

NEMA COMMITTEE REPORTS AND POSITION PAPERS

2014 Annual Emergency Management Policy & Leadership Forum

October 9-12, 2014

**Legal Counsel Committee
October 9, 2014**

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Committee Chair Brenda Bergeron (CT) welcomed everyone and self-introductions were completed.

EMAC & Tribal Declarations

With the increased attention by FEMA on tribes making direct declarations to the federal government, members felt the need to gauge the issue in the context of providing EMAC assistance. NEMA EMAC Consultant Doug Hoell participated in the discussion. From an EMAC perspective, the best way for tribes to participate in EMAC is through the states. Both Arizona and Alaska (states with heavy tribal populations) indicated strong working relationships with their tribes. Arizona has a state compact with tribal involvement and has provided some assistance through the agreement. The bottom line seemed to be that the state-tribal relationship varies widely in every state, so a “one size fits all approach” will likely not work. EMAC offers a model intrastate mutual aid agreement on its website along with a model intergovernmental/tribal agreement.

Follow-up on Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) Cases

The New York case offers some options for emergency response planners. Legal Counsel Vice Chair Allison Killibrew provided an update on the NEMA-IAEM workgroup which is working on a functional needs checklist. That effort is expected to be completed in the spring of 2015. The key to avoiding problems in the FNSS rules are communications with and outreach to the affected community. Discussion was also started about the newly-filed case in Washington, D.C.; individual plaintiffs are named in the suit. Marcie Roth from FEMA provided an overview of current training, and materials. There are 70 disability integration advisers available. The Office of Chief Counsel recommended utilizing the conclusions in the New York case as a checklist and encouraged locals to use those lessons in planning assumptions. Members agreed that functional needs registries are a good first step, but alone are not enough to avoid lawsuits and could cause other issues related to a lack of self-reporting and public records access. In North Carolina, by statute, the registries are not public information.

Discussion on De-obligations

The Chair provided an overview of a recent ruling out of Florida regarding FEMA de-obligations. In a summary judgment ruling, the federal District Court held in the applicant’s favor, and against FEMA. The only reason for the de-obligation of over \$20 million was a policy, not on a statute or regulation. The issue was, did Congress give FEMA the power to de-obligate a grant that was properly spent. Under a 2000 law, the state shall not be obligated to pay back if there is a binding agreement that is followed. The District Court case does not involve a violation of law or regulation, nor unreasonable costs. Two-thirds of de-obligations fall into these two categories.

FEMA is still considering whether to file an appeal. FEMA Chief Counsel Adrian Sevier indicated that FEMA may take a more conservative approach to granting funds under disaster assistance.

Relationship between Cybersecurity Incidents and Declarations

Brenda Bergeron went over some of the current challenges of the cybersecurity threat including available support under the Stafford Act, critical infrastructure capabilities, and lack of definition of “catastrophic” which could be useful in the wake of a cyber-attack. The 2012 National Level Exercise outlined how the Stafford Act could support federal assistance to address immediate physical consequences, but federal assistance to assess or repair “systems” may not be available under the Stafford Act. FEMA representatives said they did not see a cyber-attack meeting the definition of “major disaster” but the consequences could. Officials will need to answer what consequence they are trying to address. Other federal legal authorities outside Stafford were discussed such as the Defense Production Act (DPA) and Terrorism Risk Insurance Act. DPA seemed the more likely possibility but raises many questions. FEMA does provide some training on DPA for state and local officials:

IS-245.A: Introduction to the Defense Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS). This course is a high level overview of DPAS and takes about a half hour to complete (designed for Senior Officials).

<<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-245.a>>

IS-246.14: Implementing the Defense Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS). This course is more of a deep dive into DPAS and takes a couple hours to complete (designed for DPAS Officers and Contracting Officials).

<<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-246.14>>

Roundtable Discussion with FEMA Chief Counsel

Adrian Sevier, FEMA's Chief Counsel, attended the committee meeting to address the membership. He went over several ongoing issues at FEMA:

- Every day, an Office of Inspector General report comes across his desk, recommending de-obligation based on failure to follow federal procurement rules. The Office of Chief Counsel has procurement disaster assistance teams available to assist states with declarations. Webinars are also being conducted.
- 44 CFR Part 13 which manages grants and contracts, will be rescinded at the end of the year. It will be replaced by OMB Super Circular, 2 CFR Part 200.
- The new tribal consultation policy is completed and was published in August. It helps define the tribal declaration process.
- Public Assistance declaration criteria—possible changes
 - PDA Task Force-internal only now, but will be reaching out to NEMA
 - Internal Task Force—how can we better assess a state's capabilities to respond?

**EMAC Executive Task Force
October 9, 2014**

Meeting Summary

Carol Walton opened the meeting at 3:01 pm with introductions.

MASS 2.0 Update: Angela Copple

Angela Copple showed the mutual aid support system, MASS 2.0 live on the screen and walked through the features of the system as well as showing how MASS 2.0 is integrated into the EMAC Operations System (EOS).

Over the next few months NEMA will be contacting states that have developed Mission Ready Packages to put their data into the system to continue to test. As of right now, we have added Mission Ready Packages from Maine, Arkansas, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and Mississippi into the system.

NEMA is also working on a Memorandum of Agreement for states to sign that want to use MASS. This is recommended by the CSG Legal Counsel which helps to advise NEMA on legal matters as an affiliate of CSG. The memorandum essentially says that NEMA does not own the information in the system. It is the property of the states and any requests for information from outside parties would be directed from NEMA to the states. Also, NEMA isn't responsible for keeping the data updated, that both parties are responsible for reporting any breaches of security, and that parties using MASS understand that data in the system is confidential. NEMA will move this draft agreement forward over the next few months.

Jack Jowett: Is there thought being given to providing guidance on how to use this tool? Is there a support document on how to utilize the tool?

Angela Copple: Yes. NEMA has been working on the development of a state instructed workshop on Mission Ready Packages (MRPs). The workshop walks the user through the development of the MRP using the Excel worksheet and then how to upload the worksheet to MASS 2.0. We will also be updating the document that reviews the development of the MRP and including information about MASS 2.0 in that document.

Regional Reports from EMAC Lead State Representatives:

EMAC Chair: Carol Walton - AR

Carol Walton recognized and thanked Tom McAllister (MS) for his service to the Executive Task Force. Tom will retire in January 2015.

EMAC Chair Elect: Victoria Carpenter - LA

Thank you to everyone for putting trust in her as Chair Elect.

EMAC Past Chair: Joyce Flinn - IA

Nothing to report as past-chair. Will be reporting later on the progress on all the training documents.

Region 1: Faith Mayer – ME

Most of the states are working on the development of MRPs. The document regarding how to put together an MRP was sent out regionally and it is received great compliments from the recipients.

Region 2: Vince Fargione – NY

Not present.

Region 3: Jason Eaton – VA

Not present.

Region 4: Susan Perkins and Tom McAllister – MS

Susan Perkins reported that Mississippi is developing reimbursement packages to send to HI and will be sending staff to EMI for the EMAC E0431 course.

Region 5: Michael Johnson – MI

Tom Weber reported for Michael Johnson. MI is very busy with IA and PA declarations for the severe flooding in Detroit that occurred in August. MI also completed exercises of MRPs in the spring where members of the division took about 70-80 members of the field services bureau and exercised those to IN.

Region 6: Steve Palladino – OK

Steve Palladino reported that two people from OK have been assisting with flooding in ID. Texas sent two to CO for flood event. TX will be sending two to EMI and will participate in the February transition exercise. OK has a statewide exercise coming up in November. The Four States conference will highlight EMAC with Carol Walton presenting. The five states surrounding OK will participate in an exercise that will exercise EMAC in the spring of 2015.

