



NATIONAL EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

NEMA COMMITTEE REPORTS

MID-YEAR POLICY AND LEADERSHIP FORUM
MARCH 13-17, 2015 | ALEXANDRIA, VA



EMAC Executive Task Force
March 13, 2015

Meeting Summary

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 pm by Carol Walton. Angela Copple called roll. Joyce Flinn, Vince Fargione, Kim Lee and Laurie Mendoza were absent.

Updates from the EMAC ETF Leadership, Lead State Representatives & Members at Large

Region 1: Faith Mayer

Faith is stepping down and Jaclyn Hamel (MA) will be taking her place for the next two years. Jaclyn Hamel provided an update on winter storms in MA where EMAC support was requested/received. MA is working with FEMA on a snow declaration.

Region 2: Vince Fargione

Not present

Region 3: Jason Eaton

Region III will be hosting an A-Team Training in PA in April; starting to build continuity across the region. WV, PA and VA experienced winter storms with significant rainfall events, so now working flooding; also working with KY and TN on some flooding. WV has been dealing with a significant landslide issue; there are no unmet needs currently. Many within the region stated that they would be attending the A-Team course in PA in April.

VA just finished large-state exercise in partnership with FEMA earlier this year and broad discussion on how mutual aid works. New leadership within the Commonwealth is supportive of the EMAC process. VA is an Ebola-receiving entity and there is a significant potential if this becomes a larger event, it could result in an EMAC request. It will also drive a large federal presence. If anyone has previous planning experience in this area VA would be interested in hearing about it. VA also lost some staff due to job opportunities elsewhere, so rebuilding and offering training opportunities to new staff.

Region 4: Susan Perkins

Three rounds of winter weather activated almost all the states in the region at one point. NC was standing by to assist. TN experienced several events. KY had water treatment plant damage, supported in state. KY is continuing to develop MRPs, working on search and rescue teams. KY is also in process of revising EMAC manual. GA individuals are scheduled to attend A-Team training in PA. MS holding a training exercise in May.

Region 5: Michelle Kuzera

Mike Johnson has moved to another position within the state police. Michelle has taken over the A-Team responsibilities for MI. MI continues to work on MRPs for the state police resources and using that model for community health, agriculture, technology.

Region 6: Steve Palladino

Been very quiet, preparing several exercises within the region

Region 7: Jonathan York

Staffing change in MO – Daniella Hepperd has left for a position at FEMA. KS is working on updating the SOG for internal procedures for activating and utilizing EMAC and A-Team members.

Region 8: Bill Miederhoff

Northern states are gearing up for snowmelt runoff. Colorado had 32" of snow in February alone.

CO has been working on the development of MRPs developed by All Hazards Incident Management Team Association.

CO also has a FEMA grant to kick off the meeting in September, full representation of all members, with the exception of Kansas to look at the regional planning efforts. Goal is to develop a fully exercising regional asset development program. Have an executive summary that will be given to NEMA and the EMAC ETF when finished. Will be reviewed and signed by all states in region.

The region is also moving forward with an all hazards mutual aid plan. All documents can be sent to the group. Next meeting scheduled at the end of March and will have more to report after the meeting. Colorado introduced House Bill 15-1015, an interstate compact for EMS licensure that may be needed by the locals to be able to day-to-day mutual aid that does not require a declaration.

Region 9: Gary Greenly

HI is getting ready to do the annual hurricane exercise in June. Will tie in with Vigilant Guard and exercise with CA, NV, OR. HI also exercising the FEMA state catastrophic plan. Lava disaster is still on-going.

Region 10: Kurt Hardin

OR had a new director and the EMAC website was updated. WA has issued a drought declaration. OR is in a similar situation, but no declaration has been made yet. It could be a severe fire season this summer. EMAC reimbursements for last fire season have been received.

Kurt asked about EMAC reimbursement documentation for FEMA public assistance as it relates to and in comparison to FEMA's requirements. FEMA Region 10 document requirements are significant.

WA/OR 2016 exercise will involve EMAC.

Member at Large, Allen Phillips

New Governor and New Lt. Governor in MA went to the staging area that was set up for EMAC missions during the recent snowstorms and garnered a lot of support through the set-up of the staging area. The Governor and new Lt. Governor got a lot of press making it very successful.

Member at Large, Kim Lee

Not present.

Member at Large, Laurie Mendoza

Not present.

Legal Counsel Liaison, Brenda Bergeron

Brenda would like more information about the CO legislation to include it in a review that is going to be conducted by Legal Council Committee. Jason Eaton added that this type of non-declared event/mutual aid agreement was being looked at by FEMA Region III. There was a distinct interpretation that localities could use this across state lines for non-declared events, at the state or local level, and that was a federal interpretation within the region. States may start to see more of this non-declared mutual aid.

Brenda Bergeron talked about the variety of mutual aid agreements that do “cross border” mutual aid. New England has been working for years on the best way to do mutual aid across borders. The issues may be different because there aren’t as many county governments in the northeastern states. The issue is managing the multitude of agreements. It is not good policy to have multiple agreements and legislations for different disciplines. It would result in bigger legal issues. Carol Walton asked if Legal Counsel could keep the ETF Members informed. Brenda invited all of the ETF to attend Legal Counsel meeting tomorrow. The EMAC MOU for the Mutual Aid Support System (MASS) – the electronic inventory of Mission Ready Packages – will be discussed.

Update/Discussion on Training Initiatives

Angela Copple gave a brief review on training initiatives beginning at the November 2013 EMAC training workshop to present day, highlighting the completion of five online training courses. Angela thanked all the working group members and ETF for reviewing content, providing personnel to take the pilot courses and all the hard work in short timelines.

The EMAC Operations (EOS) instructional videos have been updated. They provide a comprehensive walk-through on the EMAC Operations System. The videos are only available to EMAC Authorized Representatives, Designated Contacts and A-Team personnel and can be accessed through the EMAC Gateway on the website.

Short interactive resources are also completed. Two of the interactive resources are focused on the development of Mission Ready Packages – one by using the Excel template and the other by using the Mutual Aid Support System. The third is focused on reimbursement for personnel who deploy on missions.

The A-Team Operations Course is updated and the pilot was held in January. Updates, as identified in the pilot, are underway. The course will be delivered in April in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The EMAC Essentials App is now completed and available for download in both the Apple iTunes and Google Play stores. Search for “EMAC Essentials” then download it to your device.

NEMA has posted two new resources for State EMAs: State and Resource Provider Guide to Implementing EMAC and Mission Ready Package Development Workshop. Both courses can be downloaded from the EMAC website.

Angela Copple reviewed the proposed timeline for reviewing courses using evaluations from participants. Many of the courses will not require much editing, but formal reviews are still required.

NEMA has initiated the development of two new courses:

- The Bootcamp for EMAC Authorized Representatives, which will be discussed in the EMAC Committee meeting tomorrow.
- An online interactive exercise that walks the user through a deployment. To make it meaningful to the user, NEMA would like to include discipline specific injects, but will need help in providing injects that are meaningful to the individual taking the course.
- The timeline for the development allows for adequate review cycles and should not be as hectic as past review cycles. If anyone is interested in participating in the working group, they should contact Angela Copple. A project timeline document has been developed, which outlines proposed timeframes for each phase of the project for review by the ETF.

