



2010 Annual Report

Plan | Prepare | Recover | Rebuild





Table of Contents

- 4 A Message from the Director and Assistant Director
- 5 Agency Overview
- 6 Administration
- 6 Assistance to Local Governments
- 8 Grants and Preparedness
- 8 Grants
- 11 Planning
- 12 Training and Exercise
- 14 Response and Recovery
- 14 Public Assistance
- 16 Hazard Mitigation
- 18 Information Technology and Communications
- 20 Hazardous Materials
- 20 Radiological Emergency Preparedness
- 22 State Emergency Response Commission
- 23 Public Information
- 24 Citizen Corps
- 25 Get a Kit, Make a Plan. Be Informed.
- 25 Homeland Security Activities/State Administrative Agency
- 26 Agency Staff
- 27 Acronyms



Plan, Prepare, Recover, Rebuild

In *Plan, Prepare, Recover, Rebuild*, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's annual report for 2010, we look back at one of the state's busiest years for disasters on record. At the close of 2010, there were 14 open disaster declarations in the state. Eighty of the state's 93 counties were affected by at least one of the last five disasters. Nebraskans in communities across the state had an eventful year and responded effectively.

We have a talented emergency management team in the state that is committed to enhancing mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities at every level of government. The vigilance and commitment of our Nebraska colleagues in emergency management continues to impress us. They work together to make Nebraska communities a safer place to live and work.

The quality of work done by NEMA staff and other state agency staff who support our state in times of disaster is a source of pride. They sacrificed time with families and friends to respond to the needs of Nebraska's residents. Our team pulled together during this challenging year

We would also like to extend our appreciation to local emergency managers for their service to the people of Nebraska this year. They are the backbone of emergency management in the state.

As we reflect on 2010, while we can certainly be proud of the work we did for the citizens of Nebraska, we realize that our work is not done. We must focus on possible challenges in 2011 and beyond. From severe weather events to wildfires to man-made threats and potential terrorist attacks, we must always be ready to rapidly and efficiently respond.

In addition to state and local emergency managers and our partners throughout the state, every citizen plays a crucial role in Nebraska's ability to meet the needs of affected communities during disaster. The health and well-being of the people in our state is our number one priority. We must all work together to mitigate the effects of and recover from disaster. It takes an entire community of people helping people for our emergency management program to be successful. Together we must stay vigilant in our efforts to protect the state from disasters.



Judd H. Lyons
Major General
The Adjutant General
Director



Al Berndt
Assistant
Director

Major General Judd H. Lyons
The Adjutant General
Director

Al Berndt
Assistant Director



Assistant Director Al Berndt and Director Major General Judd Lyons hold a news conference to discuss flooding in June 2010.

Agency Overview

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is charged by state statute with reducing the vulnerabilities of the people and communities of Nebraska from damage, injury, loss of life and property resulting from natural, technological and man-made disasters.

In addition to leading the state emergency management program, NEMA also supports **Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy** in his role as state homeland security director and acts as State Administrative Agency for the state's homeland security program and point of contact for integration of emergency management and homeland security programs with the Department of Homeland Security. NEMA focuses on maintaining effective

emergency management response, recovery, preparedness and mitigation programs with an emphasis on pre- and post-disaster programs as well as a robust state homeland security program. The result is a cohesive statewide program.

NEMA is housed under the Nebraska Military Department and is structured into four performance sections: administration, response and recovery, preparedness and technical hazards.

In his role as **Adjutant General, Major General Judd Lyons** is the director of the agency. Day-to-day operations are administered by agency **Assistant Director Al Berndt**.

As State Administrative Agency for the Department of Homeland Security, NEMA has responsibility for overall funding, fiscal accountability, program management and integration with other state agencies to interact and carry out the state homeland security program.

NEMA is staffed with 36 full-time employees, one GIS support position from the University of Nebraska, one program specialist from the Public Policy Center and four temporary employees working in the response and recovery section.



A crop duster spreads ash on the Platte River in Saunders County in an effort to prevent ice jams that could lead to flooding in February 2010.



Al Berndt
Assistant Director



Cindy Newsham
Administrative Assistant



Deb Kai
Business Manager



Phyllis Rathjen
Accountant



Amy Stroh
Staff Assistant



Angela Hammond
Staff Assistant

Administration

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's administration section is responsible for oversight of all agency grant and performance programs including the State Emergency Performance Grant program. Administration staff ensure that the State Emergency Operations Plan, the State Homeland Security Strategy and the Agency Strategic Plan are all in place to lead and

guide agency performance.

The staff of the administration section relies on the cooperation and support of other state agencies and federal partners to keep the agency performing at a high level.

At the national level, NEMA interacts with the National Emergency Management Association and actively supports the Nebraska Association of Emer-

gency Management and its professional membership.

NEMA relies extensively on the full- and part-time emergency management representatives in Nebraska's 93 counties to carry out programs at the local level. It is this partnership with local directors that is a key reason Nebraskans have been able to effectively respond in times of emergency.

Assistance to Local Governments

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency supports agency operations and local county emergency management agencies in the administration of their programs through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program.

In 2010, a total of 36 counties and eight regions participated in the EMPG program. Through this federal grant, NEMA received \$2,104,900 in matching dollars to support local emergency management programs. The total amount received from EMPG in 2010 was \$3,617,162.

EMPG funds are distributed to NEMA from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a division of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

States use EMPG funds to strengthen their ability to support emergency management activities. Working with NEMA, tribal and local emergency management personnel, FEMA prepares communities before disasters occur and coordinates with them to respond effectively during times of disaster protecting lives and communities.

With the 2010 EMPG grant, NEMA moved from work plans to a project-based program to meet the requirements of the grant. There are six project areas and each jurisdiction is asked to identify the activities they want to accomplish in each of these areas. The project areas are:

- Administration of emergency management program
- Planning
- Training and exercise
- Disaster response and hazard mitigation
- Technical hazards
- Public education and outreach

Since 2003, the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group and NEMA have designated local emergency man-

agement organizations as the focal point for carrying out the state's homeland security program.

Again in 2010, a strong relationship was maintained between the state and local emergency managers to continue efforts at the local level in homeland security activities.

NEMA recognizes the strong ties that need to be in place between the state and the local emergency managers to keep an effective all-hazards emergency management and homeland security program in place. Because of the strong relationships that have been developed over the years through the EMPG program, local agencies have been able to step forward and take a strong leadership role in support of and in conjunction with NEMA.

