



Nebraska State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

October 9, 2019
Meeting Minutes (*PENDING APPROVAL*)
Scarlet South Room
Courtyard by Marriott Lincoln Downtown/Haymarket
808 R Street
1:00 PM CDT

I. Call to Order, Introduction of Members and Guests

a. An open meeting Statute, available for review, is on the registration table.

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

Others in attendance: James Rashilla (NEMA), John Frey (EPA Region 7), Steve Cody (Otoe County EMA), Jim Dunker (Fillmore County EMA), Tom Smith (Dodge County EMA), Sean Runge (NEMA), Brad Witte (Omaha Fire), Brian Staskiewicz (Bellevue Fire), Jim Lee (North Platte Fire Dept.), Sam Seafeldt (North Platte Airport Authority), Alyssa Sanders (State Fire Marshal), John Schramm (QRS), Michael Schmitt (FBI), Ryan Lowry (PPC)

II. Approval of the agenda for October 9, 2019 meeting

John Grimes requested the discussion and approval of LEPC applications from the July meeting be moved from “Unfinished Business” to “New Business – LEPC Applications Approval”. There was a motion made by Rick Grauerholz to approve the October 9, 2019 with the suggested change from John; Tim Hofbauer seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

III. Approval of the minutes from the July 23, 2019 meeting

There was a motion by Tim Hofbauer to approve the July 23, 2019 meeting minutes as presented noting a correction to the spelling of Terri Blunk’s name under “Stakeholder Reports”; Polly Jordening seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

IV. SERC Training Subcommittee

(James Rashilla) The SERC Training Subcommittee has been working on identifying locations for upcoming LEPC workshops around the state. Five locations have been identified for the training (North Platte, Scottsbluff, Grand Island, Lincoln, and Norfolk), and training dates will be set up in January/February 2020.

V. SERC Member Reports – As applicable

Jeff Edwards (NDEE) – Nebraska Department of Environmental & Energy is still working on flooding issues that are ongoing throughout the state. They have been participating on regional response training.

Tim Hofbauer (Emergency Management) – Emergency managers across the state are still heavily involved in flood recovery. Some areas are working with Long Term Recovery Groups to identify and address unmet needs, while others are still actively in response mode as flooding is still an issue.

Joe Oswalt (Agriculture) – The fall harvest is off to a slow start due to the flooding, but it will pick up soon as the weather outlook looks like farmers will have the chance to get to their fields in the next 10 days. This means there will be a lot more farm equipment on the road in next few weeks, so be cautious and aware of traffic.

Bryan Tuma (NEMA) – The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency is continuing to do damage assessments throughout the state that are a result of the 2019 flood event. Because of continued rainfall contributing to flooding, FEMA reopened the original disaster event timeframe and continued it from April through July, 2019. NEMA will likely request another disaster declaration from July 15 – Sept due to ongoing flooding. NEMA is working on developing long term recovery strategies with Haggerty and Associates. NEMA's recovery section has increased dramatically in the number of personnel to address the increased workload due to the flooding. Sean Runge recently became the Preparedness Section Manager and James Rashilla was named the Technical Hazards Unit Supervisor. Alyssa Sanders will come on board as SERC coordinator. The Knowledge Center project is progressing well with a number of trainings on the software around the state.

VI. Unfinished Business

a. LEPC Applications from July meeting
(moved to New Business)

b. Formation of Southeast Region LEPC

- i. Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson counties
Steve Cody (Otoe County EMA) – The regional LEPC is set up and ready to function; bylaws have been created and presented to the SERC; noted a regional LEPC is a good opportunity to increase participation and identify opportunities to work together.

There was a motion to approve the formation of the Southeast Region LEPC by Rick Grauerholz; Bryan Tuma seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

VII. New Business

a. LEPC Membership Applications Approval
(Note that LEPC application approval requests from July's meetings were combined with application approval requests for October meeting) There was a motion by Polly Jordening to approve all LEPC applications, Rick Grauerholz seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

b. New SERC Coordinator: Alyssa Sanders (10/28)

Alyssa introduced herself to the SERC members and guests. She has been with the state since October 2017, and is currently a fire prevention deputy and PIO with State Fire Marshal's office.

c. Other

The Nebraska Safety Council conference is October 16th in York, NE. The SERC will have a booth set up at the conference. Kim Plouzek volunteered to assist with staffing the booth.

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

Mike Schmitt (FBI) – The FBI encourages everyone to be aware of and report any suspicious activity, such as unapproved drone activity or activity related to the Keystone XL Pipeline. Also be aware of foreign visitors (especially from China), and report any suspicious foreign visitors.

John Frey (EPA) – The regional LEPC conference was recently held in August with a great turnout. John called attention to the EPA printouts included in today's handouts, particularly the revised reporting spill fact-sheet. He also noted the 2018 TRI dataset has been released for facilities.

IX. Guest Presentation: Sam Seefeldt – North Platte Airport Authority

a. Live Fire ARFF Training funded by SERC HMEP Grant

North Platte airport authority representatives gave a presentation overview of how the airport utilized funds received from the HMEP grant to train their firefighters. This grant allowed them to do training locally rather than send firefighters out of state. The training is necessary for certification, and was offered to both paid and volunteer firefighters.

X. Public Comments

No public comments

XI. Adjournment

a. Next Meeting will be Tuesday, January 14, 2019. Audio conferencing will be available.

There was a motion by Polly Jordening to adjourn; Steve Dannon seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:12 PM.