

# Minutes

## Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

### Funding Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 30, 2009 – 9:00 a.m.  
*State Emergency Response Commission  
2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 10  
Carson City, Nevada*

*Teleconferenced Meeting*

#### Members Present

Richard Brenner, Chair  
Susan Crowley  
Larry Farr  
Stacey Giomi  
John Helmreich

#### Members Absent

#### Staff

Suzie Adam  
Shelley Fleming  
Karen Pabón

#### Guests

Danielle Bouas (Attended in person)  
Tom Garrison  
Art Glass  
Bob Knoll  
Theresa Long  
Cathy Ludwig

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Richard Brenner called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

#### **II. INTRODUCTIONS**

Members, staff, and guests introduced themselves as shown above. A quorum was present.

#### **III. \*APPROVAL OF THE JULY 2, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

Stacey Giomi made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2009 meeting. Larry Farr seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. **\*Discussion/Review/Approval of U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) mid-cycle grant applications submitted by Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)**

Mr. Brenner advised Douglas and Washoe LEPCs submitted HMEP mid-cycle grant applications.

*Washoe LEPC* – Karen Pabón advised Washoe LEPC submitted both planning and training grant requests.

Ms. Pabón advised there was \$57,284 available in the training grant and \$44,722 in the planning grant. The funds need to be obligated by September 30, 2009 and reported as spent technically by November 15, 2009. If issues arise, there is a month of flexibility.

Mr. Brenner stated Washoe LEPC requested to send personnel to the Continuing Challenge in Sacramento, California.

Ms. Pabón advised Washoe LEPC had an error on the first paragraph of the first page. The LEPC indicated it was requesting approximately \$36,000 when actually the request was for \$30,440 for training.

The LEPC also requested funding to provide a Hazwoper class.

Mr. Giomi asked why the State Fire Marshal's office (SFM) did not offer a 40 hour Hazwoper class. Mr. Brenner advised the Committee would need to discuss this with the SFM. Mr. Giomi asked Cathy Ludwig if there was a denial letter for training from the SFM.

Ms. Ludwig advised a letter from the SFM was received and training was denied because of SFM budget constraints and staffing shortages.

Mr. Farr made a motion to approve Washoe LEPC's HMEP mid-cycle grant request for training in the amount of \$30,440. Mr. Giomi seconded the motion. A discussion ensued regarding room charge and administrative fees. Mr. Brenner recommended providing Hazwoper training in the hazmat conference scheduled in November 2009.

Ms. Pabón advised since Hazwoper is a 24 or 40 hour training, it could not be a part of a three day conference. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Ms. Pabón advised staff does not have Washoe LEPC's assurances and compliance certification. Therefore, any motions need to be contingent on submission of these items. Mr. Giomi made an amended motion to make the approval of Washoe LEPC's grant request contingent on submission of the assurances and the compliance certification.

Mr. Brenner seconded the amended motion which was approved unanimously.

Mr. Brenner asked Art Glass to explain the planning grant request for Washoe LEPC. Mr. Glass stated Washoe LEPC has many capabilities such as side scan sonar, planes, helicopters with video down links, and a bomb squad. Individual training is given for these but there is never an integration of these capabilities in exercises. Additionally, many times hazmat responders do not know what capabilities there are in special operations. Mr. Glass stated the planning costs in the grant request are necessary components to do a need assessment to see where the LEPC is; to see what the various stakeholders in this program need to have happen so it is an effective program.

Another component is the supplies and operating costs including fuel and overtime.

The final component is the planning and facilitation.

Ms. Pabón advised this grant does not pay for supplies, fuel, salaries or overtime. Mr. Brenner stated Washoe LEPC might want to call this a familiarization drill and have a one price quote for everything.

Mr. Giomi asked if some of the items such as travel, fuel and binders could be moved to the training section. Ms. Pabón advised the HMEP training grant does not support these items. A discussion ensued regarding the proposed use of funds.

Ms. Pabón advised there is an item on the HMEP Planning grant eligible list for planning for an assessment of local response capabilities. Ms. Pabón asked if the Committee wanted her to contact Charles Rogoff, Program Manager in Washington, D.C., for further instruction. Mr. Brenner advised staff to contact Mr. Rogoff to determine eligible costs.

Mr. Farr advised if the Committee does consider these costs as planning and response capabilities, the only item they are looking at is the ineligibility of the overtime. Mr. Brenner stated office supplies would not be eligible either. Mr. Farr stated the fuel and travel costs could be considered as planning and operational expense for response capabilities. Mr. Glass said that was correct.

Mr. Giomi recommended approving the equipment rental. John Helmreich asked if the demonstration would be for planners of future exercises. Mr. Glass advised that was correct.

Ms. Ludwig questioned the office supplies not being eligible on the grant. Ms. Pabón advised the HMEP grant does not provide for supplies.

Ms. Pabón stated the administrative cost for the Hazwoper class was for the advertisement and registration, not for supplies. Mr. Farr asked if the LEPC could use their operating costs to buy some binders, paper and pencils. Ms. Pabón advised they could.

Ms. Pabón asked Mr. Glass to explain the hazmat connection between the side scan sonar and what the boat and plane would be doing so staff can explain this to Mr. Rogoff. Mr. Glass stated the 49 C.F.R. covers highways and pipelines. What Washoe LEPC is talking about in hazmat are those eventualities that could cause a crisis stemming from highways and pipelines. Under certain circumstances such as earthquakes, there can be a potential hazmat issue with highways and pipelines that not only run through Washoe County but also through Nevada.

Ms. Pabón stated it would be helpful if Mr. Glass would be available for a conference call with Mr. Rogoff to answer any questions about this matter. Mr. Glass said he could be available.

Mr. Farr made a motion to approve Washoe LEPC's request for a planning grant in the amount of \$3,568, contingent on receiving information from HMEP that these costs are appropriate. Ms. Crowley seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

*Douglas LEPC* – Mr. Brenner stated Douglas LEPC's grant request was for ten attendees to Continuing Challenge in Sacramento.

Mr. Giomi made a motion to approve Douglas LEPC's grant request in the amount of \$7,890. Mr. Brenner seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no public comment.

**VI. \*ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Crowley made a motion to adjourn at 9:52 a.m.