Transition Exercise

Carol Walton thanked Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Arkansas for their participation in the exercise in February. Victoria Carpenter commented that the exercise really challenged her and her staff. The injects required everyone to think outside the box.

SATF Update: EMAC A-Team SOG Updates

Carol Walton stated that Angela Copple had emailed the updated EMAC A-Team SOG to the ETF a few weeks ago, and asked Victoria Carpenter to detail the edits the ETF will accept/reject.

Victoria Carpenter outlined the following edits:

- A new appendix to the A-Team SOG for Discipline-Specific guidance with the intent to assist A-Team personnel in wording/language on REQ-As to think through situations where additional information may be needed on the form.
- A section was added to the first part on general logistical support guidance for all disciplines, including lodging and self-sufficient missions.
- An addition was also made to the second part regarding guidance on resource descriptions.
- For the third section, questions were added to prompt the requesting state agency so that both the request and offer would be complete. There is also additional guidance that the A-Team should consider for the REQ-A in order to provide further information to the deploying team. An example: when deploying EMS, indicate which protocols the deploying team will use – the Requesting or Assisting States.

Carol Walton asked for a motion to accept the edits in the A-Team SOG

Motion made by: Jason Eaton

Motion seconded by: Jonathan York

The motion passes

Building National Mutual Aid Capacity: 20 Years of EMAC Workshop

Angela Copple provided an overview of the workshop that will be held in Bloomington, Minnesota on June 2-3.

Follow-up from the EMAC/PIO Workshop

Carol Walton asked Victoria Carpenter to continue moving the EMAC/PIO Workshop tasks forward as there's already been a tremendous return on investment over the past year since the EMAC/PIO Workshop took place. The PIOs have issued numerous press releases and have done a great job calling attention to EMAC and promoting the system. Continuous work is needed, including development of resource types for public information officers, which will be provided to FEMA. The lead of the NEMA Public Information Subcommittee has turned over a few times since the workshop, and the new person is Greg Flynn, Mississippi. Carol Walton asked Victoria Carpenter to work directly with Greg Flynn to get the resource typing developed.

Update on NELT/RELT Personnel Availability

Carol Walton reported that NEMA has reached out to the states and there is now a solid list of potential NELT and RELT personnel that can deploy into the NRCC and RRCCs across the nation.

Transition of EMAC Lead State Representative & EMAC Executive Task Force Leadership

Carol Walton asked Angela Copple to confirm the candidates for the position of Chair Elect to the EMAC Executive Task Force.

- Angela stated there are two letters from directors: Kansas, nominating Jonathan York and Mississippi nominating Susan Perkins.

- Carol added this is the first time she's seen two nominations for Chair Elect and asked for a motion for a blind ballot.

Motion for blind ballot by: Kurt Hardin

Seconded by: Bill Miederhoff

Motion passes

As everyone was completing their ballots, Victoria Carpenter thanked her director, Kevin Davis and GOSHEP for their support. Gisela Bunker from Texas, Jason Gosselin from Vermont and Joyce Flinn (Iowa) will serve as Members at Large during Victoria's term.

Other updates for Lead State Representatives (LRS) include Region 1: Jaclyn Hamel (MA). Region 3: Jason Eaton will remain the LSR. Region 5: Michelle Kuzera will poll her region and share those results when she has them. Region 7: No update pending the vote. Region 9: Gary Greenly is still polling his region and will provide an update following the meeting.

The blind ballots were counted and Carol Walton asked for a motion to accept the nomination of Jonathan York as ETF Chair Elect:

Motion by Jason Eaton

Seconded by Alan Phillips

Motion passes

Jonathan York thanked everyone for the nomination and said that it has been an honor representing Region 7.

Carol Walton asked for a motion to adjourn

Motion passed by Kurt Hardin

Seconded by: Allen Phillips

Motion passes

Meeting adjourned at 4:53pm

EMAC Committee
March 14, 2015

Meeting Summary

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by David Maxwell. Angela Copple called role. All members of the EMAC Committee were present.

Multi-State Fleet Response Working Group

Tom Moran and Chris Eisenbrey provided background on the fleet response working group. It was created after Hurricane Sandy when there were issues moving fleets from 30-40 different companies through tolls/check-ins to get to the incident state.

Tom Moran and Chris Eisenbrey asked the EMAC Committee to find ways to open roads and speed the response of utility trucks, adding that the response process is sometimes slowed because a state isn't aware that a fleet is moving through. Dave Maxwell stated there are a couple possible solutions and that he would reach out to them following the meeting for follow-up.

Bryan Koon asked what the future of toll roads look like and if the issue was the expense or the speed. Chris Geldart responded that the utility companies aren't interested in circumventing the actual toll; it's more in the response time. Dave added that state transportation agencies have their own association and it would be good to include them. He asked Angela Copple to contact the American Society State Transportation Highway Organization as a possible option to move the issue forward.

One additional note - The tabletop exercise in Portland Oregon completed last week centered on the issue of transportation.

ASTHO Mission Ready Package Project Update

ASTHO developed an advisory group that has been working on the EMAC Mission Ready Package project. During the first year of the project, the following templates with suggestions for mission capabilities, personnel, costs, identified ESFs, resource description and more were developed: Clinical Support Team, Pre-hospital Acute Care Team, Patient Transport Team, Morgue Admitting Team, Behavioral Health Team, Bariatric Ambulance Team, Disaster Portable Morgue Unit, Medical Facility Emergency Water Supply Team, Four-wheel Drive Ambulance Team and Morgue Triage Team.

In the second year of the project, the advisory group has narrowed its list of mission areas to the following five Mission Ready Packages for further development: Public Health and Medical Incident Management Team (IMT), Epidemiological Surveillance Strike Team, Radiation Monitoring and Decontamination Team, Foodborne Disease Epidemiology Team, Specialized treatment and Care of Vulnerable/Special Populations (i.e. homebound, hospice, etc.). For each MRP, the group will determine the final name, detailed description, mission, focus, ESF category(s) and limitations.

ASHTO plans to present a poster at the upcoming Public Health Preparedness Summit in April, and is looking to present at other state, regional or national conferences or through webinars for further reach. ASTHO will also look to collect data on the national acceptance and use of the already completed MRPs.

ASTHO will conduct an environmental scan to determine state resources that are available for EMAC deployment. It will gather information on the following: types of resources available, who has the authority to commit resources, process for resource activation, any MOUs in place. Results will be used to integrate the developed MRPs into the Mutual Aid Support System (MASS).

Using last year's process, the ASTHO advisory group will refine a few of the previously developed MRPs to ensure they reflect the current needs of the public health/emergency management community.

FEMA NIC: Cyber Resource Typing

Doc Lumpkins, Director of the FEMA National Integration Center, provided an update on FEMA's initiative to develop resource types for cyber resources. Using lessons learned from NLE2012, FEMA has started to look at how to type cyber resources within mutual aid. FEMA is working on draft documents that focus on planning guidance and resource typing. David Maxwell thanked Doc and said that the EMAC Committee looks forward to viewing the draft documents that could help move forward some virtual EMAC initiatives.

Doc Lumpkins was asked if there were any discussions at FEMA about making cyber a stand-alone emergency support function (ESF). He stated that while FEMA is looking at revisions to the National Response Framework, there is no intention of creating a stand-alone ESF for cyber.

