

State Emergency Response Commission
for
Hazardous Materials

Department of Environmental Protection
Carr Building
3800 Commonwealth Boulevard, Room 170 M
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

January 9, 2009

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) for Hazardous Materials met January 9, 2009 in Tallahassee, Florida.

Those members present were:

Michael Murphy, Acting Chairman
Ken Carr
Richard Ward
Richard Smith
David Rogers
Michael Jacobs
Greg Lee
Eric Hamilton

Nancy Stephens
Ozzie Morris
Cindy Gennell
George Danz
John Sherry
Mark Tumlin
Gary Weiss
Allison Odyssey

Also, in attendance was Mr. John Terry representing Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Murphy then addressed the first item on the agenda, the approval of the October 3, 2008 meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented, seconded and passed unanimously.

The second item on the agenda was the approval of the new member and alternate member appointments to the Local Emergency Planning Committees. Mr. Tim Date referred the Commission to Memorandum #01-09 and all related materials. He stated that all nominees met the Commission's guidelines and approval was recommended. A motion was made that all nominations be approved; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The third item on the agenda was guidelines for granting and terminating access to Florida Data in E-Plan. Mr. Date referred the Commission to memorandum #02-09 and related materials. Mr. Date stated that the guidelines for granting and terminating access to E-Plan have been revised and approval was recommended. A motion was made to approve the guidelines, seconded and passed unanimously.

The fourth item on the agenda was the Hazardous Materials Awareness Week Proclamation/Resolution. Mr. Date referred the Commission to Memorandum #03-09 and recommended the SERC designate January 18 through January 24, 2009 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. A motion was to designate January 18 through January 24, 2009 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, seconded and passed unanimously.

Next was the presentation of the Thomas Yatabe SERC awards. Mr. Murphy and Ms. Shanti Smith presented an award to the following recipients who were present or their representative:

Ms. Debbie Thayer, of LEPC District 1

Mr. Doug White, of LEPC District 2

Ms. Eyde Rowell, of LEPC District 3

Mr. Andy Sikes, of LEPC District 4, accepted on his behalf by Mr. Jason Taylor

Mr. Milton Hill, of LEPC District 5

Lieutenant Robert Coschignano, of LEPC District 6;

Mr. Chuck Carter, of LEPC District 7

Mr. Bill Lofgren, of LEPC District 8 accepted on his behalf by Mr. Scott Ehlers

Mr. Richard Zyvoloski, of LEPC District 9

Mr. Bruce Pisani, of LEPC District 10, accepted on his behalf by Ms. Kate Boer and Paulette Kandel, of LEPC District 11

Next on the agenda was and update by the SERC Subcommittee on Training (SERC SOT). Mr. Doug Wolfe mentioned that the SERC SOT held two (2) conference calls on October 24, 2008 and December 3, 2008, for the purpose of maintaining focus toward ongoing projects. One issue discussed was developing a process for credentialing Liquid Propane Gas and Natural Gas (LPG/NG) Industry sub-contractors. Mr. Wolfe explained that the SERC SOT is developing a "White paper" concerning the credentialing of LPG/NG Industry representatives for consideration at the next Commission meeting. Another issue discussed was the Toxicological Paramedic initiative concept which would ensure Emergency Medical Services personnel who respond with the HazMat teams having the proper level of training and personal protection equipment to ensure the safety of both responders and survivors. The three (3) levels identified for medical responders are:

1) EMS Operational Responder

Responders will meet NFPA 472 core competencies and basic life support (BLS), and advanced life support (ALS) competencies under NFPA 473 standards. This category must also meet certain mission specific competencies as identified in NFPA 472.

2) ToxMedic

Responders will meet NFPA 472 core competencies and advanced life support (ALS) competencies under NFPA 473 standards. This category must also meet

certain mission specific competencies and toxic syndromes as identified in NFPA 472.

3) HazMedic

Responders will meet NFPA 472 core competencies and advanced life support (ALS) competencies under NFPA 473 standards. This category must also meet all eight (8) mission specific competencies and toxic syndromes as identified in NFPA 472.

Mr. Wolfe further stated that the SERC Subcommittee on Training is developing two medical treatment protocols. He indicated that one medical treatment protocol will be focused on identifying the treatment for patients who have been exposed to unknown substances and the second medical treatment protocol will be to patients who have exposed to specific identified toxics. Mr. Wolfe noted that the SERC SOT is preparing a draft document to be presented at the Medical Director's meeting in April.

Mr. Wolfe discussed the SERC SOT Initiatives for 2009:

1. Creating a Subcommittee on Training Web Page and Links to Project Summaries of assigned tasks.
2. Supporting Chemistry Education in the School.
3. Monitoring the State Florida Fire College HazMat Team Assessment Process.
4. Seeking Cost Recovery Funding Opportunities.
5. Developing Model Procedures for HazMat teams to ensure NIMS Compliance.

Mr. Wolfe requested that the Commission provide a letter to each SERC SOT participant's employer recognizing their participation and services to the State of Florida. A motion was made to send a letter to each SERC SOT employer recognizing participation and service to the State of Florida, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Murphy then addressed the items on the SERC SOT project board for 2009. A motion was made to approve all items presented; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Wolfe explained the SERC Subcommittee on Training approved a recommendation from the Division of Emergency Management staff to enter Section 302 facility information into the database system known as HAZUS. Mr. Wolfe noted that HAZUS is a Geographic Information System (GIS) software program for estimating potential losses from disasters. Mr. Wolfe stated potential loss estimates analyzed in HAZUS include physical damage to residential and commercial buildings, school, critical facilities and infrastructure. Also, economic loss including lost jobs, business repair and reconstruction as well as social

impacts including the population exposed to the disaster. Mr. Wolfe pointed out that estimating losses is essential to decision-making at all levels of government, providing a basis for developing mitigation plans and policies, emergency preparedness and response and recovery planning.

