told them that the terms “NRCC” and “RRCC” may be changing and that those edits would have to be reflected in the EMAC documents.
- Terry Egan (WA) stated that he would like to see procedures for FEMA to request and for states to deploy a RELT into a FEMA regional office.
- Angee Morgan recommended changing the levels of operation from a number to a text description such as “Steady State Watch” or “Monitoring” etc.
- Allen Phillips recommended adding a color to the operational levels.

Other standard operating guidelines that are in development include a SOG for the Regional EMAC Liaison Team, the A-Team, and NEMA.

EMAC Operations Manual:

Joyce Flinn reviewed the differences between the 2007 and the new draft 2013 Operations Manual. The EMAC Operational Levels and the Levels of Operations changes made in the NCS SOG were carried forward to the draft 2013 EMAC Operations Manual.

Joyce Flinn asked for a motion to adopt the draft 2013 EMAC Operations Manual as a living document that would replace the 2007 EMAC Operations Manual.

Allen Phillips (MA) made a motion to adopt the 2013 EMAC Operations Manual as a living document that would receive periodic review and updates.

Terry Egan (WA) seconded the motion.

NEMA Training Accreditation

Angela Copple reviewed the process of becoming accredited by the International Association of Continuing Education Training, or IACET.

NEMA will hold a training workshop the week of November 18, 2013 in Lexington, KY where they will review the EMAC training courses that are currently being taught, those that are in development, and those that are proposed.

For the formal IACET assessment NEMA will need to have 4 courses completed that all follow the IACET standard.

Training Update:

Paul Hogue (NEMA) provided a briefing on 2013 EMAC related training activities.

- 145 A-Team personnel in 2013
- Reviewed the proposed 2014 A-Team training schedule
- Reviewed the NCS transition exercise that will take place February 18th
- Discussed the proposed A-Team refresher course
- Discussed the 2013 webinars and accepted suggestions from the ETF for ideas on webinars they would like to see. Terry Egan suggested a webinar on personnel accountability reporting (PAR).

EMAC Committee Chair Update:

Angee Morgan: Discussed the 3025.22 Department of Defense Instruction issued July 26, 2013 on the use of the National Guard for Defense Support of Civil Authorities.

EMAC Leadership Update:

Allen Phillips, EMAC ETF Past-Chair: Discussed the recent Public Information Officer deployment to Alaska from Massachusetts.

Carol Walton, EMAC ETF Chair-Elect: No update.

Regional Reports from EMAC Lead State Representatives:

Region I: Faith Mayer: Region I and Maine are gearing up for Vigilant Guard exercise in November. Maine will be participating in a course to teach IEMAC Canadian partners procedures/protocols similar to EMAC.

Region V: Michael Johnson: Hurricane Sandy reimbursements closed. Michigan held an operations and logistics conference recently and there were several discussions on EMAC. States within the region have commented on the benefits of the NEMA webinars. Work continues on the NEMAC, and it is moving forward.

Region VI: Victoria Carpenter: Louisiana supported NJ until end August 2013. Louisiana also completed another statewide EMAC Mission Ready Package workshop. The workshop content was given to NEMA who is going to adapt the content into a workshop that could be conducted by any state. The big lesson learned was that instead of conducting one statewide exercise, it would be better to conduct regional workshops. Based upon this feedback, Louisiana will be conducting regional MRP workshops in 2014.

Arkansas is working with Oklahoma on the Four Corners exercise that is Dec 4-6. This is a 7 state exercise (AR, LA, KS, MO, TX, NM, and OK).

Region VII: Jonathan York: KS sent personnel to OK in support of the tornados. There is an EMAC component to an upcoming foreign Animal Exercise. They will also be doing a Vigilant Guard exercise in 2014. TERTs are developing MRPs.

Region VIII: William (Bill) Miederhoff: Region VIII states are still working on the EMAC regional team white paper concept. The concept is that Mission Ready Packages are developed regionally and one state is financially responsible for the resource and will handle the reimbursement for all states.

Region IX: Gary Greenly: August A-Team Course trained 24 personnel in Sacramento. Since all state EMAC Coordinators were attending, we also held a regional meeting with all of the EMAC Designated Contacts that were in attendance. This was tremendously helpful to share information, share plans, and work on an exercise plan.

Region IX and Region X will be working together on exercises.

All of the states within the region have complimented the NEMA produced webinars and hope to see more in 2014.

Region X: Terry Egan: Most mutual aid actions were in AK for flooding. Washington is developing MRPs using funding from the EMAC Cooperative Agreement with FEMA. Washington is also working on the initial planning for an exercise in 2016 which will have significant EMAC play for EMAC and PNEMA.

Allen Phillips (MA) moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Jonathan York (KS) seconded the motion.

Joyce Flinn adjourned the meeting.

**NEMA Legal Counsel Committee Meeting
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 10, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Committee Chair Brenda Bergeron made brief opening comments and had all meeting attendees present complete personal introductions.

National ESF-13 Initiative

Bergeron turned quickly to the first guests, Sam Kaplan and Kurt Theilhorn from the U.S. Department (DOJ) of Justice. Kaplan and Theilhorn provided an overview of the current ESF-13 initiatives within DOJ which includes a recent expansion to help implement throughout the department. DOJ even has coordinators in all FEMA regions at this time.

In conjunction with overall ESF-13 coordination, DOJ is examining prison evacuation processes and other issues which crossover between the law enforcement and emergency management communities. A steering committee has been set-up to coordinate the 82 different federal law enforcement agencies and these emergency management issues.

Currently, the principle legal concern in DOJ regarding ESF-13 is the ability for federal law enforcement officers to enforce state laws. Authorities do exist under existing federal laws, but some agencies are limited due to geography or organizations limits. Authorities to “arrest” and “investigate” remain separate and in the opinion of DOJ, state statutes must be explicit in authorities to arrest and deputize federal law enforcement. The department is currently using DOJ opinion 2012 WL1123840 (OLC) as current guidance.

