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State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
33 HAZEN DR. CONCORD, NH 03305
603/271-2791

JOHN J. BARTHELMES
COMMISSIONER

July 9, 2014

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Retrospective

Requested Action

Pursuant to MOP 1200, Memberships, Dues and Licenses, authorize the Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, to **retroactively** pay FY2015 annual membership dues to the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) (VC# 167180-B001), Lexington, Kentucky, for an amount not to exceed \$3,200.00. Effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. Funding source: 100% Agency Income (Plea by mail).

Funds are available in the FY 2015 operating budget as follows.

02-23-23-236010-27300000 Dept. of Safety – HSEM – Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
026-500251 Organizational Dues/Membership Fees

FY2015
\$3,200.00

Explanation

This item is **retroactive** due to a delay in processing at Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This membership will provide access to information sharing and networking among states, particularly the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. NEMA also provides national reports on information related to state emergency management organizational structures, budgets, staffing levels, disaster assistance funding and more. This information is used by state directors to build support with governors' offices and state legislatures.

Professional relationships built through NEMA are invaluable during times of emergencies and disasters. NEMA works to ensure state emergency management directors have the opportunity to provide input into national policy and program development to ensure the needs, concerns and viewpoints of the states are considered. NEMA regularly provides input into the development of grant guidance at Federal Emergency Management Agency/Department of Homeland Security (FEMA/DHS) to ensure maximum flexibility for states in the use of federal funds in order to meet state-specific priorities. NEMA is regularly invited to testify before Congress on emergency management and homeland security related legislation. This gives states the opportunity to weigh in on legislation that will impact their agencies and programs.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

1. *How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?* NEMA has been in existence since 1974; New Hampshire Homeland Security & Emergency Management has been a member since at least June 2003.
2. *Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?* NEMA is the only organization that brings together state emergency management directors under one umbrella.

3. *How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire agency that is a member?* 49 states, 8 U.S. Territories and the District of Columbia belong to NEMA; Homeland Security and Emergency Management is the only State of New Hampshire agency that is a member.
4. *How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc)* The New Hampshire membership fee of \$3,200.00 is for the state director of emergency management State-Member).
5. *What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?* The benefits of NEMA membership are: peer networking, committees, conferences, educational opportunities, NEMA publications, access to research and policy initiatives, legislative activities and support, discounted fees for products and services, access to members-only areas of the website, and membership directory.
6. *Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.* New State Director Training is offered yearly at the Emergency Management Institute. The target audience includes state directors and deputy state directors who have been in their positions fewer than three years; EMI provides reimbursement of travel costs to attendees. NEMA serves as an information-sharing and support network for state directors and senior staff. NEMA offers professional development and training so that emergency management professionals may continue honing their skills.
7. *Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.* No
8. *Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.* Training is held once per year; the costs are paid for except for meals. Travel would include two (2) people. NEMA sponsors two national policy forums each year where state emergency management directors hear the latest information available on national policies and programs that will impact their agencies. They have access to Washington decision-makers through NEMA at national conferences. There are also various committees; every state director is assigned to a committee. These committees meet once or twice a year outside conferences due to the number and complexity of issues. Meetings are also frequently held via conference call.
9. *Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization).* The director or his/her designee. The state director or designee is a voting member. Someone from the NH Attorney General's Office sometimes participates/attends.
10. *Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.* The NH Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management benefits from this membership because NEMA serves as a vital emergency management information and assistance resource. NEMA provides national leadership and comprehensive emergency management through strategic partnerships, innovative programs, and collaborative policy positions. If we did not belong to NEMA, we would not have a voice in the collective input of the rest of the State/Territorial emergency managers into federal legislation or policies in all of the areas of emergency management. We would also not have immediate access to the activities of other states or the networking that allows us to know the individuals at the other end of a phone call or email to ask for information/assistance and/or to provide it. The New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management relies on the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) to provide us with all the needed information.

Respectfully submitted,


John J. Barthelmes
Commissioner of Safety



National Emergency Management Association
PO Box 11910
Lexington KY 40578-1910
Phone: 859-244-8162
Fax: 859-244-8239

Perry Plummer
Acting Director
Department of Safety
Homeland Security & Emergency Management
33 Hazen Drive
Concord NH 03305

Invoice #: 20017

Date: 05/13/2014

Item	Account	Cost
2015 Membership Dues		
2015 State Member Annual Dues (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015)	410-090-10-40010-10981	\$3,200.00
	Subtotal	\$3,200.00
	Total Due:	\$3,200.00

Please make checks payable to NEMA. Enclose one copy of this invoice for proper credit. All invoices are due within 30 days of receipt.

To pay by credit card please call the NEMA Administrative Assistant at (859) 244-8162.

Mail Payments to the PO Box above or:

National Emergency Management Association
c/o The Council of State Governments
2760 Research Park Drive
Lexington, KY 40511

F.E.I.N. 23-7402557



Benefits of Membership in NEMA

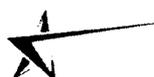
NEMA is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization and certifies annually that it is not a lobbying entity.