All Hazards Incident Management Team Qualification Standards

Bill Campbell with the All Hazards Incident Management Team Association (AHIMTA) provided an overview of the group, which is a grassroots organization of incident management teams and practitioners at federal/local/state/private sector level, working to advance the all hazards incident management teams efforts across the nation and bring consistency to the discipline.

AHIMTA has developed a number of handouts, including a guidebook for at Type III all hazards incident management team. The guidebook and other documents can be downloaded from the AHIMTA website at www.ahimta.org.

Standards and guidelines for resource consistency are important and the community sees a need for them during incidents. The EMAC Committee and Bill Campbell discussed the AHIMTA qualification system and examples of why the standards and qualifications are needed.

Chis Geldhart stated that he wasn't familiar with the group, but DC could have utilized the guidance in the recent development of IMTs. He suggested that there did need to be one national dialogue about standards. David Maxwell said that utilizing EMAP might be a good avenue as they are working now developing standards for State Urban Search and Rescue. NEMA could help facilitate the conversation through this committee. Also, a webinar could pull people together, or perhaps, a conference call to solicit ideas to find out who is working on the issues.

David Maxwell stated that the EMAC Committee and NEMA would work to bring states together with AHIMTA, so that everyone is working toward the same goal.

Doc Lumpkins stated that the FEMA NIC would work with AHIMTA to develop a guideline document on the all hazards incident management teams.

The Annual AHIMTA meeting will be held in December 2015 for any state interested or involved in IMT development.

Boot Camp for State EMAC Authorized Representatives

Doug Hoell led a discussion about the development of the Bootcamp for EMAC State Authorized Representatives. The goal was to get consensus on the course scope, prerequisites and the style of delivery. The EMAC Committee requested that NEMA put questions and course topics into a survey and send it out for feedback. Once the survey is completed, David Maxwell suggested a conference call to continue to move it forward.

Building National Mutual Aid Capacity: 20 Years of EMAC Workshop

Dave Maxwell provided an overview of the upcoming June 2015 EMAC meeting. It will be the first time that states have tried to use THIRA to look at mutual aid and filling gaps through EMAC. Updates will also be provided on all of the training and educational materials that are available to states. Select members of the EMAC Advisory Group will discuss how they have further integrating their resource with deployments through EMAC.

Registration for the meeting will open this next week. Dave encourages state directors to attend and to bring their EMAC Coordinator. NEMA will reimburse up to two people from each state to attend.

Mutual Aid Support System Memorandum of Understanding

Dave Maxwell reviewed suggested edits from Hawaii's Attorney General's Office on the Mutual Aid Support System MOU. The minor edits will be made and the MOU can be sent to all of the states for signature.

Update on the EMAC Advisory Group

Dave Maxwell provided an overview of the development of the EMAC Advisory Group that was established after Hurricane Katrina to engage the response and recovery disciplines as well as federal partners in improving EMAC.

One of the topics in the EMAC Advisory Group Meeting was the development of Mission Ready Packages to support vulnerable populations during disasters. David Maxwell asked for any state-developed Mission Ready Packages in this area that could be posted to the EMAC website for sharing and highlighting.

Chris Geldart (DC) said that DC is working on Mission Ready Packages now to support vulnerable populations, but they won't be complete for another six months. Bryan Koon stated that Florida is also developing packages for vulnerable populations, but they are not complete. David asked that they be sent to Angela Copple once they are developed so they can be posted on the EMAC site and shared.

Update from the EMAC Executive Task Force

Carol Walton provided an update on statistics from disasters over the past year and highlighted the deployment of the mobile medical hospital from North Carolina to Mississippi - the longest EMAC mission in our history at 734 days. Mike Sprayberry (NC) provided an update on the mobile medical hospital. FEMA wants to divest itself of the hospital so NC is looking for funding to maintain the asset for EMAC. The maintenance of the mobile hospital is \$500,000 - \$600,000 per year. NC will be talking to HHS about funding, but the future of the hospital is uncertain.

Carol Walton provided an update on completed training initiatives that are available:

- All five online courses are in the eLearning Center on the EMAC website
- Series of videos on how to use the EMAC Operations System
- Mobile application called EMAC Essentials
- Two courses that State EMA can download and use for instruction to Resource Providers
- Several educational interactive resources on the EMAC website.

Carol Walton also provided an update on the A-Team SOG that was reviewed and updated by the Executive Task Force.

The EMAC Executive Task Force and NEMA are now working on the development of an online exercise for deploying personnel.

Transition of the EMAC Executive Task Force Leadership

Dave Maxwell recognized the outgoing ETF Chair Carol Walton and presented a plaque in recognition of her service to ETF as the National Coordinating State. He asked Carol Walton if there were any nominations for the Chair Elect to the EMAC Executive Task Force. Carol Walton stated the nomination from the ETF is Jonathan York.

Dave Maxwell asked if there was a motion to accept Jonathan York as Chair Elect to the EMAC Executive Task Force. The motion was made by Angee Morgan (KS). The motion was seconded by Chris Geldart (DC). The motion passed.

Dave Maxwell asked if there was a motion to adjourn as all business was concluded. Brian Satula (WI) made the motion to adjourn. Robert Ezelle (WA) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 am.

**Preparedness Committee
March 14, 2015**

Meeting Summary

Mark Ghilarducci (CA) ran the meeting for Committee Chair Chris Smith (NV) who was not able to attend the Mid-Year Forum.

REPP Updates

Andy Mitchell, Director of the Technological Hazards Division for FEMA, discussed hostile action based exercises, including planning. With more than 40 HAB exercises conducted over the past two years, it's clear that the more rigorous, coordinated, inclusive and early planning effort, the better the exercise. Other findings – all hazards plans are more effective than separate HAB plans; design teams must be skilled in cross-based (as opposed to consequence) exercises and communication between the Incident Command Post and the Emergency Operations Center is critical. The next exercise cycle will include a radioactive plume in conjunction with a HAB. State HAB plans are due by the end of the year.

Mr. Mitchell also reviewed the status of the FLEX program, which was developed in response to the 2011 Fukushima nuclear accident. There are two large equipment caches in Memphis and Phoenix. Transportation of this equipment in the event of a disaster is being discussed with the US defense department and other federal entities/agencies. State plans would also have to be amended to accommodate the transportation issue. In addition, each power plant site has established a three-phased approach to achieve indefinite coping capability by relying upon installed equipment, onsite portable equipment and pre-staged offsite resources. States should work through their RAC chair regarding FLEX discussions/questions.

The last item discussed was last year's discovery of radioactive materials in consumer products shipped from overseas to the state of Illinois. Mr. Mitchell reviewed procedures when such an instance occurs. There have been several in recent years, mainly as a result of reused and contaminated steel products. In almost all situations, the discovered radioactive materials have not presented an immediate health hazard to responders or the public. If there is a legitimate shipment of a higher activity source, it will likely remain shielded in a transport-package which is highly accident resistant.

Changing EMAP Standards

EMAP Executive Director Nicole Ishmael discussed the revised 2016 Emergency Management Standards, which is in draft version and out for comment until late May. She was joined by Dave Hard (CO), who serves as vice chair of the commission. Areas impacted by the changes include finance and administration, emergency management program elements (Chapter 4), mutual aid and overview language. EMAP is also looking for volunteers/subject matter experts for small work groups. Those interested should contact Ms. Ishmael. All public comments received will be adjudicated by the EMAP Standards Subcommittee in December 2015 and formally voted on by the EMAP Technical Committee in 2016.