Under the opinion, there is a two-pronged test:

1. Authority to make arrests must be expressly conferred by state law or there must be deputation statutes that expressly identify a state individual who can deputize. Example, “peace officer” statutes--(Also, there is a difference between authority to arrest and authority to investigate, and there may be authority only to act with regard to felonies, when many of the incidents during a disaster are not at that level.)
2. Operations must satisfy the federal Purpose Act—this is an appropriations requirement that a federal agency can only spend its money in the way that it has been authorized. If the deployment is under the Stafford Act, and under mission assignment, then this prong is satisfied.

The committee agreed to review language regarding deputation and provide sample language to state directors.

Roundtable with FEMA

Several issues were discussed with Dan Hall and Tom Balint, the representatives from FEMA’s Office of Chief Counsel.

The question of how the determination for a de-obligation is made was raised by committee members. A de-obligation notice is usually sparked by an audit or OIG report. FEMA can appeal the determination and DHS adjudicates. If the de-obligation is upheld, the process begins to determine the amount of the debt and the FEMA CFO takes responsibility for collecting the funds. FEMA realizes the frustrations with inconsistencies among the Regions, but encouraged states to involve the OIG during the disaster response to help demonstrate the operational process.

Sandy Recovery Improvement Act – FEMA is tracking 17 provisions on a weekly basis. As of the conference, thirteen of the seventeen are complete or otherwise available. For first time, Congress allowed pilot programs while regulations were being worked. A chart outlining the progress of all seventeen provisions was provided to the committee. Not in the SRIA, but in an appropriations bill, all grants including PA and HMGP must be spent within two years or they will be de-obligated. FEMA can ask for broad waivers, and OMB granted waiver for projects over \$1 million. OMB can make other waivers if requested.

Legal Review of NEMAC

Rob McAleer (Maine) and Greg Wilz (North Dakota) provided an update on the Northern Emergency Management Assistance Compact (NEMAC). The outstanding issue at this time is finding a method by which Mexico and other states can be included in an overarching North American agreement. Some states are concerned with “reopening” existing agreements, and some counsels present felt non-participating states could go through states already included in existing agreements.

The southwest agreement is still working through some issues. Some thought an existing agreement between Arizona and Mexico could provide a conduit for a larger agreement. Committee members agreed to review all existing agreements to find a way. The overall thought, however, was the preference to avoid returning to Congress given the potential controversy regarding the southwest border.

**NEMA Pacific and Territorial Caucus
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 11, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Introduction

John Madden (AK) and Mike O'Hare (AK) welcomed the members of the Caucus who had travelled from great distances to be at the NEMA Forum. They expressed how important the Caucus was to provide face to face communication that is so rare. The main goals for the meeting included understanding the common THIRA gaps for the Caucus members, discussing the Tsunami Warning Center, current issues, and the future of the Caucus.

THIRA Gaps

The Caucus began by discussing the things that "keep each of them up at night. A common them was discovered very quickly. Between the geographical distance, resource availability, and the common disasters that strike the pacific states and the territories, the Caucus was able to talk about common gaps and identify solutions that have worked in the past.

A common disaster that most of the Pacific states and territories face is the constant threat of a tsunami. Among a few concerns was the ability to develop tsunami ready communities and disseminate information to citizens in rural communities. The Caucus discussed how the unique challenges that they faced allowed them to develop solutions based on the common ground that they have with one another. This led to the conversation of the of the tsunami warning system.

Tsunami Warning System

The Caucus was able to have members from NOAA and the National Weather Service there to discuss the Tsunami Warning System. Chris Maier from NOAA explained that the system worked in three parts, the scientific part, which detects and analyzes information, the dissemination part, which distributes information and warnings, and the preparedness and response part. The Tsunami Warning System allows for communities to work towards being a Tsunami Ready Communities.

Current Issues

The group discussed a few issues that they had come across at one point or another. For many, the ability to push information past the local government and to the citizens was been a difficult task. Many of the Pacific states and territories have worked with community members to have citizens prepare for seven days without assistance, longer than the normal 72 hours. The Caucus also brought forward the issues of distributing information to rural communities and the constant struggle with communication in remote areas. A few other legislative concerns included the TWEA which is up for reauthorization.

Future of the Caucus

The future of the Caucus was discussed at the end of the meeting and several items were brought forward. Many of the representatives from the territories explained that the Caucus gave them the ability to voice their concerns and get their issues to states that have representation in Congress. They also discussed the desire to have more involvement from agencies such as the Department of Defense, the Coast Guard, and Northern Command. Overall the ability to take time to build relationships and better communication was the goal of the Caucus. They intend to continue the Caucus and work on identifying the common gaps and developing capabilities together.

**NEMA EMAC Committee Meeting
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 10, 2013**

Meeting Summary

EMAC Committee Chair, Angee Morgan (KS) opened the meeting with an overview of the accreditation process that NEMA has started in order to receive accreditation through the ANSI/IACET 2013 Standards. IACET is the International Association of Continuing Education and Training who set the national standard for programs who wish to administer continuing education units. The rigorous accreditation application, review process, evaluation, and verification process will ensure that NEMA's training offerings are developed, instructed, and evaluated at the highest professional level possible. NEMA will be reviewing all of their training materials and restructuring their development based upon the IACET standards. As a first step, NEMA will be holding a meeting the week of November 18th to conduct a training needs analysis and to begin the process of identifying course outcomes and course content. NEMA sent out invitations to the meeting last week. If any of the Directors have someone they think would be an asset to the working group, please let Angela know so she can be sure they get an invitation.

EMAC Executive Task Force Update:

Director Morgan turned the meeting over to Joyce Flinn, EMAC Executive Task Force Chair (IA) to provide a briefing from the EMAC Executive Task Force.