The Emergency Management Performance Grant provides direct support for essential expenses, including salaries, benefits, equipment, supplies, maintenance of facilities and other necessary costs of state and local emergency management departments and agencies. Local participants must maintain and expand the capabilities necessary to have an effective emergency management program.

2010 EMPG-Funded Emergency Management Directors/Coordinators

Directors	City/County	Directors	City/County
Shelly Boden (Interim)	Hastings/Adams	Michelle Woitalewicz	Howard
Sheryl Machack	Boone	John McKee	Jefferson
Darrin Lewis	Kearney/Buffalo	Jeff England	Kearney
Rick Schneider	Butler	Laura Hintz	Knox
William M. Cover	Cass	Doug Ahlberg	Lincoln/Lancaster
Kevin Garvin	Cedar	James Nitz	Lincoln
Jeffrey Franklin (Interim)	Clay	Rene Critser	Nemaha
Troy Smith	Custer	Von Wehrman	Nuckolls
Pat Foust	Dakota	Greg Goebel	Otoe
Brian Woldt	Dawson	Tim Hofbauer	Platte
Paul W. Johnson	Douglas	Jim Gerweck	Richardson
Donna Mainwaring	Fillmore	Bruce "B.J." Fictum	Saline
Roger Powell	Furnas and Harlan	Larry Lavelle	Sarpy
Mark Meints	Gage	Terry Miller	Saunders
Pete Peterson	Grant and Keith	Gary Petersen	Seward, York
Jon Rosenlund	Grand Island/Hall	Bill McPherson	Thayer
Kirt Smith	Hamilton	Tom Perez	Thurston

Coordinators	Region	Counties
Bill Pook	5/6	Burt, Dodge and Washington
Faythe Petersen	11	Antelope, Pierce and Madison
Patrick Gerdes	15	Frontier, Gosper, Hitchcock, Phelps
Jim Collins	21	Cheyenne, Deuel, Garden, Kimball, Morrill
Jerry Bretthauer	22	Scotts Bluff, Banner
Nan Gould	23	Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan, Sioux
Douglas L. Fox	24	Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Keya Paha, Rock
Alma Beland	26	Blaine, Garfield, Greeley, Loup, Sherman, Thomas, Wheeler, Valley



County emergency managers and NEMA employees attend grant management system training in December 2010.

Grants and Preparedness



Mardell Hergenrader
Supervisor

tion of the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant funding program.

NEMA's grants and preparedness section is responsible for a wide range of activities including planning, preparedness, training and exercise. The section is responsible for oversight and administration

Grants

The State of Nebraska applied for and received the following federal grants for fiscal year 2010:

- State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)
- Citizen Corps Program (CCP)
- Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)
- Metropolitan Medical Response System Program (MMRS)
- Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP)

- Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant
- Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant

In April 2010, NEMA held an investment justification workshop with the State Homeland Security Committee and local first responders to write the investment justifications for the grant application. The investment justifications must support federal programs and the state homeland security strategy. The allocations, for state agencies and local regions, were based on the amount in each investment justification and total population of each PET/Communications region. Based on the total award from DHS, committee recommendations were forwarded to the Governor's Policy Group. **Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman** made awards based on the recommendations from the policy group.

The State Homeland Security Planning Committee, local sub-grantees and NEMA staff worked to submit investment justifications that applied to the needs of Nebraska to prepare for possible chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive (CBRNE) terrorism events. Nebraska received the base allocation as follows:

- SHSGP \$6,613,200
- CCP \$136,899
- MMRS \$1,013,087

The MMRS grant was split equally between Omaha and Lincoln at \$317,419 each as directed by Congress. MMRS funding is used by Omaha MMRS (OMMRS) and Lincoln MMRS (LMMRS) to help hospitals and public health departments plan for health issues resulting from pandemic and terrorism mass-casualty incidents. Grant funds are also used for equipment, training and exercises.

NEMA has assigned two planning staff members to attend the OMMRS and LMMRS committee meetings to

State Homeland Security Grant Program

Region	Hazmat MOU	IED/Fusion	Comm/PET	Total Award
Southeast	25,000	141,473	365,597	507,070
South Central	75,000	107,150	276,899	384,049
East Central	25,000	56,084	144,934	201,018
Northeast	25,000	60,004	155,064	215,068
Panhandle	25,000	73,719	190,506	264,224
North Central		108,330	279,951	388,281
Southwest	25,000	28,143	72,729	100,872
Tri-County	50,000			50,000
NCOR on Behalf of Locals		2,979,978		

UASI Grant program

	IED/Fusion	Comm/PET	Total Award
Omaha	269,846	743,241	1,013,087

MMRS (Omaha & Lincoln)

	Total Award
Omaha	317,419
Lincoln	317,419



Local emergency managers and state agency representatives work together at the 2010 Investment Justification workshop.

give a state perspective and assist with grant management.

NEMA administers a new mini-grant program for Citizen Corps Councils. (More information about the mini-grants is available on page 24.)

Another grant administered by NEMA is the SARA Title II, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The State Emergency Response Commission and Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) revisions and updates are supported from this grant.

NEMA allocates training funds available to the State Fire Marshal training division for hazmat operations training for first responders. The Nebraska Hazardous Incident Team's (NHIT) quarterly training is also supported with this grant, and is coordinated through the

Nebraska State Patrol. NHIT members work for the Nebraska State Patrol, the Nebraska State Fire Marshall and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. The 28 members reside across the state and respond either individually or as a team depending on the need. Members have been trained in Hazmat response, the Incident Command System and other specialized areas.

Congress has funded the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant through the U.S. Department of Commerce and DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The grant total is \$8.5 million and will be passed through to local jurisdictions.

NEMA is the point of contact to help local jurisdictions and communi-

cation regions with planning for state-wide interoperable communications and how it ties into the state system. The planning staff assists the regions in updating their Tactical Interoperable Communication Plans (TICP) which is then incorporated into the Local Emergency Operations Plans.

NEMA, on behalf of local jurisdictions, entered into a two-year contract with CSI Inc. of Omaha, to complete the local interoperable communications interconnectivity portion of Nebraska's interoperable communication build out at the local level.

A combination of Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) funds are being used. NEMA is assisting local jurisdictions on three projects that will have a profound

impact on first responder interoperability. All are funded in part or totally with PSIC dollars. The three projects are:

Regional Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Interconnectivity

This project builds redundant and primarily microwave interconnecting rings of regional communications around the state to allow local jurisdictions to send first responder communications and data to other local first responders. These rings will allow for expansion of their target communication recipients, providing options for the joint state/Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) Radio System.

