

Meeting Minutes

Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, January 23, 2025 - 10:00am

Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 880 832 1251 / Password: hazmat

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The Commission may take action on items marked "Discussion / For Possible Action". Items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda at the discretion of the co-chairs. Items may be combined for consideration by the Commission at the discretion of the co-chairs. Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time.

1. CALL TO ORDER (Non-Action Item)

- Richard Brenner called the meeting to order at 10:00a.m.

2. ROLL CALL, CONFIRM QUORUM, AND INTRODUCTIONS (Non-Action Item)

- Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item) – No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments are limited to three minutes unless the SERC elects to extend the comments for further discussion. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

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

4. APPROVAL OF October 16, 2024 MEETING MINUTES (Discussion/Possible Action) – The SERC will review the October 16, 2024 meeting minutes; possible action may include approving, with or without amendments, or denying the minutes.

- Mr. Brenner called for a motion to approve the October 16, 2024 meeting minutes. Debra Dailey carried the motion to approve the minutes. Susan Crowley seconded that motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

5. COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES (Discussion/Possible Action) – Staff will provide any updates to the Commission on new Commission members and vacancies in the various committees since the previous meeting; possible action may include the SERC modifying the membership of committees with additions or other changes, as necessary.

a. SERC Commissioners

- Mr. Brenner asked SERC Staff if they have heard anything from Boards and Commissions regarding member status. Baylee Hampton stated SERC is waiting

on a response from Boards and Commissions.

- Mr. Brenner asked SERC Staff if there are any new commission members.
- Brandilyn Baxter noted that SERC has no new Committee Memberships to be mentioned

a. Committee Membership

- Mr. Brenner mentioned that Karen Luna's membership is coming to an end shortly. Ms. Luna stated she is retiring in a year so, she is retiring from SERC first. Ms. Luna mentioned her replacement is in the middle of paperwork submission and that she will be present until her replacement can take her place.

6. LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) UPDATES (Non-Action Item)—This item includes, and addresses updated reports from LEPC activities and Nevada Tribal Nations activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities.

- Mr. Brenner called upon each Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), on their updates since our last SERC Quarterly Meeting. A discussion took place for each LEPC:
 1. **Carson City** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 2. **Churchill County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 3. **Clark County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 4. **Douglas County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 5. **Elko County** – James Johnston mentioned they are hosting an Awareness Hazmat Operations Course. Mr. Johnston stated Elko needs to get rid of AFFF (Aqueous Film Forming Foams).
 6. **Esmeralda County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 7. **Eureka County**- There was no LEPC member present to report.
 8. **Humboldt County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 9. **Lander County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 10. **Lincoln County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 11. **Lyon County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 12. **Mineral County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
 13. **Nye County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.

14. **Pershing County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
15. **Storey County** – Adam Wilson mentioned they released their 2025 Hazmat Drill Plan. Mr. Wilson noted they had their first LEPC meeting two weeks ago and have a lot of drills planned.
16. **Washoe County** – Nick Klaich stated that they have drills planned for this year. Mr. Kalich mentioned that they are working on updating their regional plans. Mr. Klaich asked about HMEP grant. Mr. Brenner stated that we can discuss that in a later agenda item.
17. **White Pine County** – There was no LEPC member present to report.
18. **Nevada Tribal Nations** – Lance Chantler stated they were able to hire a new employee and are going through the onboarding process. End of report.

- 7. NON-STATE AGENCY UPDATES (Non-Action Item)**—This item includes and addresses updated reports from the agencies listed below regarding activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities. Reports may include:

- a. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – There was no member present to report.
- b. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – There was no member present to report.
- c. U.S. Department of Homeland Security - (DHS) – There was no member present to report.

