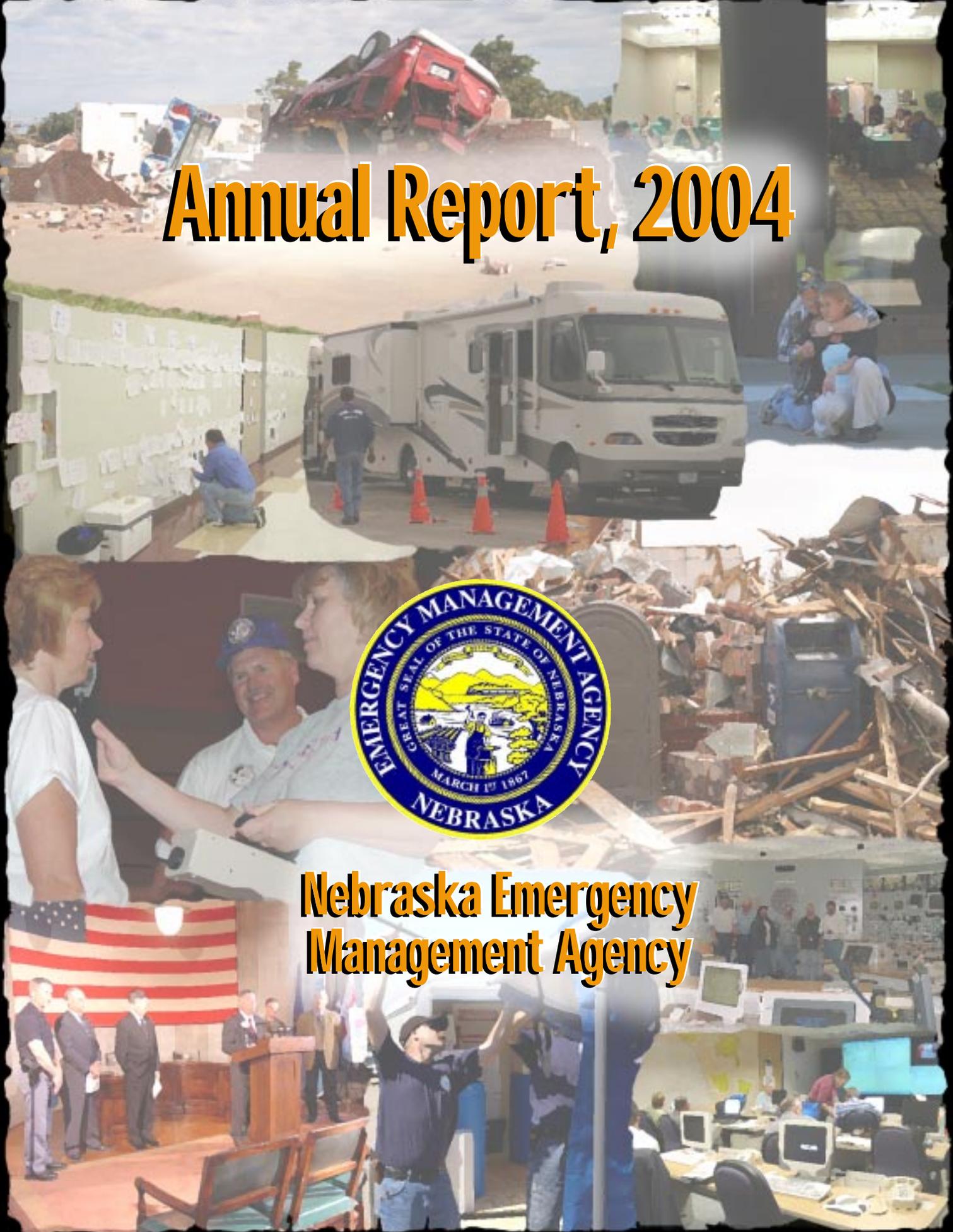


Annual Report, 2004



Nebraska Emergency Management Agency



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Major General Roger P. Lempke
The Adjutant General and NEMA Director



Al Berndt, Assistant Director

As we close out 2004 and enter 2005, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency presents its annual report encompassing agency activities over the past year. Just one year ago I wrote “thousands of lives are touched” by the agency, and this was brought ever more into focus with the devastating tornadoes that affected many parts of our state this past spring and summer. It was the wide scope of preparedness and response activities NEMA and our local jurisdictional partners carry out every year that were brought to bear and guided a coordinated response.

NEMA continues to wear dual hats as the state emergency management agency as well as the state administrative agency for the Department of

Homeland Security. As the Federal homeland security program continues to develop and expand, we find ourselves integrating more and more of our emergency management duties into an all-encompassing program closely integrating the homeland security and emergency management programs.

This report represents a comprehensive look at the agency, its personnel and its activities in support of the Nebraska homeland security/emergency program. This report is not just about NEMA — it is also about the other state agencies and local jurisdictions partnering with us to carry out an integrated and effective program in support of the citizens of our state.

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Agency Overview



The primary focus of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency is to support an effective emergency response system through an emphasis on pre- and post-disaster programs that build an effective emergency response system across the state.

NEMA's structure continues to be refined to focus into four performance areas: Administration, Preparedness, Response and Recovery, and Radiological Emergency Preparedness. As State Administrative Agency for the homeland security grants coming into the state, NEMA has relied upon and utilized the local emergency management programs to facilitate the carrying out of homeland security activities.

With the increasing demands placed upon NEMA, the state program has continued to expand to meet the mandates placed upon the state and agency by the Federal Government. Prior to the events of September 11th, 2001, 26 staff members were employed to carry out agency programs. With the onset of Federal programs and money, the agency has seen

itself expand to 33 authorized personnel positions.

The agency continues to support local emergency management directors with their planning, training and exercising programs that address and enhance emergency response to the threats we face. With the integration of FEMA into the Department of Homeland Security, we must now devote considerable attention to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction and hazardous materials-related issues.

The work of this past year and the solid foundation established at the local level will be the cornerstones of our expanded program as we look to the future. As you read this report you will see the enormous amount of effort that prepares us for our new challenges with the release of the National Emergency Management System (NIMS), the National Response Plan (NRP) and the new National Initiatives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Bennett".

