

General Membership Meeting Summary May 2026

May 19, 2026	7:00 p.m.	BOD Present: Wiener, Dumagsa, O’Farrell, Knodel, Search. Board Members Present: Kadow.	Organizations Present: Realty Executives	Presenter: <i>David Castro, CEM</i> <i>Director, Sumter Co Emergency Management</i> Hurricane Preparedness
Business Portion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cliff Wiener led the meeting due to previous commitments of Reb and Dan. • Recognitions and Announcements. • Introduction of the POA Board. • General interest questions were taken. The answer to one of the questions will be provided in the June Magazine. • Introduction of Speaker. • Q&A. 			Presentation Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A brochure was available highlighting how best to prepare for any emergency. • Florida Emergency Management (EM) programs are managed at the County level. There is cooperation among the county EM agencies, both locally and statewide. • Mr. Castro recommended: Know/understand the hazards; make a plan; get an emergency kit; get an insurance checkup; stay informed; strengthen your home; help a neighbor. • Do not be complacent with a “mild” storm season forecast—it only takes one. • Wind and rain are the most serious threats, with impacts reaching far beyond the eye of any storm. • The preparedness plan should include plans to do without heat/electric/water for up to 14 days: consider pets; O₂ needs; keeping meds cold; communication; no utilities, ATM or gas pumps. Decide how far out to make the decision to evacuate, where to go, when to leave. • Unlike mobile homes or RVs, it is much safer to remain in a site-built home. • Sirens do not work well in Florida, compared to the Midwest. They are prone to damage from salt, birds, insects, squirrels, and humidity. • Purchase a weather radio; the Fire Departments will program them for you. • Contact information for Sumter Co Emergency Management was provided. 	