On behalf of State emergency management agencies, NEMA has fought for the following accomplishments:



National Policy and Program Development

- NEMA works to ensure state emergency management directors have the opportunity to provide input into national policy and program development to ensure the needs, concerns and viewpoints of the states are considered. Recent examples include implementation of the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act (SRIA), state management costs, hazard mitigation planning cycles, presidential disaster declarations and tribal governments, and guidance on Functional Needs for Shelter Support Services
- NEMA regularly provides input into the development of grant guidance at FEMA/DHS to ensure maximum flexibility for states in the use of federal funds in order to meet state-specific priorities. In 2013, NEMA was successful in working with FEMA/DHS to eliminate or consolidate grant reporting requirements as requested by the states. This is an ongoing initiative.
- NEMA was successful with DHS in having EMPG removed from homeland security grant packages which assured an all-hazards emergency management focus. While the Administration continues to propose the consolidation of grants, EMPG remains a stand-alone grant package due to NEMA's efforts.



Information Sharing and Support Network

- NEMA facilitates information sharing and networking among states, particularly the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. This is crucial information for state emergency management directors to be successful in their positions.
- NEMA regularly provides national reports on information related to state emergency management organizational structures, budgets, staffing levels, disaster assistance funding and more. This information is used by state directors to build support for organizations and budgets with governors' offices and state legislatures.
- There is no better source than NEMA for real-time information. NEMA conducts national surveys, research and analysis upon request by its state members when they need to address a specific issue.



- Professional relationships built through NEMA are invaluable during times of emergencies and disasters.



National Legislation

- NEMA is regularly invited to testify before Congress on emergency management and homeland security related legislation. This gives states the opportunity to weigh in on legislation that will impact their agencies and programs. In 2012 and 2013, NEMA members testified nearly a dozen times before Congress on issues such as reauthorization of key FEMA programs, the federal budget, and innovations in emergency management.
- Since September 11, NEMA has answered the call by Congress to justify EMPG funding which resulted in Congress more than **doubling funding for EMPG** in the last decade. EMPG was the only state and local preparedness grant program that did not receive a cut in the FY2011 or FY2012 federal budgets. Further, NEMA succeeded in having Congress approve the continued **use of EMPG funds for state and local emergency management personnel** when some in Washington continue to try to limit this use of federal funds. The now annual EMPG Return on Investment Report provided to Congress has become a critical document in justifying this program before lawmakers and ensuring continued funding.
- NEMA has worked to obtain \$2 million in line item funding for EMAC in the past four Congressional budget cycles which is important to states since NEMA provides sub-awards to build mutual aid capabilities.
- NEMA succeeded in **strengthening emergency management** in the 9/11 Commission Implementation Act of 2007 through an authorization for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), **a larger federal cost share for EOC improvements**, protection of EMPG through authorization language, and establishment of **minimum baseline funding for states through the State Homeland Security Grant Program**.
- NEMA accepted the invitation to work with Congress on the passage of the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006, which resulted in the bill addressing over seven years of emergency management priorities. **PKREMA also restored FEMA to its former strength**. This bill is considered landmark emergency management reform.
- NEMA has provided technical assistance to Congress on the reauthorization of vital programs such as the National Flood Insurance Program, Predisaster Mitigation Grant Program, the Severe Repetitive Loss Program, and the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program; and provided input to Congress on other issues such as use of social media in disasters, tornado shelters, tsunami preparedness, public health preparedness, and grant reform and intelligence reform.



Training and Professional Development

- State emergency management directors and their staff are eligible for training and professional development opportunities through NEMA. New directors may participate free of charge in the EMI-NEMA State Director Training Course held annually.
- NEMA sponsors two national policy forums each year where state emergency management directors hear the latest information available on national policies and programs that will impact their agencies. They have access to Washington decision-makers through NEMA at national conferences. Training and workshops are offered to assist state personnel to be knowledgeable and prepared to address current and emerging issues.
- NEMA provides webinars throughout the year for state directors and their staff on specific issues impacting the states. Webinars are provided to member states at no additional charge.
- NEMA provides forums for state staff to network with their peers across the nation and discuss common problems, solutions and to share best practices. NEMA has subcommittees for state individual and public assistance personnel, public information officers, state hazard mitigation officers, and radiological personnel. NEMA also has a Legal Counsel Committee composed of state attorneys who have emergency management and homeland security in their portfolio. These forums are offered as part of the state's annual membership dues to NEMA – no additional fees are charged.



Coalition-Building

- NEMA is a convener and collaborator on behalf of the states, building relationships that help expand the awareness and understanding of EM issues. Partnerships include the National Homeland Security Consortium, NEMA-ASTHO Joint Policy Work Group, National Mass Care Council, Stafford Act Coalition, First Responders Coalition, National Hazard Mitigation Alliance, Congressional Hazards Caucus, EMAP Commission, IEM CEM Commission, FEMA IA-PA Subcommittee, CSG Executive Committee, Emergency Services Sector Coordinating Council, and many more.



Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)

- NEMA administers EMAC and provides governance and support for the compact at no additional charge to compact members. NEMA provides EMAC training to state emergency management personnel as well as local first responders at no cost. Training allows for the efficient and effective implementation of mutual aid during governor declared emergencies.