Assistance to Local Governments



The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is the core program within NEMA for supporting local county agencies in the enhancement of their programs. In 2004 NEMA provided \$1,219,858.00 to 35 counties and regional emergency management agencies on a 50/50 cost-share basis. The EMPG program is primarily a formula grant providing direct support for essential expenses including salaries, benefits, equipment, supplies, maintenance of facilities, and other necessary costs of state and local emergency management departments and agencies. Local participants must maintain and expand the capabilities necessary to have an effective emergency management program.

Participating agencies are required by NEMA to have either a certified, full-time director, deputy director or be part of an inter-jurisdictional organization. Each participant must submit a statement of work and a budget showing the local financial commitment. Throughout the performance year, local participating agencies work closely with and are monitored by NEMA for adherence to program guidelines.

During 2004, the participating agencies focused on addressing Program Enhancement Activities and Program Maintenance Activities. Program Enhancement Activities included those activities identified in the Capability Assessment for Readiness (CAR). The CAR

was an assessment methodology to focus on strengths and weaknesses within a local program and allow the targeting of funds for improvements. Program Maintenance Activities included functions necessary for the everyday operation of the local agency.

Since 2003, the Lt. Governor, the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group and NEMA have utilized local emergency management organizations as the focal point at the local level for carrying out the state's homeland security program. Homeland security assessments, strategy development, grant applications and program guidance for all homeland security programs have run through local or regional organizations since 2003. NEMA has recognized the strong ties between all-hazards emergency management planning and the new realities of homeland security/terrorism preparedness and has called upon local emergency managers to be the lead at the local level. Because of strong relationships developed over the years by the EMPG program, local agencies have stepped forward and taken a strong leadership role.



The EMPG program continues to pay dividends to the state and local communities as local managers continue to guide planning, training and exercising at the local level to ensure a strong, cohesive emergency response system is developed and sustained.



Planning, Preparedness, Training and Exercise



PLANNING AND GRANTS MANAGEMENT

Planning, Exercising and Training, along with Grant Management, are within NEMA's Preparedness Division. Our lead planner, Dan Hiller, oversees the planning process for the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP), the Local Emergency Operations Plans (LEOP), other plans mandated by Federal grants, and the Nebraska Homeland Security Planning Team.

In 2004, working with local county emergency managers, a total of 20 LEOPs were revised and 19 were updated. The NeHS Planning Team updated the SEOP in July. A Continuity of Government (COG) plan is in the final stages for NEMA, and HS funds were provided to the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services to develop a COOP/COG plan for the State's business.

Joe Hinton, a 15-year employee of NEMA, retired the end of July. Patrick Rooney, who had been an S.O.S. employee with us, was hired to fill the position. Patrick and Jim Anderson are assigned the LEOPs, and our third planner, Bill Meyer, is assigned to special planning projects such as Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG), and is working with the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) working group.

Grant management is a major responsibility for the Preparedness Division. We have HS grants for FY2003 Parts 1 & 2 and the FY2004 HS, LETPP and Citizen Corps. The NeHS Planning team, Nebraska State Patrol, Game & Parks, and Department of Communications played major roles in reviewing the FY2004 grant projects. Collectively, more than 1500 hours were devoted to the process. Many of these hours were over and above 40-hour workweeks. The same group will be coming together next year for the 2005 HS grants.

Jackie Maly, our Federal Aid Administrator II, processes the reimbursement requests for both the FY03 Part 1 and FY2004 grants. Lori Moore, our mitigation officer, processes the FY03 Part 2 reimbursement requests. Both of the FY2003 grants will be closed in 2005. In the first part of January the excess funds will be reallocated so all the money will be used. NEMA will not be asking for an extension on these grants.

Purchases for the FY2004 grants are progressing. Leo Larkin, another S.O.S. employee, is tracking the benchmarks and mandatory requirements for 2004 projects. NEMA has received strong support from Mike Jeffres, Department of Communications, and has met with many groups across Nebraska, helping with communications planning. The priority for the FY 2005 funds will again be statewide interoperable communications.

TRAINING AND EXERCISE

During Fiscal Year 2004 NEMA supported Homeland Security training needs of State agencies and local jurisdictions alike. NEMA offered two basic and two advance certification courses, two being conducted in Grand Island and the other two in Lincoln. The basic certification course supports emergency management certification as required under Nebraska Law (RRS 81-929.46). The advanced certification is offered to encourage and enhance additional professional emergency management development. Basic training requirements identified by the Department of Homeland Security and Nebraska Law establish the level of training that is conducted yearly at NEMA. An extended 5-year training program for basic and advanced certification has been published for the State of Nebraska. The Agency training

(Continued on page 5)

Planning, Preparedness, Training & Exercise *(continued)*

(Training and Exercise continued)

staff tracks this training participation for all students.

In FY 2004, NEMA continued to support the State's hazardous materials training programs with HAZMAT awareness, operations, technician and specialist level training. NEMA coordinated and conducted a HAZMAT Technician Course during FY 2004.

The following courses were conducted by the NEMA staff:

Exercise Planning Course
Nebraska Academy Basic Certification Course
Nebraska Advance Certification Course
Nebraska Incident Management System Course
Incident Management System Orientation Course
National Incident Management System Course
Decision Making and Problem Solving Course
Leadership and Influence Course
Effective Communications Course
Continuity of Operations Course
Presentation Skills Course
New Director's Workshop
Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Course (HSEEP)
Nebraska Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Course (NeHSEEP)
State and Local Homeland Security Workshops
Homeland Security Fiscal Requirements Orientation and Workshop
HAZMAT Awareness Course
HAZMAT Technician Course
NE Handbook for Emergency Managers Orientation

A partnership has been developed among NEMA, the State of Nebraska Fire Marshal and the Nebraska State Patrol to facilitate the response, administration and training of the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) members. This is designed to provide an initial State response to not only HAZMAT, but also to terrorism incidents. NEMA provides guidance and funding for the

SERC quarterly training.