Strategic Technological Reserve Investment

This project provides a radio cache for interoperability with the State-NPPD Radio System. It provides enhancement to existing Nebraska State Patrol land and aircraft communications equipment to allow video streaming from surveillance flights into command posts or emergency operations centers.

Mutual Aid Frequency Overlay

These efforts allow for interoperability within the regions to address their disaster and day-to-day emergency needs. The South Central and Tri-County regions are leading this effort with planning and implementation through increased capabilities with software and hardware solutions.

The Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) was again funded in fiscal year 2010. This funding enables states, territories, local units of government and tribal communities to implement their Statewide Communications Interoperability Plans (SCIP) and to align the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) further enhancing interoperability.

Nebraska is using this grant to promote planning consistency across the state, as well as the training and exercising of those plans. The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center was contracted to assist the planning process and scheduled a planning academy to that end. They also work with and facilitate meetings with the Nebraska



Nikki Weber
Federal Aid
Administrator
Supervisor



Bob Wilhelm
Program
Specialist



Clint Hlavaty
Grant Monitoring
Specialist



Jackie Maly
Federal Aid
Administrator

Council of Regions (NCOR), Nebraska Wireless Interoperability Network (N-WIN) council, and, when asked, work with the individual PET Regions.

NEMA has continued the grant monitoring program as required by DHS and Office of Management & Budget Circular A-87. Fourteen counties and regions were visited this past year. The monitoring visit covers equipment acquisition and inventory, personnel/direct labor, employee reimbursement, travel/vehicle mileage, training/meeting/conference expenses, supplies and materials, other direct costs, project income, pass-through funds, fiscal, single audit review and NIMS compliance.

Grant Management Handbook

During 2010, the grants section developed a Grant Management Handbook to assist emergency managers as they apply for grants. The handbook is a tool designed for both veteran and newly appointed emergency managers. Since the formulation of the Homeland Security Grants, emergency managers have taken a strong role in grant management. NEMA provides emergency managers and support staff with a variety of tools to help make emergency management programs successful throughout the state. The handbook is available at www.nema.nebraska.gov under the grants section.



A 2010 Investment Justification Workshop allowed emergency management officials an opportunity to work in small groups to discuss how the state will spend Homeland Security Grant Program funds.

Planning

It is the responsibility of the planning unit to oversee and assess the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) for relevance and continuity and to ensure that agency staff is adequately trained. This entails working with other state agencies and the Emergency Support Function Coordinators (ESFC) to maintain a level of competency in support of the SEOP.

The overall coordination of state National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) activities are administered through this division. The planning section maintains the administration of the NIMS program and coordinates with other state agencies and local jurisdictions to carry out NIMS implementation and certifications.

NEMA has an active planning section that supports state and local planning efforts. It develops, delivers and has oversight of all county Local Emergency Operation Plans (LEOP).

Each year, approximately 20 percent of the state's county LEOPs are scheduled for revision. NEMA provides planning assistance for LEOP modifications, and in 2010 total revisions were successfully completed on 13 LEOPs while an additional 15 LEOPs were updated and improved.

In addition, the SEOP, Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and Continuity of Government Plan (COG) were all updated and maintained.

The State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) was reviewed and updated in conjunction with the Nebraska Homeland Security Planning Team.

Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICP) for the eight PET regions were reviewed and updated.



Identifying themes, challenges and opportunities in emergency management was the focus of the 2010 Academy for Planning Initiatives in Emergency Management held in April in Lincoln.

Both the SCIP and the TICP were placed on the five-year planning schedule. NEMA will now maintain the TICP and SCIP in conjunction with the region's annual reviews and five-year planning calendar.

Through its relationship with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center (PPC), NEMA has established planning capabilities for the Integrated Planning Process for the eight PET/Communication Regions.

NEMA and PPC have instituted a comprehensive program of planning support education to assist in integrating local planning needs into the SEOP/LEOP planning program. This support will allow LEOPs to address the Target Capabilities List (TCL) as defined in the National Preparedness Guidelines mandated by the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-8 issued in December 2003.

Planning support is given to LEOPs

for integration of plans including:

- Continuity of Operations
- Continuity of Government
- Regional integration and tactical Interoperable communications plans
- Improvised Explosive Devices (IED)
- Mass casualty and catastrophic events

Other issues addressed are:

- LEOP integration
- TCL as a measurement tool
- Incident Management Teams (IMT)
- Sheltering in Place
- Local integration into EMAC, and
- NIMS compliance.

The section is responsible for the development and writing of all the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant investment justifications, serves as the agency liaison to the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), coordinates the Citizen Corps Program (CCP) and the Medical Response Corps (MRC). The section also coordinates the state Homeland Security Senior Advisory Group, the state Homeland Security Leadership Group and the State Homeland Security Planning Team.



Dan Hiller
Planning Supervisor



Bill Meyer
Program Specialist



Jim Anderson
Planning Specialist



Patrick Rooney
Planning Specialist



Logan Lueking
Planning Specialist

Training and Exercise

NEMA's training and exercise team presents an active training and exercise program, integrated into Nebraska's eight Planning, Exercise and Training (PET)/Communication regions. Activities are conducted at all levels, from assistance to local jurisdictions through regional training and state level drills, exercises and training.

NEMA offers support to state agencies, local jurisdictions and the eight training regions (see map below) in the form of Basic Certification Academies and advanced educational opportunity courses for emergency management personnel. During 2010, NEMA training and exercise staff, working with a group of local emergency managers, revised and updated the curriculum for the state's Basic Certification Academy. The revised curriculum will first be offered in March 2011.

Training

The Basic Academy supports certification as required under Nebraska Law (RRS 81-929.46). Attendees acquire the basic skills necessary to function



Henry Tamasi
Training Unit
Supervisor



Aaron Alward
Exercise Training
Officer



Alisia LaMay
Exercise Training
Officer



Dave Reisen
Exercise Training
Officer

as a certified emergency manager in the state. The advanced opportunities courses provides previously certified emergency management personnel training and coursework in specialized areas at a level beyond the basic program.

Nearly 90 Nebraskans took each of the Incident Command System (ICS) 300 and 400 training courses in Lincoln, Gering and Wayne, representing local emergency managers, law enforcement personnel, fire and EMS agencies and local government officials. ICS 300 is an intermediate ICS course for expanding incidents. The 400 advanced class is for command and general staff and focuses on complex incident and Multi-Agency Coordination Systems (MACS).