- Operationally, since March 2013, states have deployed 44 personnel in support to Colorado wildfires, flooding in Alaska, tornadoes in Oklahoma, the Boy Scout Jamboree in West Virginia, and continued support of New Jersey in response to Hurricane Sandy.
- New Jersey and New York have paid all missions for reimbursement packages that they have received.
- Flinn reviewed the document structure that the ETF has used to develop a series of new documents.
 - The National EMAC Liaison Team (NELT) Standard Operating Guidelines were updated.
 - The National Coordinating State (NCS) Standard Operating Guidelines was developed and adopted by the Executive Task Force as a living document. This document will be utilized by the NCS and updated periodically as operations are managed.
 - The ETF also adopted a 2013 EMAC Operations Manual that will replace the 2007 EMAC Operations Manual.
 - We also have a number of documents in development such as the A-Team SOG, NEMA SOG, standard guidelines for training and exercises, and a standard template for a state EMAC SOG.
- Flinn provided an update on training:
 - Since March 2012, 145 A-Team personnel have been trained in 7 training sessions. This brings our total available A-Team personnel to 745.
 - We are now working on a refresher A-Team Training opportunity to keep A-Team trained personnel acquainted with the EMAC Operations System and provide updates as improvements are made to the system.
 - Over the past year NEMA has been conducting monthly webinars on the EMAC Operations System. They are short webinars, anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour that review all aspects of the operations system. These have been a very positive step

forward and we continue to get feedback from the states that they find them very helpful. Webinars are recorded and posted to the EMAC website for all EMAC Authorized Representatives and Designated Contacts.

- You can also find public webinars that were recorded on the EMAC website that focus on preparing your state public health program to request or send EMAC assistance and EMAC for cities/counties. The city/county webinar has a PowerPoint template that states can use to provide their own briefing to cities/counties.

Mutual Aid Support System Update:

Kentucky Division of Emergency Management will continue to support the Mutual Aid Support System (MASS). MASS will be used in Capstone 2014. Any state who has a question for Kentucky on MASS can contact Doug Eades at KYEM.

International Mutual Aid Efforts:

Rob McAleer (ME) provided a briefing on international aid agreements.

The Northern Emergency Management Assistance Compact (NEMAC) was established following the passage of the standard NEMAC language by both a state and a province. NEMAC was passed by Congress in a joint resolution.

There are now 3 ratified agreements that are active: PNEMA, IEMAC, and NEMAC.

Work continues on an umbrella agreement that covers Canada, USA, and Mexico. The working group has looked at all three agreements to determine if they could be broadened into the larger umbrella agreement. It is unlikely that it is possible. The NEMAC agreement, passed by a joint resolution, cannot be amended to include Mexican states.

EMAC Ready:

Doug Hoell reviewed the intent of the EMAC Ready survey. The survey was identified as a need following the 2011 Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee After Action Reports when states recommended a self-assessment tool to determine preparedness and training needs for EMAC. The NEMA Board of Directors guided the development of the EMAC Ready survey into a self-assessment/survey tool. It is currently a 59-question survey and participation is voluntary. Through the survey, states can self-assess training needs, the need for procedures/protocols, need for an exercise program for EMAC, and more. The survey reviews aspects of the following areas:

- Legislation and public officials understanding of EMAC
- State organizational structure
- State inventory management
- State relationships with border states and states within their FEMA region
- State plans for identifying resource gaps, and how do you request, track and demobilize

The survey can be completed by the State Director and EMAC staff in a couple of hours. Dave Maxwell (AR) commented that it would do a good job of informing the Directors more about EMAC in their own agency. John Madden (AK) stated that he felt that it can move EMAC from “best effort” to “readiness.” He also felt that it would benefit THIRA. Chris Geldart (DC) brought up that better understanding of EMAC and resource capabilities would have a huge benefit for locals. The EMAC Committee agreed that the survey instrument should be moved forward to NEMA’s full membership.

NEMA – NORTHCOM Memorandum of Agreement:

The 2011 Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee after action report identified collaborations with NORTHCOM as one of the recommendations for improvement. The focus of the recommendation was to provide education on EMAC and to improve the sharing of information during large-scale disasters. NEMA and NORTHCOM have been working towards a memorandum of agreement that would formally establish this relationship.

As part of the agreement, an individual may be provided as a liaison to USNORTHCOM in major events. They will serve largely in the same capacity as NELTs. With the new Department of Defense Instruction, Number 3025.22, dated July 26, 2013 identified the principle civilian advisor for National Guard forces in Title 32 status with the Secretary of Defense, where they have been previously been under the control of the Governors.

Until the Adjutants General resolve the DoD Instruction, the NEMA Board of Directors decided not to move forward with the memorandum of understanding with NORTHCOM at this time. NEMA will work on a one-page overview of the MOA that states can take to their TAGs to discuss the memorandum.

**NEMA Preparedness Committee Meeting
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 10, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Committee Chair Al Berndt (NE) called the meeting to order at 2:45 pm.

Public Information Subcommittee Report – What’s Next With Social Media and Emergency Management

Presenter:

- Jeremy Heidt, Spokesman and Public Information Officer, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, Lead for NEMA Public Information Subcommittee

The NEMA Public Information Subcommittee has embarked on a five-part project as a follow-up to last year’s national social media survey. The first of its kind, this survey was conducted by the Center for Naval Analysis (CNA) in conjunction with NEMA and collected feedback from emergency managers in approximately 40 states. The five parts of the project include 1) developing a continuum of goals for emergency management’s use of social media; 2) developing and distributing a model Social Media Governing Policy; 3) creating a template for a standard operating procedure to process social media information for follow-up action; 4) developing VOST (Volunteer Support Team) concepts to coordinate social media coordination and remote monitoring; and 5) assessing any support needs listed in the survey results and providing appropriate follow-up action. States that are providing leadership on the project are Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas and Mississippi. Related to the social media discussion, Mr. Heidt also reported that he had assisted earlier in the summer the drafting of congressional testimony on the use of social media during disasters. There has been growing interest by Congress in social media and its role in emergencies and disasters.

NEMA/FEMA PIO Training Workshop – workshop is confirmed for November 13-14, 2013 at EMI. This will be the 5th time the workshop has been held. Shortly after the NEMA Forum, NEMA was informed that EMI would be providing travel as well as lodging and meals to one representative from each state attending the workshop. The subcommittee is working with FEMA External Affairs to develop the agenda. The new EA director Joshua Batkin, who was appointed earlier this year, has provided key support of the workshop.

PIO Participation in Monthly Conference Calls – directors were asked to encourage their PIOs participation in the monthly calls, held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. Eastern. At least 20 states have never been on a call, which means they miss out on the opportunity to talk with and bring up important issues with FEMA External Affairs. Recent calls included detailed briefings on the Boston Marathon Bombing, the Granite Mountain Hotshots deaths and EMAC PIO deployment to Alaska.