FY 2004 was a very busy year for exercise support by NEMA. TEREX 2004 was a state-level and state-wide functional exercise that supported 21 local jurisdictions, 15 State agencies and 5 Federal agencies. In addition, 10 Orientation seminars and two tabletop exercises supported this exercise, as well as monthly meetings of the State design team. The process to support TEREX 2004 began in FY 2002. Lessons learned from this major exercise will assist NEMA to refine policy and direction, and will enable the agency to fine-tune the interaction of all Nebraska state agencies in emergency situations.

To support the Governor's Homeland Security program, NEMA continues to provide planning, exercise and training support to local jurisdictions and 15 State agencies for all NeHSEEP requirements addressed under the Homeland Security policies and procedures.





Public Information



The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency conducts two primary public education campaigns each year, in conjunction with the National Weather Service.

In the fall, the Winter Weather Awareness campaign provides information to the citizens of Nebraska about safety and survivability in blizzards, ice storms and in other severe weather conditions common to the Great Plains states. Normally a week-long activity, in 2004 the National Weather Service declared the event as Winter Weather Awareness Day. Governor Mike Johanns marked the occasion by signing a proclamation on November 27th, declaring the event official for the state of Nebraska. Both NWS and NEMA, in conjunction with the Nebraska Association of Emergency Management, issued press releases and public service announcements to inform the public.

The spring event co-sponsored by the two agencies is Severe Weather Awareness Week. The 2004 Severe Weather Awareness Week ran from March 29 - April 2, ushering in the spring thunderstorm season. Governor Mike Johanns signed a proclamation declaring the week, and educational and promotional materials were sent to media outlets throughout the state for the occasion. Most of the state's commercial television weather anchors use materials supplied by NEMA and the NWS to educate their viewers about tornadoes and severe thunderstorms, and their individual elements of strong winds, lightning, hail, heavy rain and flooding.

As a part of Severe Weather Awareness Week,

NEMA and the Nebraska Association of Emergency Management conducts a statewide poster contest for fourth-grade students on the subject of severe weather. The four winners of the annual contest receive cash prizes and appear at the proclamation signing with the Governor.

Throughout the year, NEMA conducts public information activities in a myriad of venues, including meetings and conferences involving agencies involved in both natural emergency management and in homeland-security-related areas. In 2004 these activities ranged from Disaster Preparedness Fairs to exercises based on terrorist scenarios.

In late May, 2004 devastating tornadoes and thunderstorms in southeastern Nebraska led to massive response and recovery activities and a Presidential disaster declaration. NEMA's public information response began immediately following the storms and continued through the FEMA Disaster Field Office activities and well beyond the termination of the federal agency's on-site presence.

NEMA also maintains a website that provides information on the agency and its activities, and content designed to inform and educate the public. On this site, the agency's monthly newsletter, *The Beacon*, showcases emergency management activities throughout the state and provides an advance look at upcoming events. The website offers a wide range of information and links to other local, state and national sites featuring emergency management and homeland security data.



Citizen Corps / CERT



In 2002, President George W. Bush launched the USA Freedom Corps initiative, and called on all Americans to dedicate two years of their lives — the equivalent of 4,000 hours — in service to others. Citizen Corps is the component of USA Freedom Corps that creates opportunities for individuals to volunteer to help their communities prepare for and respond to emergencies.

There are now five programs that make up Citizen Corps: The Neighborhood Watch Program, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS); the Medical Reserve Corps; and as of the fall of 2004, the Fire Corps program.

Funding for Citizen Corps programs in FY 2004 was distributed based on a competitive project-based program. A total of \$306,500 was available for Citizen Corps projects in the state of Nebraska, and 17 project requests were submitted for a total of \$611,310.78 in requested funding.

The Nebraska State Citizen Corps Advisory Council met to determine funding for the submitted projects, and nine projects were identified to receive the \$306,500 in total funding, most at significantly reduced levels from the original requests.

With the FY 2004 funding came an end to NEMA's contract with the Lincoln/Lancaster County Emergency Management Agency to administer the CERT program in Nebraska. Those functions were assumed by NEMA and the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission through a mutual agreement. Under the project-based program, NEMA provides two CERT trailers equipped with durable training supplies and equipment. Local entities conducting training through project funding are responsible for consumables and student equipment.

Although the primary focus of most projects is on CERT training, projects also include plans for: outreach to schools and senior citizens, bilingual training and information materials, communications equipment, participation in exercises, Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service, and severe-weather-related programs.

Each project receiving funding assumes the requirement of the formation of a recognized Citizen Corps Council, if one does not already exist. Funding is contingent upon a Citizen Corps Council in place within the jurisdiction by the end of the grant period.





Response and Recovery



The Response and Recovery Section is staffed with program people. The Section includes Georgia Welton, Public Assistance Officer; Lori Moore, State Hazard Mitigation Officer; Bob Eastwood, Communications Officer; Marie Christian, Section Secretary; and the Information Technology Program with Sue Krogman and Brent Curtis. The Section Manager and NEMA Operations Officer is Cindy Newsham.

The core mission of the Response and Recovery Section is to be ready to respond rapidly to any incident that goes beyond the ability of local government to respond. This includes continual monitoring of the State for potential weather related incidents. To this end NEMA has instituted and maintains a Duty Officer System that includes the Duty Officer, Back-up Duty Officer and an on-call supervisor who maintain a ready condition for the Agency during off-hours. Staff members of the Agency are assigned a weekly rotation of Duty Officer and Back-up Duty Officer that includes their carrying a pager and phone. Supervisors also are assigned to a weekly rotation to be the on-call supervisor for the Duty Officer and Back-up Duty Officer.

The Duty Officer is equipped with a variety of communications and reference materials to enable them to gather necessary information and begin the response process from wherever their location when the page or call comes in.

To meet the core mission of the Agency, R&R

section staff continually attends training given by NEMA's Training staff and the training offered by FEMA for specific programs. This training keeps program specialists on top of the most recent developments of their areas and in the response process of the State of Nebraska.

Communications and Information Technology are also important parts to maintain the agency's readiness. The Communications Officer is a member of the State's Emergency Alert Committee and of the Amber Alert program. He works with a cadre of dedicated volunteers who are ready to provide Ham radio assistance to the agency when the need arises. He also oversees a wide variety of communications equipment to provide NEMA with a varied and redundant communications system.



