

**NEMA 2018 Annual Forum  
October 1-4, 2018  
Savannah, GA**

**General Session Draft Minutes**

**October 4, 2018**  
**Present p=proxy**

**Region I**

Connecticut  
Maine – proxy  
Massachusetts – proxy  
New Hampshire  
Rhode Island  
Vermont

**Region II**

New Jersey  
New York – proxy  
Virgin Islands

**Region III**

Delaware  
Maryland  
Pennsylvania  
Virginia  
West Virginia

**Region IV**

Alabama  
Florida  
Georgia – proxy  
Kentucky  
North Carolina – proxy  
South Carolina – proxy  
Mississippi  
Tennessee

**Region V**

Illinois  
Indiana  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
Ohio  
Wisconsin

**Region VI**

Arkansas  
Louisiana  
New Mexico  
Oklahoma

**Region VII**

Iowa – proxy  
Kansas  
Missouri  
Nebraska

**Region VIII**

Colorado  
Montana  
North Dakota  
South Dakota  
Wyoming – proxy

**Region IX**

Arizona - proxy  
Hawaii

**Region X**

Alaska  
Idaho  
Oregon  
Washington

Vice President Brad Richy (ID) called the meeting to order and asked Secretary Sima Merick (OH) to call the roll. A quorum was declared. Richy explained that President Mike Sprayberry (NC) was unable to attend the Annual Forum due to the ongoing recovery efforts in North Carolina from Hurricane Matthew.

### **How to Operationalize the Private Sector in Disaster Response and Recovery – Panel Discussion**

Shandi Treloar, Principal, EM Strategies; NEMA Private Sector Committee Chair; Jason Jackson, Senior Director, Emergency Management, Walmart, Inc.; Kathy Fulton, Executive Director, American Logistics Aid Network; Nicolette Louissaint, PhD, Executive Director and President, Healthcare Ready; Martha Duggan, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

The panel discussion focused on the highly useful resources and capabilities of the private sector to assist in disasters, and how states can capitalize on that expertise when its needed. So much of disaster response involves logistics and supply chains which is what the private sector does best and can help emergency management make good decisions. Having those relationships established in advance is critical, as is speaking the same language and understanding private sector capabilities. Even though many of those aiding in disaster response are market-place competitors, their affiliation with non-governmental associations (like NEMA) can create a safe space for collaboration and coordination on behalf of impacted communities and citizens. Having the State EM and FEMA direct relationship can help with knowing where and when to surge supplies to areas where citizens are located be it in shelters or temporary housing. Private sector companies are focused on the bottom line, but their facilities are located in disaster-stricken areas and they have a responsibility for their employees and their well-being. Getting stories open as quickly as possible is in the best interest of all parties. Each of the panelists discussed the need for real-time data and better indicators or measures.

### **Delivering a New Generation of Water Information and Services – Edward Clark, Director, National Water Center, NOAA National Weather Service**

Mission – Collaboratively research, develop and deliver timely and consistent, state-of-the-science national hydrologic analyses, forecast information, data, guidance, and decision-support services to inform essential emergency management and water resources decisions across all time scales.

For water this means:

- Better, more specific forecasts and warnings
- Actionable environmental intelligence through mapping and advanced visualization leverage the best in science, social science and design.
- Consistent products and services
- Connecting forecasts to decisions for both high impact events and routine high value such as managing precious water resources
- Sustained partnerships and decisions support service
- 

Significance: The first facility of its kind, the National Water Center (NWC) works to revolutionize operational water resources analysis and forecasting by providing a central hub to efficiently manage the flow of water information, operating state-of-the-art water models in a high-performance computing environment, and producing, in partnership with NWS River Forecast Centers, a unique, comprehensive suite of new water resources information products and services. In time, it is anticipated to become the nerve center for the Nation’s water resources prediction enterprise, informing and enabling routine high-value and high-impact decision-making across a broad range of water-management and emergency-management sectors. The NWC will produce information necessary to support the growth of the Nation’s emerging water resources economy. In summary:

- NOAA’s Water Services are Evolving
- Continental scale modeling approach producing consistent, “street-level” information to address growing stakeholder needs
- Deliver comprehensive, integrated actionable water predictions/intelligence

- More than streamflow – “placing the water on the map”

### **FEMA Administrator Brock Long**

Administrator Long discussed the current stresses on the system due to ongoing disaster response and recovery across the country which continues to leave FEMA stretched thin personnel-wise. He encouraged states to embrace the State-Led Public Assistance Program initiative that FEMA is looking to implement very soon. The Disaster Reform Recovery Act (DRRA) will make a tremendous difference in disaster resilience by setting aside 6% of disaster funding to be focused on pre-disaster mitigation. All states must have pre-identified mitigation projects ready and be able to spend the money quickly. He said the U.S. is breaking the bank on disaster spending and we must identify areas for cost-savings. His suggestion is category E which could be replaced by private insurance. Disaster housing also needs to change and FEMA would like to be able to provide block grants with authority for governors to manage their own housing programs. Administrator Long mentioned the FEMA Integration Teams (FIT) that are in place in several states and are making a difference in North Carolina which just experienced Hurricane Matthew. The hiring process is underway in several more states and to be completed by the end of the year. He briefly touched on the FEMA Strategic Plan goals and objectives and encouraged states to adopt or model them if possible.

### **NEMA Business Session**

**Secretary’s Report** – Secretary Sima Merick presented for approval the draft minutes from the 2018 Mid-Year Forum.

Moved: PA DISPOSITION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY  
 Second: EI

**Treasurer’s Report** – Treasurer Robert Ezelle provided the year-end FY18 financial report. NEMA closed out the fiscal year with \$168,086 revenue over expense. The ending fund balance was \$1,495,536. Hosting two successful forums were the main reasons for the additional revenue. NEMA also received \$2.6 million dollars in grant funding in FY18. Ezelle thanked NEMA’s funding partners: FEMA/DHS, CDC, HHS and DOE.

Treasurer Ezelle reported that the FY19 budget calls for spending down the fund balance by \$82,313. Of that amount, \$50,000 is programmed for membership recruitment and retention activities, marketing and web site enhancements. To date, NEMA has received \$464,000 in grant funding, with another \$2.1 million dollars pending.

**Officer Elections** – Vice President Richy presented the slate of officer candidates for 2018-2019:

Vice President – Sima Merick, Ohio  
 Treasurer – Robert Ezelle, Washington  
 Secretary – Michael Dossett, Kentucky

Richy asked for nominations from the floor according to Robert’s Rules of Order. A motion was made to close nominations.

Moved: WV DISPOSITION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY  
 Second: PA

A motion was made to accept and approve the slate of candidates as presented.

Moved: DE DISPOSITION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY  
Second: UT

President Richy congratulated the new officers, thanked attendees, sponsors and speakers, and asked for a motion to adjourn the 2018 Annual Forum.

Moved: MS DISPOSITION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY  
Second: TN