



May 2014

The Beacon

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

Mother's Day Storm
May 11, 2014
Beaver Crossing



Nebraska Battered by Mother's Day Storms

Mother Nature didn't show much motherly love in 10 counties affected by tornadoes and heavy rain in central and southeast Nebraska on Mother's Day, May 11.

Damage to homes, businesses and public infrastructure was reported throughout Clay, Fillmore, Seward, York, Lancaster, Hamilton, Jefferson, Douglas, Sarpy and Saunders counties.

According to the Omaha/Valley office of the National Weather Service, the severe thunderstorms developed along a warm front draped across southeast Nebraska and southwest Iowa during the late afternoon and evening. One large super cell produced a series of 12 tornadoes for 119 miles from Clay County to Douglas County.

In addition to the tornadoes, damaging straight-line winds, large hail and flooding occurred.

Gov. Dave Heineman and **Al Berndt**, assistant director of Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, visited the storm-damaged areas of Beaver Crossing, Cordova, Sutton and other



NEMA staff monitor communications on the evening of May 11 while storms pummel the state.



While touring Beaver Crossing, Gov. Dave Heineman spoke with Terry and JoAnn Paulsen who sustained major damage to their home and property.

towns, May 12. Heineman issued a state disaster declaration for the counties affected.

On the night of the storms, NEMA staff monitored the activity from the State Emergency Operations Center and responded as requests for assistance came in following the storms.

NEMA's mobile operations center and a field team deployed to Beaver Crossing, which was hit particularly hard, to assist in the response there.

Army National Guard soldiers from Nebraska's 92nd Troop Command were stationed on the Beaver Crossing perimeter to provide support and check-in services for volunteers and responders.

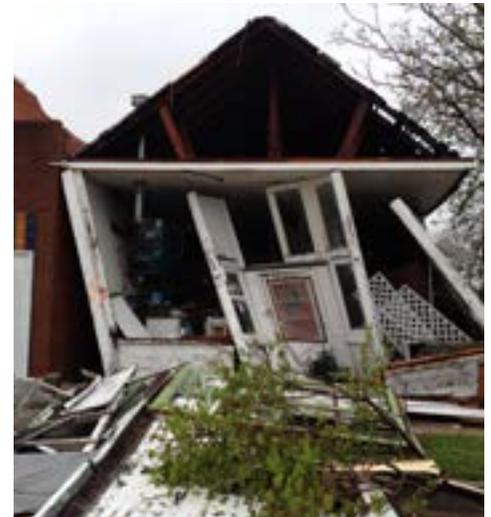
A joint Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and Federal Emergency Management Agency joint public damage assessment was completed May 23, in which damage was assessed to determine what type of federal aid might be possible.

"Conservatively, we will surpass \$20 million in cost due to damage from

the May 11 storm," said **Earl Imler**, response and recovery section supervisor for NEMA said. "Damage to power lines was extensive and that is one reason the numbers are that high."

Power companies throughout the affected area worked diligently to restore power to homes and businesses that lost power due to the storms.

[Continued on page 3](#)



Beaver Crossing Damage after an EF3 tornado struck on Mother's Day, May 11.



The State Emergency Operation Center was activated to a Level Two to respond to storm damage. Dan Hiller and Jackie Malay work in the Commo Room in support of the field team.

Continued from page 2

Another asset deployed to Beaver Crossing included the Nebraska Resources Accountability Team (NRAT), which registered responders and volunteers working on the scene. NRAT is made up of local emergency managers who provide check in and identification for resources at a disaster. The team registered more than 3,039 volunteers, responders and equipment to assist in the recovery efforts at Beaver Crossing.

“Once we got the residents and the volunteers used to checking, it went very well,” said **Deanna Beckman**, deputy emergency manager in Dakota

County and NRAT lead. “Once residents understood the importance of checking people in and out, it went very smoothly.”

The team had a busy week out in the field.

“We were running a card through every 18 seconds on Saturday, May 17, when so many people came out to help in the community,” Beckman said.

Kirt Smith of Hamilton County Emergency Management, registered volunteers for Sutton and Utica through his mutual aid agreement with Clay County.



