



Meeting Minutes

Meeting Description: IEMAC Fall Meeting 2019

Report Date: December 17, 2019 **Location:** Mystic, Connecticut, US
Meeting Begin Date: November 19, 2019 **Meeting End Date:** November 20, 2019

Present: See Attached Attendees List

Regrets: Jean Bissonnette (QC); Aaron Campbell (PEI); Peter Rogers (ME); David McCormack (NL)

Invited Guests: FEMA Exercise Division, CT Homeland Security & Emergency Management Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner and five regional managers.

- 1.0 **Proxies:** Tanya Mullally for Aaron Campbell (PEI); Erica Bornemann (VT) for Peter Rogers (ME); Paul Mason (NS) for David McCormack (NL)
- 2.0 **Approval of Minutes:** Spring 2019 (Newfoundland Labrador) minutes was approved – Massachusetts motioned to approve, New Brunswick seconded; motion carried. Final document will be translated and posted to the IEMG website.
- 3.0 **Definitions & Acronyms:** To be reviewed annually.
- 4.0 **Legal Status of IEMG:** All 11 jurisdictions are officially full members of the IEMG.
- 5.0 **Administrative Support Position (Secretariat):** No changes as the State of Maine will continue to hold this position.
- 6.0 **Website:** Web address is www.iemg-gigu-web.org. The website continues to be utilized as a central depository for documents. Everyone is encouraged to view the website. Member only section contains nonpublic information. Presentations from this meeting, if available, will be posted in the member only section of the site.

The website is set to be redesigned and upgraded in the coming months, and will be completed by New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization.

- 7.0 **IEMG 101:** The PowerPoint presentation is available on the IEMAC website noted above. All newer delegates and/or partners to the IEMG are encouraged to review this PowerPoint. The PowerPoint presentation current name is The International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding and is located under the presentation tab on the public side of the website. I have asked that the presentation be renamed IEMG101 to avoid confusion.
- 8.0 **Report from Each Jurisdiction:** Each Jurisdiction Director gave a summary of what has been going on in their jurisdiction with staffing, lead changes, financial matters, disasters, and upcoming exercises/events for the period of July 2019 to December 2019. Key comments listed below:



NB – Director MacCallum reported that during the reporting period there were a total of 3 activations, one level 2 and two level 3, during the reporting period, and no local declarations/states of emergency; 12 emergency exercises were completed and many training opportunities including ICS 100, 200, and 300 courses; The NBEMO reorganization/transformation is ongoing with added positions such as Senior Operations Office and Training and Exercise Coordinator; NBEMO has acquired a drone with Flir/thermal capability. 4 staff are trained to Transport Canada standards for UAV operations. The agency drone was deployed 4 times during this reporting period, mostly SAR operations; Nuclear exercise, Exercise Synergy Challenge 2018, after action report resulted in a Corrective Action Plan and the full report will be published early 2020; Hurricane Dorian impacted the province with power outages, and infrastructure damages with projected \$23 million province wide damage. Two staff members, Operations Chief and Planning Chief, were deployed via IEMG compact to the province of Prince Edward Island to assist with Dorian response; New provincial EOC in process. New state of the art building is under construction with a scheduled completion date of Fall 2020 and will include a fusion center and cyber section; Heavy attention to mitigation projects.

NS – Director Mason reported that the jurisdiction had 3 Provincial EOC activations, tropical storm, wind/rain event, and Level 3 Activation for Hurricane Dorian and zero Disaster Declarations during this reporting period; Hurricane Dorian activated the NS provincial EOC operations 24/7 for 10 days. ICS roles were key to this event. 409,000 outages were reported, 3 shelters and 84 warming shelters were opened, and \$100 million in individual assistance damages reported. Power restoration was prioritized based on previous events lessons learned. Critical infrastructure and communications were highlighted areas. Hurricane Dorian AAR is currently being drafted with completion date early 2020; The province held regular routine exercises and trainings including several ICS specific trainings; ongoing key initiatives and the next 6 month outlook includes Developing and implementing NG911 emergency management strategies, and looking at regulations and legislation with municipalities.