Likewise, the Information Technology Manager keeps the agency aware of the rapidly changing IT environment. IT maintains a close relationship with the University of Nebraska's Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies (CALMIT) to develop a multi-layered GIS mapping capability that has been proved invaluable during exercises and actual responses.

The Response and Recovery Section, along with staff from other sections, worked to develop and distribute the State Emergency Operations Center Emergency Plan that includes definitions of the Incident Management

(Continued on page 9)

Response and Recovery *(continued)*

system, staff positions and procedures for each position. Agency staff were oriented on the plan at a staff training and each received a copy of the plan. Training for staff positions is being developed and staff is being trained. The plan was exercised during the TEREX 04 exercise in November and will be revised to respond to issues identified as the agency completes the exercise evaluation process.

Each year, in early January, the R&R Section, in partnership with the Papio-Missouri NRD, holds an Ice Meeting to bring together the Federal, State and local agencies most affected by the consequences of ice jams. The 2004 agenda included presentations from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, who maintains the on-line data base for ice reports; the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers who explained their flood-fighting capabilities; and the National Weather Service, who gave short- and long-term forecasts that would affect the possibility of flooding. Also early in January, NEMA requested the Civil Air Patrol to fly over the Platte River from Columbus to the convergence with the Missouri River to document the location of the main channel in the event Ice Dusting would be needed.

This video accompanied a request from NEMA to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for a technical assessment for the need to apply bottom ash to the river. Their assessment was that due to very low water levels in the river, ice dusting would not be necessary this year.

NEMA is a signatory to the Nebraska Fire Management Agreement and holds meetings of the Wildfire Coordination Council each year.

This year meetings included presentations from FEMA Region VII on the Wildfire Declaration Program and a Table Top Exercise that walked through the processes involved in a multi-level, multi-agency fire response. This council is taking the lead to develop a Type III Incident Management Team in Nebraska.

The Hazard Mitigation program has worked to close out projects and disasters and to complete Hazard Mitigation Planning to meet the requirements of the Hazard Mitigation Act of 2000. Two disasters, the 1993 flooding and the August 1999 flooding, have been sent to FEMA for final closeout. The June 1996 Beatrice Tornado disaster is closed. This leaves only four disasters older than 2003

awaiting closure. The State Plan was submitted to FEMA in February, has been revised to meet requested changes, and is currently again being reviewed by FEMA for approval. Three local plans have been approved — Scotts Bluff County, Lincoln County and the City of Wahoo.



The Public Assistance Program has no open State Disasters and has worked to close open Federal Disasters. All PA disaster prior to 2001 are officially closed. All projects for the two disasters prior to 2003 are closed and the disasters are awaiting official closure, leaving only two disasters still open.

Following the May 22 storms, the State Emergency Operations Center was open and operational for eleven days. A Federal Disaster Field Office was opened in Lincoln and continued through July. Many Federal, State, local and private agencies worked quickly and easily

(Continued on page 10)

Response and Recovery *(continued)*

together to coordinate the response to this disaster due to the extensive training, exercising and planning these agencies have done together over the past three years. Only one death was attributed to these storms, an amazing fact considering the widespread damage that resulted.

Following the Federal Declaration #FEMA-1517-DR-NE, on May 25, 2004, disaster aid was made available to public entities, individuals, families and businesses. The Federal Declaration included both the Public Assistance and Individual Assistance programs. Twenty-seven counties were declared for Individual Assistance and 26 counties were declared for Public Assistance.

The Individual Assistance Program includes low-interest loans to both businesses and individuals from the Small Business Administration. To date, 155 loans have been approved — 137 for homes and 18 for businesses — for a total amount of \$9,197,000.

There were 1,101 registrations called in to the FEMA hot line for Individual Assistance. Of these applicants, 728 were referred to the program and 392 registrations were approved for assistance. The total amount of Individual Assistance paid so far is \$829,908.94, and the State Emergency Fund has paid a non-federal share of \$85,810.36.

The Public Assistance Program (PA) provides help to jurisdictions devastated by the disaster. PA projects include the rebuilding of the Norris School, the Fire Hall and other community buildings and property in Hallam, as well as the restoration of electrical power structures throughout the damaged areas.

There are 109 applicants for Public Assistance, and to date FEMA has made payments of \$8,217,544.41, and the State of Nebraska has paid \$313,115.93. The PA applicants have 18 months to complete their projects.



10/2004



06/2004



10/2004



12/2004 - Nearly 100% rebuilt and larger than pre-disaster.



11/2004



11/2004



11/29/04 - Fire Station



Radiological Emergency Preparedness



The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency oversees the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) program for the State of Nebraska. This program covers all fixed sites within the state, radiological systems, and the transportation of radiological materials in Nebraska.

The Agency's goal is to be prepared for any radiological emergency that might occur in the state. In order to maintain the required state of readiness, NEMA emphasizes a comprehensive program of planning and training.

Nebraska has two nuclear power plants within its borders - Ft. Calhoun Nuclear Station near Blair and Cooper Nuclear Station south of Brownville. NEMA employs two off-site radiological planners who are tasked with creating and maintaining emergency radiological programs for the counties affected by those stations.

The REP Section of NEMA consists of Supervisor Jon Schwarz; Radiological Systems Manager Michael Loftis, who is responsible for the agency's instrumentation program; REP Planner Bryan Cook, who is responsible for the Cooper Nuclear Station program; REP Planner Sandra Paice, responsible for the Ft. Calhoun Nuclear Station program; Amy Stroh, Staff Assistant for the Section; and Jim Bunstock, NEMA Public Information Officer.

In addition to the planning for the two power stations, NEMA is also responsible for all other state radiological planning. A review of the State Radiological Emergency Response Plan

was completed during FY 2003 and the change, dated October 2003, was distributed during the 1st Quarter of 2004. It was immediately under review again with an emergency change to the Cooper EPI messages made during July 2004.

Dodge, Douglas, Nemaha, Richardson and Washington County REP Plans were reviewed during FY 2004. Dodge, Nemaha and Richardson County REP plans were changed and distributed during FY 2004. The Washington/Douglas County REP plan review has been completed and is expected for distribution during the first quarter of FY 2005.

