

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

April was the annual IAEM-USA Board Retreat and this year it was at the [Galt House](#) in Louisville, KY. This is where the 2025 Conference will be held. It is a beautiful place, on the banks of the Ohio River. Make plans to be there, November 14-20, 2025.

Coming up next week is the [UEMA conference](#) in Saint George, Utah. I will be there!!

Valerie Lucus-McEwen, CEM, CBCP
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REGIONAL CALENDAR (2024)

- [UEMA May 7-9 @ Saint George](#)
- [NDEMA Sept 9-12 @ Bismarck](#)
- [SDEMA Sept 9-14 @ Chamberlain](#)
- MEMA Oct 1-3 @ Butte
- [IAEM Conference Nov 17-20 @ CO Springs](#)
- R8 Quarterly Conversations
 - Mon, Aug 5th @ 2 pm MST
 - Mon, Nov 18th in Colorado Springs

WELCOME TO OUR NEW R8 MEMBERS

Recognize anyone? Take a minute to welcome them.

- ♥ Chris Breitbach, CO
- ♥ Diego Sigala, CO

REGION 8 Quarterly Conversation
Mon, May 6th @ 2 pm MST

[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 291 828 078 25
Passcode: WWqhNP

Up for discussion:

- R8 Budget
- Upcoming Conference
 - Lodging at Colorado Springs
 - R8 Challenge Coin and Stickers
 - R8 Social Event
 - R8 poster for the Conference
 - R8 scholarship Basket
- Plea for NWS!!
- Scholarship applications extended to 5/20
- Anything else!!



REMINDER, you can see all the newsletters, notes and minutes on the [IAEM R8 website](#)

Special thank you ...



.... to Scott Helphrey, Training Officer for the North Dakota Division of Homeland Security. He will be proctoring the CEM exam for Brittany Ramussen (Fargo, ND). She is one of the R8 FEMA cohort folks.



Subscribe to the Weekly news from IAEM – featuring EM related news from around the world. Open to everyone to join!



GOING FAST! The Call for Speakers for EMVision will close on Friday, May 3, 2024.

We have exciting news for IAEM Scholarship applicants! The deadline has been extended until **Monday, May 20 at 11:59:59 EDT**



If you are not a current student, please help us by sharing this with students in your network.

Prepared and Supported by the International Association of Emergency Managers info@iaem.com

How can YOU support the NWS?

The IAEM-USA [Government Affairs Committee](#) asks you to contact your elected officials and ask them to support our NWS partners.

Visit the [IAEM NWS Budget Support page](#) for more information, including:

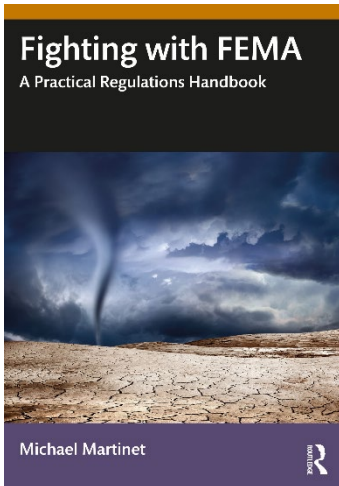
- Links to elected officials contact information.
- Sample letter template.
- Downloadable infographic to share.

Thank you for your help in these efforts to communicate with decision-makers to impress upon them the importance NWS plays in keeping our community safe.

ALSO FROM GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:

IAEM submitted comments on April 8 to the Federal Communications Commission on the simplification of multilingual alerting by the Emergency Alert System. [Here](#) is a link to the notice, and the comments are attached as a PDF.





“Fighting With FEMA”, is now available for pre-order on [Amazon](#), [Google Books](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), etc.

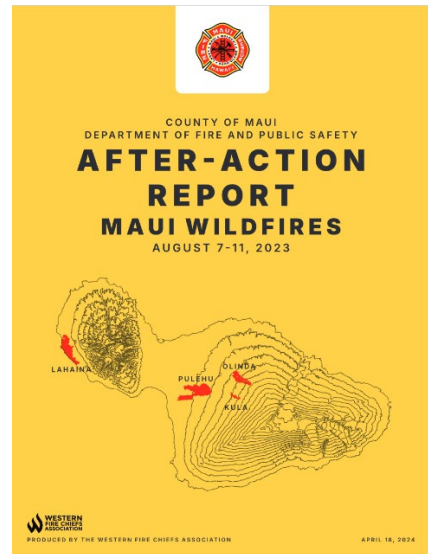
This is the first book ever written on FEMA's Public Assistance program since FEMA was established in 1979.

In spite of the pugnacious sounding title, more often than not, the book comes down in favor of FEMA in the most of the appeals cases presented.

The purpose of the book is to be a step-by-step guide in how to maximize a local jurisdiction's recovery of eligible disaster damage costs, and to minimize the chances of a FEMA denial or deobligation of funds.

WARNING! This book was written by an “expert in all-things disaster-recovery-related” (and a good friend of mine). 😊

INTERESTING READING: Thanks to Jim Buchanan for bringing our attention to this.



NDSU Students in the news

This inaugural program was developed by the IAEM-USA Awards & Recognition Committee to recognize professionals who are under 40 years old for their outstanding leadership and notable contributions to the emergency management profession.