MA – Director Phillips reported that the jurisdiction had 3 partial EOC activations during the reporting period: Cape Cod Tornado, another gas leak in the Lawrence area, and an October Nor'easter that resulted in 250,000 outages; MEMA had 18 exercises and 37 training opportunities during the period; The Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station began the decommissioning process on May 31st and the plant operator (Holtec) has petitioned to the Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner (NRC) for exemptions to the emergency planning requirements to take effect in April 2020; Over the next 6 months MEMA is hoping to have a statewide mass notification system in partnership with other state agencies, partnering with NH for Seabrook exercise, continuing to work on a statewide recovery framework, and working on a statewide needs assessment/gap analysis on the state of emergency management across the Commonwealth; Massachusetts is conditionally EMAP accredited.

PEI – Tanya Mullally (proxy) reported there were 2 EOC activations during the reporting period. Tropical Storm Dorian initiated a 13-day Level 2 Activation that was the longest activation in history of PEI EMO. 80% of the entire province was without power. A second level 1 activation occurred for a VIP visit HIH Princess Takamado; Federal and Provincial Disaster Financial Assistance Program activated for Post Tropical Storm Dorian for 5 million dollars. This was the first activation of the PEI Provincial program; PEI EMO held two full scale exercises, one being coordination with the Canadian Coast Guard/Joint rescue Coordination Center/NFL-Bay Ferries Marine mass casualty exercise and they exercised a live airlift of 50 casualties; Routine training opportunities including ICS courses; PEI EMO was activated and on site for the 2019 Congres Mondail Acadien, and the 2019 Cavendish Beach Musical Festival which sees 25,000 attendees; EMO staff changes include 2 new Public Safety Officers so EMO is now fully staffed at 4 employees; PEI EMO is also co-chairing with NS EMO and Public Safety Canada on the FPT Emergency Management Strategy Action Plan and nationally have adopted Capability Based Planning and a draft action plan is planned to be submitted to the FPT Ministers in March of 2020.



VT –Director Erica Bornemann reported there was one EOC activation for a flooding and wind event in November. The EOC was active for 36 hours and 1 day active for the recovery stage. A Major Disaster Declaration has been submitted as the damage amounts for this one storm was 5 times the states threshold; VEM has hosted and/or participated in 4 exercises and 19 trainings, including ICS and Resource Support Section Training; VEM’s Disasterland contract ends in June 2020 and may be looking into WebEOC; Staff changes include Planning section chief, 2 Emergency Management support specialists and an emergency management planner; Looking forward VEM has identified cyber security as the #1 threat and will be doing several workshops and trainings related to cyber, including FEMA’s NLE2020; Director Bornemann was elected the Vice President of the NEMA.

RI –Director Marc Pappas reported there were no EOC activations or disaster declarations during the reporting period; RI conducted 7 exercises, 18 trainings and 6 special events during the reporting period including an airport plane crash full scale exercise and various ICS and other trainings; Tens of Millions of liquid propane gas is coming into port in November 2019; RI EMA is working on several State Plans, including shelter plans, disaster plans, and drone plans; EMA is the lead coordinator in the 2020 preparedness conference with partnering agencies Departments of Health and Environmental Protection; Staff changes include Logistics Coordinator, Exercise Coordinator, Operations Manager, and Preparedness Branch Chief; Future ICS and other trainings are scheduled in the coming months.

NH – Director Jennifer Harper reported there were 5 partial EOC activations, 3 incidents, 2 special events; 7 Presidential Disaster Declarations are currently open (including a new declaration from July 2019 flooding). 2 of the 7 are pending closeout; NH conducted 26 exercises and 45 trainings during the reporting period including the expansion of school safety and Houses of Worship active shooter training; Continue working the Governor’s School Preparedness Program and School Safety Taskforce and online resource center. This continues to be very successful; 2020 Presidential Primary filing period October 30 to November 15 and it is the 100th Anniversary of the First-in-the-Nation Presidential Primary; Continued awareness for House of Worship/Active Shooter sessions; New cybersecurity ESF, requested municipalities and schools report any activity to the state; NHHSEM was asked by the Governor to participate in Homeless Sheltering meetings; New Assistant Director as of September 2, 2019; The next 6 month outlook is Radiological Emergency Preparedness workshops and exercises in preparation for the graded Seabrook exercise in September 2020 and their annual preparedness conference.