Region 7: Jonathan York – KS

Jonathan York identified Sam Ferrigo as Missouri's new logistics program coordinator. Sam will be attending EMI as he takes over the EMAC responsibilities. KS participated in CUSEC Capstone exercise and identified some changes to their internal standard operating procedures, mostly centered on A-Teams and deployment reimbursement process. Working on those changes and revisions.

Region 8: Bill Miederhoff – CO

Bill Miederhoff reported that SD and TX are both working in CO as acquisition specialists. Waiting on reimbursements from KY, TN, UT. On September 10 of this year, FEMA Region VIII coordinators came up with funding to host regional operations and mobilizations committee. Had representation from all region states except WY and all tribal territories. The committee attended a one-day working group and developed, vetted, and adopted a charter for all states involved for development of a regional mobilization concept which will develop regional resources instead of pulling from one state. There is less draw down on individual states and the reimbursement will be a single reimbursement packet. Currently looking for funding to do a 2016 full-scale exercise. A 2015 tabletop exercise is already scheduled. A copy of the MOU will be sent to Angela to be circulated with the ETF. The committee also drafted a regional mutual aid plan. Once finished, all states will sign off on it. Given a governor's declaration, EMAC process will be activated. All processes developed will be EMAC centric. Next meeting will be sometime in November.

Region 9: Gary Greenly – HI

Gary Greenly report that AZ is without their EMAC coordinator as Diane Fernandez was moved into grants. Laurie Mendoza is the new representative for CA. NV is working on proposed legislation which will allow local responders to be agents of the state, to be passed in 2015. Thank you to MS, CA, FL, LA, for responding to HI's event. HI has a large lava flow on the big island that is crossing highway 130 potentially cutting off 15,000 residents.

Region 10: Kurt Hardin – WA

Not present.

Member at Large: Allen Phillips – MA

No report.

Member at Large: Kim Lee - WY

Not present.

Member at Large: Laurie Mendoza – CA

Not present.

Legal Counsel Committee Liaison: Brenda Bergeron

Attending the NEMA Legal Counsel meeting – not present.

PIO Workshop

Carol Walton reported on the Public Information Officer (PIO)/EMAC Workshop that was held at the end of July. The workshop was designed to bring together PIOs and EMAC Coordinators from all states to discuss and discover PIO resource readiness and to identify planning actions that will help PIOs improve their resource readiness for requesting or offering assistance through EMAC. The workshop focused on resource typing for PIOs, crafting the message when sending or receiving resources, as well as an interactive exercise that walked through the EMAC process to send and receive resources.

The PIOs were very engaged in the development of NIMS resource types and will be working on the development of new NIMS types to send to FEMA for consideration. Participant groups identified a wealth of information on PIO knowledge, training, experience and skills required for EMAC deployments. The information gained serves as a solid foundation for future EMAC deployments. Discussions highlighted the value of the MRPs in ensuring an effective resource deployment. Participants exercised their skills in writing news releases to highlight the value of EMAC to both Requesting and Assisting states.

Joyce Flinn: Good interaction between those in attendance.

Doug Hoell: People really actively participated and it was a tremendous model going forward for vetting and developing NIMS resource types.

EMAC Course Development Update and Pilot Results

Joyce Flinn reviewed the progress on the development of the online training courses. The pilot courses are wrapping up and NEMA is compiling the comments to identify any areas that need to be addressed prior to making edits to take the courses live. NEMA also updated the look/feel of the EMAC eLearning Center to match the art direction of the courses so the eLearning Center has a consistent look/feel throughout.

NEMA has an advertisement campaign ready to move forward as soon as the courses are live.

NEMA has also completed the development of two other projects focused on education/training – the first ever EMAC app is in the Apple Store under review. Once approved by Apple, it will also be submitted to the Google/Android Store.

The second project was the development of an interactive on the EMAC website on the development of a Mission Ready Package using the Microsoft Excel Workbook. The interactive is live on the EMAC website from the home page and under the Resources heading.

Thank you to everyone who helped to review the course design, scripts, and online courses. We have accomplished a lot in the past 9 months.

Discussion on Guidance for Deploying Personnel

Carol Walton reviewed the guidance for who deployed personnel should contact if they run into an issue while they are on an EMAC deployment and suggested that because deployed personnel are under the command and control of the Assisting State that we advise them to contact their home state EMA. This would make guidance consistent. Providing this as a single point of contact would greatly clean up one of the biggest issues we discovered in the course development. We don't need to take a formal vote, as we do not have written guidance that we are adopting. We will be moving forward on the development of guidance in the form of an EMAC Guidebook for Deploying Personnel.

Tom McAllister: Agree. The recommendation needs to be to call your home state EMA. Takes the load off the deployed personnel and the A-Team in the Requesting State who does not have the time to respond to every issue that may arise.

EMAC Activity during the Capstone Exercise

Carol Walton reviewed Capstone 2014 that was held June 16-20 and the lessons learned. The CUSEC states brought together building inspector SMEs together along with EMAC and state EMA personnel to develop some standardized MRPs for the Building Inspectors which are not a NIMS typed resource.

EMAC A-Teams were deployed in support of Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, and Kentucky. Six of the eight CUSEC states requested over 300 missions through EMAC that would have totaled over 4,570 deployed personnel. Fourteen different states from coast-to-coast played the Assisting State role in the exercise, making Capstone a national exercise.

States also successfully initiated communications utilizing radio amateur civil emergency services to share resource requests and EMAC request forms. The REQ-A files were converted to .jpg images, making them small enough to attach and send over the radio systems. One recommendation that came out was for states to configure their scanners to scan low-resolution .jpg images to send over radio networks.

Pre-scripting REQ-As and Mission Ready Packages significantly decreased response time.

Joyce Flinn: Requests were coming in so fast, it was difficult to keep up with, so much information flowing and so many requests. Carol Walton: Assuming that the internet is up, that is very based in reality.

Tom Weber: Could resources be pre-scripted and loaded into the system and just hit the send button? Angela

Copple: NEMA could develop a module that loads them in as part of EOS in the future if the states would want to make that a priority to have it developed.

New Jersey EMS Response to Superstorm Sandy

The New Jersey EMS response to Superstorm Sandy was reviewed to highlight some of the recommendations. Carol requested that Victoria Carpenter chair a special assignment task force (SATF) to work on the development of discipline specific tips that will be included in the A-Team Standard Operating Guidelines document as an appendix item.

Progress Made Utilizing the EMAC/WebEOC Data Connection

Angela Copple thanked Jason Eaton for his work with Intermedix, the owner of WebEOC, to expand upon the work that we did with Louisiana to connect WebEOC and EOS. States that utilize WebEOC and would like to have resource requests in WebEOC automatically populate as draft resource requests can find the documentation on how to make this connection by event on the EMAC website under the Best Practices section within the Resources header.

Allen Phillips: Will NEMA develop similar documentation for dLAN?

Angela Copple: It is not out of the question. We would need a state to champion it and of course the time and funds for it to be a priority for development. We worked on WebEOC as it is utilized by more than 50% of the states.

Gary Greenly asked if NEMA had plans to connect to FEMA's WebEOC.

Angela Copple responded with no.

EMAC ISCP-COOP Planning

Angela Copple reviewed NEMA's contingency planning review of the plan by a third party. The plan has been documented and is with NEMA to continue to refine.

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 PM.

**EMAC Committee
October 10, 2014**

Meeting Summary

Dave Maxwell opened the meeting at 10:16 am with the National Mutual Aid Strategy Discussion.

National Mutual Aid Strategy Discussion

Dave Maxwell introduced Kathleen Fox, Acting Assistant Administrator for National Preparedness with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Kathleen provided an overview of the national priorities for mutual aid and how they are incorporated. Kathleen introduced Doc Lumpkins to provide an overview of the national mutual aid strategy document that is currently under development.