Smaller States and EMAP Accreditation

Presenters:

- Al Berndt, Assistant Director, Nebraska State Emergency Management Agency
- Angee Morgan, Deputy Director, Kansas State Division of Emergency Management
- Barb Graff, Chair, Emergency Management Accreditation Program

Angee Morgan (KS) gave a detailed presentation on how a smaller state like Kansas approached and accomplished EMAP accreditation. She explained that accreditation had been a personal goal for her and that scheduling the assessment gave her agency and staff a focal point. As the state became educated on what the process would require, Ms. Morgan reached out to neighboring Nebraska, which was already accredited. Kansas reviewed Nebraska's documentation, met with its accreditation manager and talked extensively about what that state had experienced and lessons learned. This support was crucial to the Kansas staff as they moved forward. Even the self-assessment alone was beneficial to the agency, Ms. Morgan added. Barb Graff of EMAP explained that the standards are designed to help a program plan and organize. The standards also offer a defense against those outside the agency who try to influence its direction for political reasons. Kansas was accredited in July 2013.

Several states asked follow-up questions such as an estimation of how many hours Kansas devoted to the process; the selection of an accreditation manager and how Kansas maintained the rest of its agency's responsibilities. Like several other states that had gone through accreditation, Kansas devoted one day a week to its process. Having trained EMAP assessors on staff was also a tremendous help, according to Ms. Morgan.

Update on EMAC Ready

- Doug Hoell, EMAC Advisor

Mr. Hoell provided an update on EMAC Ready, a program being developed to help states determine their level of EMAC capability. It includes three main components: a self-assessment tool, an information gathering tool and a voluntary reporting system. These three components address five general areas: 1) legislative and public officials' understanding of EMAC; 2) state organizational structure for EMAC implementation; 3) state process for inventory management; 4) state relationship with border states and other states within their region; and 5) Related to #2 and 3, how states identify resource gaps/needs and how the state requests, tracks, demobilizes and pays for mutual aid assistance. Mr. Hoell explained that the next step in the process is an online and voluntary EMAC Ready Survey. This draft survey will be sent out to all states for comment and will be published by November 8, 2013. Mr. Hoell stressed that it is voluntary and meant to assist a state determine its preparedness and training needs so that it's able to effectively request, send and receive mutual aid through EMAC. Survey results will not be shared outside of EMAC.

REPP – Status of O654 Revision and New Way Forward for Exercise Program

Presenters:

- Andy Mitchell, Director of the Technological Hazards Division at FEMA
- Trish Milligan, Senior Level Advisor, Division of Preparedness and Response Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Mr. Mitchell from FEMA shared his thanks with the committee and the NEMA REP Subcommittee for the ongoing interaction in addressing REP related issues. Regarding the revision of NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, he explained that this is the first top-to-bottom revision in 30 years. As such, FEMA and the NRC have planned a series of four public meetings for stakeholders at the NRC headquarters, each reviewing four of the 16 planning standards. These sessions will serve as a platform for introducing the working drafts developed by writing teams to date. The current timeline calls for completion of the first draft in 2014, with a public

comment period slated for next fall. The second draft is to be completed in 2016, at which time a second public comment period will be considered. It's expected that the final version, due in 2017, will be greatly condensed due to the elimination of much of the current content.

Ms. Milligan from the NRC briefly discussed evacuation time estimates and shadow evacuations. She explained that ETEs are used for planning purposes and that there are rules of when these need to be updated. After the 2001 terrorist attacks, the NRC conducted research on shadow evacuations, which is when a segment of the population chooses to evacuate without an order. The NRC found that the number of people who do this is relatively small and the impact, minor.

The discussion shifted to hostile action based exercises. Several recent exercises have gone off smoothly while others had to be postponed. The key is early and extensive planning; reaching out to all participating agencies in the emergency planning zones; and making use of the available HAB plan review workshops and HAB toolkit. FEMA will also start working with states about a year in advance to help ensure a successful exercise. In the area of exercises, Mr. Mitchell talked about the upcoming REPP Exercise Program Workshop at the Naval Post Graduate School. Several state directors representing NEMA are attending and will discuss how to improve the exercise program. A few committee members commented that states need the opportunity to give feedback to FEMA on how exercises are evaluated. The NEMA REP Subcommittee will take this on and provide follow-up.

Mr. Mitchell also provided information regarding IPAWS and its interface with Alerts and Notification systems. Kentucky and Colorado, which have extensive chemical stockpiles, have agreed to pilot IPAWS and include IPAWS in their chemical stockpile emergency preparedness programs. They've also developed a template for states' use that covers governance related paperwork as well as an MOU template to facilitate coordination between jurisdictions. In addition, the engineering staff of FEMA's Technological Hazards Division is working on how stakeholders can better integrate IPAWS. State emergency management will be updated as this initiative moves forward. Related to this, REP-10, the principal guidance document dealing with alerts and notifications, is undergoing a major revision. The period of public comment began August 30, 2013 and runs for 60 days. The latest version is outcome based, emphasizing results and attainment of objectives, regardless of the system used.

Getting Ready for THIRA

Presenter:

- Tim Manning, Deputy Administrator for Protection and National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency

New guidance for the Threat and Hazard and Identification Risk Assessment is forthcoming and was created to be more effective in defending state/local decisions while providing empirical data for grant deliverables. The hope is that the tool will be more useful in driving emergency operations plans, support budgeting and allow greater collaboration with more partners.

With no further discussion items, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

**NEMA Homeland Security Committee Meeting
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 11, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Committee Chair Nancy Dragani (OH) made brief opening comments and immediately turned to the planned agenda.

Homeland Security Concerns of the States

Earlier this year, the committee surveyed the NEMA membership and asked for the Top 3 homeland security concerns for each state. Several states responded and Dragani outlined the results which highlighted cybersecurity, fusion center/emergency management integration, and the future of federal funding. After a brief discussion, the committee decided that the following issues should also be added:

- Fusion center sustainment
- Enhancing the relationships between the law enforcement community and those emergency managers who are not also homeland security advisors.
- Finding strategies for using risk assessments to draw-down multiple risks.
- Understanding the roles of social media in fighting crime.

