

## **BOARD OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022

1:30 TO 3:00 PM

GEMA/HS HEADQUARTERS

TRAINING ROOM

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

#### **Board Members Present:**

James Stallings, Vice Chairperson

Col. Chris Wright

Vic Reynolds (WebEx)

MG Thomas Carden

Russell McMurry (WebEx)

Kyle Sapp (WebEx)

Alan Powell (WebEx)

#### **Board Members Absent:**

Chris Carr

Mark Williams

Kathleen Toomey

Richard Woods

Gary Black

Shawnzia Thomas

Bill Cowsert

#### **Representatives Present:**

Wright Banks (WebEx)

Col. Thomas Barnard (WebEx)

Leah Hoffacker

Jeffery Hodges (WebEx)

Gary Kelley (WebEx)

Katina Hopper (WebEx)

The Board of Homeland Security held the board meeting on August 3, 2022 at the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. A List of Attendees, the Agenda, and the Board Presentation are attached hereto and made official parts of these minutes as Attachments #1, #2, and #3. Vice Chairperson James Stallings called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM.

All board members are present except Attorney General Chris Carr with the Georgia Department of Law, Commissioner Mark Williams with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Commissioner Kathleen Toomey with the Georgia Department of Public Health, Superintendent Richard Woods with the Georgia Department of Education, Commissioner Gary Black with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, Executive Director Shawnzia Thomas with the Georgia Technology Authority, and Senator Bill Cowsert with the Georgia State Senate.

Vice Chairperson James Stallings welcomed everyone to the GEMA/HS Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### **Roll Call**

**Approval of the Minutes:**

Vice Chairperson James Stallings postponed the approval of the June 1, 2022 meeting minutes since a quorum was not present.

Vice Chairperson James Stallings postponed the approval of the July 6, 2022 meeting minutes since a quorum was not present.

**New Business:**

Vice Chairperson James Stallings opened the floor for discussion on any new business.

Anna Burton reviewed Article III Section 1 Regular and Special Meetings of the Bylaws to discuss the number of board meetings. Vice Chairperson James Stallings proposes a change to meet on a quarterly basis at four times per year. This will be voted on at the next board meeting on October 5, 2022.

**a) Recovery Update to the Strategic Plan**

Valarie Grooms with GEMA/HS provided an update on the Strategic Plan. She focused on Recovery Goal #1: Strengthen infrastructure, structural, human, and economic recovery capabilities. Recovery Objective #1 is Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning. The speed and success of recovery can be enhanced by establishment of the process and protocols prior to a disaster. Stella Kim with GEMA/HS reviewed Recovery Objective #2: Partnerships and Inclusiveness. Partnerships and collaboration across groups, sectors, and governments promote a successful recovery process. This is vital for ensuring that all voices are heard from all parties involved in disaster recovery and that all available resources are brought to the table.

**b) National Counterterrorism Center Overview**

Thomas Lott with the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) provided an overview of his position and how the center can assist state agencies.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Vice Chairperson James Stallings adjourned the meeting at 2:05 PM.

**Official Attachments:**

1. List of Attendees
2. Agenda
3. Board Presentation

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**Board Members:**

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**Representatives:**

Wright Banks (WebEx)

Col. Thomas Barnard (WebEx)

Leah Hoffacker

Jeffery Hodges (WebEx)

Gary Kelley (WebEx)

Katina Hopper (WebEx)

**Others Attending:**

Anna Burton

Emily Fish

Valarie Grooms

Katina Hopper (WebEx)

Stella Kim

Thomas Lott

Blair McGowan (WebEx)

