

## MEMORANDUM

**From:** Judd Freed, President, Region 5

**To:** IAEM Board of Directors

**Subject:** Regional President's Report – First Quarter (Jan 1 – Mar 31)

**Date:** 6 April 2016

Please accept this report on activities within Region 5 from November 2015 to April 1, 2016. This represents my first report to the Board, and having no previous format to copy please forgive any errors in form or format.

### Region 5 Meeting at the Las Vegas Conference

Approximately 25 region 5 members attended the regional meeting. At that meeting, Mr. David Christianson provided an update on his activities over the previous year and then turned the meeting over to me as the incoming President. I thank Mr. Christianson for his courtesy in doing so, and for his service to the Association.

Other than introductions, the prime action taken at this meeting was to vote on my plan to visit all of the state associations in the region during the next two years. We discussed that regional membership is low, and involvement of our members is also low. There is a need for identifying the return on investment of IAEM membership.

No one in attendance could recall an IAEM representative attending their state association meetings and both providing a "face of IAEM" to the local Emergency Managers and briefing them on IAEM and why it is worthwhile. I explained that I would absorb part of the costs associated with this effort, but would like to offset those costs with Region 5 funds as possible.

The members present voted unanimously to support this. I have submitted a request to carry over remaining regional funds.

### Board Meetings

I have attended all but one of the IAEM Board meetings – missing that one due to an emergency call out at work.

## Committee Meetings

### US Government Relations:

The GA committee has not met formally since the Las Vegas conference. No plans for a formal meeting prior to next year's conference are in play at this time – as per usual practice. I have been in regular contact with the Committee Chair and Vice Chair, with Martha Braddock, and with 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Crossley on GA business. This includes two days of meetings with Congressional, Senate, FEMA, and NOAA staff in Washington, DC. I also

assisted Vice Chair Robison in putting together information for IAEM comments on the FEMA-proposed Disaster Deductible.

At Martha's request, I will be serving with other IAEM leaders on a committee meeting with NOAA on their ongoing reorganizations.

### Training and Education

I have attended two meetings of the T&E Committee meetings (Jan 20, 2016 and March 16, 2016). The committee chair, Ms. Cathy Clark, will be submitting a full report under separate cover.

### Emerging Technologies Caucus

The Caucus met formally for the first time on April 1. However, they have established a robust virtual environment for information sharing using a team-networking app called "Slack." The primary thrust for the Caucus involves gathering an understanding of the use of technology – in particular social media but other technologies as well – in the Emergency Management field. They have specifically requested that IAEM facilitate their ability to survey the membership specifically on technological issues.

### **Region-Specific Issues**

The major issue confronting the Region at the moment is the ongoing incorrect references by the Governor of Michigan to the title "Emergency Manager". The Board is aware of this and has weighed in on the issue. Region 5 hopes that IAEM will continue to push for change and respect for our field.

A general issue brought to my attention by members is the number and frequency of survey's and data calls. I believe that we have reached a point where the return on these efforts is dropping due to fatigue by our members.

### **Additional**

I have presented on the benefits of IAEM to the State of Minnesota's Governor's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Conference on 2 February 2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judson M. Freed". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judson M. Freed, CEM  
President, Region 5