Debris management was a main issue in Beaver Crossing.

Some of the resources that were been sent to the scene include:

- A generator for Cordova
- A cell on wheels (COW) for Beaver Crossing to boost phone communications in the area.
- Light Towers

Debris removal and restoring electricity to residents was a priority. Piles of debris 20 feet high and 40 feet wide littered Beaver Crossing.

Lt. Gov. Lavon Heidemann, who toured the town Tuesday, said he’s seen other communities bounce back stronger in the wake of a tornado, notably Hallam.

“You want towns like Beaver Crossing and Cordova to become stronger for what they’ve been through,” he said.

Shannon Chestnut, the Beaver Crossing village clerk, said the latest numbers indicate that about 10 of Beaver Crossing’s homes were destroyed. Nineteen houses sustained major damage, 102 had minor damage and the remaining 65 were affected in some manner.

“I can’t think of one person’s home that doesn’t have some type of damage,” he said.



“Down but not out” says the Methodist Church Steeple in Beaver Crossing.



Boaver Crossing Damago
May 11, 2014 Tornado



Cordova Damage
May 11, 2014 Tornado



Garland Damage
May 11, 2014 storms



Seward County Flooding
following May 11, 2014 storms



Sutton Damage
May 11, 2014

NEMA LOG

Winter weather, I-80 Closure/Sidney/May 11 – Hazardous driving conditions prompted the Wyoming Department of Transportation to close portions of Interstate 80. Nebraska Department of Roads closed westbound I-80 at Sidney.

Tornado Warning/Fillmore and Clay Counties/May 11 – Tornadoes and storm-re-

lated winds caused damage to several communities in Nebraska. Response is ongoing. The governor has issued a state disaster declaration. NEMA will coordinate a preliminary damage assessment (PDA) with FEMA.

Counties reporting damage are highlighted in red on the map at right.



Tornado Watch/northeast Nebraska/May 8 – The NEMA duty officer relocated to State Emergency Operation Center to monitor a tornado watch. No damages reported.

Tornado Warnings/central Nebraska/May 7 – Tornado warnings were issued for Dawson, Buffalo, and Sherman counties. Hail was reported, but there was no significant damage. An incident status report was received from Howard county, due to high winds downing trees and causing a power outage.

HAZMAT-Fertilizer Spill/Morrill County, Highway 385/May 5 – 2,200 gallons of liquid fertilizer spilled during a transportation accident.

High Winds/Kimball County/April 29 – The sheriff reported that a roof had been blown off of a pre-school in Kimball County. All occupants were evacuated and accounted for and no injuries reported. The sheriff also reported two semi-trucks blown over.

High Winds/Cheyenne County/April 29 – Emergency Manager Ron Leal requested that I-80 be closed to high profile traffic, between mile marker 25-65, due to semi-trucks blown over by high winds. Other wind related damage was reported.

Tornado Warning/Multiple Counties/April 27 – There was a tornado warning for northwest Merrick, southwest Polk, northeast Hamilton and northwest York counties.

Tornado Warning/Franklin and Kearney/April 27 – A tornado was reported near Upland, but no damage reported.

Wind Damage/Richardson County/April 27 – The emergency manager reported telephone poles knocked down due to straight-line winds on Highway 105 between Roads 711 and 712.

Tornado Watch/Multiple Counties/April 27 – There was a tornado watch for counties in central and south central Nebraska.

Semi Rollover/Cheyenne County/April 22 – Approximately 100 gallons diesel fuel spilled when a semi rolled.

HAZMAT/Buffalo County/Salt Spill April 21 – A citizen reported road salt as a hazardous material.

HAZMAT/Buffalo County/Amherst/April 18 – An accident led to 30 gallons of diesel fuel being spilled.

HAZMAT/Custer County/April 18 – There was an ethanol spill at an

ethanol plant. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality was notified.

Road Closure/Holt County /Highway 20/April 16 – There was a temporary road closure for accident clean-up.

Road Closure/Clay County/Highway 74/April 14 – Temporary road closure for railroad repairs.