Dragani agreed to take these issues to the National Homeland Security Consortium (NHSC) and the committee asked to have law enforcement groups come to the committee meeting at the Mid-Year forum to discuss strategies.

Coordination with the NHSC

John Madden (AK) and Dave Maxwell (AR) provided an overview of the current priorities in a white paper authored by the NHSC. They outlined how the first white paper provided issues of a “tactical” nature and specific to association priorities. The updated paper examined more “global” issues and how the homeland security and emergency management communities can address larger issues such as cybersecurity. This sparked the conversation of how adequately DHS is addressing cyber consequences as part of the planning process for the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR).

Future of Homeland Security Grants

Brian Kamoie of the Grants Program Directorate at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) came to provide an overview of the current grants landscape within the agency. He sees the new PPD-8 as doctrine for the grant and preparedness programs. Overall, however, the agency continues struggling in “telling the story” and states will have to begin working within current funding levels as they likely will not rise in the near future. Flat grant funding provides the opportunity to focus on sustainment of capabilities and better reporting. While they realize not everything built can be sustained, grants cannot be seen as only a gap-filling measure, so a consolidated approach will afford greater flexibility. Moving forward, he also informed the committee that extensions will be increasingly difficult for GPD to grant.

During a brief question-and-answer session, a few issues were highlighted:

- The committee recommended GPD focus more on primary offenders of unobligated balances versus widespread measure to punish all grantees.
- More flexibility in reprogramming funds should be allowed to help move funds between jurisdictions. Kamoie promised to look into the possibility.
- The legislative language for the proposed National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP) continues to move forward in the review process, but is not yet ready for release.

Overview of Vibrant Response Exercise

In a departure from the planned agenda items, Dragani took the opportunity to discuss a recent eight-day exercise the State of Ohio conducted with the Department of Defense (DoD). The joint exercise followed five state objectives:

1. Deploy the alternate emergency operations center;
2. Integrate operations with FEMA Region V IMATs;
3. Produce Joint IAP's and process mission assignments;
4. Coordinate operations with DoD assets; and,
5. Integrate state and federal radiological capabilities.

More than 50 staff participated in the exercise with every ESF except 4, 14, and 15. Slides were provided to the committee members. Dragani noted Vibrant Response as one of the most valuable exercises in which she's ever participated and highly encouraged future participation by other states.

**NEMA Mitigation Committee
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 10, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Discussion with Dave Miller, FIMA Administrator

Chairman Bryan Koon (FL) welcomed everyone to meeting and outlined the upcoming agenda. Dave Miller, Associate Administrator of the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration at FEMA joined the Committee to discuss major mitigation priorities affecting States. One of the most critical issues Mr. Miller highlighted during his time was the changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and flood mitigation programs following the passage of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Bill earlier this year. The bill provides for a 5-year reauthorization of the NFIP and makes large-scale adjustments to the existing program's provisions. These changes include: phase in of actuarial rate; phase in of subsidized/preferred policies; adjustments to the flood grants; changes to the flood mapping process and a wildfire exemption. He expressed that the bill did not address affordability. While changes to the NFIP would continue to be worked out, mitigation would continue to be a major priority under the new structure.

The major issues affecting mitigation continue to be the reauthorization of the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) and Dam Safety Programs as well as the Predisaster Mitigation Program. With the current financial environment, grant dollars are more and more competitive. Miller warned that mitigation could fall victim to budget and program cuts without current examples of return on investment. The Committee made the future goals reflect spreading the voice of mitigation and ensuring larger audiences were in the conversation.

State Hazard Mitigation Officer Update

Joy Duperault, National Flood Insurance Program Manager, from the State of Florida, spoke to the Committee on behalf of SHMOs from around the country. Several SHMOs met the day before the Committee meeting to discuss important issues that states were facing. Joy began by highlighting Senator Mark Udall's (D-CO) bill (S 1396) regarding the attachment of mitigation funding to the Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAG) program declaration. The SHMOs also discussed aligning the NFIP policy waiting period waivers with purchase post-wildfire but pre-containment. A few other updates Duperault emphasized were effective utilization of immediate post disaster resources, such as NRCS and BLM data, tying mitigation to any voucher program for affordability, and the FEMA memo that relieves requirement for certain BCA data for acquisitions and elevations. The State Hazard Mitigation Officers also reviewed FEMA's new environmental benefits impact on BCAs that are less than 1.0 as well as the advance assistance requests and "Programs Administered by States" pilot program from Florida. The SHMOs finished up by expressing the importance of NEMA's continued support for mitigation at the national level.

HMGP and Fire Management Grants

The discussion centered on delivering the value of mitigation quicker, having broad cost standard, acceptable applications, and receiving obligation dollars faster. The devastating storms in Oklahoma were a great topic of lessons learned due to the state's ability to operate on 75 percent of an estimate total rather than waiting for a lock in number to move forward. Oklahoma was able to receive a 75 percent estimate for total cost on week six. The committee discussed both the advantages and

disadvantages to having separate programs or attaching them to one another. NEMA has been generally supportive but has not had an official position.

Future of the NEMA Mitigation Committee

Koon expressed the importance of expanding mitigation to reach larger audiences. He expressed his thoughts on mitigation by saying, “Mitigation is, whispering about how good, mitigation is.” He explained that those that are comfortable about mitigation are very good at expressing it to others who know what mitigation is. He challenged the committee to broaden the audience and develop a stronger voice for mitigation as a whole.

**NEMA Response and Recovery Committee Meeting
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 11, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Committee Chair Dave Maxwell (AR) called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

NEMA Hurricane Subcommittee Report

Presenter:

- Bryan Koon, NEMA Hurricane Subcommittee Chair and Director of Florida Division of Emergency Management

The National Hurricane Center continues to work on the South Florida “super basin”, which will cover Biscayne Bay through the Keys to Ft. Meyers. This is a much larger basin and can lead to more accurate modeling. They also continue to work on Lake Okechobee modeling, important to the Army Corp’s modeling efforts for dike failure. In addition, they’re focused on developing high resolution inundation graphic and storm surge watch/warnings, both of which will be major steps forward.

