



Nebraska State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

January 14, 2020
Agenda
Room 303/304
Southeast Community College
301 South 68th Street Place
1:00 PM CDT

I. Call to Order, Introduction of Members and Guests

- a. John Grimes called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM CDT.
- b. An open meeting Statute, available for review, is on the registration table.

Member		Affiliation	Present
Director: Jim	Macy	Department of Environment & Energy	
Designee: Jeff	Edwards		X
Director: Kyle	Schneweis	Department of Transportation	
Designee: Jessica	Sherwood		
Superintendent: John	Bolduc	Nebraska State Patrol	
Designee: Frank	Peck		
Director: Christopher	Cantrell	State Fire Marshal	
Designee: Adam	Matzner		
Director: Daryl	Bohac	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	
Designee: Bryan	Tuma		X
CEO: Dannette	Smith	Department of Health and Human Services	
Designee: Sue	Dempsey		X
Rick	Grauerholz	Municipal Government	X
	VACANT	Local Elected Official	
Rod	Buethe	Firefighters	X
Tim	Hofbauer	Vice Chair – Local Emergency Management	X
Tonya	Ngotel	Public Health	X
Kim	Plouzek	Environmental Protection	
Polly	Jordening	Labor	X
	VACANT	School District	
Steven	Danon	Small Business	
Joe	Oswalt	Agricultural Business	X

John	Grimes	Chair – Chemical Industry	X
Matthew	DiVito	Highway Transportation	X
Kyle	Keeling	Rail Transportation	
<i>Others in attendance: Terri Blunk (Region VII), Alyssa Sanders (SERC Coordinator), James Rashilla (NEMA), Ryan Lowry (PPC), Jesse Eret (Sarpy Co. EM), M. Frohberg, Tom Smith (Dodge Co. EM), Mike Schmitt (FBI)</i>			

II. Approval of the agenda for January 14, 2020 meeting

There was a motion made by Polly Jordening to approve the January 14, 2020 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 October 9, 2019 meeting

There was a motion made by Tonya Ngotel to approve the October 9, 2019 meeting minutes, Polly Jordening seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

IV. Officer Elections

a. Chairperson

- John Grimes opened up nominations for Chairpersons, no nominations were submitted. Sue Dempsey made a motion to retain the current Chairperson, Bryan Tuma seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes. John Grimes will remain the Nebraska SERC Chairperson.

b. Vice-Chairperson

- John Grimes opened up nominations for Vice-Chairperson, no nominations were submitted. Bryan Tuma made a motion to retain the current Vice-Chairperson, Sue Dempsey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes. Tim Hofbauer will remain the Nebraska SERC Vice-Chairperson.

V. SERC Training Subcommittee

a. LEPC Workshops Update

- Five LEPC workshops scheduled around Nebraska in January/February
 - Norfolk – January 22
 - Scottsbluff – February 6
 - Grand Island – February 19
 - Lincoln – February 20
 - North Platte – February 25
- Registration for these workshops can be found on the NEMA Exercise and Training webpage (<https://nema.nebraska.gov/operations/training-schedules>)

b. Homemade Explosives course

- New Mexico Tech will present the course, “Homemade Explosives: Awareness, Recognition, and Response” in Lincoln on March 12 at the Nebraska Task Force One location.
- Registration for this course can be found on the NEMA Exercise and Training webpage (<https://nema.nebraska.gov/operations/training-schedules>)

VI. New Business

- a. LEPC Membership Applications Approval
 - 26 LEPC applications were submitted to the SERC for approval
 - Rick Grauerholz made a motion to approve list of applications as submitted, Tim Hofbauer seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.
- b. Other
 - No other new business was discussed.

VII. SERC Member Reports – As applicable

- a. NEMA (Bryan Tuma):
 - Last year, Nebraska was unable to spend the grant funding they had received as part of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant because of all of disaster response activity that took place. NEMA received an extension to expend the remaining funds and are requesting anyone with hazardous materials planning/training project contact Alyssa Sanders, James Rashilla, or Bryan Tuma about using HMEP funds.
 - The Nebraska Legislative Session has started. This year’s session is a shorter 60 day session. State Senators have until January 17 to submit bills for consideration during this session. So far, no bills have been introduced that would impact the SERC, but Bryan will continue to monitor bills that get introduced.
 - Weather Service will be presenting information about preparedness and spring run-off in three locations around the state:
 - Fremont, February 4th
 - Columbus, February 13th
 - Norfolk, February 27th
 - NEMA is putting together a table top exercise that will occur in two sessions:
 - The first session will engage local emergency management officials
 - The second session will engage with state ESF coordinators
 - NEMA will be working with UNMC and University of Nebraska Extension to put together a forum to discuss the Spring 2019 Flood recovery efforts, and lessons learned.
 - Spring 2019 Flood Recovery:
 - 4,000 locations identified w/ 2,200+ applicants,
 - 505 projects are being written,
 - 50% are “small projects” (<\$130,000.00)