EMAP has also developed an Urban Search and Rescue Standard and annex. Both are out for public comment. The standard establishes criteria for the administration, operational and logistics readiness of USAR teams in support of the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System. All public comments will be adjudicated in May.

Public Information Subcommittee Leadership Change

Greg Flynn, External Affairs Director the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, has taken over as lead for this subcommittee. He's been active in the subcommittee almost from its beginning and brings a wealth of

experience to the role. Mr. Ghilarducci thanked Mississippi Director Robert Latham for allowing Greg to take on this important role.

Emergency Management and Climate Change Planning

Chair Chris Smith chose to conduct a discussion on this topic in the hopes of assisting state emergency management develop more robust plans that factor in climate change impacts, specifically cascading impacts. Committee discussion focused on efforts in Michigan and California. It also included a local perspective from the city of Baltimore.

Chris Kelenske (MI) outlined climate change in his state and how Michigan is approaching it:

- In the last couple of years, Michigan has seen enormous changes; state is taking proactive steps
- Although the nature of recent weather changes has been subject to debate, records do show that certain changes have been observed and measured.
- In Michigan, much of the data interpretation is handled by a group called the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments (GLISA) program, which acts in the space between climate research and climate services. They integrate information from a wide array of scientific fields, help develop collaborations between entities with similar goals and lend climate information support to decision makers. GLISA has two goals – to contribute to the long-term sustainability of the region in the face of a changing climate and facilitate smart decision making backed by scientific knowledge.
- Michigan Emergency Management and Homeland Security and the Michigan Climate Coalition interacts with the GLISA program at least bimonthly, but informally meet on a semi-regular basis to talk about regional climate coordination and to ensure they are sharing resources and tools between offices.
- The Michigan Climate Coalition and GLISA work together to develop regional climatological information and seek to work further to support climate adaption work within the agricultural community.
- Michigan's hazard mitigation plan was updated last year and took climate change considerations into account, adding sections about potential new impacts in natural hazard chapters. For example, a 2013 ice storm resulted in 600,000 people losing power over one event. Through GLISA, Michigan was able to document that ice storms were occurring more frequently; length of winters was decreasing, but amount of precipitation was increasing. The state is also seeing extremes across entire natural disaster spectrum; record breaking temperatures in both directions; facing torrential rain and flooding like never before, crippling transportation lines; sewer lines freezing, etc.
- One recent event – last August, Southeast Michigan received anywhere from four to six inches of rain in just a couple of hours. The result was a flash-flooding mess that crippled the highway infrastructure and caused a water-sewage mix to swell into home basements. Citizens lost countless personal items stored in their basements. The lingering effects of mold and other post-flood hazards also put a strain on everyone physically and emotionally.
- Regarding snow, historically, the state had a few winter storms that resulted in several inches of snow during each event. Now, the state will get hit with a foot or more of snow in a single system.
- These events and new weather patterns have demanded a new risk analysis. Michigan Emergency Management and Homeland Security believes that regional climate centers data must play a critical role in crafting hazard mitigation plans.

Mr. Ghilarducci then discussed the situation in California and how that state is managing climate change through planning:

- California is in the 4th year of a serious and unprecedented drought. The Sierra Nevada snowpack, which supplies most of California's water supply, is almost non-existent. This means that ground water is being pumped at very high rates, which is resulting in land subsiding. Other severe impacts – California

agriculture industry has been damaged, including an increasing amount of fallowed acres and declining employment because of the unavailability of land; an exponential increase in wildfires. The entire situation has taxed the state's emergency management office ability to manage the issue.

- Climate change was first included in multi-hazard mitigation plans in 2007; with each subsequent year, climate change has played a larger role.
- The state developed its Climate Adaptation Planning Guide, a joint effort between California OES and other state agencies/entities to serve as a step-by-step guide for local and regional climate vulnerability assessment/adaptation strategy development.
- The state's comprehensive climate adaptation effort feeds numerous initiatives – risk development investments and other climate efforts such as California's recommendations to the President's Climate Task Force and the state's Climate Action Team, of which OES is a part.
- Bottom line – California's climate change planning is now the most robust in the state's history.
- Final note from California – drought is included in the Stafford Act, but not in FEMA's rubric in how it's supposed to deal/address it; this needs to be clarified.

Kristin Baja, Climate and Resilience Planner with the City of Baltimore Office of Sustainability, was the last presenter and provided the local jurisdiction perspective on climate change planning:

- Very old infrastructure systems in Baltimore; also the city's location on the Chesapeake Bay and at the base of four major water shed areas poses additional problems for the city when it comes to rising sea levels; increasing amounts of precipitation; landslides due to heavy and regular rainfall, etc
- Baltimore decided to combine hazard mitigation planning with climate adaptation planning in order to develop a more resilient city.
- Worked with emergency management, transportation, water supply, health and numerous other public and private entities; conducted a comprehensive risk assessment to develop its Disaster Preparedness Plan.
- Cross-walked it with existing plans to identify the main players as well as where investment already existed.
- Plan was adopted in 2013 and city has already started implementing it; looking at critical facilities; prioritization identified by what is sustainable and resilient
- Implementation components include a Whole Block approach, which looks at sections of neighborhoods and includes participation from residents; regional and local cooperation as well as state and federal collaboration important part of the process.

Mr. Ghilarducci asked states to send to NEMA any documents, best practices, etc in the area of climate change and resiliency planning.

Several states discussed the possibility of a new NEMA subcommittee/work group on resiliency and climate change. NEMA President Bryan Koon said that the board would discuss how to incorporate both at the NEMA strategic planning session in June.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Legal Counsel Committee
March, 14 2015

Meeting Summary

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

Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS) Follow-up

Robert Hildum, Washington DC's Counsel, provided an update on the lawsuit that was filed against the District in 2014. The plaintiffs are the same as those that filed the New York City case. He explained that communication, transportation, shelter and planning for the functional needs community were focuses of the lawsuit. One of the challenges is defining the populations.

Hildum stated that DC is currently reviewing all plans and assessing what shelters can accommodate the functional needs population. The District legal counsel and emergency management director have met with the plaintiffs to discuss actions that are being undertaken.

He mentioned that DC has much further to go in terms of recognizing the needs of the community; however, they have created a matrix to determine which of the District's 207 shelters can accommodate the special needs population and what shelters are not ready and what needs to be done to get them ready.

The committee discussed the potential of more lawsuits occurring across the country and ways to plan up front for the functional needs population. They mentioned including representatives from functional needs community in all stages of the planning process, encouraging funding to provide these capabilities (potentially regional funding for mutual assistance), and using resources such as the NEMA/IAEM functional needs checklist, which will be coming out shortly. It is also important when possible to get lawyers involved in the planning process.

EMAC Legal Issues

The committee went over some of the legal issues pertaining to EMAC and memoranda of agreement regarding mission ready packages—Mutual Aid Support System or "MASS."

The committee also heard from New Jersey counsel Karen Jordan and Phil Hopkins. Some of their best practices included: checking local law to ensure that a state has the legal authority for out-of-state forces to complete certain functions; arranging how a state will reimburse ahead of time and who will be reimbursed (which agency within the state); knowing what authority exists to deputize the assets coming into a state (arrest power, etc.) and what kind of authority they will have. For example, if an out-of-state resource is giving arrest power, and they must return to the state to testify, this will mean additional costs to the state.

