



National Homeland Security Consortium Virtual Meeting Summary

July 14, 2020

10:00am – 12:00pm EDT

Tri-Chairs:

City Manager Lee Feldman (ICMA)

Director Brian Hastings (NEMA)

Executive Director Jenny Williams (GHSAC)

Agenda:

- **FEMA Update**
- **Briefing on NHSC Projects and Outlook for 2021**
- **Round-Robin of 2020 Issues**

As response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues nationwide, the National Homeland Security Consortium conducted its first virtual meeting to share insights and hear from federal partners on specific topics related to the response. Tri-Chairs Lee Feldman, Brian Hastings, and Jenny Williams welcomed everyone to the meeting.

FEMA Update

John Allen, Director, Office of Resilience Integration and Coordination, FEMA

FEMA provided an update on its involvement in the response to COVID-19 as well as other priorities for the year. These include federal response responsibilities for COVID-19, responding to any Stafford declaration that occurs, and preserving the overall agency workforce. As of the meeting date, FEMA has obligated \$6.8 billion and the total when combined with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) it's over \$100 billion and FEMA and HHS are partnering to replenish Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). Allen noted that FEMA has worked to stockpile and pre-position supplies for shelters in the event of another significant disaster and established additional virtual capabilities for routine work including damage assessments. Allen recommended that non-congregate sheltering be used as much as feasible during incidents and that messaging on evacuation vs. shelter-in-place be a more individual choice this year.

Briefing on NHSC Projects and Outlook for 2021

Trina Sheets, Executive Director, NEMA

Sheets provided an update on the planned NHSC After Action Review of the initial months of the COVID-19 response. With virtually all members involved in some form or another, she asked that members let leadership know that the AAR is upcoming and share any previous AAR work any member has already conducted. The process will include a survey for identification of cross-cutting issues, interviews of selected association members, and a conference on the AAR early next year if conditions permit. The report is expected to be completed by early 2021.

NOTE: In the intervening period between when the meeting was conducted and the summary released, CNA (Center for Naval Analyses, Inc.) was selected by the Tri-Chairs as the AAR contractor.

Round-Robin of 2020 Issues

The associations present highlighted their biggest priorities and issues in the ever-dynamic environment of 2020. There were several recurring themes in the issues brought before the Consortium, including PPE and the fragility of the supply chain, the economic impacts of COVID-10 on state and local budgets, the additional challenges inherent in responding to other disasters in a COVID-19 environment, workforce challenges, the nation's vaccine infrastructure, outbreak and vector management, and others.