Residential Gas Leak/Cass County/April 14 – Due to a gas leak, 20-25 residents were temporarily evacuated.

Winter Weather/Phelps County/Power Outages/April 13 – Winter weather caused widespread power outages throughout Phelps County, prompting the opening of a shelter. A county disaster declaration was received.

EPA Air Quality Warning/Cass County/April 12/ – Otoe County received an EPA Air Quality Warning, due to smoke from a wildland fire in Kansas.

CAP Mission/Buffalo County Area/Flight Beacon/April 12 – False alarm on an airplane beacon.

Plane Search/NE Nebraska/Hartington/April 4 – NEMA was notified by the USAF of a search being conducted by the Civil Air Patrol for an emergency locator beacon transmitting from a plane. NEMA was later notified that the plane had been found and was safe.

2014 Fire Summary Log

Fire Weather Watch/south central Nebraska/May 6 – Critical fire danger prompted the National Weather Service to issue a fire weather watch for Clay, Fillmore, Nuckolls, Thayer and Webster counties.

Fire/Sarpy County/ April 20 – A fire in Fontenelle Forest required mutual aid and additional city/county resources to contain.

Grassfire/Dakota County/April 18 – A fire near Homer required mutual aid. The State Fire Marshal's Office was notified.

Fire/Dakota County April 18 – A fire near the Highway 20/Highway 12 intersection required mutual aid.

Grassland Fire/Dakota County/April 11 – A controlled burn (with permit) defied its boundaries and threatened 12-14 homes, requiring mutual aid resources to bring under control.

Grassfire/Custer County /April 10 – A land owner used private aerial suppression resources to work a fire near Ansley.

Wildfire/Custer County/Aerial Applicator/April 9 – The Custer County Emergency Management Agency reported a fire eight miles east and two miles south of Arnold. Due to terrain, the emergency manager attempted to get an aerial applicator, but could not get one on-scene before dark. The Wildland Incident Response and Assistance Team (WIRAT) contacted the incident commander to ascertain the need for additional resources. The Custer County emergency manager later reported that the Incident Commander is confident that the fire will be contained.

Wildfire/Knox County/April 8 – Knox Emergency Management Agency reported a wildfire a few miles east of Niobrara. Six departments responded, and the fire was later reported as out .

Firing Range/April 7 – The Nebraska National Guard reports a grass fire occurred on a firing range during weapons qualification. Glenville and Hastings Fire Departments responded.

Wildfire/Red Willow County/March 31 – Approximately 30 acres burned west of McCook.



Nebraska Association of Emergency Managers Annual Conference Held in Grand Island



Community Resiliency: Organizations Working Together was the theme of the 2014 NAEM Conference held April 3-4 at the Mid-Town Holiday Inn in Grand Island.

The conference included sessions on:

- National Weather Service Technical Support for Emergency Managers
- The American Red Cross: How do we do it.
- Social Media in Emergency Management

Outgoing NAEM president Lynn Marshall, right, of Sarpy County congratulates Tim Hoffbauer of Platte County who was elected as the new NAEM president.

- 2-1-1 Support for Emergency Managers in Times of Emergency or Disaster
- Regional Social Media Collaboration: Enhancing Emergency Management Across All Sectors.
- Standardized Response Protocol Guide for Special Operations Events

The conference also offered a great opportunity for networking with colleagues and vendors.

NAEM is a professional organization that promotes and supports emergency management partnerships with public and private agencies for preservation of life safety and property and for the purpose of developing disaster resilient communities.

The purpose of NAEM is to serve the emergency managers throughout Nebraska, and the annual conference is one way the organization serves the state's emergency managers.

Lynn Marshall, outgoing president of NAEM said: "I would like to thank the NAEM executive board, the committee chairs and the committees for all the support and hard work they pro-



NEMA Assistant Director Al Berndt gives an emergency management update at the NAEM conference.

vided to me as president over the past year. If you would like to get involved with any of the committees, I encourage you to get in touch with incoming President **Tim Hofbauer** or your area director."

