

Minutes
Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

Quarterly Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 9:00am

1. CALL TO ORDER

Richard Brenner called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

2. ROLL CALL, CONFIRM QUORUM, AND INTRODUCTIONS

Role was taken and a quorum was present.

Members Present:

Amanda Windes
David Sellen
Debra Dailey
Eric Santos
Jack Snyder
James Madsen
James Morgan
Jason Nicholl
Jon Bakkedahl
Karen Luna
Lance Chantler
Michael Mallner
Michael Morton
Richard Brenner, Co-Chair
Susan Crowley

Nathan Hastings, DAG
Tami Beauregard, SERC Administrator
Deseray Rayford, SERC Assistant

Guests:

Local LEPC Members Present:

Derek Bowman – Lincoln County
Patrick Lazenby – Nye County
Carlito Rayos – Clark County
MeShell Young – Lander County
Kelly Echeverria – Washoe County
Brian Taylor – Washoe County

Federal / State Agencies:

William Gardner – NV OSHA
Danny Brennan – NV SMF
Bill Jones – EPA
Corey Creveling – NV DEM

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

4. APPROVAL OF JULY 14, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Mike Morton made a motion to approve the July 14, 2022 SERC meeting minutes. Deb Dailey seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

5. COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

a. SERC Commissioners

Mr. Brenner advised there have been a few Commissioners which have left and asked Tami Beauregard to provide an update. Ms. Beauregard stated Dennis Nolan has submitted his paperwork to go from the Local Government to the Private Citizen and we are waiting for the Governor to approve; Danny Brennan was the representative of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) and he is retiring, Nichole Hoekstra from the SFM has submitted an application to replace Mr. Brennan and we are waiting for the Governor to approve; Gus Farias's (Health Organization) time is up and he has been removed; Jon Bakkedahl's time is up at the end of this month, but he has already submitted his application to continue; Jess Lankford's time is up at the end of the month as well and, William Gardner has already submitted an application; TJ Qualls hasn't been very active with the SERC. Ms. Beauregard stated she has attempted to contact Mr. Qualls and it's been unsuccessful. Ms. Beauregard added the Boards and Commissions is going to try and contact Mr. Qualls to see if he wants to provide a resignation letter but as of right now we have to count Mr. Qualls as part of the quorum.

Mr. Brenner asked Ms. Beauregard to mention the pending names. Ms. Beauregard noted Billy Samuels has an application in with the Boards and Commissions.

b. Committee Membership

Ms. Beauregard stated Jason Nicholl would like to be on the Funding Committee and advised the Chair of each Committee is appointed by the co-chairs; the membership of each Committee is appointed by the Committee Chair with approval of the co-chairs. Ms. Beauregard stated Mr. Brennan will need to nominate Mr. Nicholl to be on the Funding Committee and Mr. Nicholl will need to accept and then Mr. Brenner, as a Co-Chair you can approve, and then I can send an email to Dennis Nolan for his approval. Mr. Brenner asked Mr. Nicholl if he was interested in being on the Funding Committee and Mr. Nicholl said yes.

Mr. Bakkedahl asked Ms. Beauregard to email a copy of the spread sheet to everyone.

Karen Luna noted Jeremy Hinds left the City of Henderson Emergency Management and asked if he is still eligible to be on the Radiological Committee. Mr. Bakkedahl confirmed he is eligible to on the Committee.

Jack Snyder stated he is interested in being on the Funding Committee and on the Planning and Training Subcommittee. Ms. Beauregard stated Mr. Snyder will need to be nominated for both committees. Mr. Brenner nominated Mr. Snyder to be on the Funding Committee and Ms. Beauregard stated she will send an email to Kimberley Ferguson for the nomination of the Planning and Training Subcommittee as she is not at the meeting today because she is on vacation. If Ms. Ferguson nominates Mr. Snyder, Ms. Beauregard will send an email to Mr. Nolan to approve.

Steve Spenser noted he is interested in being on the Planning and Training Subcommittee. Ms. Beauregard asked Mr. Spenser if he had heard the earlier statement about Mr. Snyder and Mr. Spenser stated he had.

6. LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) UPDATES

Clark County – Carlito Rayos spoke about the training attended and the locations, which included Hazmat Conference, CHEMTREC Conference, and Fire Shows West. Mr. Rayos also noted they are currently working with Ms. Beauregard on a proposal to use some of the mid-cycle funds. Mr. Rayos also asked if there was anything they can do to push through Chief Samuels application with the Boards and Commissions over the goal line. Ms. Beauregard explained it is the Boards and Commissions responsibility manage the individuals appointed to any Commission and it is the Governor who makes the final approval.

Lander County – Meshell Young noted they are using their grant funds to update the equipment in trailers for both North and South Lander County, and as well as on the operations side of regular LEPC meetings. Ms. Young also noted a Flu pod will be held and will provide and update at the next meeting.

Lincoln County – Derek Bowman noted they had their quarterly LEPC meeting and there has been a full quorum at each meeting this year. Mr. Bowman stated the focus of the county is supporting the State Narcotics Interdiction Team, earthquake map and drills completed and coming up.

Lyon county – Mr. Nicholl stated Lyon County LEPC meeting is currently taking place and they will not be able to attend but added he will ensure they are present and accounted for at all future SERC meeting for updates.

Nye County – Patrick Lazenby stated there is a LEPC meeting on November 2, and they will be discussing their hazmat plan and bylaws. Mr. Lazenby also noted they were able to send four people to the FireShowsWest last month with their HMEP grant.

Storey County – Jim Morgan stated they had their LEPC meeting yesterday and are still waiting for a new Emergency Manager with the acting Emergency Manager being Lara Mather. Mr. Morgan stated they had a hazmat incident which was mitigated in the facility without activation of any teams, and they just had a hazmat drill on October 19th.

Washoe County – Brian Taylor spoke about a casualty incident drill and added they recognized in the after-action report some of the hospitals need to be better prepared with the decontamination of patients received at those facilities. Mr. Taylor also noted their local TRIAD team has partnered with Washoe County Health District in going around to the hospitals and looking at their procedures and helping with how to improve them.

Tribal Nations – Lance Chantler stated he has no updates, but they have been participating in trainings. Mr. Bakkedahl asked Mr. Chantler if he is getting the invites for the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee as there is a portion on there for the responses from our different committees and commissions, and then the NTECC, (Nevada Tribal Emergency Coordinating Council) immediately after that. Mr. Bakkedahl added Mr. Chantler is on there as the representative for the Tribal Community from SERC to brief the NTECC council members on anything SERC related. Mr. Chantler replied he is not but has been working with Jose and IT on trying to get it fixed. Mr. Bakkedahl asked Mr. Chantler to submit a good email into the chat so he can copy and paste it to make sure all gets resolved.

7. FEDERAL AGENCY UPDATES

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

Bill Jones stated Greg Bazley has taken a new position in EPA within the Criminal Investigations Division. Mr. Jones stated he has resources to fund tabletops for next year and/or to help promote chemical safety. Mr. Jones also noted he can put together other trainings as requested. Mr. Jones discussed the upcoming Western States SERC meeting in 2023 and maybe an in-person meeting in Clark County in 2024.

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

Mr. Brenner asked Ms. Beauregard if she received a report from Mr. Shugart. Ms. Beauregard noted she did not receive a report. Mr. Bakkedahl stated Mr. Shugart is no longer with the FEMA Integration Team and promoted to a Division Chief in Region 6 and FEMA is going to start interviews soon.

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

Mr. Brenner asked Ms. Beauregard if she received anything from DHS and Ms. Beauregard stated she has not.

8. STATE AGENCY UPDATES

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

Clay Madsen stated they are low in manpower; being at fifty percent staffed for the whole state, but hazmat inspections do continue with no incidents to report.

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

Danny Brennan noted there is nothing new to report from the State Fire Marshal and listed the Training Division's classes taking place now and in the future.

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

Mr. Brenner asked Ms. Beauregard if Kelly Thomas sent in anything to report, and Ms. Beauregard stated he did not.

