

Minutes
Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

Third Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 9:00am

1. CALL TO ORDER

Richard Brenner called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

2. ROLL CALL, CONFIRM QUORUM, AND INTRODUCTIONS

Role was taken of members and a quorum was present.

Members Present:

Amanda Windes
Danny Brennan
David Sellen
Debra Dailey
Eric Santos
Jack Snyder
James Morgan
Jason Nicholl
Jon Bakkedahl
Karen Luna
Kelly Thomas
Kimberley Ferguson
Lance Chantler
Michael Mallner
Michael Morton
Richard Brenner, Co-Chair
Steven Spencer

Mike Jensen, DAG
Tami Beauregard, SERC Administrator

Guests:

Local LEPC Members Present:

Andria Webster – Clark County
Patrick Hughes – Mineral County
Derek Bowman – Lincoln County
Patrick Lazenby – Nye County
Pamela Hatty – Clark County
Jim Morgan – Storey County
Joyce Jeppesen – Eureka County
MeShell Young – Lander County
Tabatha Hamilton – White Pine County

Federal / State Agencies:

William Gardner – NV OSHA
Joe Rodriguez – NV SMF
Michael Pickern – NV LCB

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Brenner called for public comment. There was none.

4. APPROVAL OF APRIL 26, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Michael Morton made a motion to approve the April 26, 2022 SERC Second Quarterly Meeting minutes. David Sellen seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

5. NEW COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

a. SERC Commissioners

1. New Commissioners to provide information about themselves

Amanda Windes advised she is the Organizational Resilience Manager for the University of Nevada Reno and Great Basin College. Ms. Windes also noted she has been working in the emergency management profession for the last six years and looks forward to working with everyone on the state level.

Mr. Morton advised he is with the Senior Policy Council for the Nevada Gaming Control Board, providing policy and legal advice. Mr. Morton added for the last three years he has served as the Pandemic Response Manager for the Nevada Gaming Control Board working very closely with emergency management throughout the state.

Steven Spencer advised he is the Plant Manager with the Air Liquide building; a Liquid Hydrogen Plant in North Las Vegas. Mr. Spencer also noted he has been with Air Liquide since 2007, with six years of liquid chemicals and the last eight years with industrial gas management.

Jason Nicholl advised he is the Fire Chief for the North Lyon Fire in Fernley and is looking forward to providing help to the SERC.

Jim Morgan advised he is the Battalion Chief with the Storey County Fire Protection District and the Quad County Hazmat Coordinator. Mr. Morgan also noted he served in the National Guard for thirty-three years and happy to be here and hopes to make good changes.

b. Committee Membership

Mr. Brenner reviewed the different committees within the SERC.

Jon Bakkedahl added he reached out to several people to become members of the Radiological Committee making sure to have representation from both law and fire from both ends of the state. Mr. Brenner questioned if the new members have to be approved by the full SERC and Ms. Beauregard advised just the Co-Chairs need to approve and this can be completed via email.

Mr. Brenner advised all Commissioners who are interested in being on any Committee to reach out to himself or Ms. Beauregard.

6. LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) UPDATES

Clark County – Pamela Hatty advised there are no updates.

Eureka County – Joyce Jeppesen advised they are working on the final reimbursement requests, started the process of purchasing the decontamination tents, and planning to work with Ruby Hill Mine in August to start a tabletop exercise with cyanide.

Lander County – MeShell Young advised they completed a tabletop exercise for a hazmat drill in Austin during May and the after-action reports will hopefully be out in the next thirty days.

Lincoln County – Derek Bowman advised they have had three meetings this year, have been actively working with the Bureau of Land Management to prepare for the wildfire season, and working with the schools to do an emergency exercise this fall.

Mineral County – Patrick Hughes advised they are working on getting a couple of exercises together with regards to flash floods including a hazmat element, AmeriGas and the geothermal plant. Mr. Hughes also noted they have been partnering with the local Community Chest representatives for Narcan (NARCAN® Nasal Spray was developed to be used without the need for any medical training.* If you suspect an opioid overdose, administer NARCAN® Nasal Spray and get emergency medical assistance right away. NARCAN® is an opioid overdose reversal medication.) training and started working on their Hazmat Plan. Mr. Hughes stated they chose to work with AmeriGas because if the facility were to blow it would likely level a quarter of the town and right now with the office being shut down and coordination being difficult, the county needs to know how fast they can respond and if any special type of equipment is needed. Mr. Brenner suggested they call the Nevada Board for the Regulation of Liquefied Petroleum Gas as they are responsible for the inspections of the facilities. Kelly Thomas advised he will reach out to Mr. Hughes as the Nevada Department Environmental Protection (NDEP) have regulated several AmeriGas facilities and has some points of contact that might help.