Doc Lumpkins provided an overview of the national mutual aid strategy document and stressed that the document is a living road map. It will be refined and updated as needed.

Doug Hoell thanked Doc and Kathleen for FEMA's engagement with NEMA on the documents and their willingness to incorporate comments from NEMA into the documents.

Angela Copple stated that it is nice to see everything tie together and once there is a declaration there is a clear national movement to focus mutual aid on EMAC. It is important to have that national consistency.

Doc Lumpkins agreed with Angela and said that there is not a single agreement that can cover all mutual aid – it is a patchwork; but, even that patchwork needs to have focus and direction for consistency.

Dave agrees: EMAC is not the be-all, end-all of mutual aid, it is important and we've learned a lot of important information, and as emergency managers, we want to be able to share those lessons.

Doc Lumpkins added that as part of the discussions, FEMA has been working on mutual aid planning, guidance, and integration, as many of the assets exist beyond government. We've had discussions broadly about private sector, education, and higher education. It is an interesting pathway forward because the role of the federal government in mutual aid is to help facilitate so there is less reliance on federal resources.

Update on ASTHO/NEMA Mission Ready Package Project

Dave Maxwell stated that over the past 9 months, NEMA has been engaged with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) to promote National Incident Management System (NIMS) resource typing criteria and the development of public health and medical EMAC Mission Ready Packages (MRPs) for emergency response. David introduced Gerrit Bakker with ASTHO to give an update on the project.

Gerrit Bakker said that ASTHO has been very pleased at the end of this first project year to report that there are now ten MRPs and that would not have been developed had the project not been initiated. The project started by developing a working group and then having the working group identify priorities based upon interviews with emergency management, public health, medical responders, and others. The working group also reviewed historical EMAC deployment data to identify public health needs. It was surprising to find that the more commonly deployed resources were not mainstream public health activities. Priorities were more focused on medical related resources such as fatality management, mobile field medical care, shelter and sheltering logistics, surge, and emergency care and response.

The ten Mission Ready Packages have been developed: clinical support, pre-hospital acute care, patient transport, morgue admitting, behavioral health, bariatric ambulance, disaster portable morgue, medical facility water supply, four-wheel-drive ambulance, and morgue triage.

NEMA is utilizing funding from FEMA to support this project for a second year that will primarily focus on cataloging the resources that exist and to put them into the Mutual Aid Support System (MASS 2.0).

Dave Maxwell thanked Gerrit for the briefing and noted that anyone who was interested in learning more about EMAC/public health could navigate to the EMAC website to watch the recent webinar NEMA hosted. The webinar started by relaying the experience of a public health mission in states that have had little experience in deploying medical or public health resources and then transitioned to the deployment of a mobile medical hospital from North Carolina to Mississippi – a mission that will be active for 734 days. The underlying themes of the webinar were to get training on EMAC, develop Mission Ready Packages, exercise deploying that package, and develop a relationship the state emergency management agency and public health department within your state. This project will go a long way to moving that forward.

Cyber/EMAC and Virtual EMAC Discussion

Dave Maxwell reviewed the work that NEMA staff did over the past 4 months in information systems and contingency planning using a third party to analyze risk, backup procedures, and NEMA's ability to restore the system in the event of a disruption. NEMA's contingency planning has been documented and NEMA staff will continue to work on the processes and procedures.

David Maxwell then introduced Bryan Koon to talk about using EMAC for virtual missions. Koon discussed the use of virtual EMAC missions and how using EMAC virtually could be beneficial to states. Many of the services needed do not necessarily require a physical presence in the EOC. Bryan asked that the EMAC Committee explore opportunities for states to share resources virtually. It would reduce response time, reduce costs, and lower dependence upon federal resources. It would provide those personnel a better skillset because they would get to engage across the nation, virtually. A whole framework of the process would have to be developed. Ahead of time, the methodology for states procurement, a menu of availability, a cost structure ahead of time, and an analysis of technical structure.

Chris Geldart asked if MRPs would be developed for the virtual resources. Bryan Koon stated that it was the intention that there would be a catalog of them in the Mutual Aid Support System. Angee Morgan stated that she thought was an excellent idea and provided an example of how it has worked in the past for them, working in Kansas to support Nebraska, virtually.

Doc Lumpkins stated that during the National Level Exercise 2012, there was a lot of focus between federal partners in cyber security, looking at IMTs and those that would support them to conduct digital forensics. FEMA is making it a priority to develop resource types for cyber teams that could potentially work virtually.

Dave Maxwell asked the Committee to email Angela Copple and let her know what areas they thought could be virtualized. We will look at it and socialize amongst the Committee and start to see where we need to develop virtual MRPs and move forward.

Private Sector Mutual Aid Demonstration Model: Fleet Working Group (FWG)

Dave Maxwell talked about NEMA's report on the ability of states to deploy private sector and volunteer resources through EMAC. At the core of the report was a survey that was completed by 43 states and the U. S Virgin Islands with follow-up interviews to 16 states. The report provided specific examples of solutions that can be replicated in other states to build capacity. As part of the report, there were templates for EMAC and volunteer resource deployment, a sample intergovernmental agreement between states, locals, non-governmental, and travel organizations for deployment through EMAC. The report and the attachments can be found on the EMAC website along with best practices and lessons learned on private sector/volunteer deployments and a case study on the North Carolina deployment of field hospitals with public and privately employed personnel.

David Maxwell then introduced members from the All Hazards Consortium (Dennis Schrader, Chris Eisenbrey, Peter LaPorte, and John Shaner) to discuss the Fleet Working Group project.

Dennis Schrader stated that the consortium has been developing the Fleet Working Group as a concept to focus on disaster management business continuity and lifeline services. The working group started with the power sector. They feel that they are ready to bring the work of the Fleet Working Group to NEMA and the EMAC Committee as they feel that the working group can benefit from the robust communications systems within EMAC.

Dave Maxwell stated that NEMA could potentially help support through communications systems, that we are a one-stop-shop to get message across the nation. The biggest issues have been in the development of a common operating picture. Disasters and response to disasters transcends state borders with national and international companies that want one place to go to see the information and get the common operating picture. That is the issue to be solved. Whether EMAC is the answer or how it is developed, it is an area of visibility for NEMA and we will continue to work that issue.

Chris Geldart clarified that to facilitate the process it would have to come through the EOC out to their state transportation departments. Dave Maxwell said that while this is a value-add for EMAC, we need to look at the issue holistically.

Dennis Schrader and Chris Eisenbrey talked about the development of “a playbook” so the agreed on language could be written down.

Kurt Schwartz stated that he understands why it’s taking place in this committee meeting, but seems like we’re looking for a communications mechanism, and this has a broader issue of response, and maybe isn’t a solution within the confines of EMAC, but we could be stretching the EMAC system to do a common operating picture. Does call out that we are missing a communications system that transcends states and systems.

Dennis Schrader stated that the consortium chartered this as a private sector and is informed by the public sector. How and where do we plug in with NEMA?

Chris Geldart asked that the EMAC Committee either take this up for mid-year or it is moved to the appropriate NEMA Committee for further action. David Maxwell said that for now the EMAC Committee will move it forward until we determine it should be moved into a different area.

Mutual Aid and NIEM Data Exchange

Dave Maxwell introduced Lizzie Diem from MITRE to talk about the development of data exchanges for mutual aid.

Lizzie Diem stated that MITRE is working with DHS S&T to automate information sharing. The strategy for developing the exchanges is to create draft exchange, then a prototype to check that it will be useful for end users. MITRE will work on standardizing the exchange then make it open and easily accessible. It needs to be easy to use, easy to implement, easy to access. The next step is the more formal mutual aid data exchanges. DHS S&T/MITRE is interested in getting input from mutual aid systems, and those working in the EMAC Operations System to help facilitate the exchange of Mission Ready Packages.