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

Bill Gardner noted they are working on their first applicant for an explosive manufacturer up north and added Nevada hasn't really dealt with a whole lot of these and stated they are reevaluating the process to make sure it is effective. Mr. Brenner added CAPP is the Chemical Accident Prevention Program and Mr. Thomas is working with OSHA on this. Mr. Gardner stated that is correct. Mr. Brenner asked about any updates on the explosion in Boulder City that was discussed in the last meeting and Mr. Gardner stated it is still under investigation and he is not able to speak about it.

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

Mr. Bakkedahl noted he will cover items from the DEM side and Corey Creveling will give an update on the Radiation Control Program. Mr. Bakkedahl stated they have been coordinating with NDEP for the regional response teams with EPA on the different calls and meetings as Nevada will be hosting the upcoming meeting for the Western Region to help support any sort of material

releases. Mr. Bakkedahl also noted their support on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) shipment with Nevada Highway Patrol and out of state police on the 29th. Mr. Bakkedahl added they received more radiation detectors, and they will be going out to different communities in the fall. Mr. Bakkedahl also noted they are coordinating training with NHP to do a two-day radiation class as well as Las Vegas Fire Rescue to do a one-day technician class, specifically for radiation.

Corey Creveling stated they removed two relatively large sources from the state out of the southern Nevada area through the recycling program with the Department of Energy. Mr. Creveling also noted they picked up a small amount of material which was found at a garage sale.

9. REVIEW OF FY23 SERC OPERATIONS, PLANNING, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT (OPTE) GRANT APPLICATIONS

Mr. Brenner stated Lincoln County LEPC grant application was missed due to email issues, so the Funding Committee never reviewed or approved it. Ms. Beauregard explained the Barracuda program and how it works, explaining why the email was never seen by her and added the application was sent to her email when it was due, but it was not reviewed and is being reviewed at this meeting to ask if the Commission will approve it and back date it to July 1, 2022 when the grant would have started.

Mr. Brenner stated he is going to put on his Funding Committee hat and talk with the Funding Committee noting he reviewed the LEPC grant application and it is for PPE and SCBAs and believes this is something we could help them with in getting, as it was on our part where the mistake happened. Mr. Brenner asked if anybody has a problem with approving this and backdating it to July 1st.

Susan Crowley made a motion to accept the grant and provide the funds requested. Mr. Nicholl Seconded the motion. Ms. Crowley stated the application was consistent with the others that had been submitted and this is why she decided to make the motion to approve. Karen Luna asked Ms. Beauregard to confirm there is enough money to fund this. Ms. Beauregard stated there is. Ms. Luna then asked Ms. Beauregard if Lincoln County is compliant with all SERC requirements. Ms. Beauregard stated they are in compliance. A vote was taken, and the motion carries unanimously.

10. SERC COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. FUNDING COMMITTEE

1. REVIEW OF WASHOE COUNTY LETTER

Mr. Brenner noted the Funding Committee reviewed a letter received from Washoe County with regards to their HMEP mid-cycle grant application which was not approved by HMEP. Kelly Echeverria explained the letter was asking if in the future, there are parameters or restrictions related to grant opportunities, that those be provided because the email did not say anything other than it was COVID related, and so they went forth and came up with COVID-related opportunities for grant funding. Ms. Echeverria added they put a lot of effort into it. Mr. Brenner apologized on behalf of the SERC.

2. REVIEW OF HMEP MID-CYCLE GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Brenner advised the Funding Committee approved the Washoe County LEPC HMEP grant application to send participants to FireShowsWest.

b. RADIOLOGICAL COMMITTEE

1. REVIEW OF RADIOLOGICAL COMMITTEE'S MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Brenner stated on the mission statement for the Radiological Committee they would like to, under Mr. Bakkedahl's leadership, add the verbiage planning, so that the Committee can look at facilities plan which have radiological material. Mr. Brenner added the SERC must approve it to have it added to the mission statement. Mike Morton made a motion to add the verbiage. David Sellen seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

11. PIPELINE EMERGENCY RESPONDERS' INITIATIVE (PERI) FOR NEVADA

Mr. Brenner gave a synopsis with regards to the conference he attended about the Pipeline Emergency Responders Initiative and the different individuals and companies he has been in contact with. Mr. Brenner stated he looked into HMEP grant dollars and found they cannot be used for pipeline training. Mr. Brenner also added he will update PHSMA on how Nevada is coordinating the process and that it is working for us.

