# **Minutes**

1. Meeting started at 1402
2. Capitol Hill Update, Naveed Jazayeri, Professional Staff, Senate Homeland Security Committee
   * Lauren Gros provided update – Naveed is sick
     + No major update – things have been a bit slow since DRF replenished in the fall
     + Considering the following bills:
       - Bill that would improve IA programs hoping to be brought to the floor this year
       - [HR6249](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/6249) – reviews all policies to ensure they support folks with access and functional needs
       - [HR5473](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5473) – buildings act – codifies building codes to include latest 2 editions
       - Bills coming: HR5623, resilient America (not introduced yet), wildland fire improvement act (no introduced yet),
       - Senate side
         * Disaster cost modernization act – marked up working on introducing to House
         * HS3667 – \*not able to capture accurately\*
         * [HS1528](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1528) – cleared senate, but not considered in house yet
         * [HS310](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/310) – disaster contracting improvement act – passed senate and not considered in house yet
     + FEMA hearing may occur in February but not many details yet
     + Congress is a bit chaotic and may not see a lot of movement, especially if bills are not already marked up. 2024 is very unpredictable and may be even more chaotic then past years
3. Moderated discussion with [Small Business Administration Office of Disaster Recovery](https://cas5-0-urlprotect.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.sba.gov%2fabout%2dsba%2fsba%2dlocations%2fheadquarters%2doffices%2foffice%2ddisaster%2drecovery%2dresilience&umid=605adac9-5f1b-48a4-b6b6-2a8e0686ed0c&auth=eb0e9960277c85fff0edbb79a3e472ef94083af1-44cb31559309b72abed29ce68670f3b3c18c2d17), Eric Wall, Deputy Director for Policy, Planning, and Partnerships (to be moderated by Christa Lopez)
   * Looking to see how we can work better with SBA
   * Focus on how the policies decisions we are making impact their programs
   * 2023 was a big year for SBA around policy changes and programs
   * SBA has made some advancements in the loan amount for homeowners
   * Provided an overview of the independent declaration opportunity through SBA to get assistance to homeowners in impacted jurisdictions – lower thresholds compared to FEMA’s IA declaration thresholds – 25 Major/destroyed property
     + SBA declaration can now be given to rural counties with 1 majors/destroyed property – hopes to help rural communities that have fallen through the cracks
   * It had been 23 years since loan amounts were modified
   * Now $500,000 compared to $200,000 – real estate
   * Renters can get $100,00 compared to $40,000
   * Changes made to refinancing and mitigation amounts
   * Mitigation amounts have increased and now eligible for more mitigation opportunities
   * SBA loans are part of the duplication of benefits concern – would like to see this removed.
4. Partnership discussion with the [Association of State Floodplain Managers](https://cas5-0-urlprotect.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.floods.org&umid=605adac9-5f1b-48a4-b6b6-2a8e0686ed0c&auth=eb0e9960277c85fff0edbb79a3e472ef94083af1-faaee51cc7d71c04cef6f583c99c08938b4bd388), Chad Berginnis, Executive Director (to be moderated by Justin Kates)
   * ASFPM Overview – state and local floodplain managers
   * Has state and multi-state chapter
   * Priorities for ASFPM – part of mitigation reforms- flood mitigation is focus – works with FEMA and army corps of engineers – policy priorities: ACE to help no structural mitigation can be offered in conjunction with structural mitigation. Supported numerous changes within BRIC including state set aside and building code requirements
   * Seeing widespread application of data sets within mitigation space which can impact jurisdictions when applying for mitigation support
   * Flooding matters and is still the largest disaster in the United States
   * Discussed on how resilience applies to flood plain management and emphasized that at the end of the day, details matter.
   * IAEM will review the MOU between ASFPM and IAEM
5. Committee discussion about [this issue paper](https://cas5-0-urlprotect.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fdocs.google.com%2fdocument%2fd%2f1iPMNvNuAyf0LP8uCdr5VshdxmTVgiNbg%2fedit&umid=605adac9-5f1b-48a4-b6b6-2a8e0686ed0c&auth=eb0e9960277c85fff0edbb79a3e472ef94083af1-9bff799c09e6d558e403076cd269dcb0f0874d2a) regarding EMI Anywhere. On November 4, the board voted to turn the issue paper over to the GAC to provide a recommendation.  Please read the issue paper before the meeting on Tuesday.
   * Justin provided an overview of this issue noted in the various documents shared with GAC about this topic
   * Academician Caucus is concerned about the move of EMI to a war college
   * Carolyn Harshman provided an overview of the issue paper and supporting documents
   * Travis Cryan, Judd Freed, Jonathan Gaddy, and Josh Morton provided feedback on this topic.
   * GAC decided through a yay/nay vote to not have IAEM take a stance on this issue at this time.
   * Motion made by Travis Cryan to not take a position on this issue at this time – Second by Carolyn
   * No opposition – all in favor.
6. Odds and Ends from Thad Huguley
   * Next meeting will be on February 6 at 2:00 ET
   * GAC is working with Healthcare Caucus on a possible endorsement of the Paramedicine Act
   * IAEM has recently endorsed the Freedom to Invest in Tommorrow’s Workforce Act as well as the GIS Emergency Response Technology Sustainment Act
   * Need GAC members to be more active on the Government Affairs page on IAEM Connect
7. Meeting Adjourned at 1500

**Attendees:**

* Alex McCarthy, Delaware Co EM
* Spencer Hawkins, Macon-Bibb Co EM
* Sarah Moore
* Teri Axman, LMH Health
* Justin Kates
* Chad Berginnis, Association of State Floodplain Managers
* Travis Cryan
* Andy McGuire
* Mary Jo Flynn, Sacramento Co OES
* Timothy Bush, National Dam Safety Program
* Carolyn Harshman
* Zuzzette Bricker, Easter municipal water district
* Jonathan Gaddy, Idaho State University
* Drew Pearson, Dare Co EM
* Seth Burnett
* Jim Yoke, San Mateo EM
* Judd Freed
* Matt May
* Julie Kay Roberts
* Chasity Schmelzenbach
* Brad Gilbert
* Allison Farole
* Josh Morton