ICS 402, an incident command course designed for senior officials and agency executives, was delivered in Lincoln twice in 2010.

Thousands of individuals in Nebraska completed online independent studies in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) 100, 200, 700 and 800 courses, along with specialized training in areas specific to agriculture, health and human services, hazardous materials and other fields. NEMA continues to establish a level of training in compliance with requirements identified by the Department of Homeland Security and Nebraska law.

Development of a statewide All-Hazards Incident Management Team for management, command and general staff personnel in the event of a state-





declared disaster progressed during 2010. An All-Hazards Position Specific Academy was held in North Platte with 50 participants attending training.

TERREX

NEMA also conducts an annual state-level training exercise entitled TERREX. Each year sees a different scenario that tests the readiness of local, county and state agencies and their ability to work together in a large-scale incident. TERREX '10 was built around the response and coordination during a pipeline incident. The year-long exercise development process included an initial planning conference, a mid-year planning conference and a final planning conference, in addition to numerous specialized training sessions.

TERREX '10 included more than 100 participants representing the Nebraska Energy Office, Lancaster and Cass counties, Enterprise Pipeline Facility, Waverly and Lincoln fire and rescue, Lincoln/Lancaster County 911, Department of Health and Human Services, the Nebraska State Patrol, Lancaster County Sheriff, the Nebraska National Guard, the 72nd Civil Support Team and NEMA.

Strengths and weaknesses were identified by evaluators and participating state agencies and local jurisdictions developed an improvement plan to correct the identified weaknesses. The focus of TERREX '11 is an incident on the University of Nebraska campus.

Training for local dispatchers on the Paraclete interoperable communications system has been assigned to the training and exercise unit to ensure personnel can effectively use the system. Training for the team began in late 2010 with the first deliveries to the PET regions to begin in early 2011.



The PET process has helped local emergency managers and their regions identify capabilities and vulnerabilities, that are tested through the exercise process. As another dimension of the PET process, NEMA conducts a Model Cities program, where local first responders and elected officials are taken through natural disaster scenarios-based or terrorist-based incidents

in their jurisdictions, allowing them to identify threat areas, assess their capabilities, and test their response processes.

The National Incident Management System, Incident Command System, and development, training, and credentialing of the statewide All-Hazards Incident Management Team continue to be areas of focus for 2011.

Response and Recovery



Cindy Newsham
Administrative Assistant
Interim Section Supervisor

The core missions of NEMA's Response and Recovery section are to be ready to coordinate a timely and efficient state response in support of local government and to effectively administer both state and federal recovery programs to speed local jurisdictions' return to normal following a disaster.

Target Capabilities Workshops

In 2010 NEMA completed Target Capabilities Workshops, and with the help of the EnVisage staff, the final PET Regions met, discussed and scored their ability to achieve 15 to 17 of the capabilities. This year the Northeast, South Central, Southeast and Tri-County/UASI all completed their workshops. The Tri-County/UASI Region held two workshops and completed all 37 of the target capabilities.



Flooding washed out this road near Neligh in July 2010.

Public Assistance

Record snow and rain made 2010 a busy year for the Public Assistance Program at NEMA. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Joint Field Office that opened in Lincoln in July 2009 was kept open until Mid-December of 2010 because of four more disaster declarations.

President Obama declared Major Disaster No. 1878 on Feb. 25 for 57 counties due to severe winter storms that incapacitated the state beginning Dec. 22, 2009, and continuing through early January 2010. This storm pro-

duced record snow falls and high winds causing blizzard conditions and drifting making it nearly impossible to keep roads open. Many counties reported 100 percent of their roads closed and at times the Nebraska Department of Roads had 85 percent of state highways and spurs closed. Eligible damages from this storm are estimated at \$8.2 million.

In April, heavy rains and rapid snow melt caused flooding, and 37 counties were declared part of Federal Disaster No. 1902. Most of these counties were already impacted by the earlier winter



Earl Imler
Public Assistance
Unit Supervisor



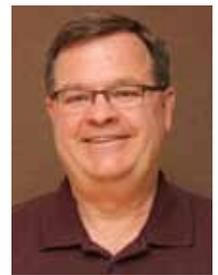
Donny Christensen
Public Assistance
Officer



Julie Bergfield
Administrative
Assistant
(Long Term Temporary)



Merle Henkenius
Public Assistance
Assistant
(Long Term Temporary)



Mike Pile
Public Assistance
Assistant
(Long Term Temporary)



storms. The estimated eligible damages were \$4 million.

The spring and early summer of 2010 brought heavy, and in some areas, record rains. There was widespread flooding in many areas of the state, as well as damages from the high winds that accompanied these storms. In July, the president declared 61 counties as part of Disaster No. 1924 with estimated eligible damages of \$60 million.

The final disaster designation was No. 1945 where seven counties were



declared disaster areas due to a series of severe storms in mid September. These storms included heavy rains and extremely high winds. The estimated eligible damages for this storm system were \$2.5 million.





Brian Podwinski
Supervisor



Sheila Hascall
Planning Specialist

Mitigation is defined as sustained action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects. It describes the ongoing effort at the federal, state and local levels as well as business and individual efforts to lessen the impact of disasters upon families, homes, communities and the economy.

Hazard Mitigation

The ice jams, flooding and storms throughout Nebraska in 2010 resulted in four disaster declarations that brought funding opportunities for hazard mitigation to the state.

NEMA has received approximately \$3.6 million in grant funding in 2010 to be distributed to public entities with approved hazard mitigation plans.

Mitigation efforts in Nebraska re-

ceived funding from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (Competitive) Program. The Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, Repetitive Flood Claims Program and the Severe Repetitive Loss Program are managed by Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

Funding in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program will increase as projects under public assistance continue to be obligated. This funding, along with 10

previous disaster declarations, has resulted in a combined total of \$36.4 million to be used towards planning and project grants. The funding will continue NEMA's efforts to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and to protect lives and property.

As with the previous years the hazard mitigation unit continued to be highly focused on planning efforts in 2010. Eight multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plans were developed and ap-



Heavy rain in June 2010 that flooded homes and wiped out roads and bridges in Antelope county left community members working together to build a dike to prevent further destruction.

proved. Eighty-two percent of the state is now covered under a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan. In addition, there are two tribal hazard mitigation plans, several other multi-jurisdictional plans under development and local hazard Mitigation plan updates.

A NEMA hazard mitigation staff goal is to have all local jurisdictions participate in hazard mitigation planning, allowing for eligible hazard mitigation projects to come from all areas of the state.