The State Radioactive Materials Transportation Accident Emergency Action Plan (which is actually Appendix 3 to Emergency Support Function 8 {Health and Medical Services} within the State Emergency Operations Plan) was reviewed during FY 2004 with minor changes to be made during the next change to the State Emergency Operations Plan.

A necessary adjunct to the planning program is an active and vigorous training regimen. NEMA REP personnel regularly deliver instruction to state and local emergency management personnel and first responders. NEMA also participates in a extensive exercise and drill program with both nuclear generating stations, training for any and all contingencies. The Agency is responsible for offering a wide spectrum of training for emergency personnel who would respond to a nuclear power station incident or accident. For fixed sites, the

(Continued on page 12)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness *(continued)*

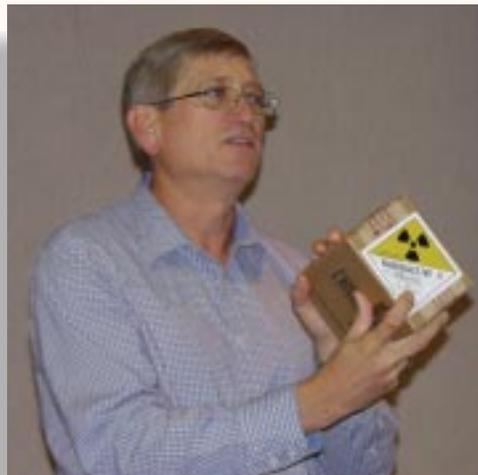
Agency prepares local agencies for, and participates in, nuclear power station drills and exercises.

In 2004 there were three (3) Evaluated Exercises completed:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 18 November 2003 | Fort Calhoun Evaluated Plume & Re-entry & Return |
| 02 March 2004 | Fort Calhoun Remedial Plume |
| 21 September 2004 | Cooper Evaluated Plume. |

There were also seven (7) Drills & one Practice Exercise completed:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 17 December 2003 | Cooper Drill |
| 29 January 2004 | Fort Calhoun |
| 29 June 2004 | Fort Calhoun |
| 30 June 2004 | Cooper ("Off-Hours") |
| 14 July 2004 | Cooper |
| 05 August 2004 | Cooper (with JIC/MRC playing) |
| 24 August 2004 | Fort Calhoun (with JIC/MRC playing) |
| 25 August 2004 | Cooper (Dress Rehearsal Ex.) |



For REP training in 2004, NEMA provided the following courses:

- Five (5) Emergency Worker Decontamination Classes
- Eleven (11) Reception and Care Facility Classes
- Fourteen (14) County Emergency Operations Center Classes
- Nine (9) Law Enforcement/Dispatcher Classes
- Two (2) Rescue Squad/Ambulance Response Classes
- Two (2) EAS/EPI Classes

NEMA also supplied the following Radiological Courses:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 4.0 Hour RER Course | |
| 04 Courses | 33 People |
| 8.0 Hour FCRM Course | |
| 04 Courses | 46 People |
| 8.0 Hour FH-40GL Instrument Course | |
| 02 Courses | 49 People |
| 16 Hour MERRTT TTT | |
| 01 Course | 09 People |
| 1.5 Hour RER Refresher Course | |
| 25 Courses | 434 People |
| 2.0 Hour Radiological Briefings | |
| 02 Briefings | 44 People |

NEMA contributes a representative to the Governor's Radioactive Materials Transportation Working Group. The Governor's Working Group oversees the transportation of high- and low-level radioactive waste.

The Agency is also responsible for the Radioactive Materials Transportation Accident Emergency Action Plan that is an annex to the State Emergency Operations Plan. The Agency's

(Continued on page 13)

Radiological Emergency Preparedness *(continued)*

duties in this area include providing Radiological Emergency Response training to state and local agencies that request it.

One of the major objectives of the Agency is to maintain an effort that enhances the exchange of information among state and local responders, program officials, and the general public. To that end, in 2004 NEMA maintained at least weekly to monthly contact with the following Federal Agencies:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region VII
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Region IV
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) through the Council of State Governments – Midwest Region (CSG-MW)
- Western Governors' Association (WGA)

NEMA also signed work agreements with the CSG-MW and WGA, and attended the following meetings/conferences:

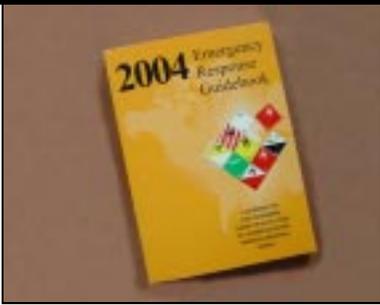
- FEMA Region VII REP/RAC Meetings** – 2
- CSG-MW Regional Radiological Transportation Committee Conferences** – 2
- NRC Outreach Meeting** – 1
- WGA WIPP Technical Advisory Committee Conferences** – 3

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency also maintains a professional instrument calibration and exchange program. The Agency continually maintains, calibrates and exchanges radiological instrument kits according to a four-year cycle throughout state and local first-responder agencies and facilities in all of Nebraska's 93 counties.

During 2004, quarterly operational checks were completed on all 124 Radiological Instrument Kits in the seven REP counties (Dodge, Douglas, Nemaha, Otoe, Richardson, Sarpy, and Washington). Radiological Equipment Exchanges began in June 2004 in all REP Counties. Dodge & Sarpy Counties were completed in June 2004, Richardson County was completed in August 2004, Otoe & Nemaha Counties were completed in September 2004, and Douglas and Washington counties were completed in October 2004

Radiological Equipment Exchanges in counties other than the designated REP counties included 445 kits calibrated, 55 kits repaired, and 277 kits exchanged in 28 Counties.





State Emergency Response Commission



The purpose of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) is to supervise and coordinate the activities of the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC). The LEPCs review the response to hazardous materials portion of the local emergency plan and act as a repository for information on hazardous materials stored, processed or manufactured in their districts. The focus of the LEPCs for 2004 was to educate their communities and make them aware of the hazardous materials in their communities and to prepare them for what to do in the event of a chemical spill or hazardous-material situation.