Following up on one of NEMA’s recommendations, FEMA has agreed to do DRF-funded post-storm assessments for hurricanes that require evacuation and at least one hurricane program tool (RtePM, HURREVAC, etc.). This will be in the form of a pre-scripted mission assignment to the Army Corps of Engineers and will expedite the process considerably, leading to better assessments and lessons-learned. DHS Science and Technology will also be conducting an evaluation of HURREVAC to determine what, if any, improvements should be made. The survey opened October 1. Results of the survey will be provided at the next meeting of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Hurricanes early next year. They will also be shared at the NEMA 2014 Mid-Year Forum. Regarding the ICCOH, this group typically meets with the NEMA Hurricane Subcommittee with FEMA providing invitational travel to the state representatives. FEMA is clarifying whether it can continue to provide travel or if the Federal Advisory Committee Act allows them to pay for federal government employees only.

Three L324 Hurricane Planning courses will be held at the NHC in January 2014. This is in addition to the 3 ½ day version of the course that can be held in a state. States interested in this latter course should reach out to their regional office as soon as possible. Other items: RtePM – conversations continue as to a long-term solution to hosting, technical support, operations and maintenance; Regional Hurricane Program Manager – FEMA is working to strengthen this position; Don Daigler, the former director of FEMA Response Planning and CBRNE Programs, has moved onto the private sector. Keith Holtermann is the interim director. The position has been upgraded to the Senior Executive Service level. Finally, Mr. Koon will continue to serve as Hurricane Subcommittee Chair.

NEMA PA/IA Subcommittee Report

Presenter:

Dave Andrews, Subcommittee Lead and Disaster Assistance Program Manager for the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning Guidance document – The subcommittee has been working with FEMA for 1 ½+ years in the development of this document that aligns with the NDRF. It focuses on providing guidance to local governments. FEMA last distributed the guidance for a review by stakeholders in October 2012, but delayed the publication due to Hurricane Sandy. The latest version was submitted in August 2013 to the work group for comments so that FEMA can finalize the document for publication. The subcommittee did participate in a conference call with FEMA recently regarding efforts to develop similar guidance for state governments and it was reported there is funding to accomplish this. FEMA will be developing a work plan that will outline the steps and coordination needed from NEMA to help accomplish this effort, possibly through a work group approach. FEMA also has a course at EMI slotted for April 14-17, 2014 that is titled “State Long-Term Recovery Planning and Operations” that FEMA would like assistance from NEMA on identifying state participants to assist in the development and piloting of this course.

IA Mentoring Process – There is now a final version of a resource guide. In addition and in close coordination with the state directors, states have been identified in all 10 regions that are willing to act as mentors for new IA Officers in their region, pre and post disaster. A list of next steps has been created, including specific procedures for the actual mentoring component. This could occur through some form of an agreement to have the inexperienced IA Officer “shadow” an experienced IA officer during a disaster.

Quarterly Individual Assistance Conference Calls – the IA/PA Subcommittee coordinated with FEMA to hold these quarterly calls in lieu of the IA Conference, which has not been held the last couple of years. First call was held in October 2012 and most recently on July 25. The focus of this call was to provide an overview of FEMA’s efforts to allow greater transparency by streamlining the process for sharing IA data. This potentially will involve changes to general policies regarding who FEMA can share information with, what information they can share, and development of an online portal to meet the need. In addition, FEMA is re-energizing Disaster Recovery Centers in order to become more consistent in the establishment and operation of these facilities, to include signage, capacity, and the general look, feel, and experience of visiting the centers. FEMA will be seeking state input regarding our needs and desires throughout this process.

Yahoo User Groups for Individual Assistance and Public Assistance Programs – these remain excellent forums for states to share information, ask questions, and discuss issues or concerns they are experiencing, and to be a resource for State IA and PA Officers. These sites are by invitation only and do not include any federal agencies. Larry Braja, Human Services Officer Virginia Department of Emergency Management, hosts the IA Yahoo Group. The PA Yahoo Group is hosted by the state of Illinois and Curtis Caldwell.

FEMA PA Steering Committee – Through regional representatives, the NEMA PA/IA Subcommittee remains engaged with the FEMA PA Steering Committee. As a reminder, the purpose of this group is to recommend changes to policies and processes in order to improve the delivery of PA. At the end of June, the steering committee held a conference call to discuss the draft version of FEMA’s Public Assistance Appeals Manual. FEMA issued the appeals manual and directive in July and discussed it during a session at the PA Workshop, held last month in Kansas City. The feedback received from the States is currently being reviewed for possible updates to the manual. The Committee met in person following the Public Assistance Workshop and discussed the following:

- Public Assistance Policy Development – FEMA has fallen behind on the 3-year rotation schedule for updating PA policies. They recently sought input from the PA Steering Committee members on what policies they would like to see updated within the next three years.
- Hurricane Sandy memo on Grant Funding for Large Projects under \$1 million and the requirement to expend within 2-years of obligation.

Public Assistance Workshop – FEMA was able to hold the Workshop this year despite sequestration. Each state was allowed to send one person. The focus was on the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act.

Quarterly PA Conference Calls – When FEMA and the States agreed back in 2009 to hold these regular calls, the idea was to have one once a quarter. Unfortunately, the last scheduled call was in December 2012. Hopefully, the calls can be held once again on a regular basis because they do help in addressing public assistance issues before they escalate.

Finally, the Subcommittee started projects that focused on State Managed Disasters and EMAC reimbursement under the PA program. Unfortunately, these were delayed because of significant disasters. These will get back on track.

Rx Response

Presenter:

- Erin Mullen, President, Rx Response

NEMA was one of the entities to help form RX Response, a coalition of private sector bio-pharmaceutical companies that helps ensure the continued flow of medicine during significant emergencies. Ms. Mullen reviewed the specific resources, including a private website with protected information available to state emergency management, as well as the ability to deploy subject matter experts to business EOCs. She also explained their detailed mapping system and showed their responses to events since 2007, including Hurricane/Superstorm Sandy. One particular challenge for the coalition is for national/regional companies to manage differing state-by-state expectations. Ms. Mullen stressed that in order for Rx Response to provide up-to-the minute situational awareness on the status of pharmacies during and after a disaster, it needs the information that state emergency is able to access, particularly in the areas of interdependencies, such as credentialing, power, water, transportation, etc. Her presentation is on the forum website.