Nye County – Patrick Lazenby advised they participated in a tabletop exercise with the Core Civic Nevada Southern Detention Center and will be doing a fire and hazmat drill later next month.

Storey County – Ms. Beauregard read a statement from Lara Mather advising she accepted a new position with Storey County but will remain the acting Emergency Management Director until the position is filled. Jim Morgan advised he will be meeting with Ms. Mather to get her position filled and they are having a full-blown hazmat drill in September.

White Pine County – Tabatha Hamilton advised they had a mock drill with the local school district involving a hazardous material spill at the Loves Truck Stop, have been having their meetings, have been working on purchasing items, and added three new members (Russell Weston from the local mine, Matt Thompson from the local hospital and Robin Peterson as an alternate for the local tribe).

Tribal Nations – Lance Chantler advised staff was able to coordinate training in Fallon for tribes in conjunction with the Rural Health Preparedness Summit and there was a good turnout.

7. NON-STATE AGENCY UPDATES

a. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Bill Jones / Greg Bazley

There was no representation today.

1. Pipeline Emergency Responders Initiative – Richard Brenner

Mr. Brenner advised on May 19th he attended a meeting called the Pipeline Emergency Response Initiative put on by the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) for Region 9. Mr. Brenner added there were over eighty participants with a quite few from Nevada. Mr. Brenner stated PHMSA is going to each state with an initiative to develop training to better educate public response and public safety in reference to the dangers associated with pipelines. Mr. Brenner noted he will be reaching out to the Nevada State Fire Marshal's Office and Nevada Fire Chiefs Association to coordinate a meeting with PHMSA and if anyone is interested in being involved to let him know.

- b. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Mark Shugart

Mr. Bakkedahl advised Mark Shugart accepted a position in Colorado working for FEMA, Region 8 and the majority of the other FEMA staff have been demobilized. Mr. Bakkedahl added the recovery personnel are working with local jurisdictions and the state on federal reimbursements for COVID mitigation efforts and they are also looking to work with the National Association of Emergency Managers to have a sixty to ninety day notice of when the federal declaration will dissolve. Mr. Bakkedahl also noted FEMA is hosting the Region 9 Tribal Workshop at the Peppermill in Reno on August 16th through the 18th with FEMA paying for all the Tribes to attend, both leadership and Emergency Managers, with each state being allowed to bring five representatives from the State Emergency Management office. Mr. Brenner asked who will fill Mr. Shugart's spot and Mr. Bakkedahl advised the request has been submitted to the federal government and will hopefully be filled by the end of the year.

- c. U.S. Department of Homeland Security - (DHS) Marcie Stone / Paul Fields / Samuel Cowan

There was no representation today.

8. STATE AGENCY UPDATES

- a. Nevada State Police Highway Patrol Division (NHP) – Sgt. Clay Madsen

Mr. Brenner advised Mr. Madsen is responsible for the commercial transportation and usually gives a report on hazardous materials type accidents through I-80 and I-15.

- b. Nevada State Police Fire Marshal Division (SFM) – Danny Brennan

Danny Brennan advised the Training Office will have a National Fire Academy Incident Safety Officer class in Carson City during August and in Clark County during September, the Hazmat Awareness classes, the Incident Fire Safety Officer classes and the Leadership and Supervision classes will be held at the Fire Shows West (FSW) Conference during September. Mr. Brennan also noted there will be a live fire training during FSW. Mr. Brennan added the National Night Out will be held in Fernley during October.

Mr. Brennan stated Ginny Capucci, who work with the Hazmat system, has retired and her new replacement, Michael Floyd will start July 25th and Hazconnect training for him and other staff will happen right away. Mr. Brenner gave a synopsis of the Online Hazmat database.

- c. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) – Kelly Thomas

Mr. Thomas advised they are continuing to work with the Southwest Energy Explosive facility in North Carlin with regards to the construction and that there is a large explosive facility coming to Nevada.

- d. Nevada Division of Industrial Relations, OSHA Unit – Bill Gardner

Bill Gardner advised they are currently evaluating the Boring Company tunnels under the Las Vegas strip, in addition to meeting with them. Mr. Gardner also noted they are currently targeting construction inspections in the valley and up north with emphasis on heat and crane erections, as there have been a lot of crane erections happening lately. Mr. Gardner added they are investigating the Armorock explosion which happened in Boulder City and will be coordinating with Boulder City Fire, Boulder City Building Department and Nevada State Mechanical Compliance Section to jointly conduct an inspection. Mr. Gardner stated they had just done a comprehensive inspection of the property back in December and issued a bunch of citations and they will be keeping an extra eye on them and hope to have more information at the next meeting.

