

# Minutes

## Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

### First Quarterly Meeting

January 13, 2022 – 9:00am

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Richard Brenner called the meeting to order at 9:05am.

#### 2. ROLL CALL, CONFIRM QUORUM, AND INTRODUCTIONS

Role was taken of members and a quorum was present.

##### **Members Present:**

Carolyn Levering  
Christopher Tomaino (not in attendance)  
Clinton Hayes (not in attendance)  
Danny Brennen  
David Sellen  
Debra Dailey  
Dennis Nolan, Co-Chair  
Eric Santos  
"Gus" Augustine Farias (not in attendance)  
James Clay Madsen  
Jess Lankford (not in attendance)  
Jon Bakkedahl  
Karen Luna  
Kelly Thomas (not in attendance)  
Kimberly Ferguson  
Lance Chantler  
Matt Griego (not in attendance)  
Michael Mallner  
Richard Brenner, Co-Chair  
Susan Crowley  
"TJ" Monteviest Qualls

Nathan Hastings, DAG  
Tami Beauregard, SERC Administrator

##### **Guests:**

Jack Snyder, City of Elko  
Jason Nicholl – N. Lyon County

##### **Local LEPC Members Present:**

Carlito Rayos – Clark County  
Joyce Jeppesen – Eureka County  
Matthew Petersen – Elko County  
Patrick Lazenby – Nye County  
Holly Heese – Lander County  
Jason Danen – Carson County  
Michael Heidemann – Churchill County  
Billy Samuels – Clark County  
Brian Taylor – Washoe County  
MeShell Young – Lander County  
Tabatha Hamilton – White Pine County

##### **Federal / State Agencies:**

Greg Bazley - EPA Region 9  
Mark Shugart – FEMA  
Kris Haines – FEMA

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Brenner called for public comment.

Tami Beauregard reminded everyone to state their name for the record when speaking.

### **4. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 09, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

Carolyn Levering made a motion to approve the December 09, 2021 SERC Fourth Quarterly Meeting minutes. Susan Crowley seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

### **5. NEW COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES**

#### **SERC Commissioners**

Ms. Beauregard noted there are a couple items to go over.

Ms. Beauregard stated in discussions with the Boards Office, if a member's term date has ended, they can continue to serve until they are reappointed, or a successor has been appointed in their seat. Ms. Beauregard added the Commissioners whose names are in red can have a person reappointed to their seat if they themselves do not re-apply and until this happens, they will be counted as part of the quorum. Ms. Beauregard noted she reached out to the Boards Office to confirm this and will advise what their decision is.

Ms. Beauregard advised that Gus Farias has sent in an email noting his retirement from the Commission, effective immediately. Ms. Beauregard added the Boards Office does not have a candidate for Mr. Farias's seat and is looking to the Commission for a replacement.

Ms. Beauregard asked if anyone reaches out to anyone to become a Commissioner to keep her in the loop so that she can keep track.

Karen Luna questioned Jess Lankford being on the list as he has retired. Ms. Beauregard noted no communication was received from Mr. Lankford so that the Boards Office could be advised of his seat being available for reappointment.

Mr. Brenner questioned Christopher Tomaino being on the list, noting he has never attended a SERC meeting. Ms. Beauregard noted she has no documentation on the Mr. Tomaino and does not know how to have him taken off the list. Jon Bakkedahl noted he will forward Mr. Tomaino's replacement information, as well as reach out to Mr. Tomaino for the needed documentation to have him removed from the list.

Mr. Brenner then questioned Jess Lankford being on the list and Ms. Beauregard noted she also has no documentation for Mr. Lankford and asked if any Commission could reach out to him to get the need documentation to have him removed from the list. Mr. Bakkedahl stated Mr. Lankford was with Nevada OSHA and will reach out to see if he can be reached.

Mr. Brenner asked about Jason Nicholl who has submitted an application to be a Commissioner but is not a member yet and Ms. Beauregard noted that Jim Morgan, Mr. Nicholl and Steven Spencer are waiting for the Governor to approve their appointment. Dennis Nolan advised he will reach out to Mr. Nicholl to see where he is at with the process.

Mr. Brenner thanked Mr. Bakkedahl and Mr. Nolan for their assistance with this matter.

Mr. Brenner also noted Billy Samuels, Paul Patocka and Jack Snyder have put in applications to become Commission members.

### **Committee Membership**

Ms. Beauregard stated the SERC Bylaws state each Committee must be chaired by a Commissioner, the chairs of the Committees are appointed by the SERC co-chairs, Committee members are appointed by the Committee chair and approved by the SERC co-chairs and all Committees must have a minimum of three Commission members.

Ms. Beauregard asked Mr. Brenner and Mr. Nolan to appoint a chair to the Funding Committee as soon as possible.

Ms. Beauregard asked Jon Bakkedahl to appoint a new Commissioner to the Radiological Committee as Mr. Farias is no longer a Commissioner, therefore the Committee does not have the three minimum Commissioner requirement.

Mr. Nolan stated that Mr. Nicholl is on the meeting. Mr. Nicholl noted he is interested in being a Commissioner and would also be interested in being on the Funding or Legislative Committees or pencil him wherever he is needed.

Mr. Brenner noted Carlito Rayos expressed interest in being the Chair of the Funding Committee but was advised he cannot be the Chair as he is not a Commissioner. Mr. Rayos confirmed he is still interest in being on the Funding Committee. Mr. Brenner noted Mr. Rayos can be added to the Funding Committee as a member.

Mr. Brenner stated he will be the acting Funding Committee chair until a new chair can be found.