Mark your calendars for the 2015 NAEM Conference scheduled April 1-3, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Midtown in Grand Island. Watch for details on the NAEM website or www.naem.us or on Twitter @naemusne.



Whitney Shipley of Douglas County, and chair of the NAEM conference committee, speaks during the preconference meeting.



Pat Gerdes of Region 15 updates emergency managers on the 2014 session of the Nebraska Legislature.



Laura Hintz urges emergency managers to consider running for NAEM elected positions for 2015.



Brad Hildebrandt, captain of special operations for the Omaha Fire Department, discussed social media for emergency managers at the conference.



Nic Kemnitz (left), Wayne County emergency manager, and Leroy Janssen, deputy emergency manager, gave a presentation on their experiences after the Wayne Tornado of Oct. 4, 2013.



Amanda Bicknell, external affairs specialist with FEMA Region VII, led a social media workshop at the conference.



Susan Epps of the American Red Cross gave a presentation on how the Red Cross responds to disasters.



Darrin Lewis, left, receives the Outstanding Emergency Management Professional of the Year award from President Lynn Marshall.



Aaron Alward of Douglas County was honored as outstanding New Emergency Management Professional.



Shannon McVaney, a volunteer in Sarpy County, receives the Outstanding Emergency Management Support Professional award.



Lynn Marshall of Sarpy County receives the President's award for his years of Service from incoming president Tim Hoffbauer of Platte County.

Other Award Winners who were not present for pictures:

Doug Ahlberg, retired from Lancaster County, received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mardell Hergenrader, retired from NEMA, received a special award

Mark Meints, formerly of Gage County, received a president's award for his work on the Annual Poster Contest Committee.



Jodie Fawl, public information officer at NEMA, received a president's award for her work on the NAEM poster contest and photography at the conference.



Natalie Glen of Midwest Card earned the annual vendor award.



Whitney Shipley received a president's award for her work as chair of the conference committee.

LEPC and Hazardous Materials Hold Joint Conference

The Local Emergency Planning Committes (LEPC) and Hazardous Materials Conference was held jointly in Kearney in April. The responders and planners attended joint sessions led by author Mike Callan, who addressed helping responders train for the next emergency. “The best tool for fighting any emergency begins with knowledge,” Callan said.



ReadyUNL Event Helps Prepare Students

Students at the University of Nebraska Lincoln had a chance to learn first-hand about the importance of disaster preparedness with ReadyUNL, a one-day preparedness campus event.

On April 10, UNL held a ReadyUNL fair on the grounds of its student union plaza.

ReadyUNL allowed students a chance to interact with a number of first responders and agencies that are active during disasters.

Nebraska Citizen Corps participated by handing out Bad Day Bags to students, and talking with them about disaster preparedness. NECCP handed out 200 Bad Day Bags that came with a water bottle and a flashlight. The bags can be used by students as go-kits in case there is an emergency on campus. Students were given a suggested list of items that would be useful during a disaster or emergency, and encouraged to continue to add to their Bad Day Bag.

Follow NE Citizen Corps on Twitter: @NE_CCP.





Afua Kwarteng



Steve Terrell



Thomas Smith

Kwarteng Named Planning Specialist

Afua Kwarteng has joined Nebraska Emergency Management Agency as a planning specialist in the Technical Hazards Section. She is responsible for the State Emergency Response Plan.

Kwarteng was born in Texas and lived in various countries in the Middle East from age 4 to 17, attending international schools while her father worked as a geologist. Her parents are from Ghana in West Africa.

She earned a bachelor of arts from Austin College in Sherman, Texas. She majored in German and political science. Her master's in public administration, with a focus on emergency preparedness, was earned from the University of North Texas.

Kwarteng worked with the North Central Texas Council of Government and had various internships throughout her education.

Kwarteng enjoys swimming and any activity to do with water.

Terrell Joins NEMA Commo Staff

Steve Terrell started work at Nebraska Emergency Management Agency on May 5 as a communications specialist.

Previously, Terrell was an electronics technician with the Nebraska State Patrol. He worked on the state radio system.

Terrell also worked for the Department of Roads before joining the Nebraska State Patrol.