- e. Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM) & Nevada Radiation Control Program – Jon Bakkedahl

Mr. Bakkedahl advised for the radiation control program part; they have actually had a pretty interesting effort going on with the local law enforcement in southern Nevada with DEM coordinating resources. Mr. Bakkedahl stated a family became sick with potential Thallium poisoning, about a month ago, and DEM was trying to find the treatment, as the Prussian Blue was not available through the Strategic National Stockpile due to the event not being considered a terroristic event. Mr. Bakkedahl also added the family was moved to California and have been being treated for the last month to get the heavy metal out of their bodies and there has since been five more people coming down with the same poisoning. Mr. Bakkedahl stated the Southern Nevada Health District has collected multiple samples from the individuals and home and it is believed the material was laced inside some candy, an individual has been detained and the grandfather of the family did pass away. Mr. Bakkedahl advised DEM will continue to manage this case as it moves forward and will present it at The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (an operating agency of the U.S. Public Health Services within the Department of Health and Human Services) in August focusing on what happened, where the case is at, the difficulties in managing the case, and in trying to find counter measures.

9. SERC COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. FUNDING COMMITTEE

1. REVIEW OF SERC United We Stand (UWS) GRANT APPLICATIONS

Mr. Brenner advised the Commission of what the UWS grants are for and where the funds come from.

Ms. Beauregard reviewed the information on the spreadsheet used by the Funding Committee when making their decision to recommend approval to the full SERC or not. Ms. Beauregard added that all contingency items have been submitted.

Mr. Brenner detailed the process the Committee goes through when reviewing the application. Karen Luna added there is enough funds for all the grant applications.

Debra Daily made a motion to approve the United We Stand grant applications as recommended by the Committee. Mike Morgan seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

2. REVIEW OF HMEP MID-CYCLE GRANT APPLICATION

a. HMEP available funding and allowable activities

Ms. Beauregard gave a synopsis of where the funds for the HMEP come from and what they can be used for.

Mr. Brenner advised who the grant applications are for, what they are for, and that staff is still waiting to hear if PHSMA will approve Washoe County's.

Ms. Beauregard stated there is slightly over \$400,000 in the existing grant, which was extended a year and in October the new grant should be awarded for around \$200,000.

Ms. Beauregard also noted she will be sending an email to all the LEPCs with allowable activities and amount of funds in the hope they can get as much of the funds spent as possible.

b. RADIOLOGICAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Bakkedahl advised the meeting was held three weeks ago and the Committee voted and agreed to approve the DEM's plan for annual calibrations and equipment life cycle replacement. Mr. Bakkedahl added the Committee voted to be the body to review and approve radiological annexes for both health coalitions as well as county Hazmat plans, instead of just the one-man operation. Mr. Bakkedahl also noted, as discussed earlier, the additional members to the Committee.

c. POLICY COMMITTEE

Ms. Beauregard reviewed all recommended changes to the policies as well as all the recommended changes to the forms.

1. Policy 8.1, Hazardous Materials Response Plan and Exercise
 - a. NRT-1A, Exercise Reporting Form, Level of Response LEPC, Level of Response State, Check List for P&T
2. Policy 8.3, Certified Assurances and Compliance Certification
 - a. Certified Assurances LEPC, Certified Assurances State, Compliance Certification LEPC, Compliance Certification State, EPCRA Example of Publication
3. Policy 8.5, Funding of Grants
 - a. Financial Report LEPC, Financial Report State, Financial Report Instructions, Breakdown of Expenditures, Travel Reimbursement Claim
4. Policy 8.7, Grant Change Request
 - a. Grant Change Request, Grant Change Instructions
5. Policy 8.9, LEPC Submission of Bylaws and Membership Lists
 - a. LEPC Membership List, Bylaws Sample

Mr. Sellen made a motion to approve the recommended changes to the noted policies and forms by the Committee. Eric Santos seconded the motion. Mr. Bakkedahl advised he will abstain due to him having a problem with the one policy that he voted against. A vote was taken, and the motion passed with one individual abstaining.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- a. Status of filling the position of SERC Assistant

Ms. Beauregard advised she is on her fifth round of interviews which will be held on Monday and is hoping to get it filled.

- b. NRS and NAC status updates

Ms. Beauregard advised the NRS changes have been entered into the database, accepted by the Director's Office and now wait to see if they are picked up by a Legislature during the session.

Ms. Beauregard noted a draft has come back from the Legislative Council Bureau for the NAC's, she is in the process of scheduling the Workshop and will continue the process until completed.

- c. LEPCs that are out of compliance

- 1. Churchill County LEPC

Ms. Beauregard advised the current LEPC out of compliance is Churchill County and that Mr. Brenner would be reaching out to them. Mr. Brenner noted he will continue to work with Mike Heidemann.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Brenner called for public comment. There was none.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Morton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:32am. Ms. Luna seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.