ME – Director not present, reported via email. Acting Director Peter Rogers reports three EOC activations, a propane explosion and two weather events, during this reporting period and no new disaster declarations; MEMA facilitated a 211 tabletop and numerous staff EOC exercises and trainings during the reporting period. Exercise and training staff turnover did result in fewer courses being offered; MEMA continues to have staff turnover but all but three vacant positions have been hired. Remaining vacant positions include Agency Director and two finance positions. The next 6 month outlook is the National Level Exercise 2020, several Seabrook tabletops and graded exercises, climate change tabletops, Grants Management training, volunteer and donations management trainings, and ongoing EOC position specific training for the entire MEMA team.

CT – Director Bill Hackett reported there were no state EOC activation or emergency declarations during the reporting period; Hosted three FEMA Region 1 meetings, 15 exercises including statewide deliveries of Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative “GridEx” as well as five Cybersecurity awareness trainings and other training opportunities; Staff changed include a restructured state fusion center adding 3 Deputy Homeland Security advisors and Critical Infrastructure Coordination staff, HMPG/ESF1 emergency program management specialist, and addition of FEMA FIT members; EMAP re-accreditation with planned target completion of February 2020; The next 6 month outlook is the National Level Exercise 2020, Evaluated Ingestion Pathway Radiological Exercise, and a non-evaluated radiological exercise workshop



NL – No Report

QC – Director not present, reported via email. The province activated the EOC twice during the reporting period both at level 3 on the coordination and mobilization scale. Tropical storm Dorian impacted the Magdalena Island and the North Coast with high winds and coastal erosion. Power outages and fallen trees occurred in other regions of the province. The October 31st – November 1st storm featured high winds that created power outage for more than 900,000 customers of Hydro Quebec, some for as long as 5 days. Many municipal accommodation centers were opened; No States of Emergency were reported; Several exercises and training opportunities were held featuring scenarios like oil spills, railway events, and cyber events; Quebec hosted a Pacifist walk for climate in Montreal (with climate change activist Greta Thunberg); Staff changes include new professional representative from Public Safety Quebec Mylene Grenon who replaced Adi Jakupovic as the IEMG representative; Looking forward Quebec's civil security organization is planning a governmental exercise during winter 2020.

Federal Partners:

PSC – During Hurricane/Tropical Storm Dorian PSC identified that co-locating PSC staff in their provincial regions was helpful and the PEI office is moving by the end of the fiscal year; During the NB flooding event it was identified the need for improvement in the flood event processes. A new framework, including RFA processes and military support, is being worked now and hope to have the process completed before next spring; Cross border resiliency project has moved forward and NB Power crews are crossing quicker; The geomatic section of the Government Operations Center will be doing a series of presentations on the geo mapping software that will be made available for federal and provincial partners to use. A presentation is scheduled in New Brunswick in December.

An Emergency Strategy Action Plan Canada working group was created with focus on mutual aid, resource availability, etc. Several working group members are also IEMG delegates and will share information on the secured section of the IEMG website

FEMA Region 1- Over the last 6 months FEMA has placed Federal Integration Teams (FIT) in all of Region 1 states with the exception of Maine; IEMC courses were held in NH and ME; Participated in the National Fire Protection Agency in active shooter, family notification, and reunification exercise; in Region 1 there are 51 active disasters; Regional Administrator, Russ Webster reports that the office is pending continuing resolution and preparing for a possible government shutdown and about 77 staff members could be effected. The last federal government shutdown severely affected services and they are hoping a shutdown doesn't happen; Region 1 currently working two platforms: 1. New Tribal engagement plan and 2. Regional synchronization Health Partners; FEMA is working on the National Level Exercise (NLE2020), May 2020, with a cyber focus with kinetic component. NLE2020 exercise sessions have been scheduled in January and February 2020 in preparation for the full exercise.

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) – Regional offices have been set up across the country to improve the delivery of the department's services. Increasing number of cyber incidents are occurring every day and there is a lot of work going on on how to manage these incidents. Several incidents are happening across the country, even in Maine.