Also on the agenda in 2010 was revision of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. It is due for completion in April 2011. To assist in the update of this plan, NEMA staff met with the Governor's Disaster Relief Task Force (GDRTF). Plan goals, objectives and actions are being reviewed during this revision.

Throughout 2010, NEMA staff met with Natural Resource Districts, local jurisdictions, regions and counties across the state to encourage the development and implementation of mitigation plans and projects.

NEMA held applicant briefings and grant application workshops which addressed eligibility of hazard mitigation project applications and benefit cost analysis.

In December, NEMA held its annual Lower Platte River Ice Preparedness Meeting at the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Office. NEMA had the Civil Air Patrol fly the Lower Platte River from Fremont to the mouth of the Missouri River to take photos and video for assistance in locating the channels on the rivers and to submit to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers if technical assistance was required. This will help determine the extent of the ice as winter continues.

Preparedness meetings of this type proved effective in the beginning of 2010 as ice dusting was used to substantially reduce the amount of ice jams that occurred on the Platte River in the most vulnerable areas.

In 2011, NEMA's hazard mitigation unit will continue preparation for future events in hopes of mitigating catastrophic impact.





Sue Krogman
Supervisor



Bob Eastwood
Communications
Officer



Brent Curtis
Planning Specialist



Chad Boshart
GIS Coordinator



Rod Hutt
Wireless Network
Coordinator

Information Technology and Communications

The Information Technology and Communications Unit (ITCU) remains an integral part of the overall functionality of NEMA. This unit is highly visible and most notably responsible for every electronic, phone, wireless, Geographical Information System (GIS) and technological function during disasters and normal working hours.

GIS

The GIS coordinator's primary duty is to provide digital and online maps for support staff in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and in the field during events and exercises by coordinating with civilian companies and state agencies to collect images and data from the affected areas and then producing maps for decision makers to

analyze. The GIS coordinator gathered and displayed flooding pictures and data taken by NEMA staff, the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) during the 2010 flooding across the state. Combining the CAP and NSP data with other data sets, an overall display was created for NEMA staff and ESF members, showing the extent of the damage.

To make GIS data more accessible, work has been underway with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and other state agencies to create a statewide Geospatial Portal. The purpose is to share statewide data, such as street center line data and high resolution digital imagery without maintaining numerous individual copies of the same

data. This project has been under the supervision of the Nebraska GIS Council of which NEMA is a member. The GIS Council is an advisory group to the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC).

Communications

NEMA communications has taken a lead in the building of, and applying for grant monies, for the new Statewide Interoperable Network. NRIN (as it is now called) Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network is a joint effort between NEMA and the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). The network will eventually aid and assist the mutual aid systems across the state of Nebraska. Adding to the mix is the Paraclete system. Now in almost its fifth year in the central part of the state, Paraclete has taken on a whole new design approach. Trainers from NEMA's training section are on the road assisting end users, administrators and dispatchers in the capability of the system and the ease of use.

Duty Officer

The duty officer system within NEMA has grown in proportion and capability. Once just a planning position, the lead duty officer has enhanced the system in an effort to make response to disaster calls within five minutes. Because of the technology associated with the system and the Incident Logging software (ESS), an emergency manager can make a call to our duty officer staff and within minutes decisions are made on what kind of assistance the state can provide. Along with extra ca-



pabilities for our own staff, the logging software has now spread through the state allowing local entities to have their own system and/or allow NEMA access in situations where warranted. This gives the local officials authority to create an incident log, monitor the disaster or situation and, if necessary, allow employees at NEMA to view, read or create messages to the local logs. Operationally, this is one of the best cooperative efforts and is a huge asset for both NEMA and the locals. All contingencies for the duty officer system are being re-worked to simplify the process and to make every effort necessary to expedite disaster assistance.

Website

A joint effort between NEMA's Public Information Officer (PIO), the ITCU staff and a contract with Nebraska Interactive will drastically revise NEMA's website. Added features to make it easier for local emergency managers will be one of the biggest advantages of using the site. There will be a "public" side of the website where citizen's can to find out basic disaster informa-

tion. There will be an "EM" side of the website where local managers can find beneficial information. This site will include things such as grant instructions, disaster response forms, disaster assistance information, quarterly report information and local jurisdiction information on local emergency managers.

New Joint Forces Headquarters

ITCU has been involved in the architectural design and construction of the new Emergency Operations Center which will be located in the Joint Forces Headquarters currently under construction at the airbase in Lincoln. Completion of the new building is scheduled for May 2012. The design includes new wiring for higher speed Internet, Voice Over Internet Protocol for telephone service, a user-friendly operations room and the capability to have video teleconference connections to stay in touch with the local emergency managers. The integration of the Nebraska State Patrol dispatch center into this building is expected to improve emergency response capabilities by housing responders in one location.



Technical Hazards



Jon Schwarz
Section Supervisor



Bryan Cook
REP Planner
Cooper



Mike Loftis
Radiological
Systems Manager

The technical hazards section is the new name for the radiological emergency preparedness division. The addition of the State Emergency Response Commission planning specialist with the radiological emergency preparedness unit and the agency's public information officer warranted the name change for the section.

Radiological Emergency Preparedness

A priority for NEMA is preparation for radiological emergencies. Nebraska's two nuclear power stations and transportation corridor used to ship radioactive material and radioactive waste make these preparations a necessity.

The radiological emergency preparedness unit has the responsibility to meet the agency's goal of being prepared in the event of a radiological emergency. It ensures that emergency response agencies throughout the state are aware that radiological response training is available. The Technical Hazards supervisor notifies local emergency response managers of known radiological shipments through their jurisdictions.

A radiological systems manager calibrates civil defense equipment and exchanges it on a four-year cycle to local emergency first responder agencies. NEMA maintains a database of these exchanges and provides a listing to local emergency management directors. As the exchanges and quarterly checks of REP county radiological survey meters and instruments are completed, latitude and longitude of the locations of radiological meters and instruments are maintained. This information is forwarded to Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services personnel to enter into a database for use as needed in an emergency.

NEMA, per legislation, now charges a fee for the calibration of instruments other than those owned by NEMA. (These charges do not apply to the yel-

low civil defense instruments.) This has enabled the agency the capability to provide affordable calibration and repair services for the newer radiation survey meters and instruments held by emergency first responder agencies throughout Nebraska.