Credentialing Incident Management Teams (IMTs) Across State Lines

Dr. Jeff Stern, State Coordinator for Virginia Department of Emergency Management, explained that Virginia is working on the development of standardized credentials. He expressed the need to have a forum to hold the conversation on the typing issues and the reimbursement challenges.

Angela Copple, EMAC Director, suggested doing a webinar on IMTs.

Discussion on De-obligations

Attorney Ernie Abbott provided an overview of a recent ruling out of Florida regarding FEMA de-obligations. There had been several previous court cases regarding de-obligation. Often, exhaustion of administrative remedies is an issue. In this case, the applicant went to court before the second appeal had been filed because

the money had already been taken away. (In order to be safe, the applicant did file the second appeal subsequently.)

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 a statute or regulation. It was FEMA's position that the field FEMA staff did not interpret the policy properly, even though the sub-grantee relied on that interpretation. 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 work is done and the costs are reasonable (Section 705 (c)). The District Court found that this case does not involve a violation of law or regulation, nor unreasonable costs. Two-thirds of de-obligations fall into these two categories.

FEMA Chief Counsel Adrian Sevier indicated that FEMA is actively engaged in implementing the South Florida holding. FEMA may take a more conservative approach to granting funds under disaster assistance. He explained that there is a need for FEMA to maintain flexibility, accuracy, and speed but those are often hard to achieve after a disaster. He mentioned that FEMA is working to be more engaged with the states and locals on the front end to try and prevent this on the back end. A policy on 705 (c) has been sent internally to FEMA regions and they hope to have the policy out by late spring.

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:

- Grant extension - Super Circular
 - He explained that, while fundamental requirements are the same across all grants, the authorizing structure differs. The appropriation will determine how much time there is to spend the money.
- NFIP Litigation –
 - 2000 cases in NY and NJ. Some CT cases as well. Usually the policyholder will make a standard underpayment claim. In this case, litigation between policyholders and their NFIP insurers ("Write Your Own" or FEMA) presented the court and NFIP with allegations of potential fraudulent and questionable engineering reports related to claims adjustment.
 - FEMA has set up a claims review process that will evaluate approximately 8,000 policyholders that could have been subjected to fraud.
 - FEMA is making reforms to the claims process which includes changes to the insurance claims and appeals process, increasing oversight of private insurance companies we work with, addressing how they handle litigation, and improving the customer experience.
- Policy Issues –
 - Recent GAO report that PA factors are encouraging too many disaster declarations. Review of Disaster Deductibles – Late summer or late fall in the federal registry.
 - Presidential Order, Federal Flood Risk Standards. Implementing guidelines open for public comment.

Past President's Committee
March 14, 2015

Meeting Summary

Attending: Chair John Madden (AK), Albert Ashwod (OK), Dave Maxwell (AR), Glen Woodbury, Jim Mullen, Ken Murphy, Jim Greene, Dave Miller and Dave McMillion.

The Past President's Committee meeting focused mainly on two topics: 1) the NEMA Business Model Review and 2) New State Director Training.

Committee members discussed the importance of conveying to the membership the justification in support of future dues adjustments, including the ability for NEMA to sustain and enhance its national influence in support of emergency management; enhancing support and services for the membership; and providing additional training and professional development opportunities for all state emergency management staff.

The group also expressed support for a new membership category for former state emergency management directors that will be voted on during the Mid-Year Forum general session.

Past Presidents provided suggestions for sessions at the next New State Director Workshop to be held on June 3-4, 2015. Some of those included:

- Building support for the state emergency management program during non-disaster times
- Working with your governor and his/her team
- How best to finesse policy versus politics (climate change as an example)
- Critical infrastructure interdependencies and cascading consequences
- Experience versus leadership

**Mitigation Committee
March 15, 2015**

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions

Mitigation Chair Kris Hamlet (UT) welcomed everyone to the committee and self-introductions were made.

Emerging Technology in Mitigation

The meeting started off with a presentation on emerging technologies in emergency notification. Matt Straeb of Global Security Systems went over the history of emergency alerts systems (EAS), explained how those alerts are received, identified the main alert architecture with EAS, and presented the committee with the trending technologies in the early earthquake warning fields. Straeb explained the limitations that previous earthquake warning transmissions had – that they only came through radio and television and were audio-only.

He also told the committee that only about thirty to forty percent of people who are eligible to receive information through IPAWS are signed up. He shared some of the best practices in early earthquake warning which such as geo-targeting specific areas to send alerts, including the functional needs community in the planning process, and increasing public outreach. Straeb then gave some recommendations to the committee when implementing an alert. He explained that approximately 54 percent of Americans have some sort of functional need, underlining the importance of examining the wide diversity of needs of people who receive emergency alerts.

Recommendations for the Earthquake Subcommittee

Jim Wilkinson with the Central United States Earthquake Consortium addressed the committee regarding the NEMA earthquake subcommittee. He explained the need for an earthquake subcommittee with the seismic hazard the nation faces as well as the annualize earthquake losses. Wilkinson gave recommendations on the makeup of the subcommittee, the focus area, and the goals. He explained that NEMA could provide a coordinated voice between the states and strengthen the earthquake program. His recommendations included providing a collective voice, working towards the reauthorization of the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program, involving interested state directors, staying broadly focused and involving the earthquake program managers.

Roundtable with the States

NEMA President Bryan Koon (FL) gave an update on the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Consortium's efforts to update the 4 to 1 return on investment data. He also provided the committee with an update on the Community Rating System (CRS) in Florida. He explained that forty-seven percent of Florida's communities are enrolled and that CRS 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. Koon also stated that Florida was working on having a state wide notification system which would increase the base line point system for the communities.

The State Hazard Mitigation Officer from Alabama, Kelli Alexander, provided the committee with an update on Alabama's safe room initiative. She explained that 250 lives were lost in the last tornado. Since then, Alabama has used HMGP to fund 4,000 residential safe rooms and 275 community safe rooms. Alabama is working with the building commission to build safe rooms in schools.

Updates from FEMA

Kris Hamlet introduced Roy Wright who is the Deputy Associate Administrator for the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA) and he gave an update on several of FEMA's priorities. Those priorities included:

- Update on NEHRP – NEMA sent a position paper to FEMA on the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program back in October. During this Mid-Year meeting, FEMA discussed their response to the paper and gave an overall update on NEHRP. Wright told the committee that the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG) is looking into earthquake standards and that FEMA is willing to reengage in the discussion on the program's match.
- Update on the NFIP – NFIP will be up for reauthorization in 2017. In his budget, the president has an increase in PreDisaster Mitigation (\$200 million) and an increase for the risk map program (\$400 million).
- Federal Flood Risk Management Standards – Wright explained that the order gave agencies the flexibility to select one of three approaches for establishing the flood elevation and hazard area. They can use data and methods informed by the best-available, build two feet about the 100-year flood elevations for standard projects, and three feet above for critical building, or build to the 500-year flood elevation. He did mention that this standard does not prohibit building in the floodplain, does not apply to private investment and does not affect the NFIP rates.
- Changes to the HMA Guidance – Wright told the committee about the webinars FEMA was holding on the changes to the guidance. Some of the changes include; climate change/resilience incorporation, Super Circular updates, streamlining HMA program delivery, frontloading enhancements, and clarification of mitigation planning requirements.