Reports are coming out in the next few months regarding the power grid, how it works, problematic pieces, resistance to the grid and the great US/Canada collaboration. Guidelines have been sent and awaiting congressional approval;



US Coast Guard - Continues to address cyber concerns and active shooter exercises. Ferries are a continued challenge.

DHHS – The US DHHS staff has been on several deployments during this reporting period; DHHS focus on improving regional medical planning and evacuation of Neonatal care units, which was identified as an ongoing area of concern; DHHS continues support with customs and border protection with an upsurge in planning and asked to participate in the Summer Olympics in Japan; Continues quarterly calls with public health agencies including Canada Public Health; DHHS continues involvement in the New England Radiological Assistance Compact on state laws and allows help in radiation areas.

9.0 Operations Manual: The current Operations Manual is available at www.iemg-gigu-web.org. The document was last revised in 2015. Discussion led by Tanya Mullally (PEI) who had reviewed the document in its entirety and had several recommendations for edits. Tanya will do a full reformatting and revision (draft) and distribute to the Board for review in early 2020. The proposed changes with EMAC which may influence the specific operational components of the plan so it was agreed to hold off on some portions of the plan until the EMAC work is completed. Recommended that a review of this document be a standing item at all meetings.

10.0 Strategic Plan:

A group working session took place regarding the IEMG Strategic Plan. Co-Chair Erica Bornemann (VT) drafted the strategic plan prior to the meeting and sections and subsections were discussed.

Previously the group identified 5 areas of focus: 1. Situational Awareness 2. Update the Report Out Form to also include the projected jurisdictional 6-month outlook going forward 3. Lessons Learned and Best Practices 4. Training and Exercise 5. Streamlining the process for sharing resources cross border.

The group was able to get through about half of the strategies in the allotted time and the board members will discuss the rest of the document via conference call in January. Follow up session will be scheduled to update the group on the document in its revised status.

11.0 National Level Exercise 2020: Discussion regarding the upcoming National Level Exercise (NLE) that most of the New England jurisdictions are participating in. US Jurisdictions have been working with FEMA but there was a question if there is interest from the IEMG for any state-provincial coordination during the exercise.

The exercise will be facilitated over several modules with module 1 being military to military, module 2a cyber threat, module 2b long term cascading power outage disruption in FEMA's Region 1 (New England States) and Region IX (California, Nevada, and Arizona). Private sector involvement is encouraged. Planning meetings and video conferencing will begin in December and MSEL development to begin in January 2020.

Module 2b of the NLE is scheduled for May 11-15, 2020 with New England state participation predominately on May 12-13, 2020 with some partial play on May 11. States who indicated participation include Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island. Provinces who expressed interest in participating included New Brunswick & Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will reach out to their federal partners. FEMA is asking for injects that would affect the Canadian members.



FEMA is engaging with the Public Safety Canada to determine the level of interest in participating in the exercise. A follow up call with PSC is scheduled later in December.

- 12.0 **New England Governors Eastern Canadian Premiers Briefing:** St. John New Brunswick was schedule to host the NEG-ECP meeting from Sept 8-10, 2019 but meeting was cancelled due to Tropical Storm Dorian.
- 13.0 **Annual Report:** The 2019 Annual Report was not presented to the NEG-ECP because the meeting was cancelled but the annual report will be added to the IEMAC website.
- 14.0 **Presentations and Discussions:** Any presentations made available from the Spring 2019 meeting in Newfoundland Labrador have been posted to the IEMAC website in the member's only section. Not all presentations were available electronically.

- EMAC presentation by Erica Bornemann (VT) and Angela Copple (NEMA EMAC Program Director) via PowerPoint and telephone. EMAC is the Emergency Management Assistance Compact and is a state to state mutual aid agreement through which requested resources are efficiently and effectively shared in support of saving lives, protecting property, minimizing environmental damage, meeting human needs, and lessening the economic impact on states as we respond to and recover from natural or man-made disasters. Through EMAC states can share any resource available within their state following a governor's declaration of disaster or emergency. EMAC is administered by NEMA (National Emergency Management Association).