Mr. Wolfe mentioned that the SERC SOT will develop membership guidelines to bring forward at the April 2009 meeting.

Ms. Shanti Smith reported on the use of E-Plan by HazMat teams. She stated only two (2) of the thirty-six (36) HazMat teams have not signed up. Ms. Smith stated "the over-all response from HazMat teams were "very positive". Ms. Smith further reported that Lieutenant Charlie Boyd of the City of Miami HazMat team and herself attended the first Annual E-Plan conference held at the University of Texas, Dallas Texas on November 25, 2008. She stated that the conference was attended from various local and state governments from across the country. Ms. Shanti Smith stated that she has recent received feedback from personnel who want to see changes in E-Plan. Ms. Smith noted that Mr. Richard Butgerist, of Geographical Information System will be providing assistance with E-Plan. One issue that has been raised at the conference regarding E-Plan was the suggestions to subdivide by planning and by response function based on the personnel accessing the data. Another issue raised was to the goal to get E-Plan out to the 911 Dispatchers and Call Centers to make all responders aware of possible hazardous materials on site before they respond. Ms. Shanti Smith stated that she attended the Florida 911 Board meeting in Orlando, Florida in order to move forward with the plan to expand E-Plan Statewide through 911 Call Centers. Ms. Smith noted that she working within the Division of Emergency Management to include E-Plan within their own call center, the State Watch Office (SWO). DEM is putting in a new call center at the SWO allowing the expansion of E-Plan at the State Watch office in order to ensure responders receive the most accurate information available concerning a facility. Ms. Smith emphasized that the E-Plan system within call centers is still in the design phase across the country and in the State of Florida.

Mr. Richard Smith suggested that Ms. Smith attend the 911 State Coordinators' meeting. Also, Mr. Richard Smith inquired how does the E-Plan system tied back into the various database systems (i.e., CAMEO, HMIS, 911, HAZUS). Ms. Smith stated that each system tied back into the Division's internal database for Hazardous Materials Information System (HMIS).

Next on the agenda was the Financial Status Reports. Ms. Shanti Smith presented the Financial Status Report on the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Risk Management Planning (RMP) Programs for the current fiscal year. Ms. Smith referred everyone to Memorandum #06-09 and the accompanying Tables 1-3 which outline revenues and expenditures. Ms. Nancy Stephens noted that the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) funds are significantly lower from the

previous year. Ms. Stephens pointed out there can be numerous reasons such as bankruptcy, business mergers and business closings for the decline in EPCRA funds. Ms. Stephens suggested that the Division of Emergency Management should look into cutting expenditures but keep the quality of the programs. Ms. Shanti Smith explained the Division has taken step to revises EPCRA data entry requirements which will reduce staff hours. Mr. Ruben Almaguer spoke to the Commission concerning State of Florida budget cuts that may impact the operating Trust Funds in Fiscal Year 2008 - 2009. Mr. Almaguer stated that the HazMat Trust Funds were exempt from any reductions.

The next item on the agenda, Mr. Sam Brackett referred to Memorandum #07-09 and the Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports. The following tables and graphs provided reflect the hazardous materials incidents reports received by the State Warning Point. The incident reports are reviewed by Hazardous Materials Planning staff on a daily basis for compliance verification purpose. The information is used for identifying potential Section 304 violators and facilities which may have an obligation to report under other sections of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Risk Management Planning (RMP) programs. Mr. Richard Smith requested clarification on the breakdown of hazards materials accidents which causes death. Mr. Michael Jacobs inquired whether the death was transportation related accident as a posed to hazardous materials related accident. Mr. Smith requested that future hazardous material incidents report only included deaths caused by chemical release.

Next on the agenda, Mr. Sam Brackett referred everyone to Memorandum #08-09, an update of Staff Activities and stated there are various activities, charts, and reports listed. Mr. Brackett stated that there was one omission under the Verification section of the report. Mr. Brackett noted that letters were sent to 150 companies which may be subject to the EPCRA requirements.

Mr. Brackett reported that Mr. Bill Millazo, Ms. Rossie McGollie, and Ms. Donna Ray have left the Technological Hazards unit. Mr. Brackett then introduces Ms. Anne Boland, who is now working in the Verification section. Ms. Shanti Smith introduces Ms. Gwen Keenan, the Bureau Chief of Preparedness and Mr. Pablo Pantoja, Deputy Bureau Chief of Preparedness.

Next item on the agenda was a report on the Local Emergency Planning Committee activities. Mr. George Danz informed the Commission that the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) chairs and staff contacts attended the SERC SOT meeting as well as the LEPC meeting and had a considerable discussion about the LEPC Membership Categories and the procedures that Mr. Michael Arnold presided over. Mr. Danz stated that the LEPC's will provide a report on the membership categories at the next meeting in April. Mr. Danz mentioned that recycle a bulb bags has been distributed by Mr. Bruce Porter and

Mr. John Gibbons, of Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council as a part of Hazardous Materials Week activities.

The last item of business was the scheduling of the next SERC meeting, which will be held on Friday, April 3, 2009, in Tallahassee, Florida.

Ms. Cindy Gennel announces that she is retiring from the Commission.

There being no further business or discussion, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and passed unanimously.