

**NEMA 2018 Mid-Year Forum
March 19-22, 2018
Alexandria, VA**

General Session Minutes

March 22, 2018

Present p = proxy

Region I

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

Region II

New Jersey
Virgin Islands

Region III

Delaware
District of Columbia - proxy
Maryland
Pennsylvania - proxy
Virginia - proxy
West Virginia

Region IV

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

Region V

Illinois
Indiana
Michigan
Minnesota
Ohio
Wisconsin

Region VI

Arkansas
Louisiana
New Mexico
Oklahoma

Region VII

Iowa
Kansas – proxy
Nebraska

Region VIII

Colorado
Montana
North Dakota
South Dakota
Utah
Wyoming

Region IX

Arizona
Guam
Hawaii
Commonwealth of
N. Mariana Islands

Region X

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

President Mike Sprayberry (NC) called the meeting to order and asked Secretary Sima Merrick (OH) to call the roll. A quorum was declared.

Federal Emergency Management Agency Update: Brock Long, Administrator

FEMA Administrator Brock Long touched on a wide-ranging series of issues that he'd like to address. He asked for a unified effort to change the emergency management profession in ways that improve the disaster survivor's experience, streamline programs and reduce complexity. Long reviewed the new FEMA Strategic Plan and asked states to adopt it or support in any way they can.

Administrator Long discussed the disaster housing challenges experienced in 2017 and stated that FEMA is good at sheltering, but not housing as they have limited programs. The coordination between FEMA, HUD and SBA is not what it should be. The best solution is for FEMA to be given the authority to make grants to states to administer housing programs as they deem most appropriate. This would require Congressional action. Long also shared his vision for states to be able to manage disasters under \$41 million (80% of disasters are \$41M or less). He suggested that increased and more flexible management costs could help build capacity for states to manage more disasters on their own, along with FEMA integration teams that would embed with the states and provide technical assistance and expertise. He cited the areas of logistics and housing which are the top gaps identified in State Preparedness Reports and FEMA Integration Teams could assist.

FEMA then facilitated the announcement of the new director of the National Hurricane Center – Ken Graham – who was present at the Forum.

Business Session

Secretary's Report - Sec. Sima Merick presented the draft minutes from the 2017 Annual Forum for approval.

Moved: AZ DISPOSTION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
Second: TN

Treasurer's Report – Vice Pres. Brad Richy (ID) presented on behalf of Treas. Robert Ezelle (WA) who was unable to attend. NEMA's beginning fund balance for the fiscal year is at \$1.327 million dollars. As of January 31, the association had revenue over expense in the amount of \$326,715. All 50 states, DC and 3 territories have paid dues. As of this March, NEMA had received \$2.6 million dollars in grant funding. Richy thanked federal partners for their support including FEMA, CDC, DOE and ASPR.

There being no further business, Pres. Sprayberry called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: TN DISPOSTION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
Second: MS