The data exchange would have what, when, and where, and core components be represented. Interested in input and participation for the prototype. Lizzie asked that NEMA help to focus on the standards, as it would have a direct benefit to NEMA’s membership to accelerate mutual aid.

John Monkken suggested it be flexible and simple and integrate with other systems easily.

EMAC Executive Task Force Update

Carol Walton reviewed the development of the five eLearning training courses and other educational initiatives that have been developed over the past 9 months including the first ever EMAC application that will be hosted in the Apple and Google stores.

Next steps include addressing issues that were found within the courses and as soon as we get them addressed, we will move them to live courses within the eLearning Center. NEMA does have a marketing campaign ready to move forward as soon as the courses are live.

Between now and March 2015, the Executive Task Force will develop a general guidebook for deploying personnel with much of the same information that is in the courses. The document will focus on their responsibilities and what to do if they need help at any point during their mission – which is of course to contact their home state EMA.

Dave Maxwell thanked the ETF, and staff, invited the EMAC Committee to take a look at the training courses.

Chris Geldart added that the EMAC work is happening beyond the states. Big cities are engaging and better understanding how the EMAC process works and it's really starting to make an impact. Appreciates all the work the team has done in getting the education to Big City Emergency Managers.

Dave adjourned the meeting at 11:33 am.

Pacific and Territorial Caucus

October 10, 2014

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Chairman Doug Mayne (HI) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Chris Maier, with the National Weather Service.

Update from NOAA

Chris Maier from the National Weather Service gave an update on the current projects that NWS is working on. NWS provided a map that showed seven of the Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis (DART) buoys were inoperable. The National Weather Service has access to the data that is produced from the international buoys however a few of them are inoperable as well. Maier mentioned that the network is currently at eighty-two percent and is maintained by the Coastguard as well as NOAA. The committee discussed ways to produce the same warning system and message across all territories and states with the help of the National Weather Service. Maier also referred to the Tsunami Warning, Education, and Research Act of 2014 that recently passed the U.S. House of Representatives. Maier said that NOAA was in favor with most of the legislation.

Alaska Field Operations Guide and State Recovery Framework

Dave Andrews and John Madden, AK discussed the small community emergency response plans that Alaska has recently developed. Alaska has many logistical challenges that come from its remote communities, unique modes of transportation, and its climate. With this in mind, Madden and Andrews set out to develop a long term recovery guide for the governor that clearly outline expectations as well as planning for complexity. The long term recovery guide addressed many aspects including air operations and permanent housing construction. Madden and Andrews explained that the guide was a tool to provide the governor with the ability to make quick decisions focusing more on the “what” and less on the “how”.

Establishing FEMA Corps in the Territories

The caucus held a discussion on the use of FEMA Corps in the territories. Elton Lewis, VI explained that due to their geographical location, the territories are at a disadvantage, particularly in the areas of resource management and logistics. He stated that the territories would like to see the expansion of the FEMA Corps program to the Caribbean and Pacific.

Using EMAC to Support Caucus Members

The caucus discussed EMAC and the logistical and timing challenges that come with the geographical locations of the territories. They deliberated utilizing the National Guard under Title 32 with its robust capabilities and resources. The caucus discussed EMAC procedures such as the amount of time in advance a territory can ask for assistance and the possibility of asking for a disaster declaration quicker so EMAC support can be delivered faster.

Roundtable Updates

The caucus members ended the meeting by providing some roundtable updates to their current projects and disasters. The Virgin Islands explained that they have become a Tsunami Ready Community and are currently working on a workshop regarding seismic activity and tsunamis. Alaska updated caucus on the earthquakes that have occurred since the last meeting and provided success stories from earthquake education in the school systems. Hawaii is currently in the hurricane recovery process and dealing with a developing lava flow threat. Hawaii has also begun working on the catastrophic planning process and is transitioning from State Civil Defense to the Emergency Management Agency.

Response and Recovery Committee

October 10, 2014

Meeting Summary

Response and Recovery Committee Vice Chair Mark Ghilarducci (CA) called the meeting to order at 12 noon. Committee Chair Robert Latham (MS) was not able to attend the Forum. Mr. Ghilarducci explained that most of the focus at today's meeting would be on best practices as one tool to address on-going turnover within state emergency management. Other topics to be reviewed are the FEMA Snow Policy, the joint IAEM/NEMA Functional Needs Task Force; FEMA Management Costs and the NEMA De-obligation Work Group. Mr. Ghilarducci also welcomed Joe Nimmich, Beth Zimmerman and Brad Kieserman from FEMA, who joined the committee for the meeting. He then invited the first best practice presenter, Wendy Smith-Reeve, Director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management, to begin the discussion.

Best Practices

#1 – Arizona: State RSF Engagement/Activation and Development of Recovery Assessments to Assist Local Jurisdictions

As part of a more effective state recovery framework, Arizona has implemented faster activation and development of its recovery assessments. These assessments allow the following: 1) a pre-disaster baseline that includes demographic data, which can help identify existing vulnerabilities, 2) incident impacts, 3) long-term needs, 4) immediate "red-flag" challenges that require immediate attention, and 5) recommendations from lead recovery support function agency. Based upon an assessment's outcome, recovery support functions can be activated and appropriate partners engaged. Strategies are then developed, which might also include combining RSFs to create a more holistic approach. As an example of the assessment process, Ms. Smith-Reeve referred to the devastating June 2013 Yarnell Hill fire, which killed 19 firefighters and burned 8,400 acres. The private water cooperative, which wasn't eligible for assistance under the governor's declaration and state's public assistance program, suffered extensive infrastructure damage and was at risk of collapsing. This would have meant no water for the community. The Infrastructure RSF was engaged and partners were able to collaboratively discuss options for the best course of assistance. Members of this working group included the Arizona Division of Emergency Management, Arizona Corporation Commission, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, multiple branches of the USDA, National Rural Water Association and several local groups. The end result was various agencies working with one another to restructure the loans of the water company to make them affordable and increase loan amounts to cover some of the damages caused by the fire. Another agency was able to find limited grant funding for the utility. Local agencies secured donated resources to replace water lines. The community recovery committee even donated money to help repair the system. These actions allowed the cooperative to address their infrastructure shortfalls and restore their facility. Arizona has produced CDs that outline their approach. These are available to other state directors.

#2 – Illinois: Streamlining the PA Application and Closeout Process

Jonathon Monken, director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, explained how his agency has combined a disaster assistance application and a PA grant agreement into a single page/agreement. This approach results in several advantages: 1) it's a shorter and simpler process that reduces paperwork for high applicant events, 2) it doesn't have date or dollar limits, 3) it is a PDF format that can be edited, and 4) it includes DUNS and SAM.gov registration numbers. Regarding closeout, Illinois has created a new sub-grantee closeout certification form and no longer use the FEMA P4 form, which is not mandatory. This new document eliminates the previous time-consuming process when corrections were necessary. Since implementation, Illinois hasn't experienced any issues or audits in 13 declarations. Illinois' Disaster Assistance Application form is available on the NEMA Annual Forum website page.

#3 – Maryland: State's Path in Getting Buy-In and Developing a Workable Recovery Plan

Ken Mallette, Executive Director of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, outlined his state's process in developing its State Disaster Recovery Operations plan. There were specific priorities as they worked through the

process, including preserving revenue and protecting the economy. Countless state agencies were part of the team and no consultants were used. Because Maryland has a heavy federal influence, this fact was incorporated into the development. With the plan now completed, refining both the document as well as the Recovery Support Function (RSF) Annexes continues. The operations plan is also being cross-referenced with other state plans. The document is available on the MEMA website as well as the NEMA Forum website page.