**Homeland Security Committee
March 15, 2015**

Meeting Summary

Cyber-Hygiene and Follow-up from Atlanta Cyber Workshop

Homeland Security Committee Chair Chris Kelenske opened the meeting by referring to the cyber workshop held by NEMA during the 2014 Annual Forum in Atlanta, GA where it was made clear there's a role for emergency management in terms of addressing the consequences of a successful cyber-attack. Emergency management cannot view this as simply an IT solution.

Heather Hogsett with the National Governors Association (NGA) provided the Committee with an update on their cyber-security initiative which includes the Council of Governors (CoG) and Governors Homeland Security Advisors Council (GHSAC) and NEMA. They're developing a set of recommendations for Governors and States.

NGA is also partnering with the Council on Cybersecurity (CCS) and the Center for Internet Security (CIS) on The Cyber Hygiene Campaign. The Campaign is a multi-year effort that provides key recommendations for a low-cost program organizations can adopt to achieve immediate and effective defenses against cyber-attacks. The Campaign is focused on those *Top Priorities* that once implemented, are proven to dramatically improve an organization's cyber posture – addressing the vast majority of the known cyber threats. These *Top Priorities* support the National Institute of Standards and Technology Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity (NIST Framework).

The Top Priorities for Better Cyber Health are:

Count: Know what's connected to and running on your network.

Configure: Implement key security settings to help protect your systems.

Control: Limit and manage those who have admin privileges to change, bypass or override your security settings.

Patch: Regularly update all apps, software and operating systems.

Repeat: Regularize the Top Priorities to form a solid foundation of cybersecurity

More information on cyber hygiene can be found at www.cisecurity.org.

There was discussion among Committee members regarding the potential need for Governors to know when a private sector event happens in their state that is significant enough for the top elected official to be aware of, but one in which the private sector has privacy concerns. There was also discussion on the National Guard cyber response teams being established and how they can be used under a Governor's authority. It was felt that the Federal government needs to share more intelligence information regarding cyber-attacks and that states currently learn more from the news media. There was also agreement that when conducting assessments on critical infrastructure, physical and cyber risks need to be addressed together.

Committee Chair Chris Kelenske shared what the state of Michigan is doing with their Cyber Initiative 2015 and information is available at www.michigan.gov/cybersecurity. Their efforts include updates to the state cyber disruption response strategy.

Fusion Center & Emergency Management Integration

Kevin Saupp with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security discussed the recent report on fusion center and emergency management integration. Some of the report recommendations include:

- Emergency management should convey what information they need from their fusion centers
- Fusion centers must do a better job of reaching out to their customers

- Cross-training is needed within fusion centers
- Assessment is the key to ongoing progress. DHS is now implementing performance based measures rather than the previous capability based measures.

A copy of the 2014 national report is available at www.dhs.gov.

Homegrown Radicalization: A View from DHS

Nate Snyder with DHS provided an update on foreign fighters and homegrown radicalization. According to DHS, there are 40,000 to 50,000 foreign fighters and 3,400 Westerners have traveled to the Middle East. The threat posed by violent extremism is neither constrained by international borders nor limited to any single ideology. Groups and individuals inspired by a range of personal, religious, political, or other ideological beliefs promote and use violence. Increasingly sophisticated use of the Internet, social media, and information technology by violent extremists adds an additional layer of complexity. Accordingly, DHS has designed a countering violent extremism (CVE) approach that addresses all forms of violent extremism, regardless of ideology, and that focuses not on radical thought or speech but instead on preventing violent attacks.

DHS' efforts are focused in three broad areas:

- Understand Violent Extremism - Support and coordinate efforts to better understand the phenomenon of violent extremism, including assessing the threat it poses to the nation as a whole and within specific communities;
- Support Local Communities - Bolster efforts to catalyze and support community-based programs, and strengthen relationships with communities that may be targeted for recruitment by violent extremists; and
- Support Local Law Enforcement – Deter and disrupt recruitment or individual mobilization through support for local law enforcement programs, including information-driven, community-oriented policing efforts, which for decades have proven effective in preventing violent crime.

Managing State Homeland Security Grants

Brian Kamoie with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided an update on grants. For FY15, there was a \$654K increase across all grants. The FOA for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) will be published the last week of March – earlier than the other grants which are expected to be announced in early April. Kamoie spent a good deal of time encouraging states to spend all of their funds within the performance period to avoid unobligated balances that draw the attention of Congress. He alluded to the possibility of an increase in the number of months in the grant performance period, but did not make an official announcement.

**Response and Recovery Committee
March 15, 2015**

Meeting Summary

Committee Chair Wendy Smith-Reeve (AZ) opened the meeting at 2:45 pm.

Functional/Access Needs Local Jurisdiction Planning Guidance

Ms. Smith-Reeve announced that the guidance, which was developed by state members of a joint NEMA/IAEM task force to assist local jurisdictions in their planning efforts, is almost completed. She acknowledged the states of Arizona, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Mississippi and Texas for their countless hours on the project. She gave a special thanks to the following: Allison Killebrew with the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency who steered the group through the first phase of the project and represented her director, Robert Latham, who chaired the R&R Committee last year and got the project off the ground for NEMA; Angela Barton with Georgia Emergency Management, Alynda Ponder from the Mississippi Department of Human Services and Dan Porth on Arizona's staff who are guiding it through the complicated last review and edits.

Revised FEMA Snow Policy

Albert Ashwood (OK) updated the committee on the continued development of a new FEMA snow policy. A joint NEMA/FEMA work group is tackling this project. The focus of this proposed policy is on the eligibility of certain road treatment measures while limiting the federal government's financial exposure for typical winter expenses. Kurt Schwartz (MA) asked that in addition to road treatment measures, the new policy include some kind of provisions when a state's capacity to plow and remove heavy snow is overwhelmed. His state, as well as several others, has been inundated with snow in recent months. Mr. Ashwood explained that he's now in the process of collecting and analyzing some fairly extensive data from the states on their stockpiles of road treatment measures. This data will play a key role in the revised policy. He will also follow up with Mr. Schwartz regarding his suggestions. The goal is to have a revised policy ready to pilot in fall 2015. Finally, one additional outcome of this particular effort is that FEMA would like to use the state/FEMA work group model to tackle other policies and issues.

NEMA Deobligation Efforts

At the NEMA 2014 Annual Forum, President Bryan Koon asked a group of directors to study the issue of deobligation and come back with recommendations on how to address it. This included the procurement process, training/education (FEMA, grantees, subgrantees); and the closeout process among other specifics. In light of FEMA's recent announcement about re-engineering the Public Assistance program, it was determined the PA re-design needed to play out because it will address some of the long-term issues resulting in deobligations. The directors serving on the deobligation project include Wendy Smith-Reeve (AZ); Mark Ghilarducci (CA); Mark Schouten (IA); Kevin Davis (LA); Robert Latham (MS); and Albert Ashwood (OK).

Changes in DHS-OIG Audit Methodology

John Kelly, Assistant Inspector General in the Emergency Management Oversight Division of the DHS Office of Inspector General, briefed the committee on OIG's role, the need for change in that role and the life cycle audit approach it's now incorporating. Historically, the OIG has been very effective in some aspects of its responsibilities. These include conducting audits, keeping leadership informed and making recommendations through OIG reports (about 60-70 per year). However, this work has not resulted in preventing non-compliance, improving compliance and advising subgrantees on contracting and financial management in order to avoid a deobligation. The new proactive approach attempts to address some of these shortfalls with four different types of audits, each focusing on a different aspect of the disaster process with an overall goal of improving timeliness

of the reports and recommendations. Mr. Kelly provided an in-depth PowerPoint presentation, which explains it in detail. It was posted on the NEMA forum website for further review.