Terrell worked in wireless communication for the U.S. Navy at the U.S. Navy submarine base in San Diego. He was part of the auxiliary repair unit working on service in submarines.

He went to Joliet Jr. College in Joliet, Ill. where he earned a degree in computer network technology.

Terrell is from Morris, Ill., and is married to Holly, a Lincoln native, and they have two children, Maddie, 14, and Logan, 12.

Terrell keeps busy with family life and bicycling.

Smith to Lead Region 44

Thomas Smith was named director of Region 44 Emergency Management Agency, which includes Boone, Nance and Merrick counties in east central Nebraska.

Smith got his undergraduate degree in criminal justice from Chadron State University, and his master's in emergency and disaster management from the American Public University.

Previously, Smith worked for the Nebraska Civil Support Team with the Nebraska National Guard and was emergency regional coordinator the National Guard Bureau.

Smith worked as a bio-surveillance lead and exercise planner for U.S. Stratcom.

"I look forward to continuing to support the community and further the regional emergency management program," Smith said.

He is married with a daughter, age 8 and a son, age 4.



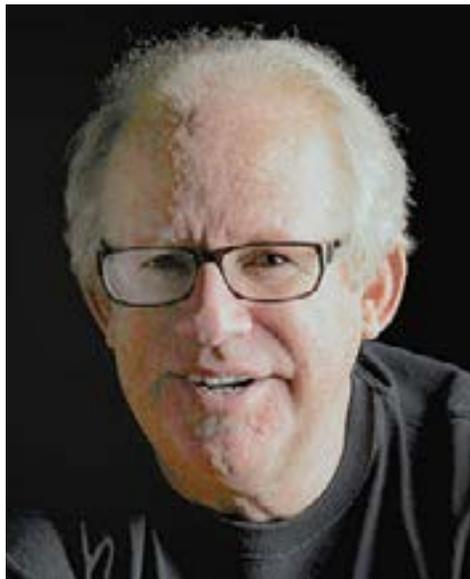
Plans for 2014 TERREX Underway

NEMA Exercise and Training Officer Roger Conrad, right, leads a planning meeting for this year’s statewide TERREX exercise. TERREX is Nebraska’s annual preparedness exercise hosted by Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, in conjunction with various state agencies and local jurisdictions. The exercise is a continued effort to be vigilant in all phases of emergency preparedness across the state, and tests the current state of readiness with the State Emergency Operations Plan and local emergency operation plans. It is scheduled for September in the State Emergency Operations Center. More information will be forthcoming as plans develop.

Region 5-6 Director Bill Pook Completes Advanced Professional Series in Emergency Management

Bill Pook, Region 5/6 director, has completed the FEMA [Advanced Professional Development Series \(APS\)](#)

According to FEMA records he is the first Nebraska resident to earn the designation.



Bill Pook

“My hope is to not remain the only APS in Nebraska,” Pook said. “We need to promote this opportunity for emergency managers across the state.”

The series emphasizes applied skills in disaster operations, management and coordination.

“Completion of this series of courses is an accomplishment that distinguishes him (Pook) as an emergency managers with substantial expertise in emergency operations and management,” wrote **Tony Russell**, superintendent of the Emergency Management Institute.

“By completing this series, he has demonstrated extraordinary dedication to the goal of protecting lives, communities and resources from disasters.”

Courses include practical skills from the whole spectrum of emergency management and disaster duties.

NEMA’s Al Berndt designated as Fire Compact Administrator

Gov. Dave Heineman designated **Al Berndt** as the compact administrator for the State of Nebraska.

Nebraska joined the Great Plains Interstate Fire Compact, an agreement that lets member states share their firefighters and equipment in an emergency without going to the federal government.

According to the compact, each state will designate a person who is responsible for forest fire control.

“Al Berndt will do an outstanding job representing Nebraska in this compact,” said Gov. Heineman. “He has served our state for many years as the Assistant Director of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, (NEMA) which makes him uniquely qualified to represent our state.”



Al Berndt

Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy Held at Fort Robinson

Two teams of Nebraska Emergency Management Agency staff members provided support to the Seventh Annual Wildland Fire Academy at Fort Robinson State Park near Crawford from April 24-May 4.