12. FIRE SHOW WEST CONFERENCE – HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRACK

Mr. Brenner asked if there is anyone in the meeting who attended the FireShowsWest Conference and would like to speak about it. Mr. Brenner provided history on where and how the conference was held in the past.

13. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

a. Status of filling the position of SERC Assistant

Ms. Beauregard announced Deseray Rayford started on September 5th and is the new assistant.

b. Face to Face meetings

Ms. Beauregard explained how the face-to-face meetings worked in the past and asked what the thoughts are on having face-to-face meetings in the future. Mr. Brenner noted he would love to do at least one face-to-face meeting, and if possible two; one in the north and one in the south. Mr. Nicholl stated it's a splendid idea and it will help the new members of the SERC understand more and be able to participate with greater detail. Ms. Crowley added she likes the idea but maybe once a year and alternate between the north and the south, so it is more courteous to both sides, and they don't have to travel so far. Mr. Morgan agrees one hundred percent face-to-face and if it's twice a year, that would be a good split between north and south. Eric Santos agreed with the face-to-face meeting and asked if we can also invite our partners from the federal agencies as well as state agencies and LEPCs like we've done in the past. Mr. Brenner asked Ms. Beauregard to research who the SERC can pay for to travel and if the LEPCs can use the OPTE application for this type of travel and report back to the SERC with the answers.

c. NRS and NAC status updates

Ms. Beauregard noted the NRS changes are completed and approved by the DPS Director's Office. Ms. Beauregard added at this point, we are waiting to see if the BDRs are picked up by a Legislature when they start session in February. Ms. Beauregard noted the NAC Public Hearing will be held on December 13th at 10:30am and explained it is important to have a full quorum at this meeting

d. State Budget activities

Ms. Beauregard advised the SERC budget has been submitted to the Director's Office, and we will learn what the SERC budget is when the Governor gives his State of the State address.

e. Grant Budget balances

Ms. Beauregard stated Storey County did de-obligate their HMEP All Clear Fire Training for \$7,450 due to an unforeseen circumstance with the vendor. Ms. Beauregard gave a synopsis of the SERC grants with the OPTE grant having a guestimate balance of 2.7 million at the end of June 2023; the HMEP grants would be \$397,000 for the existing and \$202,000 for the new grant; the UWS grant having a guestimate balance of \$899,000 at the end of June 2023. Ms. Beauregard asked to discuss the dollar amount to grant in each application during the January meeting, along with the travel information for LEPCs for the April meeting and if a second OPTE application will be permitted.

f. Upcoming Grant Cycles

Ms. Beauregard explained the HMEP grant cycle is still open and will remain open until September 2023, the new HMEP grant applications have already been sent out. The OPTE application will be available on the SERC website in March, and the UWS application will be available in April.

g. HMEP New Grant Award

Ms. Beauregard stated the SERC received the full amount expected, which is \$252,800. Ms. Beauregard added the LEPCs that submitted to the SERC the activities they wanted included in the three-year grant have been sent applications to fill out in enough time for the Funding Committee to review prior to the SERC Quarterly meeting.

h. HMEP Grant Conference

Ms. Beauregard explained how the conference went and that she learned a lot. Ms. Beauregard added she forwarded a copy of all the training brochures received to the LEPCs via email.

i. LEPCs out of compliance

Ms. Beauregard noted Lander County LEPC and Mineral County LEPC are missing agendas for the first quarter meeting.

1. Churchill County LEPC

Ms. Beauregard stated Churchill County LEPC is out of compliance with SERC from last fiscal year 2020 to 2022 and financial reports for both the OPTE, and UWS grants from fiscal year 2022 were received but did not have all the documentation needed to be reimbursed. Ms. Beauregard advised she reached out to Mike Heidemann and received

no response until yesterday and that he will be coming to the SERC office on Wednesday to address these items. Mr. Brenner advised the Commission back in April he was going to try and reach out and that he had tried numerous times and could not get through.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Snyder made motion to adjourn. Ms. Crowley seconded the motion which was approve unanimously.