



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

July 10, 2018 – 1:00 PM CST

Meeting Minutes

The Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel
333 South 13th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

I. Call to Order, Introduction of Members and Guests

A copy of Nebraska Open Meetings Statute was available for review on the registration table. John Grimes, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM CST.

Member		Affiliation	Present
Sheri	Blaha	County Elected Official	x
Steven	Danon	Small Business	x
Jim	DeFreece	Nebraska State Patrol	x
Keith	Deiml	Education	
Sue	Dempsey	Department of Health and Human Services	
Matthew	DiVito	Crete Carrier, Trucking Industry	
Jim	Macy	Department of Environmental Quality	x
Rick	Grauerholz	Elected Official	x
John	Grimes	Chair, Chemical Industry	x
Jim	Heine	State Fire Marshal	
Tim	Hofbauer	Vice Chair, Local Emergency Management	x
Polly	Jordening	Labor	
Sharon	Medcalf	Community Health	x
Dana	Miller	Fire Fighters	
Joe	Oswalt	Agricultural Business	x
Kimberly	Plouzek	Environmental Protection	x
Rashilla	James	SERC Coordinator	x
Tom	Sands	Nebraska Department of Transportation	x
Ben	Salo	Union Pacific Railroad	
Bryan	Tuma	Nebraska Emergency Management	x

Others in attendance:

Joe Francis (DEQ), Tonya Ngotel (UNMC), Trent Kleinow (North Platte Fire Dept.), Andrew Gieseke (EPA), Julie Bergfield (NEMA), Mike Schmitt (FBI), Chris Blair, Quinn Lewandowski (PPC), and Chris Jones (PPC)

II. Approval of the agenda for July 10, 2018

There was a motion by Jim Macy to accept the agenda as presented; Sharon Medcalf seconded. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstention or dissenting votes.

III. Approval of the minutes from the April 10, 2018 meeting

Quinn Lewandowski noted that in the header of the minutes on the first page needed updated from “Agenda” to “Meeting Minutes”. There was a motion by Jim Macy to accept the meeting minutes with the proposed change; Tim Hofbauer seconded this motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no absenting or dissenting votes.

IV. New Business

a. LEPC Annual Reports Review

James gave a brief overview of 2017 LEPC Highlights. Some of those include:

i. Boone County LEPC (Albion, NE)

The Boone County LEPC conducted quarterly meetings and created Hazardous Materials Response binders for each fire department in the LEPC. The members reviewed the Local Emergency Operations Plan during the January and April meetings and discussed changes at the July meeting. The LEPC partnered with the American Red Cross to install smoke detectors in homes. During the installation, LEPC members discussed shelter-in-place techniques and provided additional information on the functions of the LEPC to the community members.

ii. Cass County (Weeping Water, NE)

The Cass County LEPC took steps towards identifying non-reporting Tier II facilities during 2017. They identified 5-10 facilities that had not filed Tier II reports and are working with the facility owners to properly file for 2018.

iii. Custer County (Broken Bow, NE)

The Custer County LEPC reorganized itself after a long period of inactivity. They have begun holding monthly meetings and conduct mini tabletop exercises at each meeting for various hazards that could happen in their communities. The LEPC has developed a strong public-private partnership with various businesses in Custer County. They have continued to meet monthly and have worked with local industries to host each meeting and give tours of their facilities.

iv. Greeley/Wheeler LEPC (Greeley, NE)

The Greeley/Wheeler LEPC held a multi-agency tabletop exercise in response to a school bus accident caused by a collision with a semi-truck containing sulfuric acid. The tabletop took three phases including initial size-up and response, spill prevention, and medical treatment by local hospitals. The exercise was an excellent opportunity for the local agencies to work together on a complex incident that was realistic to their jurisdiction.

v. Lincoln County LEPC (North Platte, NE)

The Lincoln County LEPC has worked with the trainers at the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to host radiological training for first responders. This training is part of a staged approach to improving the community's ability to respond to a radiological transportation accident that could result in radioactive material being released into the surrounding area.