The operating licenses of Cooper Nuclear Station and Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station, both located in eastern Nebraska, require that the state is always ready to protect the health and safety of its citizens and to the extent possible, prevent damage to property. To meet this challenge, the REP unit employs two off-site planning specialists who are responsible for updating the local Radiological Emergency Response Plans (RERP) for the counties of Otoe, Nemaha, Richardson, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington.

The planners are responsible for the annual exchange of thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) and the state RERP which describes the state response to a nuclear power station incident. All county plans were either reviewed or updated during the year.

Once plans have been updated, training and exercises are used to prepare personnel who will respond in the event of a nuclear event. NEMA planners offered and conducted numerous REP classes throughout 2010 in the counties affected by the nuclear power stations.

These classes included:

■ **Communications** — which dealt with training personnel in the Emer-

gency Alert System and Public Emergency Information messages as well as who needed to be notified in case of an emergency;

■ **Emergency Operations Center (EOC)** — which trained personnel on what needs to be done in the EOC to protect the health and safety of the citizenry;

Emergency Workers which dealt with training personnel to understand radioactivity, the hazards of radiation, how to protect one's self in a radiation environment, as well as how to use various radiation survey meters and instruments;

■ **Medical Response** — which dealt with training hospital workers, ambulance, and fire and rescue crews in proper response techniques during an incident involving radiological contamination;

Radiological Monitoring and Decontamination which dealt with training personnel on how to properly frisk (monitor) a person for radioactive contamination and if contamination is found, how to properly decontaminate the person; and

■ **Traffic Access and Control** — which provided law enforcement and other agencies training in evacuation routes, what to do in the event a main evacuation route is obstructed, and what will need to be done to allow access back into an evacuated area during a radiation incident, among other things.

The nuclear power stations routinely conduct drills and exercises in which NEMA participates. This year, NEMA

was involved in five nuclear power station drills and three full-scale exercises. One of the exercises included a plume phase which was evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Governor's Radioactive Materials Transportation Working Group oversees the transportation of radioactive materials and radioactive waste through the state. It consists of representatives from the Governor's Policy Research Office, Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, NEMA and the Nebraska State Patrol.

For incidents or accidents involving radioactive material or waste, the state maintains the Radioactive Materials Transportation Accident Plan (RAM-TAP) as appendix three to Emergency Support Function (ESF) No. 8, Public Health and Medical Services in the State Emergency Operations Plan. The plan is reviewed annually by the working group. The REP program manager serves as NEMA's representative to the working group and is responsible for ensuring that the annual review of the RAMTAP occurs.

The agency maintains contact with radiation transportation committee members within the regional groups to which the state belongs including the Western Governors' Association and the Council of State Governors, Mid-



An evaluated exercise was held at for the Cooper Nuclear Station in July.

west Region.

This year the U. S. Department of Energy re-instituted the "Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program." This program, on approximately a quarterly basis, provides an opportunity for local emergency first responder agencies to obtain excess equipment from federal agencies at no cost (both the equipment and shipping are free). The radiological programs manager is the state point of contact who authoriz-

es the local points of contact direct access to DOE.

In order to ensure that the state is prepared for any radiological emergency, three REP staff members are certified radiological instructors and offer free training to all emergency first responder agencies throughout Nebraska. The training is provided at the convenience of those desiring the training and can be provided in one session or spread out over as many sessions as needed to complete the training.

The agency uses the U.S. Department of Energy's "Module Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training" (MERRTT) course which consists of 16 modules with the first 12 modules making up the primary eight-hour course and the remaining four modules cover specialized areas.

The agency's Public Information Officer is part of this section because of the federal requirement that nuclear power station incidents activate a Joint Information Center (JIC). The PIO is a major player in the JIC.

The section's new addition, the State Emergency Response Commission planning specialist, supervises and coordinates activities of the Local Emergency Planning committees across the state.



NEMA Public information Officer Jodie Fawl serves as spokesperson for the agency at an evaluated exercise for Cooper Nuclear Station. Also pictured are: Jeanne Schieffer, Nebraska Public Power District; Steve Cheavems of Missouri Emergency Management Agency; and Jordan Hankins, M.D., of the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)



Tonya Ngotel
SERC
Planning Specialist

Nebraska's State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) was established in 1989 under the Nebraska Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (NEPCRA).

SERC's overall responsibility is to supervise and coordinate the activities of Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) within each of the 93 counties. LEPCs are tasked with reviewing the hazardous materials portion, Annex F, of the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) and act as a repository of information on hazardous materials stored, processed

or manufactured in their respective counties.

SERC meets on a quarterly basis to approve LEPC members, review submissions of the plan and support the LEPCs planning efforts. SERC consists of 19 members, who are appointed by the governor and approved by the Legislature.

In 2010, SERC continued year two of a four-year planning process with the University Transportation Center to study commodities flow information across Nebraska. The Transportation Center, in conjunction with SERC, will provide data on hazardous materials commodities to the local first responders. Information gathered from the surveys will be used for planning, exercise and training with the LEPCs. Surveys will be conducted on a regional basis

over the next two years and will reflect the eight geographic areas of the planning, exercise and training regions.

The 2010 LEPC conference was held in North Platte and was attended by 90 LEPC members from across the state. **Clay County LEPC** received an award for its outstanding effort in planning for a chemical release. **Kevin Garvin of Cedar County** received an award for his continued support of the NEPCRA and the **Nebraska Pipeline Association** was given recognition for its continuing support of the LEPCs and local first responders by providing training. This year's conference boasted national-level speakers, a tour of the largest rail switch yard in the world, Bailey Yard, and brought together partners from private sector, local, state and federal governments.

SERC continues to partner with the Nebraska Hazmat Association and played a key role in the development of the 2010 Hazmat Symposium. SERC will continue to support the Hazmat Association and the Hazmat Symposium by offering Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) funding and staff assistance. With the assistance of members of the Commission, a new hazmat agreement was signed by the 10 hazmat entities.

A grant administered by NEMA supporting SERC is the SARA Title III, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The amount received for the Oct. 1, 2010 to Sept. 30, 2011 funding period was \$143,662 for Planning and Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) activities, and \$166,170 for hazardous materials training. These funds are made possible through fees paid by the transportation industry. The grant supports LEPC activities, including meeting expenses, public education, county fair booths, hazmat (hazardous materials) assessments, hazardous materials exercises and state and regional LEPC conferences.



Denise Bulling of the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, **Tonya Ngotel** of Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and **Richard Christensen**, commission chair, discuss future tactics of the State Emergency Response Commission.