#4 – North Carolina; Updated Recovery Guide, New Recovery Web-Based Planning Template and Revised Mitigation Approach

The North Carolina Recovery Guide is currently being updated, according to Mike Sprayberry, Director of the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management. A FEMA Corp Team is assisting in this effort. To promote the update, the governor sent out a letter of support to all agencies involved. North Carolina will make the guide available once the revision is completed. NCEM has also developed a new recovery planning, web-based template to specifically assist communities with their local recovery planning. The template will provide counties with the structure to develop Recovery Support Functions, including their roles and responsibilities. It also assists counties in identifying each of the RSFs purpose and operations for both pre-event and post event, which should help with short-term restoration and long-term rebuilding.

Finally, NCEM has separated the hazard mitigation branch into two groups and placed the HM grants management component in the recovery section while moving the plans group into NCEM's risk management section. This arrangement allows a better focus on maximizing available funding and providing better customer service, not just for 404/HMGP, but also 406 projects and non-disaster grant funding. In the risk management section, the focus is on providing a new approach to mitigation plans through regionalization, and using newly-developed automated risk management tools. This focus also allows for closer collaboration with ongoing floodplain mapping and other risk and vulnerability analysis activities. Like the other states, the North Carolina documents are available on the NEMA Forum website page.

Position Papers - Significant Ice Events/Emergency Declarations and FEMA Disaster Assistance Policy 9523.1 Snow Assistance Policy

To address the on-going concerns with snow and ice as disaster threats, a small NEMA work group developed two position papers. Bruce Fitzgerald (ME) introduced both papers. The first recommended that FEMA reconcile its policies and amend the Snow Assistance and Severe Winter Storm Policy (DAP 9523.1) to ensure that emergency declarations remain an option in such a weather event. Currently, the snow policy states that "*Severe Winter Storm declaration requests must satisfy the requirements of 44 CFR §206.36 and 44 CFR §206.48...*" Both of these citations limit requests for major disaster declarations, thus removing FEMA's responsibility to make recommendations to the president on Emergency Declaration requests. This appears to be inconsistent with the law. The second position paper deals with significant ice events and Disaster Assistance Policy 9523.1. The paper called for 1) a separate Significant Ice Event Policy, 2) FEMA to use the Sperry-Piltz Ice Index and other official NWS products in developing this new policy, and 3) all FEMA personnel to correctly apply the FEMA snow policy, particularly in the area of Severe Winter Storms. Brad Kieserman from FEMA shared that an internal group had been looking at the snow policy, which included a pilot testing any revised policy, but that the issue still needed more work.

Albert Ashwood (OK), who was part of the NEMA team that developed the proposed position papers, suggested an FMAG model to address ice events and ensuing federal support. Mr. Kieserman agreed that this idea had merit and offered a federal/state approach. FEMA will follow up with NEMA after the Forum about the establishment of a work group, along with a timeline. The states agreed to withdraw the position papers pending the outcome of the FEMA/NEMA work group.

IAEM/NEMA Functional Needs Task Force

Allison Killebrew, senior attorney for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, updated the committee on the activities of this work group. IAEM has taken the lead in creating a glossary of common terminology that will be made available to all states and jurisdictions. The association is also developing a survey similar to what NEMA conducted earlier in the year with this one targeted to local jurisdictions. NEMA members of the task force are now

working on a checklist that states can provide to local jurisdictions to help them in their planning efforts. Led by Richard Devylder from California, the end product will be flexible to accommodate jurisdictions of all sizes. It will be completed by January 15, 2015, at which time it will be distributed to the entire task force for a final review.

Recognition of Dave Andrews

Dave Andrews, recovery manager for the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, was recognized for his 4+ years heading up the NEMA Public Assistance/Individual Assistance Subcommittee. In addition to acting as a liaison to FEMA for PA/IA, he also served as a resource to many states, providing clarity on FEMA policies and programs. Mr. Andrews is leaving state service at the end of October to go into the private sector, and was presented with a certificate of appreciation, signed by both the NEMA president as well as the response and recovery chair.

Management Costs

Beth Zimmerman from FEMA said that the issue is still being worked internally and no details could be provided. There is no projected timeline.

NEMA De-obligation Work Group

Bryan Koon (FL) heads up this work group. He introduced Elizabeth Hyatt, the Gubernatorial Fellow assigned to the Florida Division of Emergency Management to assist with the issue. He also introduced Evan Rosenberg, Florida Recovery Chief, who has been named lead for the NEMA PA/IA Subcommittee. Both are involved in the work group, Mr. Koon has conducted outreach with several associations impacted by de-obligation. He would like NEMA to form a coalition with these other organizations in order to provide a united voice to Congress and FEMA. The work group will report out again at the NEMA 2015 Mid-Year Forum.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Homeland Security Committee

October 10, 2014

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Committee Chair Nancy Dragani (OH) welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the agenda.

Understanding the Relationships between ISIS and Homegrown Violent Extremists

Mike Walker from the Center for Homeland Defense and Security attended the committee meeting to provide an overview of the ongoing ISIS and HVE threat. The new definition of HVE is broad and ranges from those considered “organic” to those associated with international groups. Since Bin Laden’s death, 90 U.S. citizens have been arrested on terrorist charges and more than 100 are actively working with ISIS. Depending on estimates, the number could be upwards to 300. These are all U.S. citizens with active passports who are able to come and go from foreign countries and the FBI is having trouble tracking many of them. Specific threats remain focused on U.S. and appeals from the leadership of the terrorist groups are specific about directing broad threats. At this time, experts do not really know the extent of radicalization with the U.S., and not all suspects are necessarily associated with al Qaeda.

ISIS has proven highly effective. Their territory is roughly the size of Indiana and they continue utilizing broad radicalization efforts. The outfit functions as a well-funded and organized army which far exceeds the capabilities of al Qaeda. They are gaining popularity due to recent successes and believe “killing infidels” allows them and their entire family into heaven. The recruiting techniques are broad and rooted in pop culture (including the use of popular video games). The underlying belief of many of the recruits is that the U.S. is at war with Islam. This current time period is very dangerous as ISIS continues to grow despite battles with the U.S. and other extremist groups.

After the brief presentation, the discussion with the committee focused on combating the sophisticated recruitment process. The best way to fight the recruitment is through strong mobilization within the Islamic community. Law enforcement alone cannot combat the threat.

NORTHCOM Working with Interagency, Intergovernmental, and Interorganizational Stakeholders

Randy Zeller from NORTHCOM came to discuss Gen. Jacoby’s playbook which focuses on major centers of potential disasters. It provides an executive level overview aiming NORCOM resources to high-risk areas through five components (command and control, initial response, authorities, logistics, and critical infrastructure). Two playbooks are currently completed (cover major earthquakes in California and Alaska). They were developed in conjunction with FEMA and two more are under development (and IED in the NCR and an earthquake/tsunami in the Cascadia Subduction Zone). The overall goal is to focus on recovery.

The New Protection Framework

Doc Lumpkins from FEMA went over the new Protection Framework released over the summer. The framework is meant to integrate with the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) while enhancing preparedness efforts. All protection efforts are driven by all-hazards and are not terrorism-specific. When considering resilience and capabilities, not everything can be hardened against everything and the process is seen as a shared responsibility across all disciplines and levels of government. The Protection Framework is meant to work seamlessly with other frameworks. The two main themes are partnerships and risk management. Implementation tools are being rolled out including EMI training.