The academy provides fire and incident management training using the expertise of a cadre of instructors to ensure the fire training needs of western Nebraska and the surrounding region are met.

NEMA sent two teams to the academy.

Team one included: **Dave Reisen, Roger Conrad, Jodie Fawl, Alisia Lamay** and **Leo Larkin**. Team two included: **Earl Imler, Chuck Chase, Brent Curtis, Deb Kai and Tonya Ngotel**. The academy is coordinated by the Nebraska Forest Service Training Coordinator, Casey McCoy.

The NEMA staff worked the Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy as an incident management team (IMT) to complete portions of their individual

position task books. Members of an IMT must complete a variety of specified tasks and have them signed by a qualified member of an IMT before they are qualified to serve on an IMT.

The Nebraska Resource Accountability Team worked on registering stu-

dent, instructors and overhead staff at the academy.

The academy continues to grow each year, both in numbers of students and in classes offered. More than 250 students from 10 states attended the event.



NEMA's Dave Reisen talks to State Sen. Al Davis at the Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy at Fort Robinson State Park, as Deanna Beckman of the Nebraska Resource Accountability Team (NRAT) and Casey McCoy of the Nebraska Forrest Service look on.



Logistics Chief Alisia LaMay of NEMA signs demobilization papers for Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy participants.



Members of the Nebraska Resouces Accountability Team work at the Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy.



NEMA's Earl Imler, serving as operations chief, addresses Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy staff at Fort Robinson.



Overhead staff at the Nebraska Wildland Fire Academy.



Investment Justification Workshop

Each year the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency hosts an Investment Justification workshop, where stakeholder determine the best use of homeland security grant funds in the state of Nebraska.

SEAT Base Dedicated in Chadron

A dedication and ribbon-cutting for Chadron's single engine air tanker base was held April 26, at the Chadron Airport.

State Sen. Al Davis was among the speakers at the event, which included an open house, airport fly-in and pancake breakfast.

"We are entering a new age in fire suppression," Davis said.

The addition of the SEAT, along with new legislation modifying the existing local aerial applicator suppression program, which raised spending limits from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for aerial applications, will benefit fire suppression in the state, he added.

The Chadron SEAT Base, and SEAT bases in Valentine and Alliance, as well as a mobile base, will give responders another asset for fighting wildfires.

Chadron Mayor Karin Fischer thanked all involved in getting the base completed in Chadron.

"It is not possible to dedicate the base without mentioning the firefighters," Fischer said. "After having just experienced a large fire, the value of the SEAT Base at Chadron was easy to see."

She was particularly pleased with

the rapid response her community has experienced from the state during fires and other events.

"NEMA (Nebraska Emergency Management Agency) was impressively responsive to our recent winter storms," she said.

Jay Esperance, division director for the South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire, was one of the speakers at the event. Esperance served as incident commander for the 2012 Region 23 Complex Fire.

"We used one of the largest tankers available to fight the fire here in 2012," Esperance said. "The SEAT will help us keep fires smaller so we don't have to fight larger fires. I'm really happy with the direction this is going."

Jim Strain, chief fire management officer for the South Dakota Division of Wildland Fire, expressed his appreciation for the general aviation community.

"You keep our small airports thriving so when we have fires we can use them. You are the reason we have good facilities."

Strain said NEMA has a very effective aerial application program, which

was the first line of defense against wildfires, but the SEAT has added an additional dimension.

"The SEAT will not cure every problem, but few states took it as hard as Nebraska did in 2012, with 500,000 acres burned and more than \$12 million in costs. This will allow for a more effective and quicker response."

Steve Lenzo, deputy forests and grasslands supervisor for the United State Forest Service, said local volunteer fire departments are what keep these fires small and the SEAT base will be an asset they can use to fight wildfires.