State Emergency Response Commission Members

Richard Christensen, chair, chemical industry
Dana Miller, vice chair, firefighters
John Baroni, county government
Al Berndt, NEMA/Military
Steven Danon, small business
Keith Deiml, schools
Donald Eisenhauer, agribusiness
John Falgione, State Fire Marshal
Joe Francis, Department of Environmental Quality, (for the director)
Gary Gandara, labor

Keith Hansen, community health
Tim Hofbauer, local emergency management
Larry Johnson, trucking
Kim Plouzek, environmental
Jim Schmaizl, Department of Roads,
Major Thomas Schwarten, State Patrol
Sue Semerena, Department of Health and Human Services
Vacant, transportation
Vacant, city elected official

Public Information



Jodie Fawl
Public Information
Officer

The public information officer (PIO) serves as the primary media contact for NEMA. The PIO is responsible for producing news releases and public information materials including the agency's monthly newsletter, *The Beacon*, which is available online at: www.nema.nebraska.gov. *The Beacon*, showcases emergency management activities across the state and provides advance notice of upcoming events.

The PIO is also the public information representative to the state's two nuclear power plants and is Nebraska's lead PIO during exercises and drills or in the event of an incident at one of the facilities.

The PIO works with the National Weather Service and the Nebraska Association of Emergency Managers in sponsoring severe weather awareness activities.

Severe Weather Awareness Week is an annual observance ushering in the spring weather season when thunderstorms and tornadoes lead the list of hazardous occurrences in Nebraska.

For this event, educational and promotional materials were sent to media outlets across the state. Commercial weather forecasters throughout Nebraska use materials supplied by NEMA and NWS to educate their viewers about tornadoes and thunderstorms as well as strong winds, lightning, hail, heavy rain and flooding.

A Severe Weather Awareness Week poster contest for Nebraska fourth-grade students is held each year and encourages teachers and students to produce educational posters on the subject of severe weather. The top four finishers were recognized by Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman at a proclamation signing for Severe Weather Awareness Week at the Nebraska State Capitol in March. The contest is open to fourth grade students in Nebraska Schools.

The NEMA PIO serves as the lead PIO at the state's Joint Information Center (JIC). The JIC is a central location where public information professionals from a wide variety of agencies, disciplines and jurisdictions collocate to provide a single integrated source of infor-



Public Information Officer Jodie Fawl and other Joint Information Center (JIC) staff brief Adjutant General Judd Lyons in June on communications efforts in response to severe flooding across the state.

mation in the event of a major incident. The JIC concept is part of the National Incident Management System.

Through an agreement with NET (Nebraska Educational Telecommunications), the NEMA JIC forms at the NET facility for exercises or in the event of an emergency. This makes available an impressive array of capabilities for public information operations, including access to the NET broadcasting facilities and its satellite links.

NEMA and its partner state agencies conduct various homeland security exercises from tabletop to full-scale. Public information is a large part of those exercises, and NEMA coordinates and operates the state's JIC during these events.

The JIC is staffed by public information professionals from other state agencies involved in the exercises. The JIC concept is used during real-world emergencies when the State Emergency Operations Center is opened, and coordinates information from state agencies to ensure consistent and coordinated messages.

In an effort to provide information on all aspects of NEMA's operation in an easily accessible technology, NEMA maintains a website at www.nema.nebraska.gov. A full range of data is available for both the media and the public on every element of the agency and its activities.

Included on the website are links to other local, state and national websites featuring emergency management and homeland security data.



Winners of the 2010 Severe Weather Awareness Poster contest were from left: Hanna Koperski, St. Paul Public School, St. Paul, first; Derek Voight, Jeffrey Elementary School, Osceola, second; Megan Allie Moore, Southern Elementary School, Blue Springs, third; and Sam McCaslin, St. Agnes School, Scottsbluff, fourth.

Citizen Corps



Evan Knight
CC Planning
Specialist

The Citizen Corps Program is administered at NEMA through a contract with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center which provides a coordinator to help manage the grant.

Citizen Corps is the grass roots movement that actively involves every citizen in making communities across Nebraska safer, stronger and better prepared for emergencies. Everyone has a role to play in community resiliency and Citizen Corps helps prepare and train local volunteers and leaders.

The Citizen Corps mission is to bring community and government leaders together to coordinate the involvement of community members in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery.

This mission is accomplished through a network of state, local and tribal Citizen Corps Councils, which build on community strengths to implement the Citizen Corps programs and integrate into local emergency response plans

to assist all Nebraskans. A component of USA Freedom Corps, Citizen Corps emphasizes citizen responsibility for community safety and preparedness. In partnership with other national service programs, Citizen Corps became one of the respected national service partners along with AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Senior Corps, VISTA and Learn and Serve.

In June 2010, coordination of the Nebraska Citizen Corps Program moved back to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, with Evan Knight contracted through the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center to work as the state coordinator. With a focus on preparedness education, outreach, self-sufficiency, training and volunteer service, Citizen Corps Councils and their members encourage citizens to connect at the local level with community organizations and training opportunities. In 95 percent of all emergencies, bystanders or victims themselves are the first to provide emergency assistance or to perform a rescue. Thus Citizen Corps asks individuals to embrace the personal responsibility to:

- Be prepared
- Get first aid and emergency skills
- Be able to help themselves

- Support emergency responders, disaster relief and community safety
- Help others be safer.

Citizen Corps teaches people to take action now to help protect their families, reduce the impact an emergency has on lives in the community and deal with the chaos if an incident occurs. When citizens are able to take care of themselves, their families and their neighborhoods during times of crisis, it lets first responders focus on the most critical, life-threatening situations. Volunteering for other routine or administrative responsibilities and tasks frees up police, health care workers and firefighters to focus on immediate emergency response needs. Examples of the national partner program initiative include: Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), Fire Corps, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and Neighborhood Watch/USA on Watch. In 2010, Nebraska had the following councils and partner programs:

- 14 local Citizen Corps Councils
- 11 Community Response Teams
- 3 Volunteers in Police Service Units
- 3 Fire Corps Units
- 7 Medical Reserve Corps Units

Citizen Corps Statewide Projects

Formation of Citizen Corps State Council

In October 2010, Citizen Corps Council points of contact and other interested parties met in North Platte to create a Citizen Corps State Council. They discussed the mission of Citizen Corps and how best to work towards this mission at a state level. Those present for the meeting agreed that one representative from each Citizen Corps Region, as well as one representative from each of the Citizen Corps partner programs, would work best as a core advisory body for the program. This group will meet in 2011 to draw up

by-laws, thus marking the formation of a Nebraska State Citizen Corps Council.