From Region 8, we congratulate Marcelo M. Ferreira, Ph.D., CEM, Denver Water (CO) EM Specialist





It is time to start thinking about who you want to nominate for the [2024 IAEM-USA Awards](#). **They will open on May 20th and close on June 30th.**

Each year, IAEM-USA highlights achievements and successful programs across our country. If you are aware of an emergency manager or program that deserves to be recognized, don't let the opportunity pass by to submit a nomination and share the great accomplishments of those who are so deserving.

The 2024 IAEM-USA winners will be:

- Honored at the IAEM Annual Conference.
- Presented with a plaque or other keepsake award.
- Receive a complimentary one-day pass to the IAEM Annual Conference (or an equal discount off a full registration) - one pass per award.
- Invited to speak during the sponsored Awards and Recognition Committee's break-out session.
- Have a poster displayed during the conference with a winner's picture and award description so attendees can read about each award winner.
- Included in the 2024 Awards Book available to all members and archiving the selection.

Nominators of IAEM award winners will also receive a complimentary one-day pass to the IAEM Annual Conference to allow them to celebrate the award with their nominees (or an equal discount off a full registration).

CYBERSECURITY POCKET GUIDE

Last month, at WAHA, I picked up one of these pocket guides. What I really liked about it was that it was simple: even someone like me, not real versed in cybersecurity, could get it.

They were purchased – and personalized – from [QuickSeries](#) by the [Wyoming Office of Homeland Security](#).



CEMA – Colorado Emergency Management Association – STRATEGIC PLAN

Note from Dana Reynolds, CEMA Secretary.

The final draft of the CEMA Strategic Plan for CY24-26, was recently ratified by the CEMA Board of Directors. A heartfelt thank to everyone who contributed their thoughts and suggestions during development of the plan. A special thank you to Rich Atkins and Trevor Denney for their volunteerism and service on the Strategic Planning Committee. We are excited to begin implementation of the plan and will provide regular updates to the membership as we move forward.



May 9th: Join IAEM-USA senior leadership for this open forum to ask questions and provide feedback. This informal event will provide you with an opportunity to meet with IAEM-USA President Justin Kates, CEM; First Vice President Carrie Speranza, CEM; and Second Vice President Josh Morton, MPA, CEM, SCCEM. Must register!!



MOTHER'S DAY IS SUNDAY, MAY 12th



Climate Adaptation Planning

Guidance for Emergency Managers

April 2024



This is a new course to look at closely for how it helps with planning for whatever climate change brings. There are only four courses scheduled at this point. What is the chance we could get one scheduled somewhere in Region 8.

As with most of the NDPTC courses.

The cost of developing and delivering training is covered by a cooperative agreement with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). There is no cost to the individual for taking the course. we do not cover the cost of travel or lodging to attend training.

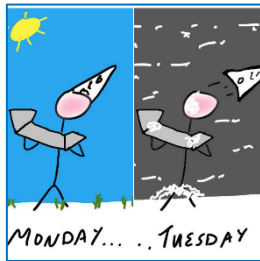




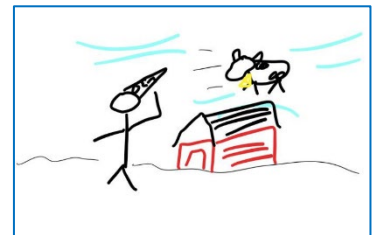
Don't we all love an Emergency Manager who adds just the right touch of humor to his work with the community? This month, let us highlight **Stutsman County, North Dakota and the Emergency Manager, Andrew Kirking.**

I met Andrew at the NDEMA conference in September, and he introduced me to his Facebook page. I've been following it ever since.

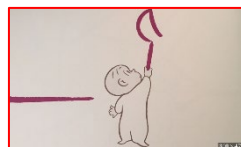
He draws weather reports and posts them for his 4000+ followers:



	12p	2	4	6	8	10	12a
Temperature	35	35	34	32	30	28	27
Wind	15	14	15	17	19	23	27
Humidity	29	28	30	33	38	45	47
Visibility	∞	3	1.5	1	☹️	☹️	☹️
Precipitation	☔	☁️	☁️	☔	❄️	❄️	❄️



Like a lot of rural Emergency Managers, he has other duties – like managing the County's Communication Center. He posted this video during National Telecommunicators Week



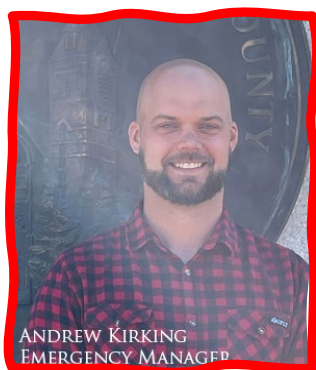
Stutsman County
April 19 at 12:26 PM · 🌐

Congratulations to our winning classes: Washington & Medina! They got to see the newly named plows today and received some special cold treats, courtesy of our local Dairy Queen! If you want to stop by and see Scoop Dogg & Shovel Me Timbers in person, be sure to come on out and join us Wednesday, April 24th from 3:30 - 6:00 PM as we kick-off the camping season out at Lakeside Campground.

Shovel Me Timbers Photo courtesy of Kathy Steiner / The Jamestown Sun.

👍❤️ 117 12 comments 12 shares

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share



And then there was the contest to name the new snow plows:

THANK YOU, ANDREW!!