The SERC in 2004 put together an “Emergency Action Wheel”, which outlines appropriate responses to potential disasters within their communities. It lists items needed for home and auto disaster supply kits and has space available for emergency telephone numbers. These wheels are being distributed around the state and are being used for educational purposes. The SERC has also put awareness brochures and public service announcements together and, with the help of NEMA, has tried to establish an LEPC in every county within the state. So far there are 76 active LEPC’s, 10 more in development and 7 we hope to have up and running in the year 2005.

The state held its annual LEPC conference in Kearney this year. Fifty-five people representing more than 30 LEPCs attended the two-day event, which was capped off with a first-ever hands-on workshop and exercise.

The issues faced by the SERC this year ranged from LEPC membership retention to changes in federal and state laws. In order to maintain interest in some of the established LEPCs, several joined and created a multi-county LEPC, which has proven to be bigger and better than if they were on their own.

The SERC was created in 1989 and has its origins in the Federal Emergency and Right to Know Act, and later the Nebraska Act. It was established because of a federal law passed in 1986, intended to make information available to citizens regarding hazardous materials awareness and to localize cooperative planning of all entities involved in a response — government, private and industry.

The SERC meets four times a year to discuss future plans and goals for the LEPCs, and what needs the SERC and LEPCs may be confronted with. There were more than 30 LEPC site visits in 2004, with an additional 10 visits to get new LEPCs up and running. In 2005 we will be challenging the LEPCs by integrating them and involving them more closely with Homeland Security issues. These groups are made up of a core membership of community-minded individuals that should be up for the challenge.

The SERC has 19 members representing a wide range of interests. They are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Legislature. The membership includes: **Cristine Bleich**, Environmental Protection; **Jim Schmaizl**, Nebraska Department of Roads; **MG Roger P.**

(Continued on page 15)

State Emergency Response Commission *(continued)*

(SERC continued)

Lempke, Adjutant General; **Lynn Marshall**, Local Emergency Management; **Bill McLarty**, City Government; **Sue Semerena**, Department of Health and Human Services; **Richard J. Christensen**, Chemical Industry; **Dana Miller**, Firefighters; **Mark S. Reimers**, Transportation; **Harlan Schafer**, Agribusiness; **Steve**

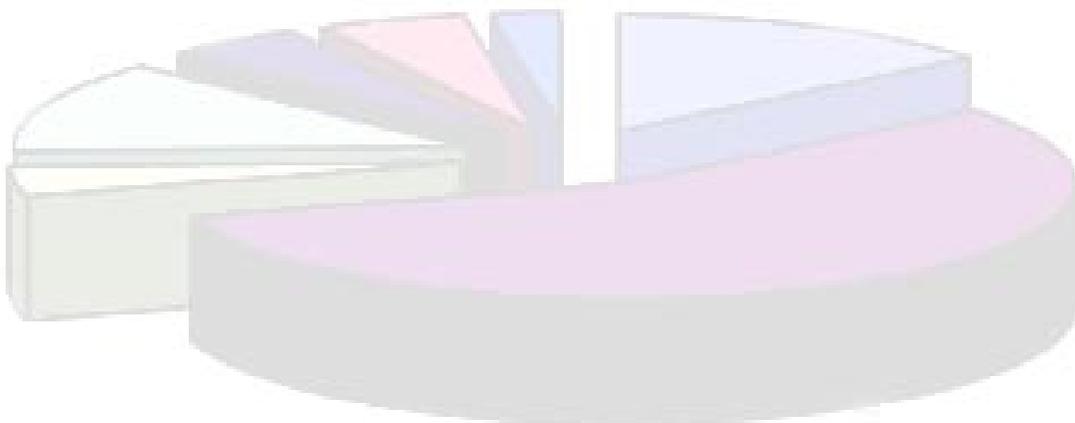
Danon, Small Business; **Joe Francis**, Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Quality; **Allen Grell**, County Government; **Scott Holmes**, Community Health; **Major Bryan Tuma**, Nebraska State Patrol; **Dennis Hohbein**, State Fire Marshal; **Steven Wood**, Labor; Trucking, Vacant; Schools, Vacant.

Homeland Security Activities / State Administrative Agency

Since 1999 NEMA has been the designated State Administrative Agency (SAA) for all homeland security grants coming into the State from the Department of Homeland Security. In this role NEMA is responsible for filing the state application, distributing program guidelines to the state and local level agencies, receiving applications and then facilitating the distribution of funds.

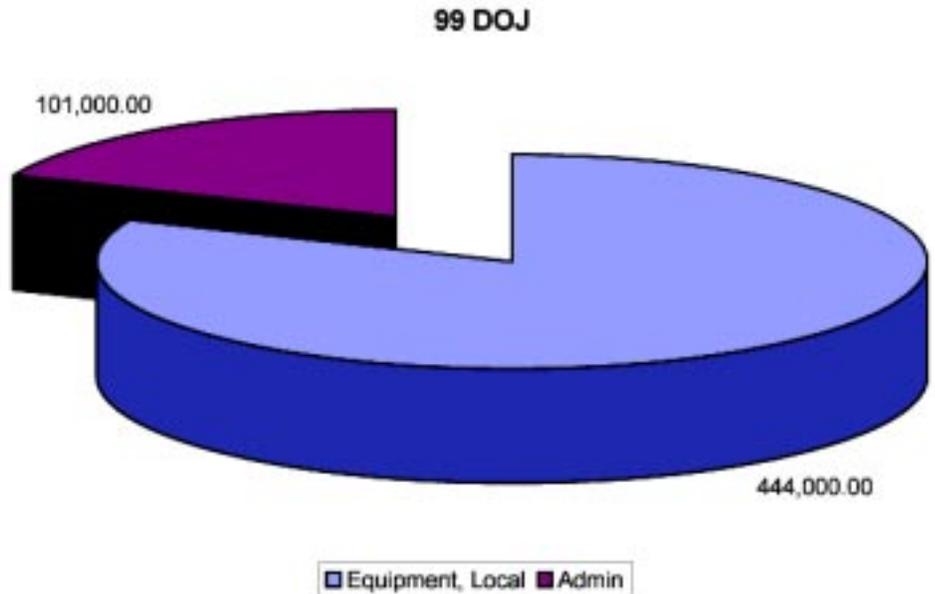
The Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group has been established to oversee the program in the state, with the governor as the chairman of the group. Operating under the Policy Group are the State Planning, Exercising and Training Team, ensuring that there is an integrated and coordinated effort on the state and local level. NEMA has been the operational arm of the Lt. Governor and the Homeland Security Policy Group since its inception.

