

# MINUTES

## Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

### Funding Committee Meeting

Tuesday April 4, 2017

Tele-Conference with a physical location at State Emergency Commission,  
107 Jacobsen Way, Rm. 51, Carson City, NV 89711

**Committee Members that Participated:** Richard Brenner - Chair, Susan Crowley, Stacey Giomi  
Staff that Participated: Stephanie Parker, Nathan Hastings

**Guests:** Cherie Nevin, Tim Woolever, Dennis Pinkerton

1. Mr. Brenner called the meeting to order at approximately 2:05pm.
2. Roll call was taken and introductions, a quorum was confirmed.
3. There was no Public Comment.
4. Susan Crowley made a motion to approve the Funding Committee meeting minutes for August 29, 2016, November 14, 2016 and February 27, 2017. Stacey Giomi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
5. Mr. Brenner advised that next on the agenda is the review of the SERC OPTE grants and the Committee would be taking them out of order because there is a representative from Storey County on the teleconference.

As Mr. Brenner began with the Storey County SERC OPTE grant applications discussion ensued related to the follow-up meeting by the Planning and Training Sub-Committee to review the activity requested to ensure it is appropriate for the Level of Response for the respective LEPC. It was decided to make recommendation without contingency if there is no issue or question with the activity being appropriate with the level of response. The only time a contingency is made for verifying the Level of Response being in line with the activity being requested is if the Funding Committee is unsure.

**Storey County LEPC:** Motion made by Richard Brenner to recommend approval for Storey County LEPC SERC OPTE Grant for \$25,000 in Equipment and \$4,000 Operations for a total of \$29,000 without contingencies. Stacey Giomi seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Carson City LEPC:** Stacey Giomi made a motion to recommend the Carson City LEPC SERC OPTE Grant for \$25,000 with overage in the cost being covered by Carson City in Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$29,000 without contingencies. Susan Crowley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Churchill County LEPC:** The application was received after the application deadline, March 14, 2017 and is missing signature title page. Stacey Giomi made a motion to deny the application based on failure to meet the deadline as is required in SERC Policy 8.2. Susan Crowley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Chair Brenner advised that they may ask to have this on the SERC Agenda for April 13, 2017 for a decision. If not approved there, they may submit an appeal to the full SERC at the following SERC Quarterly meeting.

**Clark County LEPC:** Susan Crowley made a motion to recommend the Clark County LEPC SERC OPTE Grant application for \$21,024 in Training, #3,976 in Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$ \$29,000 contingent upon obtaining 2<sup>nd</sup> quote and no other contingencies Stacey Giomi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Douglas County LEPC:** Stacey Giomi made a motion to recommend the Douglas County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$25,000 Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$29,000 with no contingencies. Richard Brenner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Esmeralda County LEPC:** Stacey Giomi made a motion to recommend the Esmeralda County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$18,908 for Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$22,908 contingent upon verification from the SERC Planning & Training Sub-Committee that the activity is appropriate for the Level of Response. Richard Brenner seconded the motion and is passed unanimously.

**Eureka County LEPC:** Stacey Giomi made a motion to recommend approval for the Eureka County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$9,295 for Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$13,295 contingent upon the Planning & Training Sub-Committees approval of the resolution on deficiencies from the annual compliance certification submitted and verify the equipment is appropriate for the level of response. Susan Crowley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Lander County LEPC:** Stacey Giomi made a motion to recommend approval of the Lander County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$14,998 in Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total amount of \$18,998 contingent upon resolving the deficiencies in their annual compliance submission and verification by the Planning & Training Sub-Committee that the equipment requested is appropriate for their level of response. Richard Brenner seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**Lincoln County LEPC:** Susan Crowley made a motion to recommend approval for the Lincoln County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$24,970 for Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$28,970 contingent upon approval of the Planning & Training Sub-Committee of the Lincoln County re-submission of a deficiency in the annual compliance requirements and verification from the Planning & Training Sub-Committee that the equipment being requested is appropriate for the level of response. Richard Brenner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Mineral County LEPC:** Stacey Giomi made a motion to deny the request due to the equipment being requested does not seem to tie in with hazardous materials but more in line with homeland securities priorities and anti-terrorism the application did not support this being a hazardous materials related request. The request was for \$14,041 for Equipment for water surveillance equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$18,041. Susan Crowley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Nye County LEPC:** Stacey Giomi made a motion to recommend approval of the Nye County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$23,698 in Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$ \$27,698 contingent upon the Planning & Training Sub-Committee approving the re-submission of deficiencies identified in the annual compliance process and verification that the equipment being requested is appropriate for the level of response. Richard Brenner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Pershing County LEPC:** Susan Crowley made a motion to recommend the Pershing County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$25,000 in Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$29,000 contingent upon the Planning & Training Sub-Committee verifying the equipment being requested is appropriate for their Level of Response. Richard Brenner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Washoe County LEPC:** Richard Brenner made a motion to recommend approval of the Washoe County LEPC SERC OPTE grant application for \$25,000 in Equipment and \$4,000 in Operations for a total of \$29,000 contingent upon receipt of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quote and on SERC approved forms. Stacey Giomi seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Staff advised that the hazmat database is paid out of the SERC funds in this same category and that the Commission had already approved the 5-year contract with the vendor. The contract ends March 2018 and staff and State Fire Marshal are actively working on the new contract with the vendor.

