

BOARD OF HOMELAND SECURITY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019
1:30 TO 2:30 PM
GEMA/HS HEADQUARTERS
TRAINING ROOM

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Homer Bryson, Vice Chairperson
Philip Peacock, Secretary
Vic Reynolds
Col. Mark McDonough
Chris Carr
Thomas Carden
Mark Williams
Kathleen Toomey
Gary Black
Calvin Rhodes
Bill Cowsert
Alan Powell
Erika Shields

Board Members Absent:

Richard Woods
Russell McMurry
Kyle Sapp

Representatives Present:

Larry Barnes

The Board of Homeland Security held the board meeting on April 3, 2019 at the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. A List of Attendees, the Agenda, and the Meeting Presentation are attached hereto and made official parts of these minutes as Attachments #1, #2, and #3. Director Homer Bryson called the meeting to order at 1:40 PM.

All board members are present except State School Superintendent Richard Woods, Commissioner Russell McMurry with the Department of Transportation, and Sheriff Kyle Sapp with Tattnall County.

Vice Chairperson Homer Bryson welcomed everyone to the GEMA/HS Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. He also welcomed the new board members: Director Vic Reynolds, with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Adjutant General Thomas Carden with the Georgia Department of Defense, and Commissioner Kathleen Toomey with the Georgia Department of Public Health.

Approval of the Minutes:

Vice Chairperson Homer Bryson presented the minutes of the January 9, 2019 meeting for discussion and approval. Calvin Rhodes made a motion to approve the minutes. Colonel Mark McDonough seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

a) Concept Homeland Security Strategic Strategy Document

Harlan Proveaux reviewed the law regarding the Board of Homeland Security. Georgia Code § 38-3-42 states that the Board shall develop a statewide homeland security strategy to improve the State's ability to protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic terrorism and other homeland security hazards. The strategy shall coordinate homeland security activities among and between local agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and the private sector. The law empowers this Board to create a homeland security strategy for Georgia, and in doing so, creating a homeland security plan. The Board will be able to vet, revise, approve, and implement the plan. The strategic plan will set priorities, will focus energy and resources, and establish an agreement of intended outcomes, especially when it comes to planning and policy.

Harlan Proveaux provided a Board of Homeland Security schedule with an agenda for the future board meetings over the next twelve months. It is estimated that the proposal will take eighteen months to complete. At the next board meeting on June 5th, 2019, there will be a presentation on critical infrastructure and key resources protection. Also, advice and recommendations will be solicited from the board members regarding the presentation topic. On August 7th, 2019 and September 4th, 2019, the topic will be on intelligence gathering and information sharing. On November 6th, 2019 and December 4, 2019, the topic will be multi-agency response. On February 5th, 2020, the topic will be cyber security. On April 1st, 2020, the topic will be technological advances. After that, board members will be able to suggest any other topics that should be included.

b) Overview of THIRA

Harlan Proveaux reviewed the GEMA/HS mission and presented an overview of the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). The Georgia Institute of Technology prepares the THIRA for the State of Georgia. The THIRA is a three-step risk assessment completed every three years. It helps communities answer the following questions: What threats and hazards can affect our community? If they occurred, what impacts would those threats and hazards have on our community? Based on those impacts, what capabilities should our community have? The State of Georgia has five recognized threats: active shooters, explosive devices, hazmat release – radiological, hurricane or typhoon, and cyber attacks. The Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) is an annual three-step self-assessment of a community's capability levels based on the capability target in the THIRA. The THIRA and the SPR are required by the federal government for the agency to receive Homeland Security Grant Funding. The Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Task Force was created for the purpose of identification, investigation, and prosecution of homeland security and terrorism related instances. GEMA/HS and the GBI have worked together to create a survey for the local agencies and sheriff's offices. The survey identified the top eight public safety issues as: criminal street gangs, opioid-related crimes and

deaths, crimes impacting at-risk adults, lone threats, child suicide, school threats, sovereign citizens, and active shooter. Many of these agencies have requested training on Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) and active-shooter response. Since the See Something, Send Something application was created, over 200 school threat tips were received within the first twelve months.

c) Overview of Homeland Security Grant Funding

Homeland Security Grant Funding has fallen to a sustainment level. From 2004 to 2018, there was an 88% decrease in funding for homeland security. Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) was created in 2004 and is managed by the Atlanta Regional Commission. The amount is determined by the federal government. These funds are used to build and sustain capabilities for public safety and first responders to prevent, protect, respond, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism and other major hazards. UASI covers the City of Atlanta and Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, and Gwinnett Counties. The homeland security grant funds have funded teams for sustainment efforts across the State. In 2018, the grants funds totaled at \$6.5 million dollars. The sustainment projects from the year cost \$5.3 million dollars. That leave \$1.1 million for new projects in the State. Some of those funds were allocated to other state agencies like the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Public Safety, GBI, and the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC). The majority of the funding for the GBI is dedicated to the Georgia Information Sharing Analysis Center (GISAC). The Strategic Plan is important in regards to funding, building capabilities, answering to the federal government, the THIRA, and making sure we are doing what is right for the citizens of Georgia.

Vice Chairperson Homer Bryson discussed the importance of creating a plan to address the threats Georgia faces. The goal is to have everyone moving in the same direction and communicating with one another to protect our citizens. It goes back to the members of this Board and how we work together and support one another.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Vice Chairperson Homer Bryson adjourned the meeting at 2:38 PM.

Official Attachments:

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

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Gary Black
Calvin Rhodes
Bill Cowsert
Alan Powell
Erika Shields

Representatives:

Larry Barnes

Others Attending:

Scott Dutton
Maj. Mike England
Joey Greene
Travis Johnson
Edner Julien
Gary Kelley
Scott Minarcine
Javier Pico
Tina Piper
Harlan Proveaux
Tommy Ratchford
Uyen Le Schneider
Ashley Seay
Mark Sexton
Warren Shepard
Cody Whitlock
Ferron Yi



Board of Homeland Security Meeting

AGENDA

April 3, 2019
1:30 - 2:30 P.M.
GEMA/HS Headquarters
Training Room
Atlanta, GA

<u>Agenda Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Call to Order	Homer Bryson, Director GEMA/HS
Roll Call	
Approval of Minutes from January 9, 2019	
New Business	Harlan Proveaux, Deputy Director GEMA/HS
a) Concept Homeland Security Strategic Strategy Document	
b) Overview of THIRA	
c) Overview of Homeland Security Grant Funding	
Adjournment	