Since 1999, NEMA has overseen the completion of two statewide assessments of response capabilities at the state and local level, and the writing of two statewide strategies for homeland security. These assessments have been the basis of the distribution of homeland security funds in support of the state strategy. The following pages give a breakdown of how funds have been allocated since 1999 in support of state and local homeland security efforts.



DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures — 1999 - 2004

1999
DOJ
Grant



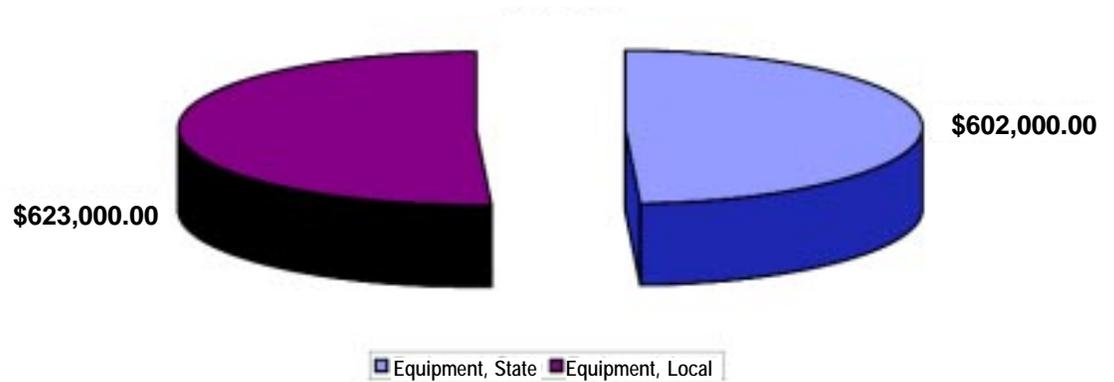
** Planning, State (1), Planning Local (2)
(1) Admin money spent on start requirements for Planning objectives
(2) SERT

The \$101,000 allocated for Administration was used to complete the 1999 State Assessment and develop the Initial State Strategy for the use of Homeland Security Grant dollars.

Based on the results of the assessment, the Policy Group approved the use of the Grant Equipment dollars for eight fire departments who indicated they had responders trained in Hazardous Materials Response. These departments indicated they were willing to be utilized as a State Emergency Response Team. The eight departments signed MOUs with NEMA, then used the equipment grant money to either start or complete the development of a HazMat Response Team.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures — 1999 - 2004

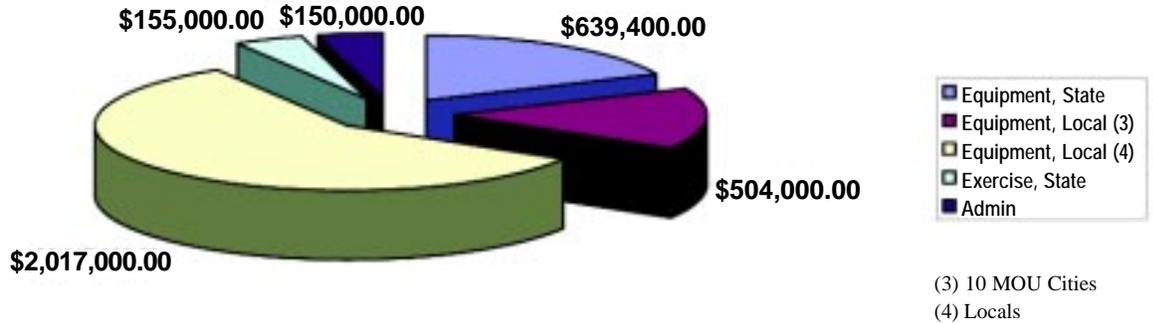
2000-
2001
DOJ
Grant



NEMA divided the 2000-2001 Grant monies into two parts. The now nine (9) MOU cities received additional funds to continue equipping their teams. Funds were awarded to the State Patrol and State Fire Marshall's Office to equip their State Emergency Response Team members with the proper equipment to respond at a Technician level. A very limited amount of the State money went to the University of Nebraska/Lincoln Police for communications equipment.

DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures — 1999 - 2004

2002
ODP
Grant



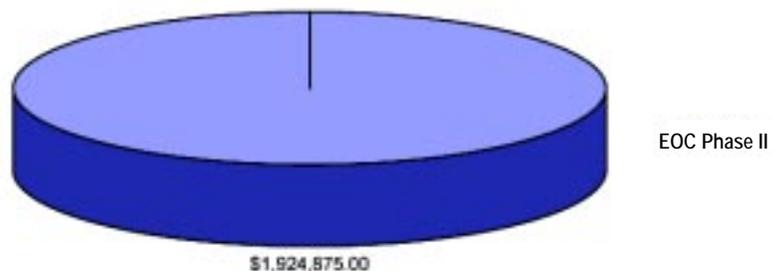
This was the first year that, in addition to the nine (9) MOU cities, money went to all Nebraska counties. The 2002 ODP was a competitive grant that separated equipment requests by the counties into three categories; Communications, Detection and Personal Protection Equipment.

The sub-committee that reviewed the grants and recommended the awards also identified 29 local departments that would receive decontamination trailers. These departments were chosen on the basis of their agreement to provide services to their mutual aid districts, and to make the units available for use by the State SERT if their use was required.

The decontamination trailers were placed in towns located on major highways, and the sub-committee ensured there were at least two — and in many cases, three — units within each Public Health District.

The exercise part of the 2002 ODP Grant was overseen by NEMA’s Planning, Preparedness, Training and Exercising division.