- 8. STATE AGENCY UPDATES (Non-Action Item)** – This item includes and addresses updated reports from the agencies listed below regarding activities occurring since the last SERC quarterly meeting and any future activities. Reports may include:

- a. Nevada State Police Highway Patrol Division (NHP) – Tappan Cornmesser
 - Mr. Cornmesser mentioned he invited Trooper Jim Farley to the meeting to give his input.
 - Mr. Cornmesser stated the NHP was awarded significant equipment from the Nevada Department of Energy to support their Nuclear Awareness Training.
 - Mr. Cornmesser stated they are in the planning stages of releasing an educational video to focus on different resources for different tasks. Mr. Cornmesser handed the report over to Mr. Farley.
 - Mr. Farley mentioned the equipment from NDE is a 20-foot trailer used in training for Awareness of various topics. Mr. Farley noted this training is available and contact him if anyone is interested.
 - Mr. Farley stated that Lithium-Ion Battery packs are being transported to Tesla. The transporters have no Hazardous Materials Training. This is an issue they are working on to resolve.
 - Mr. Brenner thanked both Mr. Cornmesser and Mr. Farley for their reports.
 - Mr. Brenner asked Mr. Farley if he works with any of the Radiological employees. Mr. Farley stated he does on occasion. Mr. Brenner mentioned he worked with John Bakkedahl in the past and how they are interested in revitalizing the Radiological Committee and if he has any interest to please reach out to him.
- b. Nevada State Police Fire Marshal Division (SFM) – Nicole Hoekstra
 - Ms. Hoekstra spoke to the State Fire Marshal, and he has nothing to report at this time.
 - Ms. Hoekstra stated that Hazmat Training has tested 62 Hazmat Awareness tests this last quarter, 70 Hazmat Operations tests.
 - Ms. Hoekstra mentioned they hosted training with the Drager Trailer for rural Clark County with a total of 60 firefighters and a total of 20 firefighters in Ely.
 - Ms. Hoekstra gave the link to the Fire Marshal's website where all training and classes are going to be listed. End of report.

- c. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) – Kelly Thomas
 - Mr. Brenner asked SERC Staff if they received any updates from Mr. Thomas.
 - Mr. Hampton stated that she received an email from Mr. Thomas that he was going to be out of office during the time of meeting.
 - Mr. Brenner noted that Mr. Thomas is responsible for the Chemical Action Prevention Program.
- d. Nevada Division of Industrial Relations, OSHA Unit – Bill Gardner
 - Mr. Gardner reported that Nevada Department of Energy is in the process of installing solar panels at their test site, focusing on making it safe for the construction workers to be on site in Nye County.
 - Mr. Brenner gave an update on the Boring Company.
- e. Nevada Division of Emergency Management — Brett Compton
 - There was no one present to report.
- f. Nevada Radiation Control Program – Corey Creveling
 - Mr. Creveling noted there are no new updates to report.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT (Discussion Only) – The following items may be addressed under this report:

- a. NRS status updates – SERC Staff
 - Brandilyn Baxter stated there are no new updates
- b. Legacy PFAS Firefighting Foam (AFFF) – The use of fluorinated Class B Firefighting Foam, including Aqueous Film Forming Foams (AFFF), is an emerging and urgent public health challenge because these foams contain Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) which contaminate drinking water supplies and pose a risk to human health. These foams are referred to as **legacy foams**. Action is needed to limit future environmental contamination by these foams.
 - Mr. Brenner has reached out to various phone companies to see if they would take back or recycle the used AFFF for petroleum facilities. Mr. Brenner stated that a lot of places are trying to get rid of AFFF because it contains PFAS.
 - Mr. Brenner found, in November of 2024, that National Foam was coming out with a synthetic, florine free, green foam.
 - Mr. Klaich stated that the AFFF has been a very large concern in Washoe County for farm fuel. Mr. Klaich has been working with the Renewable Fuel Association. Mr. Klaich hopes that if we decide to replace AFFF that we contact RFA for information.
- c. Lithium-Ion Battery - Lithium-ion batteries have emerged as the power source of choice for many modern devices and are also used in energy storage systems. From toothbrushes to smartphones, power tools to medical devices, scooters to cars, these rechargeable power sources have transformed how we power our toys, devices, vehicles, homes, cities... just about everything.
 - Mr. Brenner stated that there have been all kinds of incidents regarding Lithium-Ion battery packs. Mr. Brenner compiled information into a

document for Emergency Responders to reference. This is available on the SERC website and has been dispersed.