- 50% are “large projects” (>\$1M)
 - \$405M in Public Infrastructure costs,
 - 279 projects have been FEMA approved (~\$5.9M), will be hiring a contracting firm to help close out projects to get money in the hands of locals,
 - The Hazard Mitigation program is anticipated to receive \$55 – \$55.5M for hazard mitigation activities, FEMA is revising the “Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities” (BRIC) program, 2% of the previous years’ total disaster costs will be dedicated to hazard mitigation,
 - Over \$115M has been distributed to Nebraskans to date, \$39.7M in flood insurance claims were paid out, Small Business Administration has provided low-interest loans to homeowners/renters/small business owners totaling about \$49.1M, individual assistance paid out by FEMA totaled about \$27.1M,
 - HUD has identified \$109M for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG),
 - NEMA has hired Hagerty Consulting to help develop Long Term Recovery Strategy
 - Nebraska currently uses Alert Sense as their alert messaging system, the contract with Alert Sense expires April 2020, a Request for Proposals has been posted to solicit proposals bids for a vendor to provide emergency alert software.
- b. DHHS (Sue Dempsey):
- On November 20, 2019 a Nebraska Water Emergency Response desktop exercise was held in conjunction with EPA, participants identified several areas of improvement following the exercise including bringing more stakeholders to the table, identifying multiple sources for clean (bottled) water in the event of an emergency, and test agency plans on a regular basis.
- c. NDEE (Jeff Edwards):
- There have been 25-30 releases in the last quarter that required NDEE attention,
 - NDEE participated in a tornado exercise in Wayne County in January,
 - NDEE is participating in the Governor’s Long Term Recovery Task Force – is a member of the Agriculture, Cultural & Natural Resources, and Housing Recovery Support Function groups,
 - Participating in Cooper ingestion pathways exercise,
 - Participant in the statewide Vigilant Guard Exercise in May.
- d. Alyssa Sanders introduced Rod Buethe as the new Firefighter representative with the SERC, Rod has been a member of the Gretna Volunteer Fire Department for 31 years, Fire Chief for 22 years, has been a member of the Sarpy county LEPC for 30 years.
- e. Public Health (Tonya Ngotel):
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) course will be offered March 2-4, in Lincoln,

- The Center for Preparedness Education will host the 2020 Preparedness Symposia on May 28 in Omaha and June 10 in Gering,
- The Center for Preparedness Education publishes UNCENTERED, a quarterly magazine with information on public health preparedness topics, anyone with article suggestions or if you would like to receive the magazine, contact Tonya Ngotel (tonya.ngotel@unmc.edu).

VIII. Stakeholder Reports (EPA, FBI, etc.)

a. EPA (Terri Blunk):

- Candace Bednar is the new permanent manager,
- On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) contacts have changed in Nebraska, a new map for the state is available,
- The new risk management rule was published in December 2019,
- An updated spill reporting fact sheet was made available as a handout at the meeting,
- America Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) changed the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) - if NEMA or NDEE are aware of a release that could impact a community water system, this law (AWIA) requires the community water system be notified.

b. FBI (Mike Schmitt): no report

IX. Guest Presentation: Neal Suchak – Hazardous Materials Safety Assistance Team (HMSAT), Central Region Field Operations, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

- Neal Suchak provided an overview of what the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration does and their outreach activities including conference presentations, conducting workshops, and speaking opportunities with agency and industry stakeholders. PHMSA has a number of resources available including PHMSA publications and videos, as well as the latest ERG and an ERG app.

X. Public Comments

- a. No public comments were made.

XI. Adjournment

- a. Next Meeting will be on April 14, 2020, 1:00 pm CST, location TBD. A motion to adjourn was made by Rick Grauerholz, Joe Oswalt seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:17 PM.