



**Nebraska  
State Emergency Response Commission  
(SERC)**

April 12, 2021  
Meeting Minutes  
Virtual  
1:00 PM CDT

**I. Call to Order, Introduction of Members and Guests**

a. Joe Oswalt called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM CDT and verified public notice and availability of a copy of– NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 84-1407 THROUGH 84-1414 (1999, Cum. Supp. 2006, Supp. 2007) is available upon request.

Member		Affiliation	Present
Director: Jim	Macy	Department of Environment & Energy	
Designee: Jeff	Edwards		x
Director: Kyle	Schneweis	Department of Transportation	
Designee: Tom	Sands		x
Superintendent: John	Bolduc	Nebraska State Patrol	
Designee: Jason	Scott		
Director: Christopher	Cantrell	State Fire Marshal	
Designee: Bill	Pfeifer		x
Director: Daryl	Bohac	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	
Designee: Bryan	Tuma		x
CEO: Dannette	Smith	Department of Health and Human Services	
Designee: Sue	Dempsey		x
Alyssa	Sanders	NEMA - SERC Coordinator	x
Sam	Capps	NDEE - SERC Coordinator for Information	x
Rick	Grauerholz	Municipal Government	x
	VACANT	Local Elected Official	
Rod	Buethe	Firefighters	x
Tim	Hofbauer	Local Emergency Management	
Tonya	Ngotel	Public Health	x
Kim	Plouzek	Environmental Protection	x
Polly	Jordening	Labor	x
	VACANT	School District	
Steven	Danon	Vice Chair – Small Business	x

Joe	Oswalt	Chair - Agricultural Business	x
John	Grimes	Chemical Industry	x
Matthew	DiVito	Highway Transportation	x
Kyle	Keeling	Rail Transportation	x
<i>Others in attendance: Diana Cheney, Richard Aldag, John Packett, Sean Runge, Ken Clary, Eric Plautz, Gary Peterson, Jean Engle, Jesse Bell, Eleanor Rogan, Jesse Eret, Aaron Alward, Brian Woldt, Lynn Marshall, Earl Imler, Rodney Lockett</i>			

**II. Approval of the agenda for April 12, 2021 meeting**

Polly Jordening motion to approve the April 12, 2021 meeting agenda; Sue Dempsey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

**III. Approval of the minutes from the January 19, 2021 meeting**

Sue Dempsey motioned to approve the January 19, 2021 meeting minutes; Polly Jordening seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

**IV. Unfinished Business: None**

**V. New Business**

**1) LEPC Membership Applications Approval**

A. John Grimes motioned to approve April applications; Rick Grauerholz seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

**2) SERC Subcommittees**

A. Polly Jordening made a motion to approve the formation of three subcommittees; Sue Dempsey seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

1. SERC Website/ Public Outreach
2. LEPC Formation/Compliance
3. SERC Membership/Compliance

**3) Nebraska State Fire School**

A. NEMA and the SERC will host a booth at the Nebraska State Fire School, open May 21 – 22, 2021. Steve Danon and John Grimes will assist.

**VI SERC Member Reports – As applicable**

A. UNMC COPH Pipeline Meeting/Training (Tonya Ngotel):

- Center for Preparedness Education is hosting a free virtual symposium. Topics include public health, emergency preparedness and COVID.

## **VII Stakeholder Reports – As applicable**

**NEMA, Bryan Tuma** – Week of April 13, 2021 Nebraska Association of Emergency Management meeting in Grand Island. NEMA is the recipient of the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), through FEMA; used to address preparedness issues. Through the Coronavirus Relief Act, NEMA received an EMPG supplement grant of around 1.1 million dollars, with a 50/50 cost share. Through soft match funding, grant monies will support a variety of initiatives including Bold Planning, NEMA website enhancements and a project with Priority 5. There are several changes in Homeland Security Grant guidelines (used to support bomb technicians and hazardous materials teams). An additional 1.1 million dollars will be available through a second EMPGS Grant. SERC & LEPCs should engage NACO for community outreach. AltEn Energy plant in Saunders county by Mead; major contamination at the plant with hazardous materials. May not all be reported since not on the list. Does SERC and LEPC need to investigate this? This issue raises concerns that need to be addressed.

**NDEE, Jeff Edwards** – Recently hired 3 new division administrators. Legislative bill passed to move Drinking Water Program from DHHS to NDEE starting in July. Train derailment in Lexington with a release. Recently participated in the Region VII Response Team Activity meeting with EPA. Working on planning activities with NEMA for Cooper Nuclear training.

**EPA, Diana Cheney** – Diana Cheney is filling in for Terri Blunk while on she is away on an assignment. Tracey Casburn has been hired as full time Air Branch Chief. RMP requirements for Reportable Accidents with Offsite Consequence Impacts went into effect March 15. This requires facilities to have a public meeting if a reportable accident with offsite impacts occurs. The new Toxic Release Inventory update for 2019 is out and is also available in Spanish. New videos released from DHS for CFATS program. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYWot1vvozI>

**CFATS, Rodney Lockett** – Program inspectors are traveling and conducted regulatory inspections while implementing safeguards for COVID. FBI is looking into fake companies attempting to divert chemical shipments.

## **VIII. Public Comments**

A. UNMC College of Pub Health

Presentation: Dr Jesse Bell – AltEn Environmental Evaluation and Health Assessment, Mead, Nebraska

B. Sue Dempsey – This will be her final meeting as the representative for DHHS as her position is transitioning to the NDEE. She is working with Danette Smith to find a suitable replacement for her position on the SERC.

## **IX. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Kim Plouzek, Polly Jordening seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM. Next Meeting will be July 13, 2021, 1:00 pm CST, location TBD.