2002
FEMA Grant —
EOC Phase II

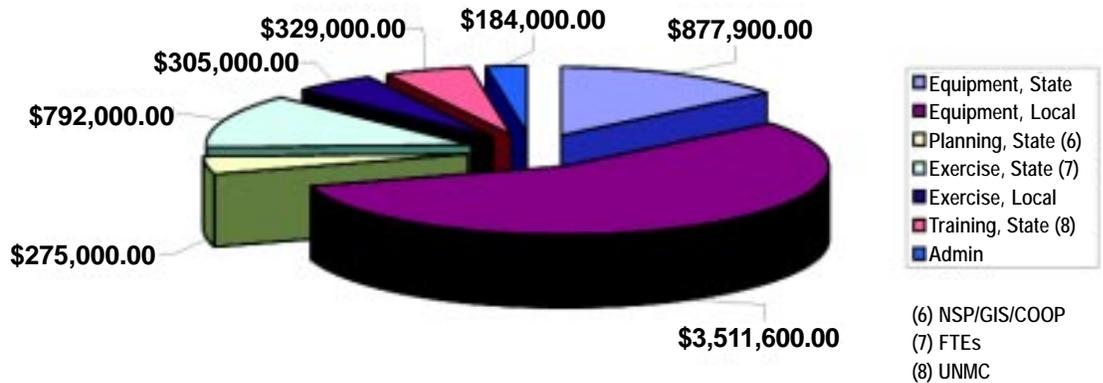


DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures — 1999 - 2004

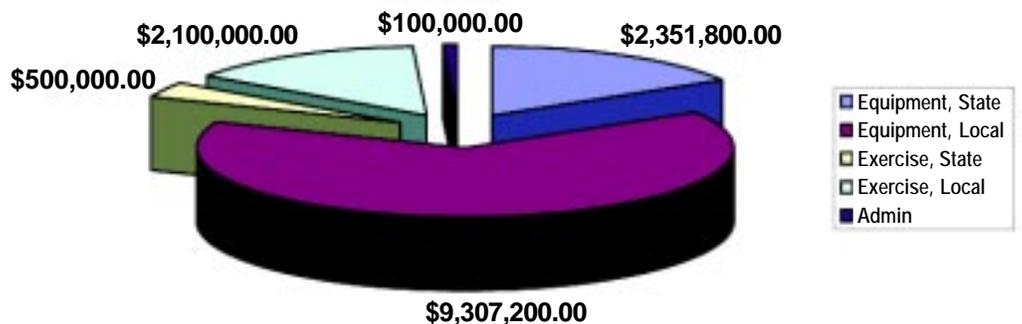
When Congress approved the funds for the State Homeland Security Grant Program, they determined what amounts would be allocated to categories of Planning, Administrative and Management, Exercise, Training and Equipment. The State's portion of the exercise allocation amount established the foundation for its Planning, Exercise and Training program. The equivalent of six Exercise Training Specialists were hired, and they have helped other state agencies and local jurisdictions develop their P.E.T. programs. The Part 2 exercise funds were targeted to contractors for local jurisdiction exercise development and evaluations, and local jurisdiction exercise programs.

Each county received a set amount of dollars for equipment purchases. They were to use the funds to help first responders equip their departments to a base level for responding to Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) events, according to their needs and threat assessments. A large percentage of the funds went to personal protective equipment, as well as communications equipment. Each M.O.U. city fire department received additional funding for technician-level equipment. All equipment will be purchased by the end of both grants.

2003
ODP Grant
Part One

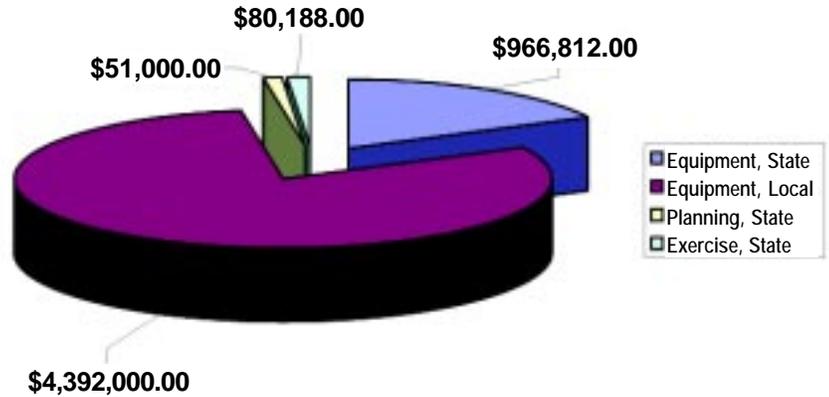


2003
ODP Grant
Part Two

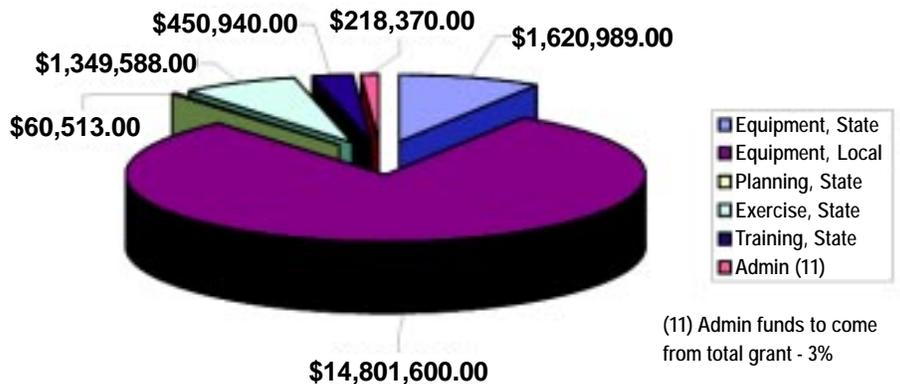


DOJ / DHS Grant Expenditures — 1999 - 2004

2004
ODP Grant —
LETPP



2004
ODP Grant
Equipment



(11) Admin funds to come from total grant - 3%

In FY2004, Nebraska received three separate grants — State Homeland Security Grant (SHSGP), Law Enforcement Terrorism Protection Program (LETPP) and Citizen Corps Program (CCP). These were also competitive grants, so each state agency and local jurisdiction had to submit projects to bid for the grant funds. The projects had to be based on the Nebraska State Homeland Security Strategy goals and objectives, and the 2003 statewide needs and threat assessment. State and local P.E.T. programs and interoperable communications were two of the top priorities for grant funding. Between the SHSGP and LETPP grants, 87.5% was awarded for interoperable communications. Most of the funds went to start, or continue, building regional communications interoperability.



Agency Staff



Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