Disaster Intelligence

Committee Vice Chair, Jon Monken (IL) led a discussion of disaster intelligence based off lessons learned from the recent capstone exercise. The discipline is not yet fully formed, but is an important foundation for emergency management functions. Directors must ensure their fusion center analysts are trained to consider how intelligence could impact disaster response as well as traditional law enforcement functions. The issue impacts critical infrastructure protection, response, and recovery. Intelligence analysts must be available to interpret information across the full spectrum and incorporate the public in the information gathering process. He expressed how states should consider adding emergency management analysts to fusion centers, while ensuring they are well-trained in emergency management practices. More discussion on the issue will likely occur during future meetings.

Review of Top 5 National Homeland Security Consortium Issues

Monken also provided an overview of the Top 5 homeland security priorities as indicated by a survey of NEMA members and submitted to the NHSC. The priorities as submitted by NEMA included Cybersecurity and Ability to Respond/Recover; Catastrophic Disasters/Cascading Consequences for Interdependencies and Critical Infrastructure; Protecting the Electric Power Grid; School Safety/Security; and Homegrown Violent Extremism. The Consortium is still working on the path forward, and committee members will be updated when new information is available.

**Preparedness Committee
October 10, 2014**

Meeting Summary

Preparedness Committee Chair Kris Eide (MN) opened the meeting by introducing herself as the new chair of the committee, replacing Al Berndt from Nebraska who retired this past summer. After a brief welcome, she mentioned that the Public Information Subcommittee report would be provided in a written format rather than during the meeting and would be posted on the forum website. The rest of the agenda proceeded as follows:

Climate Change and the Emergency Management Connection

TOPIC 1 - Colorado as a Pilot State in Climate Change Preparedness and Resilience Exercise Series and Boulder Selected in the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities Challenge

Dave Hard, Director of the Colorado Division of Emergency Management, explained that his state was one of three areas selected for the pilot. The other two are Alaska and Houston, TX. Mr. Hard stressed that the series was not a FEMA initiative, but driven by the White House. The purpose of the pilot, which occurred in early October, was to advance collaboration among all communities and partners in order to address climate change vulnerabilities. It focused on the year 2044. The exercise portion included a half day of presentations and a half day focused on adaptation, impacts and what should be done now. A 12-18 month planning process will follow the exercise. Mr. Hard stressed that in Colorado, the focus is not on politics, cause or science. Rather, it's about hazards and risks already identified in the state. The concept is to develop practical solutions to the impacts seen and identified during the pilot exercise. The lead agency in Colorado is the Governor's Recovery Office, which dovetails into the Colorado Resiliency Working Group, also led by the Governor's Recovery Office.

National Integration Center Director "Doc" Lumpkins told the group that FEMA is very interested in the outcomes of the climate change pilots, both in terms of how they might affect FEMA policies in general and specifically, the THIRA.

Regarding Boulder's participation in the 100 Resilient Cities Challenge, Mr. Hard said that the initiative provides a resilience roadmap to address both the "shocks" – i.e. natural disasters – and the stresses, which can weaken the fabric of a city and can include high unemployment, endemic violence, water/food shortages, etc. Boulder has a long history of innovation in sustainability and climate change. It was the first community to tax itself for the preservation of open space, the first to implement mandatory green building requirement and the first to establish a carbon tax. But resilience and adaptation remain real challenges. The city is still recovering from recent historic flooding. In addition, Colorado in the last two years experienced three wildfires, the most financially destructive in the state's history. These events have taught Boulder that "bouncing back" isn't enough -- it needs a plan to "bounce forward." Mr. Hard ended his presentation by noting that some slots are still available in the Resilient Cities Challenge, if a jurisdiction is interested in applying.

TOPIC 2 – Argonne's Center for Integrated Resiliency Analyses

Duane Verner, Program Manager with Argonne's Global Security Sciences Risk and Infrastructure Science Center (RISC), briefed the committee on Argonne's new Integrated Resiliency Analyses Center. This is a virtual capability that makes use of a super computer to allow climate change modeling, including infrastructure assessment and social science considerations at a local/regional level. The lack of this type of modeling has been identified repeatedly by state, local and private sector officials as a barrier to climate change adaptation and increased resilience. Currently, the center is working with the state of Maine, where temperatures are predicted to increase 10 degrees by mid-century. To date, the center has conducted 45 projects across the country. Mr. Verner added that the DHS Protective Security Advisors (PSAs) have access to a pilot set of climate change questions through what's called the Infrastructure Survey Tool. He suggested that state emergency management directors work through their PSAs to access the questions, which might be useful to their planning processes.

Statewide Alerting

Topic 1 – Alert Iowa

Mark Schouten, Administrator of Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, briefed the committee about that state's "Alert Iowa." The state undertook a new statewide mass notification and emergency messaging system in 2013. After surveying county emergency managers about what they were spending for messaging systems, the state determined it could do it for less – while reaching all 99 counties. Using a \$400K state appropriation and a collaborative effort from emergency management, public safety and communications experts, Alert Iowa was developed. It utilizes the Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS) and provides access to FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System, or IPAWS, to send messages through the Emergency Alert System, NOAA Weather Radio, and the Wireless Emergency Alerts system. It also provides local control of how and when to send alerts. State duty officers will have access to all messages sent out by individual counties, so it's expected to result in better situational awareness. Messages can be provided via landline and wireless phone, text messaging, email, FAX and social media. They can also contain photo, video and audio attachments and links to help the public better understand the situation or where to go for additional information. Additionally, local officials may use it to summon first responders if they are needed immediately in an emergency. The system can pinpoint hazard areas and generate alerts specifically for system users in those areas. It allows citizens to register information about special needs, such as mobility impairment or oxygen dependent. The overall cost is \$294K. Alert Iowa officially launches in late October 2014 and all counties are expected to sign up, once their existing contracts have expired. Mr. Schouten did acknowledge one hurdle to convert to the new system – the amount of subscription data a county might have in an existing system. Many of the vendors argue that the information in their system is owned by the vendor and not the county. As such, they will not release the information. Mr. Schouten advised that states maintain control of their data – regardless of the cost – and maintain control of outgoing messages.

Topic 2 – Minnesota's "Beyond English" Program and Corporation for Public Broadcasting Grant

The Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) has a history of working with Twin Cities Public Television in the area of preparedness and warning. Currently, there are two projects underway: first, the development of an emergency alert and warning television channel and second, "Beyond English," a "just in time" text to speech translation into Hmong, Somali and Spanish. TPT received a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and in partnership with HSEM and Emergency, Community, Health and Outreach (ECHO), worked with technology experts to allow translated messages to be disseminated through CAP protocols by any alerting authority. It is an open source solution, available to all states.

REPP Updates

NEMA REP Subcommittee Chair Wendy Smith-Reeve (AZ) introduced Andy Mitchell, Director of FEMA's Technological Hazards Division, and Kim Stenson, Director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division. Mr. Mitchell discussed the REP Exercise program enhancements. For several years, FEMA has been working to improve it. A guide to integration with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) was published two years ago, and that guidance was more recently incorporated into the REP Program manual. A major project is now under way to develop new exercise guidelines by May 2015. Components being considered include 1) offering offsite response organizations (OROs) the option of having "non-evaluated" elements in the required exercises to test new procedures, improve plans and operational capabilities; 2) matching up core capabilities by mission areas against REPP's planning standards and demonstration criteria, providing capability targets that not only meet REPP requirements, but can also be used in any exercise; 3) identifying best practices around the country, including tools that are being developed by FEMA and which will be given to regional leadership for review; and 4) studying the possibility of leveraging technology tools to make assessments more timely, accurate and less intrusive, while considering an expanded role for simulation.

Regarding NUREG-0654, the comprehension revision by FEMA and NRC continues. It incorporates the four supplemental documents and one addendum that have been issued in intervening years and is intended to modernize guidance while lessening administrative burden on REP Program stakeholders. The draft document is currently working through FEMA and NRC vetting processes. A public comment period is expected in fall 2015,

perhaps sooner. Mr. Mitchell encouraged all stakeholders to provide comment. The document is still on track for 2017 release/publication date at the latest.

