

Nebraska State Emergency Response Commission

October 10, 2024, 1300 CDT

Meeting Minutes

Nebraska State Patrol

4600 Innovation Drive

Lincoln, NE 68521

1. **Call to Order, Introduction of Members and Guests**
2. John Grimes called the Meeting to order at 1302 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.
3. Member Roll Call —
4. Introduction of Guests —

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Member** | | | | **Affiliation** | | **Present** | |
| Director: | | Thad Finneran | | Department of Environment & Energy | |  | |
| Designee: | | Jeff Edwards | | X | |
| Director: | | Vicki Kramer | | Department of Transportation | |  | |
| Designee: | | Jessica Sherwood | | X | |
| Director: | | John Bolduc | | Nebraska State Patrol | |  | |
| Designee: | | Jason Prante | | X | |
| Director: | | Scott Cordes | | State Fire Marshal | | X | |
| Designee: | | Bill Pfeifer | | X | |
| Director: | | Craig Strong | | Nebraska Emergency Management Agency | |  | |
| Designee: | | Erv Portis | | X | |
| Director: | | Steve Corsi | | Department of Health and Human Services | |  | |
| Designee: | | Richard Gray | |  | |
|  | | Larry Fichtner | | NEMA - SERC Coordinator | | X | |
|  | | Mark Lohnes | | NDEE - SERC Coordinator for Information | | X | |
|  | | VACANT | | Municipal Government | |  | |
|  | | VACANT | | Local Elected Official | |  | |
|  | | Rod Buethe | | Firefighters | | X | |
|  | | VACANT | | Local Emergency Management | |  | |
|  | | VACANT | | Public Health | |  | |
|  | | Kim Plouzek, Vice Chair | | Environmental Protection | |  | |
|  | | Polly Jordening | | Labor | |  | |
|  | | VACANT | | School District | |  | |
|  | | VACANT | | Small Business | |  | |
|  | | VACANT | | Agricultural Business | |  | |
|  | | John Grimes, Chair | | Chemical Industry | | X | |
|  | | VACANT | | Highway Transportation | |  | |
|  | | VACANT | | Rail Transportation | |  | |
| *Others in attendance:* | |  | |  | |  | |
|  | | Cherry County EMA  Lisa Wiegan -Gage County EMA  Haley Maloe – Clay County EMA  Sara Moeller  Stena Seamann – Region 26 EMA  Rosalyn Days – Austin USDA  Jessica Pozehl –Rock County Deputy EMA  Darrin Lewis- Buffalo County EMA  Jon Rosenlund – Hall County EMA  Traci Booth-Brown/Rock County EMA  Colt Farringer – Thayer County EMA  Tim Hofbauer –Platte County EMA  Jean Engle – Fillmore County EMA  Rayce Hoole – Lincoln/Lancaster EMA  Jessica – NDOT | | | | | |

# Approval of Agenda for October 10, 2024, Meeting.

# Erv Portis motioned to approve the agenda; Jeff Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

# Approval of the minutes of the July 11, 2024 Meeting.

# Erv Portis motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Jaso Prante seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclimation with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

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# New Business

* 1. LEPC Update Homestead LEPC – Brian Daake
     1. Brian has been a part of the LEPC since 2007 and they were originally meeting in the same place and now it has transitioned to moving around so the members can see the industries that are members. Homestead meets quarterly and they try to do training at meetings or other times. Have done exercise with Koch. Will hopefully have another training coming up in 2025 that will hopefully be held in Fillmore County. We usually get a pretty good representation from industry, fire, emergency management as well as county officials once in a while. John Grimes asked if the SERC could do anything to help and if they can just reach out.
  2. Open Seats of SERC Commission Cont.
     1. The applications have been sent to the Governor’s office.

# Member and Stakeholder Reports

* 1. NEMA
     1. Larry Fichtner has sent out an update from the railroad of the high hazard flammable trains that are running through the counties. This does not include all as it has to meet certain criteria to be on the list.
     2. Erv Portis reported that Tallgrass seeking a permit for a pipeline should be reaching out to the emergency management to set up training for fire and rescue. This has been an interesting year for disasters, and we are 10 months into the year. There was a natural gas explosion in O-Neil yesterday. Five State declarations and 4 Federal with one pending. Estimated cost so far is around4121 million and this number will probably go up. Disasters range anywhere from Blizzards, Fires, Flood, Tornado and Windstorms. Forty different counties in 10 months. About 150 National Guard will be leaving for Florida to help and possibly sending Nebraska State Patrol as well.
     3. HMEP as of October 1, 2024, will be run by the State Fire Marshal Office. They have been to conferences and working on the process and how things will go. Hoping that things will go smoother than it has in the past to get grants. This grant fits better with the Fire Marshal’s office.
  2. NDEE
     1. New interim as of September 30
     2. Has a large fire at a fish farm by Nebraska City and they are assessing to see what to do with the removal of material.
  3. CISA Region 7
  4. EPA
  5. NSFM
     1. Bill Pfeifer reported that NHIT submitted for their quarterly training in 2025. Dates will be March, June and September
     2. Looking to get a class Above and Below the line that will be held at the NDEE the first week in June of 2025 and Bill will end more information later.
     3. We will be doing more training with the CST of Lincoln hoping to grow that relationship as COVID slowed this down. We would like to work together to see how each other operates.
  6. NSP
     1. Still working on an offer to go to Florida
  7. Other

# Open Discussion

* 1. Scott Cordes would like everyone that can to get the word out of the amount of fuel across the State and the worries of fires. Please educate people of the high fire danger right now. NDOT has been putting that on the road signs and will continue when in Red Flag Warnings and if asked of during other times.

# Public Comments - None

# Adjournment

* 1. Next Meeting January 9, 2025 (245 Fallbrook Blvd Suite 100, Lincoln, NE in Hearing Room 031 @ 1300 (CT))
  2. Erv Portis motions to adjourn at 1336. Jason Prante seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimous acclimation with no abstention or dissenting votes.