Realignment of Citizen Corps Regions

The Nebraska Citizen Corps regions have been redrawn to reflect the Planning Exercise and Training regions. The one difference is that Dodge County will be included with the Tri-County region. The regions were realigned in an effort to streamline regional activities and make administrative and management duties easier.

New Citizen Corps Mini-Grant Process

NEMA instituted a new Citizen Corps mini-grant process in November 2010 wherein Citizen Corps councils can apply for small amounts of funds for specific projects. Open from November 2010 to April 2011, this new process allows for councils to apply for money in a simple, efficient manner, as well as providing more flexibility in a program that often requires changes in plans and projects. Citizen Corps Councils will have six months from the date of approval to spend the award, then two months to report the activities.



Col. Bryan Tuma of the Nebraska State Patrol, Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy, NEMA Assistant Director Al Berndt and Steve Oltmans of the City of Omaha, Mayors Office at a May 2010 meeting of the policy group.

Homeland Security Activities / State Administrative Agency

NEMA has been the designated State Administrative Agency (SAA) for all homeland security grants coming into the state from the Department of Homeland Security. In this role, NEMA is responsible for filing the state application, distributing program guidelines to the state and local level agencies, receiving applications, maintaining oversight and compliance monitoring, and facilitating the distribution of funds.

The Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group has been established to oversee the program in the state with **Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy** as the chairman of the group. Operating under the Policy Group are the State Planning, Exercising and Training Teams, ensuring there is an integrated and coordinated effort on the state and local level. NEMA has been the operational arm of the Homeland Security Policy Group since its inception.

The 2010 Nebraska Homeland Security Policy Group consists of: **Brenda Decker**, State of Nebraska Division of Communications; **John Falgione**, Nebraska State Fire Marshal's Office; **Sen. Tony Fulton**, Nebraska State Legislature; **Dr. Steve Hinrichs**, University of Nebraska Medical Center; **Greg Ibach**, Nebraska Department

of Agriculture; **Mike Jeffres**, State of Nebraska Division of Communications; **Thomas Jensen**, Nebraska Department of Agriculture; **Major General Judd Lyons**, Adjutant General, Nebraska Military Department; **Mark Matulka**, Nebraska Governor's Policy Research Office; **Chancellor Harold Maurer**, University of Nebraska Medical Center; **Vice Chancellor Prem Paul**, University of Nebraska; **Tony Sambol**, University of Nebraska Medical Center; **Janice Satra**, Legislative Council; **Jayne Scofield**, State of Nebraska Division of Communications; **Sen. Scott Price**, Nebraska State Legislature; **Dr. Joann Schaefer**, Nebraska Health and Human Services System; **Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy**, State Capitol; **Col. Bryan Tuma**, Nebraska State Patrol; and **Al Berndt**, NEMA.

Close working relationships between

state agencies and outside programs greatly facilitates NEMA's role in homeland security in the state. All agencies involved in homeland security and natural emergency response in Nebraska meet, train and exercise together on a regular basis, and the open lines of communication greatly ease the role of the state administrative agency. In addition to the state agencies involved, NEMA works closely with the University of Nebraska System and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

NEMA has overseen the completion of two statewide assessments of response capabilities at the state and local level and the writing of two statewide strategies for homeland security since 1999. These assessments have been the basis of the distribution of homeland security funds in support of the state strategy.



Nebraska Emergency Management Agency Staff



Rev. 27 Jan. 2011

Acronyms Used in the NEMA Annual Report

CAP.....	Corrective Action Program	NECP	National Emergency Communications Plan
CBRNE.....	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive	NEMA	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
CCP.....	Citizen Corps Program	NEPCRA.....	Nebraska Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know Act
CERT.....	Community Emergency Response Team	NET.....	Nebraska Educational Telecommunications
COOP/ COG.....	Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government	NHIT	Nebraska Hazmat Incident Team
DHS	Department of Homeland Security	NIMS	National Incident Management System
DHHS.....	Department of Health and Human Services	NPPD.....	Nebraska Public Power District
EHP.....	Environmental/Historical Preservation	NRF	National Response Framework
EMPG	Emergency Management Performance Grant	NSP	Nebraska State Patrol
EOC.....	Emergency Operations Center	NVSC.....	Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission
ESF	Emergency Support Function	NWS	National Weather Service
FEMA.....	Federal Emergency Management Agency	OMMRS.....	Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System
GIS.....	Geographic Information System	PET	Planning, Exercising and Training
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials	PIO.....	Public Information Officer
HIRA	Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment	PPC.....	Public Policy Center (University of Nebraska)
HMEP	Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning	PPD	Public Power District
IED.....	Incendiary Explosive Device	PSAP.....	Public Safety Answering Point
IECGP.....	Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program	PSIC.....	Public Safety Interoperable Communications
IMT	Incident Management Team	RAMTAP.....	Radioactive Materials Transportation Accident Plan
ITCU.....	Information Technology and Communications Unit	REP.....	Radiological Emergency Preparedness
JFO.....	Joint Field Office	RERP	Radiological Emergency Response Plan
JIC.....	Joint Information Center	SARA.....	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
LEOP.....	Local Emergency Operations Plan	SCIP.....	Statewide Communications Interoperability Plans
LEPC.....	Local Emergency Planning Committee	SEOP	State Emergency Operations Plan
LETTP	Law Enforcement Terrorism Preparedness Program	SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
LMMRS	Lincoln Metropolitan Medical Response System	SHSGP.....	State Homeland Security Grant Program
MACC.....	Multi-Agency Coordination Center	SOS	Specialized Office Services (state's temporary employment service)
MACS.....	Multi-Agency Coordination System	TCL	Target Capability List
MERRTT	Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training	TICP	Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans
MMRS	Metropolitan Medical Response System		
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding		
NCOR.....	Nebraska Council of Regions		

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency



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www.nema.nebraska.gov

NEMA is charged by Nebraska statute to reduce the vulnerabilities of the people and communities of Nebraska in terms of injury, loss of life and property damage resulting from natural, technological or man-made disasters and emergencies. NEMA is responsible for coordinating the state response in any major emergency or disaster including the support of local governments as needed or requested, and coordinating assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal partners.

This Annual Report was produced by NEMA's Public Information Officer. For additional information about the NEMA Annual Report or other agency publications contact: Jodie Fawl, Public Information Officer at (402) 471-7428 or jodie.fawl@nebraska.gov.