REP Program Regulations Revision – Section Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapters 350-354, which provides the regulatory foundation for the REP Program, is being revised. The revision is intended to clean-up old and outdated language, including ensuring alignment with recent emergency management doctrine, such as the National Preparedness System and PPD-8. Following the review and acceptance of the Request for New Rulemaking, the next step in the process will be to draft and update a regulatory work plan. The revision process is still in the early stages with a preliminary estimated completion date in 2016.

The “Southern Exposure” exercise is scheduled for 2015. Sponsored by the state of South Carolina, it’s designed to test and analyze the whole community’s ability to respond to, and recover from, a nuclear power plant emergency. In addition to the state, the core planning team includes FEMA, the NRC, Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and Duke Energy. South Carolina Director Kim Stenson added that planning has gone well through evacuation, but that more work needs to be done for what follows. Current response and long-term recovery plans – including long-term economic recovery – are not robust enough, and are being revised at the same time that the exercise is being built. A significant shortfall concerns the integration of federal assets which takes place on Day 2 of the exercise. Mr. Stenson invited other states to attend and observe the exercise.

Mr. Mitchell’s last item was to mention the FLEX program, which was developed after the Fukushima nuclear accident three years in Japan. The program allows for equipment caches around the US, in order to be better prepared to address critical equipment access and maintain reactor cooling capability. This would include generators, battery packs, pumps, air compressors and battery chargers in multiple locations.

Shale Crude Oil Transport and NEMA Recommendations

The committee’s invited speaker, Tim Butters with the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration within the US Department of Transportation, was not able to attend. Katie Fox, Acting Assistant Administrator for the FEMA National Preparedness Directorate, stepped in for Mr. Butters. She shared that FEMA is reaching out on training and exercises for this transportation issue and is mindful of NEMA’s recommendations, which were forwarded this past summer. One director said that the White House held an interagency meeting on the issue, but no state representatives were invited. States must be included in the dialogue, since the executive orders to date directly impact them. They should be part of the solution process.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5 pm.

**Past Presidents Committee
October 10, 2014**

Meeting Summary

Attendees: John Madden (AK), Chair; Dave Maxwell (AR), Nancy Dragani (OH), Albert Ashwood (OK), Jim Greene, Stan McKinney, Ken Murphy, Jim Mullen

The NEMA Past Presidents Committee focused its attention on training for newly appointed state directors following the 2014 gubernatorial elections. Between governor transitions and retirements, NEMA may experience a significant turnover in members over the coming year.

Committee members agreed to recommend to the Board of Directors that NEMA host an orientation for new directors on March 12, 2015 in conjunction with the Mid-Year Forum in Alexandria, VA. The orientation should focus internally on NEMA and how directors can get involved and benefit the most. This also provides an opportunity for new directors to ask questions about how to address particular challenges or goals for their states. The Mid-Year Forum budget approved by the Board set aside a small amount of funding to support the orientation and there may be opportunities to secure private sector support as well.

The Committee will also recommend to the Board that NEMA host a second workshop for new directors sometime in summer 2015 and possibly in conjunction with a national EMAC workshop being planned. Given some governors may not have made appointments by March a later workshop would give those most recently appointed a training opportunity. NEMA will consider funding considerations for a second workshop including utilizing existing grant funds and possibly private sector support.

The Past Presidents Committee also expressed their support for the NEMA Business Model Review and recommendations that were briefed to the State Directors during the Forum. They discussed the value of states hosting program/policy workshops for state staff i.e. state hazard mitigation officers, PA/IA officers. Registration fees would cover all associated costs so there would be no additional expense to NEMA. Past President Albert Ashwood (OK) offered to host a pilot workshop in his state.

The Committee also affirmed their support for the newly updated NEMA Strategic Plan, particularly greater engagement with the private sector on policy issues. They also discussed opportunities to bring other partners to the table who may not necessarily be members of NEMA such as those entities representing critical infrastructure and volunteer organizations.

Past President John Madden will report the Committee's recommendations to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Mitigation Committee

October 11, 2014

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Chairman Mike Sprayberry (NC) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Dave Miller, Associate Administrator of the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration at FEMA and Nick Burke, North Carolina Department of Public Safety.

National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program

During the 2014 Annual Forum, Jonathon Monken, IL and Art Faulkner, AL addressed the Mitigation Committee regarding a position paper on the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP). Monken explained that the overarching functional purpose of NEHRP is to bring together the partner agencies to promote knowledge of and institute practices for the risk reduction of earthquakes. He mentioned the recent U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), that shows the number of earthquakes annually has quintupled in 2011-2013 with an average of one hundred tremors per year, up from a thirty-year average of twenty per year from 1981-2011.

This paper provides background information regarding state emergency managers' concerns with NEHRP as well as recommendations for improvement. The mitigation committee made the following recommendations for NEHRP:

1. The emergency management community, represented by FEMA within the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program, must receive equal emphasis to other NEHRP agencies.
2. States must have the flexibility to meet state and local needs within mitigation, preparedness, and response and recovery planning in regards to funding.
3. The FEMA NEHRP program must integrate and execute all aspects of emergency management. The goals should be expanded to include the broader emergency management areas of focus (preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery) to match and leverage State, FEMA, and the Department of Homeland Security's responsibilities.

The Mitigation Committee approved a NEMA NEHRP position paper and it was unanimously approved in the general session.

Best Practices in the UHMA Application Process

Nick Burke with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety addressed the Unified Hazard Mitigation Application Process. Burke discussed the application template that North Carolina created to assist with the application process.

Community Rating System Initiative Update

Bryan Koon, FL gave an update on the Community Rating System (CRS) that has forty-seven percent of Florida's communities enrolled. Koon explained that the CRS of NFIP operates as a voluntary program for recognizing and encouraging community floodplain management activities exceeding NFIP's minimum standards. It uses a class rating system similar to fire insurance rating in determining flood insurance premium reductions for residents. CRS Classes are rated from nine to one. Most communities enter the program at a CRS Class 9 or Class 8 rating, which entitles residents in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) to a five percent discount on their flood insurance premiums for a Class 9 or a ten percent discount for Class 8.

Mitigation Discussions with Dave Miller

Dave Miller discussed a number of mitigation topics with the committee including Predisaster Mitigation (PDM), the best practices from 404 and 406 mitigation, the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program, and climate change. Miller explained that PDM is currently funded by Congress at \$25 million and is "on the chopping block". However, the President released the Climate Action Plan which included \$400 million for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program. FEMA also discussed 404 and 406 mitigation and explained that integration across all levels

and flexibility in the public assistance programs are a few of the best practices. The 2014-2018 FEMA Strategic Plan states that “FEMA will better synchronize hazard mitigation opportunities authorized under Sections 404 and 406 of the Stafford Act to increase accessibility and improve the outcomes of these programs.” Miller discussed some of the challenges regarding the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program. He explained that the budget environment has led to budget cuts and NEHRP has suffered from that. Miller also explained that some states have had challenges with the cost matching. FEMA also mentioned capacity issues with the program. The last topic Miller touched on was climate change. He explained that FEMA’s strategic plan has incorporated risks associated with climate change and extreme weather into the risk assessment resources and processes.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

MITIGATION COMMITTEE

POSITION PAPER

DATE: October 12, 2014

SUBJECT: Recommendations for the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program

DISCUSSION: In July 2014, the U.S. Geological Survey released the 2014 National Seismic Hazard Maps and supporting report. In some areas of the Nation, the maps show that earthquake hazards have risen significantly; however, public perception and preparedness levels for earthquakes remain low. At the same time, earthquake preparedness and risk reduction capabilities continue dwindling at the state level. The Mitigation Committee would ask that NEMA review and discuss the health and welfare of FEMA's "National Earthquake Program," more formally known as the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP), from a state emergency management perspective and make recommendations for improvement.