Tom Moore

Tina Piper

Harlan Proveaux

Ashley Seay

Mark Sexton

Warren Shepard



# Board of Homeland Security Meeting

## AGENDA

*August 3, 2022*

*1:30 - 3:00 P.M.*

**GEMA/HS Headquarters**

**Training Room**

**Atlanta, GA**

**WebEx/Conference Call**

**gema.webex.com OR call 1-855-282-6330**

**Meeting Number: 2432 766 3085**

**Access Code: HS080322**

### **Agenda Topic**

### **Speaker**

**Call to Order**

James C. Stallings, Vice Chairperson  
GEMA/HS

**Roll Call**

Harlan Proveaux, GEMA/HS

**Approval of Minutes from June 1, 2022**

**Approval of Minutes from July 6, 2022**

**New Business**

a) Recovery Update to the Strategic Plan

Valarie Grooms, GEMA/HS

b) National Counterterrorism Center Overview

Thomas Lott, NCTC

**Adjournment**



## Georgia Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency


### **Recovery Goal 1: Strengthen infrastructure, structural, human, and economic recovery capabilities**

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Valarie Grooms  
Deputy Director Recovery Division

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## Recovery Goal 1


Recovery begins with pre-disaster preparedness and includes a wide range of planning activities. The ability of a community to accelerate the recovery process begins with its efforts in pre-disaster preparedness, mitigation and recovery capacity building.

These efforts result in a resilient community with an improved ability to withstand, respond to and recover from disasters. Timely decisions in response to disaster impacts can significantly reduce recovery time and cost. A key element of the recovery process is that the impacted community assumes the leadership in developing recovery priorities and activities that are realistic, well-planned and clearly communicated.

Recovery encompasses more than the restoration of a community's physical structures to its pre-disaster conditions. Of equal importance is providing a continuum of care to meet the needs of the affected community members who have experienced the hardships of financial, emotional or physical impacts as well as positioning the community to meet the needs of the future.

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## Recovery Goal 1

The recovery process is best described as a sequence of interdependent and often concurrent activities that progressively advance a community toward a successful recovery. However, decisions made and priorities set early in the recovery process by a community will have a cascading effect on the nature and speed of the recovery progress.

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## Recovery Goal Objective 1

**Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning:** The speed and success of recovery can be greatly enhanced by establishment of the process and protocols prior to a disaster for coordinated post-disaster recovery planning and implementation. All stakeholders should be involved to ensure a coordinated and comprehensive planning process and develop relationships that increase post-disaster collaboration and unified decision making. Development and enhancement of plans to identify State, locally-generated tools and resources, pre-disaster, that will serve to support and sustain disaster mitigation and recovery efforts (3-36 months).

The Disaster Response and Recovery Plan is currently being updated to comply with Emergency Management Accreditation Program standards (EMAP). The emergency management program uses the accreditation to prove the capabilities of our disaster preparedness and response systems based on National Standards.

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## Recovery Goal Objective 1

However, we are working to develop our statewide capacity to assist rural and economically disadvantaged areas in organizing and implementing post disaster recovery actions that will lead to stronger, more resilient, equitable and inclusive communities.

A cadre of individuals from state agencies and local emergency management agencies have been identified that can be trained to deploy and assist smaller communities impacted by disasters and function as force multipliers to local authorities.

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## Recovery Goal Objective 2

**Partnerships and Inclusiveness:** Partnerships and collaboration across groups, sectors and governments promote a successful recovery process. Partnerships and inclusiveness are vital for ensuring that all voices are heard from all parties involved in disaster recovery and that all available resources are brought to the table. This is especially critical at the community level where nongovernmental partners in the private and nonprofit sectors play a critical role in meeting local needs. Inclusiveness in the recovery process includes individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, advocates of children, seniors and members of underserved populations. Sensitivity and respect for social and cultural diversity must be maintained at all times. Develop and enhance community partnerships and collaboration groups to ensure a recovery efforts are achieved in a timely manner (12-48 months).

We are developing and strengthening communities' capabilities to transition into short and long-term recovery by expanding statewide partnerships within GA Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters and private sector partners.

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## Recovery Goal Objective 2

Through a Community Development Block Grant, we are supporting the disaster recovery and redevelopment planning for local governments for Disaster Recovery over a three-year implementation period for the 20 counties affected by Hurricane Michael to be completed by April 2025.

Currently we are drafting letters and contacts for the counties that were awarded the grant to secure project commitments while we finalize project vendors.

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# Questions?

[www.gema.ga.gov](http://www.gema.ga.gov)

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