EMAC updated the Emergency Operations System (EOS) in November 2019. Resource request process has been simplified and the system has been made available to all international compacts including IEMAC. Online A-Team trainings will be offered online and should be available March 2020. IEMAC must adopt the RSA process to use the available EOS system.

As noted above the proposed changes with EMAC may influence the specific operational components of the IEMG Operations Plan.

- Presentation by the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection/Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security's Cyber Disruption Response Plan (*working lunch 11/19/19*). The Cyber Disruption Response Plan describes the framework for state cyber incident response coordination among state agencies, federal, local, and tribal governments, and public and private sector entities. The plan establishes a state Cyber Disruption Task Force, which is a group of subject matter experts from various disciplines involved in cyber preparedness, detection, alert, response, and recovery planning and implementation activities.
- Presentation by the Connecticut Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program Ingestion Pathway Exercise Briefing (*working breakfast 11/20/19*)
- Group discussion on Utility Border Crossing. Some of the language on the current forms is out of date and Brenda Bergeron (CT) has offered to take the lead on getting the forms updated. Once updated the forms will be distributed for comments and will be added to the Operations Manual afterward.
- Roundtable discussion facilitated by FEMA discussing Lifeline and Impact on Critical Infrastructure.
- Group Climate Change Maritime Presentation by the staff at the Mystic Aquarium



Presentations noted above, if provided electronically, will be made available on the IEMAC website.

- 15.0 Bi-Annual Communication Exercise:** This exercise was not completed by the host jurisdiction.
- 16.0 Additional Discussion:** Climate change discussion – best practices on what all the jurisdictions are doing. Co-Chairs requesting that each jurisdiction give a quick summary on how they are approaching climate change and send a summary ahead of time so it can be put into slides for a power point presentation and follow up discussion at the next meeting.

17.0 Spring 2019 Meeting Dates & Agenda Items

The Annual Spring Meeting will be held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on June 9-10, 2020; Monday and Thursday deemed travel days and meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Possible full two-day agenda with items such as: New IEMG Website presentation, EMAC working session on A-Team online training, CBSA-CBP cross border discussion, Operations Plan working session, Strategic Plan Revision Review, Climate change jurisdiction efforts and federal level opportunities, National Level Exercise review session, Mission Ready Packages Canada -vs- US, Canada Red Cross and International relations presentation on disaster management.

- 18.0 Appendix**
- Attendees list



IEMAC FALL MEETING, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT
 NOVEMBER 19 – NOVEMBER 20, 2019
 LIST OF ATTENDEES

Last	First	Agency	Jurisdiction
Ayotte	Tara	Emergency Management	ME
Baker	Sandra	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Banner	Gregory	US Dept of Health & Human Services	FED
Bergeron	Brenda	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Bornemann	Erica	Emergency Management	VT
Boudrow	Joseph	US Coast Guard	FED
Caplet	Mike	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Chesney	Mike	FEMA National Exercise Division	FED
Clem	Jameson	FEMA Region 1	FED
Cooling	Stacey	Emergency Measures Organization	NB
Deasy	Charles	Emergency Management	VT
Field	John	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Gran	Bryan	Emergency Management Program Supervisor	CT
Hackett	William	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Harper	Jennifer	Homeland Security & Emergency Management	NH
Kenny	Bob	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
MacCallum	Greg	Emergency Measures Organization	NB
Manke	Jacob	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Mason	Paul	Emergency Management Organization	NS
McCann	Matt	Homeland Security/ CISA New England	FED
McElhinney	Daniel	FEMA Region 1	Federal Partner
McKeen	Anna	Emergency Measures Organization	NB
Mullally	Tanya	Public Safety Division	PEI
Pappas	Marc	Emergency Management	RI
Phillips	Samantha	Emergency Management	MA



Rausch	Sean	FEMA Region 1	FED
Robichaud	Claude	Public Safety Canada	FED
Rovella	James	Commissioner, Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Rush-Kittle	Regina	Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT
Russas	Mike	Emergency Management	MA
Webster	Russ	FEMA Region 1	FED
Welker	Cathy	FEMA National Exercise Division	FED
Wohlgemuth	Kris	Emergency Management & Homeland Security	CT