Stafford Act Amendments

Legislative Committee Chair Albert Ashwood briefly reminded the committee that NEMA had been asked by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for suggested amendments to the Stafford Act as part of that committee's reauthorization of FEMA. Possible Stafford Act changes will be discussed during the Legislative Committee meeting and all directors were asked to provide input.

Conversation with FEMA

- *Presenter:*
Beth Zimmerman, Beth FEMA Acting Associate Administrator for Response and Recovery

Before addressing specific issues, Ms. Zimmerman conveyed greetings from Joe Nimmich, FEMA Associate Administrator for the Office of Response and Recovery, who wasn't able to attend the forum.

Update on Tribal Declaration Criteria – the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act (SRIA) provides new authority for tribal governments to request an emergency or major disaster declaration directly from the President instead of through a state as previously proscribed under the Stafford Act. FEMA has developed draft guidance and hopes to have it out for comment within the next two months. In the interim, it's applying the same regulations to the tribal declaration requests that it uses for states.

Updating Emergency Management Mission Integrated Environment (EMMIE) – implementing SRIA is the priority right now and for the foreseeable future. FEMA's Public Assistance Division does plan to continue the migration of ADAMS and NEMIS PA data into EMMIE, creating a more robust reporting capability for disaster related data house in once central location.

Small State and Rural Advocate – this is part of the Intergovernmental Affairs functions. Kyle Combs is the Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist who serves in this position. Ms. Combs has been with FEMA in this position since October 2012. FEMA offered to arrange a conference call for NEMA and state directors. As this issue falls under the NEMA Preparedness Committee, it will be referred to this group for follow-up. The states that meet the small/rural state designation are as follows: Alaska, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Wyoming and eligible Pacific Islands.

State IA Programs Viewed as Duplicative of Federal Assistance – right now, it's consider a disincentive if a state has such a program. Ms. Zimmerman said that states with these programs should be rewarded instead. FEMA has looked at all factors regarding IA factors and will distribute a document for comment in the next few months. Part of the problem is that what it means when a state says a disaster is beyond its capability has never been defined. One directors suggested that FEMA and states with these programs discuss how they should be structured so that they're not considered duplicative. Another state asked why states PA programs aren't viewed as duplicative. Couldn't IA programs be approached in the same manner? In a related discussion, another state asked what had happened to decoupling SBA from IA. Ms. Zimmerman said that FEMA is still working with SBA on that.

IA Limitations of Housing Program and Need for Clear Guidance in Insular Area – Under Section 408 of the Stafford Act, FEMA is allowed to construct permanent or semi-permanent housing in insular areas when no alternative housing resources are available. FEMA implemented the authority most recently in Alaska due to ice jams and flooding. Previously the authority was used in Alaska and in American Samoa. FEMA will be taking lessons learned from the most recent Alaska disaster and the previously implemented missions and convene a working group to develop clear options and guidelines for the use of this authority.

Housing and Alternative Housing – FEMA currently maintains an inventory of 2000 units that are ready for deployment. All current purchases are for HUD certified units and inventory is made up of northern and southern climate units. FEMA Recovery is working with Logistics to develop requirements for a smaller footprint HUD certified unit that is equivalent in size to a travel trailer. One director asked about an earthquake where the areas are inaccessible and no inventory can be deployed. Ms. Zimmerman said that the priority to get people out of harm's way. She also said that FEMA is further developing the Catastrophic Housing Annex which will expand to include capabilities of partners with programs and/or

funding in place to support housing solutions following a disaster. The plan will expand from hurricane-centric to an all-hazards one; further define and expand mass care sheltering options and incorporate the strategic principles of the National Disaster Housing Task Force elements to ensure all potential housing solutions are identified. A kick-off meeting to launch this next phase took place at the end of August and the goal is to have the iteration of the plan completed by the November.

Lessons learned Regarding the Sheltering and Temporary Essential Power (STEP) Pilot Program Used in Hurricane Sandy in New York – the Sheltering and Temporary Electrical Power (STEP) pilot was developed as a tool for providing shelter in place options for disaster survivors of Superstorm Sandy. It allowed for accelerated restoration of electrical power. Currently, FEMA is in the process of conducting an analysis and evaluation of the program as it was implemented. The agency is also running a cost/benefit analysis. Its possible FEMA won't have to conduct it as a pilot program the next time.

Other issues: Community Relations Teams – still refining this concept by working with recent disaster states and getting their feedback; JFOs – the concept is changing with a greater focus on analytics; Continued training of FEMA staff – still a high priority; Improving consistency of FEMA staff from region to region remain.

**NEMA Past President's Committee Meeting
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 11, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Attendees: Dave Maxwell (AR), Chair; Nancy Dragani (OH); Albert Ashwood (OK); Stan McKinney, Jim Greene, Dave Liebersbach and Ken Murphy.

NEMA Business Model Review

Dave Maxwell provided an overview of the draft preliminary charter and intent of the proposed business model review for the association. Trina Sheets indicated that the past presidents could be extremely helpful in this process as they had greater knowledge and insights on the inner-workings of the organization than most people. They are asked to feed their ideas and input through Dave Maxwell as he's a member of the review group.

One component of the review will be to identify meaningful ways to engage the private sector in NEMA and add value for them. One idea that would bring value to both the states and private sector would be to establish a Science & Technology Subcommittee with representatives from the private sector. They could provide expertise, recommendations and solutions to benefit end users. Possibly, the subcommittee could review and compare products. Some of the private sector members could be very helpful to NEMA in the area of cyber security and technology applications for emergency management.

Another area for review will be the model for conducting the two NEMA Forums each year. Everyone on the committee agreed that NEMA should no longer rely so heavily on meeting revenue as a primary funding source. Further, the group recommended that NEMA consider a different format for meetings that may see the Mid-Year more focused on legislative issues and Hill visits and over a shorter time period. This would be more of a work session for directors and senior staff. State directors/staff would pay a registration fee that would cover all the meeting expenses and there wouldn't be a need for the level of sponsorship previously required. The Annual Forum could be more loosely scheduled for networking opportunities, feature bigger name speakers and have a robust sponsor program. The group asked Maxwell to share this recommendation with the business model review group.

