

## SERC Business Meeting

April 3, 2012, 1:00 PM MDT  
Hampton Inn and Conference Center, West Hwy 26  
Scottsbluff, NE

- I. Call to Order, Introduction of Members  
Call to Order – 1: 08 PM MDT, Keith Hansen, Chair

The open meeting Statute is available for review.

Member		Affiliation	Present
John	Baroni	County Elected Official	
Al	Berndt	NE Emergency Management	
(empty)		Chemistry	
Steven	Danon	Small Business	
Keith	Deiml	Education	
Don	Eisenhauer	Agribusiness	
John	Falgione	State Fire Marshal	X
Joe	Francis	Department of Environmental Quality	X
Gary	Gandara	Labor	
Keith	Hansen	Community Health	X
Tim	Hofbauer	Local Emergency Management	X
Larry	Johnson	Trucking Association	X
Judd	Lyons	ARNG	
Mark	Lohnes	NDEQ SARA Title III	X
(empty)		City Government	
Mark	Maday	Transportation	
Dana	Miller	Fire	X
Tonya	Ngotel	SERC Coordinator	X
Kimberly	Plouzek	Environmental	X
Tom	Sands	Department of Roads	
Thomas	Schwarten	State Patrol	
Sue	Semerena	Health and Human Services	
Jessica	Sherwood	NDOR Alt	

*Other Attendees:* James Johnson Region VII EPA; John Flint NDEQ, Jerry Bretthauer Region 22 EMA/LEPC, Nan Gould Region 23 EMA/LEPC, Terri Blunk Region VII EPA, Kevin Sherman Clean Harbors Environmental Sciences and Kimball County LEPC.

- II. Approval of Agenda  
Discussion was held concerning the agenda for April 3, 2012. Due to a lack of quorum a vote was not taken on this issue.
- III. Approval of Minutes  
Discussion was held concerning the agenda for April 3, 2012. Due to a lack of quorum a vote was not taken on this issue.

#### IV. New Business

##### a. LEPC Annual Report Review

Discussion was held concerning each LEPC functioning at a different level across the State. Region 22, Scotts Bluff and Banner Counties set the bar for being a very robust and solid LEPC as demonstrated in their annual report. The goal is to promote more comprehensive reporting from LEPCs in an effort to better support the ones that are less established and involved throughout the state.

##### b. TIER II Report Review

Mark Lohnes explained his role with DEQ as support compliance not enforcement. Greater than 90% of facilities report online. In doing so, it makes everyone's jobs easier. There are less than 200 facilities data that will have to be manually inputted into the computer this year. This is tremendous progress from five to eight years ago when it was the end of October before the information was even entered into the system. One issue that was identified was that the website we use didn't accept NAICS codes. We brought it to attention of the Information Technology people and they updated the website to accept the codes. As a result, the call volume from facilities doubled. Additional changes to the website will be made before it goes live to the rest of the regulated community next year. The intent is when facilities submit reports electronically; we can get the system to forward the reports onto the counties in turn reducing the burden on the facilities. A request was made to look into the feasibility of sharing these reports with the fire departments. Lincoln and Omaha have set up a mail box that the LEPCs and the fire, etc. have access to view them.

##### c. LEPC Member Applications

A recommendation was made to edit the current LEPC Membership Application to allow for organization to apply. This would reduce the number of applications received from multiple individuals all from the same organization. It will also be necessary to provide a clear definition of "member" in order to accurately reflect the intent of the application. Changing the application may impact certain LEPC's bylaws. As a result, a draft will be developed prior to the July SERC meeting for vote by members.

#### V. Old Business

##### a. LEPC Membership Approval (Vote)

LEPC Membership applications were received. However, there were not enough SERC members in attendance to conduct a vote. The vote will be postponed until the next SERC Business Meeting.

##### b. SERC Membership Committee

###### i. Status Report

There are currently two vacancies on the SERC committee; industry and city government. Please share this locally to solicit membership interest.

##### c. SERC Subcommittee Report

The first draft of a LEPC newsletter was distributed to thousands of LEPC members and interested parties. The newsletter included an EPA report and lessons learned. The newsletter was well done and Keith Deiml's hard work was obvious. It may be a challenge to continue to include new and exciting information. If any SERC or LEPC members wish to contribute information to the newsletter, please submit via email either to Keith Deiml or Tonya Ngotel. It was suggested that this newsletter could be included in the next edition of the NEMA Beacon or possibly combine the two in the future.

- d. 2012 LEPC Workshops
  - i. Ainsworth June 15 & 16
  - ii. Norfolk June 28 & 29
  - iii. York July 12 & 13 \*\*Will include SERC Meeting

This is the first of four LEPC Workshops that will be conducted in 2012. Thanks to Scottsbluff for the gracious accommodations and hospitality. SERC members are encouraged to attend each of the workshops to offer support and education. Each LEPC Workshop will conclude with an evaluation. It will be interesting to examine the feedback. Next year's Regional Conference will be held in Kansas City.

- e. Hazardous Materials Response, Emergency Management Act Revision

The Emergency Management Act needs to be revised to include discussion related to the state's HazMat incident response procedures. The goal would be to revise the act in an effort to expedite resources available during incident response. Due to the number of resources within the state; NE HazMat Response Team, DEQ, State Fire Marshall and Nebraska State Patrol teams and local teams, an issue exists with who the locals should first notify if a HazMat incident occurs in their area. The other issue relates to what resources will they bring and who is ultimately responsible for paying. It was stated that the EPA has been a great resource for DEQ to rely upon.

VI. Report from NEMA

This year's Investment Justification Workshop will be held on Friday, April 6, 2012. This workshop will allow local regions from across the state to gather and plan for the next homeland security grant cycle. The focus will be on sustainability and long term/future planning. A HazMat technician class will be offered next year by the State Fire Marshall's Office-Training Division; both an 80-hour full class, 40-hour refresher course. Dates will be forthcoming.

VII. Report from DEQ/EPA

The Infrastructure Conference this year focused on a recap of flood activities. The DEQ is in the process of adding two new members to their immediate response teams to bring the total to six members. Johnson County-Tecumseh has a new Emergency Manager who serves as their LEPC chair, he held a tabletop exercise with approx 20 people in attendance. They all seemed to be very engaged and passionate with their participation. The Severe Weather Awareness Workshop recently held was well attended and received. Approximately 200 participants were there. A recommendation was made to share LEPC meeting dates with the group so that SERC members could attend and share support. Tonya will make an effort to send those out. The EPA provided a handout with a full report from Nebraska and Missouri, Kansas and Iowa, see attached.

VIII. Public Forum/Presentation

IX. Next Meeting

The SERC will meet at the Holiday Inn I-80 in York, NE on July 12, 2012 at 1:00 pm.

X. Adjournment

Kim Plousek made a motion to adjourn the SERC Business Meeting. Joe Francis seconded the motion; the motion passed by consensus.