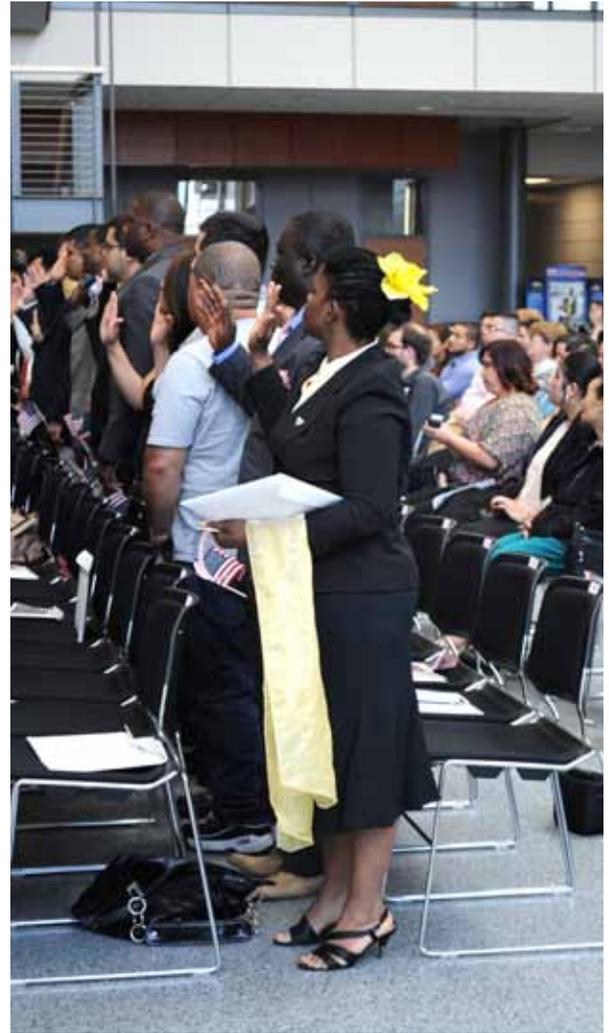
Casey McCoy, wildfire training manager for the Nebraska Forest Service, especially thanked Lewis Sieber, of the Nebraska Forest Service, for his work to complete construction of the bases.

"It will be great to have this resource sitting in your own backyard," McCoy said.

Also attending the dedication were: Dave Reisen, NEMA exercise and training supervisor, Nan Gould, Region 23 Emergency Manager and Pat Gould, Fire Chief for Chadron and Nebraska State Fire Marshal for District C.



Sen. Al Davis and Chadron Mayor Karin Fischer, center, cut the ribbon at the single engine air tanker (SEAT) dedication on April 26 at the Chadron Airport.



Naturalization Ceremony

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, along with the Nebraska Military, the Nebraska State Patrol and the United State Citizen and immigration Services sponsored a Naturalization Ceremony at the Joint Force Headquarters on May 15 where 46 people became U.S. Citizens. At right, General Daryl Bohac speaks to the honorees. *Pictures by Sgt. Heidi McClintock Public Affairs Specialist and Jodie Fawl, public information officer.*





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Governor Dave Heineman

State Homeland Security Director

Lt. Governor Lavon Heidemann

NEMA Director

Major General Daryl Bohac

Assistant Director

Al Berndt

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.

The Beacon

The Beacon is published monthly and includes emergency management news and activities from across the state. Please forward story ideas or photos for inclusion to:

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Flu at the Zoo

NEMA Exercise Training Officer Chuck Chase, standing, talks at the Flu at the Zoo exercise held at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha. The exercise covered an animal disease outbreak among Zoo animals.



Nebraska Infrastructure Protection Conference

NEMA Public Information Officer Jodie Fawl gives a presentation at the annual Nebraska Infrastructure Protection Conference in Omaha. Fawl discussed Event Driven Social Media. NIPC was held April 23-24 at the DoubleTree in Omaha and is co-hosted by Nebraska's Homeland Security Director - the Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska, and the United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska, Deborah Gilg. This conference was designed to assist in information sharing, collaboration and networking with those protecting Nebraska's critical infrastructure assets.



Ron Edmond led a spokesperson training session sponsored by NEMA through a grant provided by Department of Energy and the Western Governor's Association. The session was hosted by Hall County Emergency Management in Grand Island.