**State Fire Marshal Training Division:** This is not a regular application but is for \$48,000 them to work with FireShowsWest™, a management company, to develop a hazardous materials track at this annual event in Reno that is attended by LEPC Members. Staff advised that this is the same amount that was requested by State Fire Marshal last year and they only expended \$38,616.74. Mr. Giomi stated that according to the worksheet the quote came in 3/21/17 and asked if they are held to the same deadline requirements as the OPTE grants, staff advised that they did not have the same requirements.

In reference to the request Mr. Brenner asked for confirmation that they are looking at changing the dates. Staff advised yes, the dates this year for FireShowsWest™ is November 6-9, 2017. Mr. Brenner advised he had contacted Dennis (Pinkerton, State Fire Marshal Training Bureau Chief and Applicant) and received something today about the classes. Mr. Brenner shared with the committee some of the tentative classes.

Mr. Giomi advised he had concerns and said not everyone here will have the information he has and that he has been affiliated with the Nevada Fire Chiefs and they were affiliated with FireShowsWest™ since its' inception as Fire Shows Reno and that Nevada Fire Chiefs, which is a non-profit, is not any longer affiliated with FireShowsWest. He is stating his concern is that we are giving governmental money to a private for-profit entity, they dissolved their affiliation. Staff reminded the Committee that the application was from the State Fire Marshal, not the management company.

Staff asked if there was a deeper concern in why the affiliation was ended or is the concern because of the for-profit? Mr. Giomi said he would not get into the reason the affiliation stopped but the issue for him is the for-profit component. He continued that if

we are giving the money to the State Fire Marshal and they are then providing it to a sub-contractor who is then providing the education it is not much different than paying a number of instructors to put on a series of courses which is what the State Fire Marshal does anyway. He stated that he was just thinking out loud.

Discussion ensued as to the impact there would be on not funding the application and the use of the funding, the lack of training opportunities that responders have annually.

Mr. Giomi stated he was in kind of a rough position here because he has been involved in the planning of FireShow Reno since it started and transitioned to FireShowsWest and he is currently still on the board of the Fire Chiefs board so there are things he is not comfortable divulging that puts him in a rough position here and he is very familiar with some of the things staff has mentioned and what the Committee is discussing and stated he did not think he could comment any further than he already has.

Staff advised that if the Committee wanted staff would provide the previous accounting that was provided for this activity that was provided for reimbursement that shows the hazmat track and how the hazmat track registrations are credited towards our contract, and that they do not go back to anybody else. Mr. Brenner said that would be good and asked if the coordination included the rooms and registration. Staff advised that the HMEP pays for registration fees for attendees and those registrations paid for the hazmat track are credited to the contract for the coordination and direct expenses for the hazmat track education.

Mr. Brenner stated they should have a discussion at the SERC level and see where we want to go. He also stated that before SERC collaborated on this with the Nevada Fire Chiefs we tried to do this on our own with the Governors Safety Council and it wasn't very successful and working with the Fire Chiefs it worked out really well.

Mr. Giomi stated that is how it started and in the beginning Nevada Fire Chiefs came to us, JoAnn Hill representing FireShows Reno™ and Mr. Giomi and Nevada Fire Chiefs in a partnership. There was no hazmat conference being done in Nevada that is why Nevada Fire Chiefs brought this up. Mr. Brenner added that before that we had that EXPO down here in Las Vegas. Mr. Giomi added that 1 or 2 years after that went away it was tried through the Governors Safety Council and that did not work and Mr. Brenner agreed that it failed miserably. Mr. Giomi stated that is why he and Richard discussed bringing this back through another means. Ms. Crowley and Mr. Brenner (inaudible). Mr. Giomi stated the hazmat track would probably be eliminated was his guess. Ms. Crowley stated we do not want that.

Mr. Brenner and Ms. Crowley shared that they did not want the opportunity to go away and thought it would be best to discuss it and make it open to everyone with SERC so they know what is going on here and any changes and that we are giving this money for a for-profit group and in the past it had a nexus to the Nevada Fire Chiefs and it was a collaboration that was known to SERC and how it was working and that there is a change now.

Mr. Brenner made a recommendation to take this to the SERC and decide what to do. Mr. Brenner asked if we could still get this on the agenda for next week and staff and Mr. Hastings provided information and that it could be reviewed with the other SERC grants the State Fire Marshals application with their recommendations.

Ms. Crowley made a motion to recommend for approval of the State Fire Marshal application in the amount of \$48,000 contingent upon a decision by the full SERC discuss and listen to the issues brought up related to this application before they vote on it because of the changes that have occurred. Richard Brenner seconded the motion. Mr. Brenner confirmed with Mr. Hastings that was ok. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Next items on the agenda were Grant Change Requests. Staff reported that Lincoln County that had savings on the purchase of their grant approved boots on their SERC grant for FY17 and so they purchased an additional pair of boots. There was no change to the intended purpose and item already approved on their budget and it did not exceed 10% of the line item that was approved.
7. There was public comment from Tim Woolever, the Emergency Manager from White Pine County and LEPC Chair. Mr. Woolever asked the Committee if they knew of training and funding for training for new Emergency Managers new in their positions.
8. Ms. Crowley made a motion to adjourn; Stacey Giomi seconded the motion and is passed unanimously at 3:35pm.