NEMA Hurricane Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair Mike Sprayberry (NC) reported out on the recent Interagency Coordinating Committee on Hurricanes (ICCOH) meeting in Atlanta and NEMA's recommendations on the most current iteration of the FEMA National Hurricane Strategic Plan. They are as follows:

- Press for a solution for rapid, funded and standardized post-storm assessments.
- Continue to develop and deploy training programs that meet the user demand.
- Continue the current effort to update HURREVAC and other technology tools through DHS Science and Technology
- Continue to work with the NHP to develop products and methodologies that reach the end user in a clear, consistent, uniform and digestible format that drives the appropriate life and property-saving action.
- Consider improvements to the timing and methodology for Hurricane Evacuation Studies.
- Support NHC's efforts to continue increasing focus on storm surge.
- Continue to increase the capabilities of NHC products as well refine methodologies with comments and suggestions from ICCOH partners and affected jurisdictions on how to improve the delivery of NHC products.
- Press for improved coordination between ICCOH members, emergency management, non-profit agencies, and other with regard to preparedness and outreach materials.
- Utilize the ICCOH as a platform for continued conversation about standardizing the nomenclature for evacuation zones in hurricane areas.
- Utilize the ICCOH to develop opportunities for more timely and consistent communication between the NHC and impacted jurisdictions.
- Advocate for the full utilization of all assets available to ICCOH partners through their parent organizations.

Updates from FEMA Logistics Management Directorate

Beth Zimmerman, FEMA's Associate Administrator for Response & Recovery, told the committee about several items related to FEMA's role in logistic planning: 1) There are eight distribution centers that FEMA has around the country, stocked with various commodities such as water, tarps, meals, etc. 2) The generator program has been adjusted, saving money on maintenance expenses and allowing greater flexibility in moving generators disaster sites. 3) There are incident support bases and staging operations, which are in close proximity to disaster sites and provide commonly used sheltering items. These include durable medical equipment, consumable medical supplies as well as infant/toddler kits. Ms. Zimmerman provided a handout with further details.

NEMA Public Assistance/Individual Assistance Subcommittee

Evan Rosenberg, Recovery Chief for the Florida Division of Emergency Management, is the new lead for the subcommittee. He listed some of the recent/upcoming activities of the subcommittee:

- Providing assistance on testimony by NEMA President Bryan Koon to a Congressional Subcommittee in January
- Increasing usage by state PA and IA staff on the respective PA and IA Yahoo User sites. These user groups allow state staff to talk to one another, share information and discuss best practices. A big push

was made in the last six months to increase usage. For the IA group, a total of 17 new states have joined. For the PA group, 42 states and one territory have at least one person registered.

- Re-start of PA/IA Quarterly calls
- March 17th PA Staff meeting – this is the first major activity hosted by the PA/IA Committee under current leadership. Attending state staff will have a full day to discuss the pending PA re-engineering, Supercircular implementation, and other topics.
- FEMA PA Workshop during the week of April 6th; already provided FEMA with a list of priority items for possible discussion; PA re-engineering will be a central topic.

Directors Discussion

Greg Wilz (ND) raised the issue of procurement law training, asking FEMA to provide formal training to states on procurement processes so that a state can develop a critical mass on trained individuals on the sub-grantee level. This would include teaching how states can enter into contracts with various vendors during response and recovery at the local level, and ultimately, streamline the entire contracting process. Mike Sprayberry (NC) expressed concerns about the fact that swift-water rescue boats are not HSGP eligible and how search and rescue typing is being driven by specialized typing rather than focusing on core capability. After a discussion on each, Ms. Smith-Reeve suggested an offline conversation between Mr. Wilz and Mr. Sprayberry with Bob Fenton, Deputy Associate Administrator for the FEMA Office of Response and Recovery, for follow-up on both issues. Mr. Fenton, who was in attendance, agreed.

Key Issues in Re-Engineering of FEMA Public Assistance

Ms. Smith-Reeve introduced Alex Amparo, Assistant Administrator for Recovery, and Bill Roche, Director of the Public Assistance Division, both at FEMA. She stated that the announced re-design of FEMA's \$4.5 billion a year Public Assistance Program represents one of the best opportunities in recent years to fix nagging problems. She said that she hoped the re-design would include three central components: 1) Public Assistance needs to take a holistic approach; 2) focus on roles and responsibilities of the grantees and sub-grantees; and 3) what is working well/what needs improvement in the program.

A handout on the NEMA website was referred to during the committee discussion. That document is available on the NEMA website.

The committee discussed the following:

- Need greater capacity of subgrantees along with contracting ability
- Need more robust staffs on state level (or at least the ability to augment staff through EMAC)
- Keep same FEMA PA specialists throughout process
- Sub-grantees must be represented in the re-engineering process
- Challenge assumptions at the beginning of the process; i.e. fewer PWs would make the process better.
- Approach the re-engineering process from a values and principles perspective; how it functions when there isn't an active disaster. Does any discussed change actually improve the process? Will it remain valid?
- Consider a "Storm Ready" equivalent to be ready for a disaster; some kind of recognition/incentive system to go through the training
- The need for OIG to provide a checklist ahead of time so that grantees and subgrantees know the rules of the game
- Focus on building capacity at the lowest level; local jurisdictions need to be incentivized
- More states should consider managing their own disasters because it helps ensure customer service, an on-going complaint with the current PA system; determine incentives for this as part of re-engineering
- North Dakota, which is state managed, cited greater efficiencies and stronger relationships, as benefits

The committee wrapped up its final discussion item by suggesting a workshop at the NEMA 2015 Annual Forum in Miami to discuss the new PA elements FEMA plans to test during the summer. President Koon will consider this further as he finalizes details for the upcoming forum.

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Private Sector Committee
March 16, 2015

Meeting Summary

The meeting was brought to order by committee chair Brock Long. He welcomed those in attendance, described the purpose of the committee and how the committees' role within NEMA has recently evolved and will continue to do so in the coming years. The chair then introduced Shandi Treloar, Webinar Working Group Lead, for an update on the NEMA Webinar Series.

On November 5, 2014, the Webinar working group met via conference call and developed a framework to create the webinar series. Over the next two months, a survey of the NEMA state director members was conducted to determine subjects of interest. A short list of four interest areas were chosen and sent to the NEMA private sector members in a call for presentations. Twenty one (21) submissions were received by NEMA staff, all identifying information of the submitting organization was removed and the submissions were then submitted to the working group for review. The chosen submission topic was on FEMA's FNSS guidance. The topic for the second webinar was also chosen and will be announce at a future time. The FNSS webinar will be presented on March 25, 2015 and as of this meeting registrations were numbered at 291.

The chair thanked Ms. Treloar and the working group for their hard work and then introduced Jeannie Moore with FEMA's Private Sector Office for an update on the National Business Emergency Operations Center (NBEOC). Moore reminded the committee of the purpose and structure of the NBEOC:

- Quarterly webinars are hosted for all interested parties.
- There is an online portal for which they are currently seeking topic suggestions.
- They are leveraging WebEOC for private sector to help engage partners unable to come to DC.
- There will be a conference on Building Public-Private Partnerships in the summer. Check FEMA website for more information.
- They still seek private sector representatives for a 90 day rotation in the BEOC.
- Regions are now also private sector staff in the regional BEOCs.
- PS Prep program is also still running and the small business component has been added.