New State Director Training

Glen Woodbury, at the request of the Past Presidents Committee, had developed a proposal for training and continuing education for new and current state directors. The proposal was presented at the Board of Directors meeting in June and comments were received. Some of the feedback focused on the need for directors to learn about the pitfalls of the job, ethics, finance, managing people and organizations, and dealing with unions. During the June 2013 State Director Training Course at EMI these were the types of issues raised rather than those that were emergency management or disaster specific, which was somewhat of a surprise. Future training by NEMA should strive to address both. There was discussion about whether the Naval Postgraduate School may be able to develop and deliver an Executive Leadership Program for state directors. The biggest question would be whether funding is available for NPS.

**NEMA Private Sector Committee Meeting
2013 Annual Forum – Anchorage, AK
September 12, 2013**

Meeting Summary

The chair called the committee meeting to order, introduced the guests and speakers, and then called on John Madden, NEMA president for brief remarks.

Mr. Madden stressed the importance of partnerships between public and private organizations for effective response and recovery and a national system rather than federal.

The chair thanked Mr. Madden and moved into new business, a discussion of a new NEMA business model, which was not previously on the agenda. The chair explained that NEMA was creating a new business model to improve business processes, find emerging practices and to remain nimble and adaptive. A working group was formed to look at all aspects of NEMA's operations, including an examination of the expansion of private sector integration. The chair opened the floor for comments.

Comments included:

- Companies and organizations need to feel more connected and integrated into NEMA's organization;
- NGOs need a voice so that the directors know what they bring to the table;
- The job of states is not to supplant but to help open doors;
- Government is there to serve but are also citizens living in the communities they serve;
- All must work together and dive into interaction and building bridges;
- Accurate information is critical but companies are unsure of how to communicate with states since all are different;
- Private sector holds the key to integration;
- Government used to be the originator of information, now it is more a facilitator of the information but in future the consumer will be the originator so emergency management needs to figure out how to get ahead of it;
- Information is the low labor part of partnership and situational awareness is a common set of questions that should be shared;
- Supporting communities is more important than the cash register;
- States need the private sector to help prepare for what hasn't happened yet;
- The key to good planning and response is including the private sector in risk assessments and restoration models;
- An integrated information sharing system is needed;
- Private sector should give states an idea of all areas of interface in getting real time information;
- Committee should identify ways to engage other private sector entities;
- Companies are worried about liability issues;
- Hawaii gives immunity to private companies engaged in emergency response;
- FEMA is working with large companies to help incorporate smaller companies into their efforts;
- Outcomes and effectiveness need to be conclusively measured;
- Need to find a common value since sharing risk and data is against FEMA's national model, outcomes tend to be different at every level as is the understanding of priorities;

- Reliance requires open dialog so a brutal level of honesty is needed in order to understand our clients business;
- Everyone, public and private need complete data sets;
- As an organization we should be looking at what emergency management will be 5 years, 10 years down the road;
- County emergency managers should be involved in outreach to local companies; however, some are disempowered or unsure how to proceed;
- Company staff may not be involved due to other priorities so government may need to change or modify the message to bring them into the discussion;
- Need to create a free exchange of data but fear of regulatory infraction inhibits information flow;
- Company rules or liability concerns limit what information can be shared.

The chair thanked everyone for their comments and input and will be sharing details on the work group once meetings occur.

Amy Mintz made the motion to adjourn, Nicole Boothman-Shepard seconded, the chair adjourned.

**NEMA Legislative Committee
2013 Annual Forum - Anchorage, Alaska
September 12, 2013**

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Albert Ashwood (OK) welcomed everyone to the meeting and began reviewing and providing an update on NEMA legislative priorities. He also gave a review of the federal budget outlook for the year which includes a great deal of uncertainty

Discussion with Congressional Staff/Invited Guests

- Stan McKinney from the Center for Homeland Defense and Security expressed appreciation for the Association's continued support of the Center and provided a brief overview of current operations. All programs continue running smoothly and he provided materials to members for the Mobile Education Teams.
- Alexa Noruk, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (Majority): She discussed several critical issues pertaining to homeland security and emergency management. One particular area of interest is the homeland security grants including a path forward on grant reform and continued discussions involving metrics as well as the legislative language. Alexa mentioned the hearings previously held before the Committee on measuring the impact of preparedness grants since September 11th, which NEMA Past President John Madden testified as a joint witness for both NEMA and NGA. She also expressed that the Committee will be holding several hearings in the upcoming months for many important homeland security and emergency management issues.
- Bruce Lockwood, International Association of Emergency Managers First Vice President, came to discuss areas of shared interest between the two organizations. IAEM remains concerned that EMPG funding under the sequester may not fare well. Bruce also expressed concern for the future of Predisaster Mitigation (PDM) program and having it remain a priority in the emergency management community. He mentioned continued support for the National Weather Service and expressed concern about inadequate funding and not being able to properly disperse funds throughout the emergency management community.
- Stephanie Tennyson, Director of External Affairs for FEMA: She discussed critical budget issues within the government and how FEMA was operating under FY13 CR that expires in September of 2014. She mentioned items that needed to move through before a gridlock occurs including NFIP/Biggert-Waters: flood damage excluded not actuarial rates and the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act as it pertains to tribal governments.

Legislative Issues from Other NEMA Committees

The committee was notified that they would soon be solicited for potential recommendations on changes to the Stafford Act. This came at the request of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee. Ashwood emphasized the need to consider whether necessary changes were legislative or regulatory in nature. Possible changes to consider included adding HMGP funding to FMAGs and

eliminating the expiration date on the new arbitration process legislated in the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act.

The future of PDM was also discussed. The program has suffered diminished funding in recent years, so the committee considered a proposal of advocating for the elimination of the program and combining remaining funding with existing EMPG appropriations. The Administration already supports eliminating the program, but consideration must be given to the politics and operational impacts of combining the programs. No decision was made, but the committee did agree to consider further.