In recent years, NEHRP has become more focused on earthquake science and research functions with little emphasis on implementation, which is accomplished at the local and state government levels. Compounding this, emergency management is funded at a significantly lower level among the NEHRP agencies, receiving less than seven percent of the funds allocated for this threat. These were noted in Illinois Emergency Management Director Jonathon Monken's July 29, 2014 testimony to the United States House of Representatives during a NEHRP re-authorization hearing.

Further complicating the issue of NEHRP is the question of whether and how the program should be reauthorized by Congress. The program has operated without authorization since 2009. Current Congressional rules, however, make reauthorizations potentially impractical and detrimental to the overall program. In some instances, programs are better off operating without authorizing language. Furthermore, if the discussion should extend beyond programmatic recommendations to FEMA, concrete suggestions regarding legislative changes to the program could be considered for submission to Congress. Should legislative action be deemed appropriate, discussions with the Legislative Committee on a strategy moving forward should commence immediately.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The emergency management community, represented by FEMA within the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program, must receive equal emphasis to other NEHRP agencies.
2. States must have the flexibility to meet state and local needs within mitigation, preparedness, and response and recovery planning in regards to funding.
3. The FEMA NEHRP program must integrate and execute all aspects of emergency management. The goals should be expanded to include the broader emergency management areas of focus (preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery) to match and leverage State, FEMA, and the Department of Homeland Security's responsibilities.

4. NEMA should establish an earthquake subcommittee composed of State Directors and experts in the field to combat the challenges of NEHRP and develop solutions.

Moved: IL

Second: MN

DISPOSITION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



Authenticated: _____

NEMA Secretary

**Private Sector Committee
Saturday, October 11, 2014**

Meeting Summary

Chair: Brock Long
Vice Chair: Chris Furlow

The meeting was brought to order by Committee Chair Brock Long. Brock welcomed those in attendance, described the purpose of the committee and how the committee's role within NEMA will be evolving in the coming year. The chair then introduced NEMA vice president Bryan Koon to provide background and additional detail on that topic.

During the previous year a working group has been assessing NEMA's business model and looking for areas to improve the value of membership for all members. The working group submitted a set of recommendations to the NEMA Board, which were approved and are being implemented. The complete report and recommendations are posted to the NEMA website.

Many of the recommendations pertaining to the private sector membership have been implemented such as the committee's development of a clear vision with a set of goals and objectives, the SDMI report on business preparedness, the FEMA led meeting on access to disaster zones and issuing a call for presentations at the 2014 Annual Forum. The NEMA Board and other standing committees will continue to seek expertise from the private sector membership by including a private sector member on policy working groups and issue specific discussions.

As part of the Private Sector goals and objectives, the committee will be working on a plan to produce several issue specific webinars in the coming year. Details are pending but more information will be forthcoming soon.

The chair then asked Koon for an overview of the recent FEMA white paper on procurement challenges which the private sector committee reviewed at the request of the National Advisory Council (NAC). The draft paper was sent to the chair and staff sent a request for volunteers to the NEMA private sector membership. There were 20 private sector volunteers of which 7 submitted comments. Those were combined with comments from 8 states and submitted to the NAC for consideration and discussed via conference call in September.

The chair introduced Pat Santos for an overview of the key findings from the SDMI survey of business preparedness. The Executive Summary is available on the NEMA website.

When asked what business and industry is most concerned about the top responses were:

1. Having situational awareness during a natural or man-made disaster (85%)
2. Emergency communication and alert capability (73%)
3. Credentialing and re-entry procedures (68%)
4. Interaction with the Emergency Management Officials (55%)
5. Regulatory Requirements (48%)
6. The Emergency Operations Plan (46%)
7. The Business Continuity Plan (37%)
8. Cyber Security (34%)

The chair thanked Pat Santos for conducting the report and being in attendance to review the findings then introduced Stephanie Tennyson with FEMA for an overview of FEMA's private sector initiatives.

FEMA initiatives include:

- Looking for a new private sector liaison for the NBEOC on a 90 day rotation
- Monthly newsletter

- Sending monthly resiliency tips email
- Seeing new partners to engage
- 4th Annual Public Private Partnership Conference taking place in October 2014
- Webinars on Tech Core initiative
- New NBEOC manager hired
- Looking toward Capstone 2016 and increased private sector involvement

Brock thanked Stephanie for coming and asked for questions and comments from the audience.

Pat Santos was asked if there were plans to expand the SDMI study beyond Louisiana. Santos replied that the survey instrument could be made available to any state that wanted to conduct the survey on their own but there were no plans at this time for SDMI to conduct additional studies.

Jon Monken stated that a survey was conducted as part of the lead up to Capstone 2014 of the private sector participants with 8 states participating and he would make those results available to anyone interested.

Chris Furlow suggested creating working groups on specific issues such as critical infrastructure, disaster logistics and procurement with the goal of producing best/good practice documents for members use.

Bryan Koon mentioned Florida's annual public private summit would take place December 15-16 with more information on their website.

With no further discussion, the chair asked for a motion to adjourn, the motion was made by Frank Koutnik, seconded by Tom Serio and the meeting was adjourned.

**Legislative Committee
October 11, 2014**

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Committee Chair Jimmy Gianato (WV) welcomed everyone; introduced Aaron Davis with FEMA and Justin Stevens with NGA before proceeding with the planned agenda.

A View from Capitol Hill

The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Subcommittee on Emergency Management, Intergovernmental Affairs, and the District of Columbia, gave insight in to what the committee will be working on in the coming year. The committee will focus on primarily on FEMA efficiency and effectiveness, internal outreach with new incumbents, Integrated Public Alert Warning Systems, and the 2015 fiscal budget. There will also likely be significant changes to the membership of the committee regardless of the outcome of the November 4 election.

Being Productive without Diluting Our Message

The committee discussed ways to enhance member participation in the legislative priorities of the association. Once the conversation was started it was apparent that there was a need to develop a strategy to codify the approval process of legislative priorities and improve consideration of the overall legislative strategy for the association. This strategy would incorporate subject matter experts on individual NEMA committees to contribute and evaluate all policy positions. The committee also mentioned different avenues to have legislative discussions and different ways to rank priorities to afford greater oversight by the Legislative Committee. NEMA staff will develop a draft strategy for the members to review and approve.

Partnership Updates; FEMA, NGA, and IAEM

The update from FEMA Legislative Affairs Director Aaron Davis focused briefly on legislative priorities for FEMA at this time. FEMA is currently focused on the tribal inclusion aspect of the public assistance guidance, continuing the reform of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), working through the issues with the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act, and the implementation of the Defense Production Act Program.

Justin Stevens with the National Governors Association (NGA) gave insight into NGA's priorities for the upcoming year including their current policy review process. A few of the policy priorities included the Department of Defense budget, continued work to develop a cybersecurity framework, addressing the challenges with the National Guard funding, continuing the conversation on National Preparedness Grant Program reform, federal coordination with states regarding Ebola, FirstNet, Fusion Centers, and continuing to track the crisis at the southern border involving unaccompanied minors. Both NEMA and NGA look forward to maintaining the strong working relationship into next year.

Randy Duncan representing IAEM began his comments by highlighting the many issues that NEMA and IAEM work closely on, including sustained funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grants. He also touched on two additional issues that NEMA and IAEM can find common ground on and those are the sustained attention and funding for the Emergency Management Institute as well as critical investment in the National Weather Service. Duncan also elaborated on the NEMA -IAEM joint functional needs taskforce.