The chair thanked Ms. Moore and introduced Martha Duggan with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association to discuss BEOC participation by the energy sector. BEOC participation gives energy/utilities the opportunity to better coordinate, communicate and get the lights back on.

NRECA also participates in the First Responder Network Authority or FirstNet to build, operate and maintain the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. FirstNet provides a single interoperable platform for emergency and daily public safety communications using nationwide 700 MHz spectrum.

Ms. Duggan then opened the floor for questions, which included the following:

- Q: What work is being done to address cyber concerns?
A: High level staffs from power and utilities companies (CEO level) are meeting regularly with the White House to share information.
- Q: How can state directors engage and find out more about the work of this group?
A: Call Martha Duggan
- Q: What is expected from states if a cyber-event takes down the power grid?

A: Power and utilities already have strong relationships with states so continued cooperation and training are key.

Mike Sprayberry gave the example of North Carolina's partnership with their utilities to install cameras, additional security to prevent vandals, thieves around transformers and stations. The chair thanked Martha Duggan and noted that the other speaker for this portion of the agenda, Ahsha Tribble with DOE, was not in attendance.

The chair then introduced Bryan Koon, NEMA president, to discuss a proposed dues adjustment. The Business Model Review Working Group made numerous recommendations that have been and will continue to be implemented in the coming months and years for the benefit of all members. In order to meet the needs of the association going forward, a dues adjustment has been proposed that, if approved, would take affect for the 2017 fiscal year which begins July 1, 2016. The by-laws state that dues adjustments be voted on at the annual forum, but are being proposed now for review and comment prior to the vote at the Annual Forum in Miami. The states approved an increase at the last Annual Forum, which will take affect for FY 2016, raising their dues to \$3500 annually. The proposed adjustments for FY2017 are as follows:

NEMA Membership Dues	FY16	FY17	% Increase
Adjustment Proposal		July 1, 2016	
State Dues, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	\$3,500.00	\$4,500.00	28.6%
Territory Dues MH, PW, FM	\$250.00	\$300.00	20%
Territory Dues AS, GU, CNMI	\$500.00	\$600.00	20%
Corporate Assoc. Dues 251+ employees	\$1200.00	\$1,440.00	20%
Corporate Assoc. Dues 1-250 employees	\$500.00	\$600.00	20%
Organization Assoc. Dues	\$300.00	\$360.00	20%
Individual Assoc. Dues	\$200.00	\$240.00	20%
Key State Staff Assoc. Dues	Included in State	Included in State	
International Member Assoc. Dues	Included in Org/Ind	Included in Org/Ind	
Student Assoc. Dues	\$50.00	\$50.00	N/A
State Director Alumni	\$50.00	\$50.00	N/A

In addition to the adjustments for FY17, the membership will vote on a scheduled review every two years with increases based on the consumer price index (CPI). This plan will be voted on at the Annual Forum in Miami.

President Koon then discussed the upcoming annual forum in Miami, September 28-October 1. He would like to include discussions in that agenda about economic impacts from disasters. The chair expanded on this, saying that what recovery actually is and what it looks like should be better defined. He also volunteered the committee to assist with gathering innovations in this area to present during a workshop.

The chair thanked the president and opened the floor to comments which included:

- Soliciting SME's from the private sector to further involvement;
- Partner with All-Hazards Consortium;
- Develop more partnerships outside of the traditional emergency management players;
- Develop issue based working groups;
- Look for ways for product providers can warehouse supplies for efficient and faster distribution;
- Need honest conversation on ways to better manage response to disasters;
- NISC has a BEOC working group that has identified 18 essential elements of information.

With no further discussion or comment, 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
March 16, 2015

Meeting Summary

Introduction

Committee Chair Jimmy Gianato (WV) welcomed everyone; introduced Matt Cowles and Drenan Dudley from the Senate Appropriations Committee, Kerry Kinirons and Moira Bergin from the House Homeland Security Committee, Bruce Lockwood with IAEM, Josh Batkin with FEMA and Justin Stevens with NGA before proceeding with the planned agenda.

A View from Capitol Hill

The Senate Appropriations Committee gave insight into their priorities for the coming year. These included monitoring the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), continuing the discussion on cybersecurity and working through the budgets for fiscal year 2016. Cowles and Dudley were encouraged to see an increase in the President's budget proposal for PreDisaster Mitigation (PDM) and risk mapping. They explained that mitigation would be a priority and that they were taking a harder look on the investment on the front end. They also explained the importance of the Emergency Management Performance Grant Return on Investment Report and thanked NEMA and IAEM for their work on it.

The House Homeland Security Committee explained that their priorities are looking at the response to chemical terrorism, understanding the risk of biological threats, examining the National Exercise Program and what best practices, shared information, and lessons learned are coming out of it, and reviewing nationwide interoperability through Integrated Public Alert Warning Systems (IPAWS) legislation. They also mentioned that they were focusing on the NFIP, school preparedness plans, and mass gathering that could be potential targets.

Understanding IPAWS

Antwane Johnson, Director of FEMA's Integrated Public Alert Warning Systems (IPAWS) program and Pam Holstein Wallace, IPAWS Program Specialist, presented before the committee on IPAWS and other emergency alert systems. Johnson explained that IPAWS is a modernization and integration of the nation's alert and warning infrastructure. Alerting authorities can use IPAWS and integrate local systems that use Common Alerting Protocol standards with the IPAWS infrastructure. IPAWS provides public safety officials with an effective way to alert and warn the public about serious emergencies using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, and other public alerting systems from a single interface. Johnson explained the wireless emergency alert systems (WEAs) make alert warning more effective and that the capabilities are available to the states. The alerts have a unique sound and vibration that people receive when a WEA message is broadcast, the alert messages can also be sent to cell phones as well as the traditional means of radio and television. Johnson also said that government agencies at the federal, state, local, and tribal levels wishing to utilize WEA must execute a Memorandum of Agreement with FEMA's IPAWS program.

Partnership Updates; FEMA, NGA, and IAEM

The update from FEMA Office of External Affairs Director Josh Batkin focused only briefly on legislative priorities for FEMA at this time. FEMA is currently focused on the education and outreach to new Members of Congress, the reengineering of the public assistance program, reviewing the President's proposal on the National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP), continuing the reform of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and working through the issues with the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act.

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's budget, continued work to develop a cybersecurity framework, addressing the challenges with the National Guard, continuing the conversation on National Preparedness Grant Program reform, 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.

Bruce Lockwood 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 and webinars that IAEM held on the topic of Ebola.

Issues Impacting the States; A Look into State Legislation

During the Mid-Year Forum, the committee utilized part of the Legislative Committee meeting to explore current legislative efforts within the states, instead of just focusing on federal legislation. This gave the committee the unique opportunity to share information about what their specific state legislature was doing in the field of emergency management and homeland security. One piece of legislation that was discussed was a draft proposal from Oregon which would require the Office of Emergency Management to create a credentialing system for first informers, which would give them access to disaster areas to report news or to maintain equipment. The Legislative Committee will work on discussing more state legislation at the Annual Forum.