They will be hosting a Modular Emergency Response Transportation Training in August 2018 and the 2018 Nebraska Hazmat Conference in September.

b. Nebraska Hazmat Conference Updates

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, in cooperation with the North Platte Fire Department, is hosting as Hazardous Materials and Local Emergency Planning Committee conference in North Platte at the Quality Inn Sandhills Convention Center on September 27-29. In accordance with the conference, the Hazmat Challenge will be held in North Platte, NE on Saturday, September 29. Funding is available for any members that wish to attend the conference. Please contact James Rashilla (james.rashilla@nebraska.gov) to inquire on this funding or if you have any questions about the Conference and/or the Hazmat Challenge.

c. Other New Business

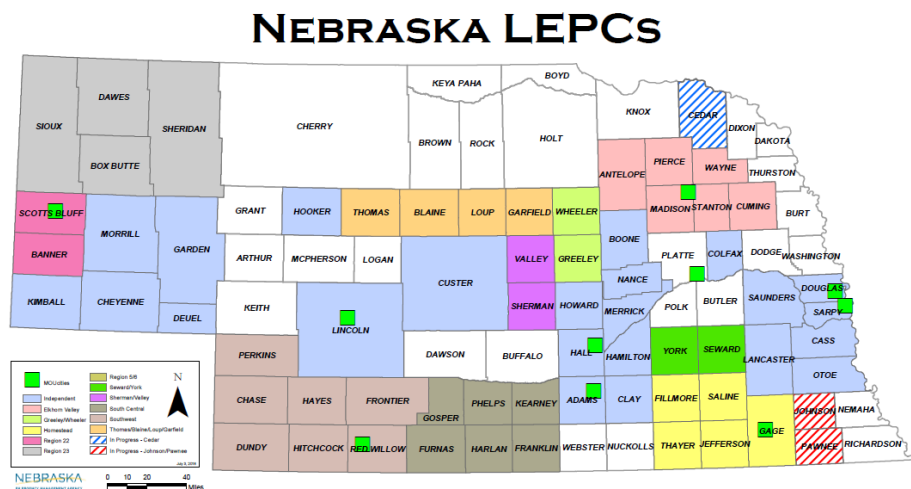
On October 10, 2018 The Nebraska Safety Council will hold its annual Conference and Trade Show in York. The SERC will sponsor a booth and members are encouraged to attend

V. Old Business

a. LEPC Membership Applications Approval (Vote)

There were 21 applications summarized onto one chart for SERC review. Sharon Medcalf made a motion to approve the LEPC applications; Tom Sands seconded this motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

b. LEPC Coverage – Update



James Rashilla provided a map of existing LEPCs (pictured above) again this meeting. The white counties do not have an LEPC. James has continued to work with these counties to create an LEPC. Cedar County has expressed interest in re-forming. John Grimes and James have met with reps from Cedar County to propose options. Joe

Oswalt and James are planning to meet with Johnson and Pawnee counties to discuss options.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

a. Training Subcommittee (Bryan, Sue, Joe O.)

On June 29th the Training Subcommittee met regarding classroom training. They are planning to send a survey to determine needs, and what restraints are present. After the results of the survey, they will have a targeted training approach to help address any gaps they find from their survey.

b. Outreach Subcommittee (John, Tim, Bryan, Steve)

A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet was presented to the committee for review and approval. The intent for this FAQ is to be distributed (and placed on the website as well) to any of the counties in white that are currently do not have an active LEPC. After some discussion and minor edits suggested, there was a motion by Sharon Medcalf to approve the FAQ Sheet with the suggested changes for distribution; this motion was seconded by Bryan Tuma. The motion was passed via unanimous acclamation vote, with no dissensions or abstentions.

VII. SERC Member Reports

a. Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

- i. Guidance for the Federal Grant was finally released, and Nebraska received is essentially a no change in funding amount.
- ii. Cooper Nuclear will be going through an evaluated exercise by FEMA. It is a mandatory event, held every two years, that involves major stakeholders. And NEMA expects that it should go well, and a dress rehearsal for the exercise has already been held.
- iii. On Sept. 12th, the Nebraska Preparedness workshop will be held at the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Good opportunity for SERC members to see how to interface private sector partner in response and preparedness.
- iv. Implementation of FirstNET is currently being planned out and will require the establishment of a Statewide Interoperability Coordinator. The Nebraska Public Safety Communications Council and the Nebraska Public Safety Broadband Working Group will soon meet in late July to discuss the next steps. ATT has won the nationwide contract to be the provider and developer of FirstNET all throughout the U.S. in states that have opted into FirstNET.
- v. The Keystone XL pipeline continues to accumulate land and continues to move forward. There have been minimal protests in Nebraska, but NEMA and many other agencies are anticipating that when pipeline starts in South Dakota in 2019 there will be larger protests.

b. Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ)

- i. Joe Francis discussed the impact of spring flooding, and a rail car leak where 196,000 lbs. of potassium chloride were leaked which required EPA involvement.
- ii. North Omaha lead levels have now improved to the point that are nearly unseen in children.
- iii. Also, the Shell Creek Watershed, a major watershed by Schuyler has made headlines for being the first stream to be removed from the “Impaired Waters” list that resulted from implementation of a comprehensive watershed management plan. The historic accomplishment took over 12 years to reduce atrazine levels (a common herbicide used to kill weeds that is linked to cancer in humans and harmful for aquatic life) and other contaminants. The Shell Creek Watershed Improvement Group is a group of landowners and farmers who led the grassroots efforts in conservation. They worked collaboratively with a variety of partners on the local, state and federal level, including the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Environmental Protection Agency and other project partners.

VIII. Stakeholder Reports (EPA, FBI)

a. FBI

Copies of binders related to a pipeline tabletop exercise were available for review. The main goal for the FBI right now related to the pipeline is getting people on the same page, and prepared for the Keystone XL pipeline proceeding through Nebraska.

b. EPA

Andrew Gieseke of the EPA gave a brief update on everything EPA in Region 7. 2017 was a very busy year for the EPA. Andrew is the outreach coordinator for Lincoln and counties that surround it. Most of South Central Nebraska. Equipment needs, training, scientific questions, etc. please contact Andrew with anything that you wish to know about at gieseke.andrew@Epa.gov or by phone at 913-551-7054.

i. Planned Training in Region 7

The following training opportunities are planned through October 2018. For more information or to register, please visit: www.trainex.org/default.cfm

- **Basic Environmental Geophysics. Lenexa, KS. July 11-12, 2018.**
- **Air Monitoring for Emergency Response. Lenexa, KS. August 28 - 30, 2018**

ii. Highlights from Removal Actions Being Conducted in Nebraska

Superfund will be initiating a removal action in July to install a vapor mitigation system at the Clipper-Herald building in Lexington, NE. The system will work to mitigate perchloroethylene contamination.

iii. *Missouri River Recon (northeast Nebraska, southeast South Dakota, northwest Iowa).*

EPA and a number of other federal and state agencies are planning a recon and mapping of the Missouri River between Gavin's Point Dam and Sioux City during the week of July 23, 2018. This is the lowest unchannelized remnant of the Missouri River and contains a host of threatened and endangered species and critical habitats. Participating federal and state agencies includes USFWS, USACE, National Park Service, EPA Region 8, EPA Region 7, South Dakota DNR, and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

iv. *September 2018 Region 7 Regional Response Team (RRT) Meeting*

The next RRT meeting will be held September 12-13, 2018 in Kansas City, MO at EPA Region 7's Training and Logistic Center: 8600 NE Underground Rd, Pillar 253; Kansas City, Missouri 64141. If you have questions about this meeting, please contact Eric Nold at nold.eric@epa.gov or (913) 551-7488.

IX. Public Forum / Presentation

Trent Kleinow, Assistant Chief for the North Platte Fire Department, presented an incident involving a butane tanker truck leak on I-80 on May 14th. Trent guided the group through the events around the incident involving a broken valve slowly leaking its 6,500 lbs. of butane out of it. The incident included a strategic evacuation of a rest area and favorable wind conditions to provide a place for the crews to address the leaking tanker truck without putting those traveling on the interstate at risk. The situation was able to be resolved, and the remaining contents were transferred into another tanker truck. Trent also provided information on how North Platte provides backup support to many of the smaller communities in and around their area.

X. Adjournment

- a. The next Meeting will officially be determined at a later date. It was suggested that, if possible, the next meeting be held in accordance with the Hazardous Materials and Local Emergency Planning Committee conference in North Platte on September 27, 2018. James will follow up with the members and finalize the next quarterly meeting at a later date.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 pm.