Michael Mallner stated he is interested in being on the Planning and Training Sub-Committee.

Ms. Beauregard noted Mr. Nolan needs to agree to Mr. Rayos being added to the Funding Committee, and Mr. Nolan agrees.

Ms. Beauregard confirmed with Mr. Brenner that he will be the acting Chair of the Funding Committee. Mr. Brenner stated tentatively until a new chair can be found. Ms. Beauregard asked Mr. Nolan if he agrees, and Mr. Nolan does agree.

Ms. Beauregard asked Mr. Bakkedahl to appoint a Commissioner to the Radiological Committee before the next meeting so Mr. Brennen and Mr. Nolan can approve. Mr. Bakkedahl agreed and added if any Commissioner is interested to speak up. Mr. Brenner stated he would like to be added to the Radiological Committee and Mr. Nolan agreed.

Mr. Brenner questioned if it is ok for Mr. Mallner to be on the Planning and Training Sub-Committee. Ms. Beauregard noted Kimberly Ferguson, as the Chair, needs to appoint Mr. Mallner to the Committee. Ms. Ferguson appointed Mr. Mallner to the Committee. Ms. Beauregard asked if Mr. Brenner and Mr. Nolan agree with the appointment and they both agree.

## **6. LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) UPDATES**

Mr. Brenner asked if any LEPC wished to give a report, no report was given.

Tribal – Lance Chantler noted he does not have anything to report.

## **7. NON-STATE AGENCY UPDATES**

- a. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Greg Bazley reminded everyone there is a Western States SERC meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bazley added this is an opportunity for the SERC chairs to get together and exchange ideas.

Mr. Brenner asked how the tabletop exercise went in Las Vegas. Mr. Bazley noted it was a huge success and added the company who put on the exercise learned a lot.

- b. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Mark Shugart stated there are two updates. Kris Haines, Visual Supervisor for COVID Operations in Nevada noted as Omicron cases increase, FEMA is working with state and federal partners in the assessment requests and deployments of federal programs and resources. Mr. Haines added there are two Increase Community Access Testing Teams (ICAT) teams being setup this week in Clark County and Billy Samuels would be able to provide additional information, if needed. Mr. Haines noted FEMA has requested two Monoclonal Anti-Body Therapeutic Teams to serve the rural counties of Mineral, Churchill and Eureka; this request has been submitted and approved and will be overseen by DEM. Mr. Haines also noted FEMA still has a Vaccine Information Assistance Team (VIAT) staff member working in Carson City,

Health and Human Services (HHS), serving the quad counties through March. FEMA will continue to support state COVID recovery operations, working with the regional Public Assistance (PA) team. A PA staff member will be on station at DEM and FEMA is prepared to service any request DEM submits.

Mr. Shugart notes he has two high level general activities to report; FEMA released their five year strategic plan, two items being focused on as FEMA's integration team lead for NV; climate resilience projects to the state and impacts; and Equity as a Foundation of Emergency Management, likely to be seen in the future to be implemented in the next five years.

- c. U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) – no report given

## **8. STATE AGENCY UPDATES**

- a. Nevada State Policy, Highway Patrol Division (NHP) – no report given
- b. Nevada State Fire Marshal Division (SFM) – Danny Brennan noted the State Fire Marshal has nothing new to report. Mr. Brennan stated the following training is scheduled in January: annual inspection and maintenance of the LG Prop in Carson City, Proctor Evaluator class at Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Proctor Evaluator class in Elko.
- c. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) – no report given
- d. Nevada Division of Industrial Relations, OSHA Unit – no report given
- e. Nevada Division of Emergency Management & Nevada Radiation Control Program – Mr. Bakkedahl stated both DEM and NDEP received notification from Union Pacific Railroad last Thursday evening, noting they lost 64,000 pounds of ammonia nitrate off a train somewhere between Wyoming and Battle Mountain. Mr. Bakkedahl added it was originally reported the car was lost but then discovered a door was left open and the material was sprayed over the railroad tracks for several hundred miles. Mr. Bakkedahl stated this was turned over to law enforcement and the Nevada Threat Analysis to investigate.

Mr. Brenner asked Mr. Bakkedahl to confirm ammonia nitrate is fertilizer. Mr. Bakkedahl agreed.

## **9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Ms. Beauregard provided an update for the State Emergency Response Commission.

- a. USDOT / HMEP – Ms. Beauregard stated in the December SERC meeting, Clark County was approved for explosives training; this grant application request has been removed as there was not enough time to forward the needed documents to HMEP for an Activity Request approval.

Ms. Beauregard added Clark County was also approved for a hazmat incident/exercise and the documentation for the Activity Request has not been received at this time.

Ms. Beauregard noted with the HMEP grants approved at the last SERC meeting there is a little over \$414,000 in funds for the HMEP mid-cycle grant applications and an email was sent out to all the LEPC's and select State Agencies advising them of the grant opportunity.

Ms. Beauregard advised there are four different HMEP mid-cycle grant applications on the website; two for the LEPCs and two for the State Agencies, with one application having the Overtime/Backfill option and one without.

- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings – Ms. Beauregard noted she will be reaching out to the Committee chairs in the next week or so to set up meeting dates.

Ms. Beauregard asked for advise on which Committees should be completed first.

- c. The search for a new SERC Assistant – Ms. Beauregard stated she has nothing new to report at this time.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Brenner called for public comment.

Ms. Beauregard reminded all attendees to type their name in the chat box area of Zoom if they had not already done so.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Bakkedahl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:56am. Ms. Crowley seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.