- Mr. Cornmesser asked if it would be viable for the Nevada Highway patrolman to carry the fire blankets in their patrol cars. Mr. Klaich responded this could be useful, however, it takes more than one individual to deploy the blanket.

10. HMEP Grant Discussion (Discussion Only)—The following items may be addressed under this report:

- a. SERC will no longer be managing the HMEP grant. PHMSA is hoping another agency will take over all aspects involving HMEP funds available for Nevada.
 - Mr. Klaich is going to reach out to Brett Compston to see if he is still interested in taking this grant. Mr. Brenner suggested that if he was no longer interested then, Mr. Klaich could investigate Washoe County taking over HMEP.

11. SERC Operations, Training, Planning and Equipment (OPTE) and United We Stand (UWS) Grant Programs (Discussion/Possible Action) –

- a. The SERC staff has reviewed accounts and recommends that the commission establish the maximum amount for each grant program; possible action may include approving.
 - Ms. Baxter stated after reviewing our accounts that our UWS Grant maximum amount recommends \$32,000.00. Ms. Baxter also mentioned that the OPTE Grant maximum amount recommends \$36,000.00.
 - Ms. Crowley asked if the \$4,000.00 in Operation was included in the \$36,000.00. Ms. Baxter replied, yes.
 - Mr. Brenner asked for a motion to approve these amounts. Ms. Crowley made that motion. Mr. Cornmesser seconded. Approved unanimously.

12. RADIOLOGICAL COMMITTEE (Discussion Only) – The following items may be addressed under this report:

- a. The Committee will support State, Tribal, County and City jurisdictions and agencies for both preventive and response to radiological planning, exercises, training, and equipment: while utilizing the State of Nevada Preventative Radiological and Nuclear Detection Concept of Operations (ConOps) and State of Nevada Radiological Sustainment Plan. This committee has not met for over a year, and Jon Bakkedahl and Richard Brenner are going to be heading up this initiative to try to re-energize this group.
 - Mr. Brenner reached out to John Bakkedahl later last year and asked if he was interested in energizing this group again. Mr. Brenner mentioned the Radiological Committee hasn't met in a couple of years and it is critical that they do so and if anyone is interested please reach out to staff.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item)—No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. Public comments are limited to three minutes unless the SERC elects to extend

the comments for further discussion. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

- Mr. Brenner asked for public comment.
- Debra Dailey mentioned that Billy Samuels is being appointed to Fire Chief for Clark County and wishes him luck in his new position.

14. **ADJOURNMENT (Discussion/Possible Action)**

- Mr. Brenner called for adjournment. Ms. Crowley carried that motion. Ms. Dailey seconded that motion. Meeting adjourned 11:18AM.

This is a public meeting. In conformance with the Nevada Public Meeting Law, I, Brandilyn Baxter on behalf of SERC posted or caused the posting of this agenda on or before January 13, 2025, 9:00am, at the following locations:

State Emergency Response Commission – 107 Jacobsen Way – Carson City
Nevada State Library & Archives – 100 North Stewart Street – Carson City
Department of Transportation – 123 East Washington Avenue – Las Vegas
Department of Transportation – 1263 Stewart Street – Carson City
Department of Transportation – 1951 Idaho Street – Elko
Department of Transportation – 1401 East Aultman Street - Ely
Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau – 401 South Carson Street – Carson City
SERC web site – <http://serc.nv.gov>
Nevada Public Notice Website – <https://notice.nv.gov>

Pursuant to NRS 241.020(2) (c), a copy of supporting materials for the meeting may be obtained by contacting Brandilyn Baxter, Commission Administrator, State Emergency Response Commission at (775) 684-7511, 107 Jacobsen Way, Carson City, NV 89711 or serc@dps.state.nv.us

*We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify the State Emergency Response Commission at (775) 684-7511.
Twenty-four (24) hour advance notice is request*