



STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Draft Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Time: 10 AM-12 PM

Location: Hybrid Microsoft Teams/ VEM SEOC 45 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05677

1. Call to Order - (Chair, Kim Lapierre) Chair Lapierre called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda – (Chair, Kim Lapierre) (No additions or additions/corrections)
3. Roll Call – (Conducted by Liz Rowell, VEM)

Name & Seat	Present	Absent
Kim Lapierre, Chair – Transportation Entity Reporting Chemicals	X	
Erica Bornemann, Secretary – Vermont Emergency Management	X	
Patrick McLaughlin - Department of Public Safety	X	
Tim Cropley - Agency of Natural Resources	X	
Andy Shively - Agency of Transportation		X
Department of Health – Dan Batsie	X	
Annie MacMillan - Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets	X	
Dan Whipple - Department of Labor	X	
Mike Desrochers – Division of Fire Safety		X
Carl Rogers - Local Government	X	
Erik Rosenbauer – Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)	X	
Victoria Littlefield - Regional Planning Commission (RPC)	X	
Christopher Dube - Fire Service	X	
Law Enforcement (vacant)		X
Prescott Nadeau - Emergency Medical Service (EMS)	X	
Kate Hammond – Hospitals	X	
Entity Reporting Extremely Hazardous Substances (vacant)		X

Members of the Public: Liz Rowell, Krista Houk, Scott Jobeless, Josh Cox, Andrew Laroe, Christine Forde, Charles Colley, Ted Bzenas, Matthew Pritchard, Peter Lynch

4. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from August 18th – (Vote Required)
Motion to Approve minutes from 8/18/2021 meeting. Tory Littlefield moves accept motion to approve the 8/18/21 agenda. Erik Rosenbauer seconded the motion to approve. Motion Approved.
5. Discussion: Hazards of Photovoltaic Solar Panels for Emergency Responders (~40 min 10:15- Robert Morlino)-



Presentation on Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Safety for Firefighters. Presentation included an introduction to Photovoltaics and electrical theory, recognizing PV systems and components, PV system operation, and PV system common labels. PV Fire safety topics addressed included planning, size up, and tactical considerations, disconnecting methods and rapid shutdowns, extinguishing a PV fire/hose system, PPE, alternative light sources, electrical hazards, and other hazards.

6. Presentation: Innovative Emergency Management Update (~ 15 Min- 11:00 AM Krista Houk and Scott Jobeless) –
Shared Project Status Report for deliverables. Deliverable 1 of conducting LEPC response plan gap analysis and needs assessment has been completed. Deliverable 2 status for statewide LEPC plan and complete county annexes is mostly complete with one task of completing state LEPC plan county annexes with existing local and regional documentation still in progress with a milestone date of March 31, 2022. 12 out of the 14 counties have completed the planning workshops. Deliverable 3 is to revise and update Vermont’s hazardous material response annex. Presented draft of the annex to the SERC that was accepted, next steps are to collaborate with Vermont’s stakeholders to develop the annex through a series of web-based trainings. Goal is to finalize and present a draft of Hazardous Materials Response Annex to the SERC membership by March 31, 2022.
7. Discussion: LEPC EPA Follow Up (10 min 11:15 AM Director Erica Bornemann)
Discussed the conversation at the last SERC meeting around concerns of legalities of consolidation to a statewide LEPC. Correspondence was provided from Director Bornemann to counterparts at the EPA as well as the reply from the EPA to summarize that there are no legal concerns regarding the state’s progression to a statewide LEPC.
8. Team Reports
 - a. Tier II Submissions/Financial Report & HAZMAT Team Report – (Chief Patrick McLaughlin, Division of Fire Safety) - Membership report; total 29 part time employees, interviews for the 1 open position are being conducted this month, application on file with a focus hiring south of the route 4 corridor. HAZMAT Team Trainings – team monthly training, site visit at GE aviation Rutland team building tour hazards identification, SOG and SOG review, Hazmat Tech class, and Training by VHMRT was 38 hours provided to 308 personnel. Vermont State Hazmat Team 2021 response data presented. Equipment update – available funds for DECON trailer replacement (application available : <https://hsu.vermont.gov/homeland-security-unit/funding-opportunities/SHSP>) , 3 new computers for each of the trucks, 3 cradlepoint systems have been ordered for each truck, and one of the Mercury vapor meter’s is out of service at this time. HAZCHEM report – 2,590 Tier II reports for the 2020 submission period, all reports have been submitted to EPA. In partnership with ADS an online Tier II submission portal is being built to create invoices, track pending, open and pain invoices, and create reporting for finance. Still in progress.
 - b. Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) Spill Team Calls – (Tim Cropley, ANR) – HAZMAT Specialists from the spill team provided to SERC. 151 spills reported. Most significant was a 700–800-gallon release of #2 fuel oil to route 12A in Roxbury, VT.



- c. Fire Academy Updates – Chief Lynch – Online applications for trainings are available at the state fire academy website. Fire Academy is in a new HMEP year in terms of funding, now have 7 HAZMAT operations programs scheduled starting now, affecting about 175 students in Vermont. Flammable gas control program back to the fire academy and is begin offered to fire services and have had an overwhelming response from local jurisdictions requesting the program. Propane companies are providing trucks to the fire academy for hand on training. East cottage at the fire academy in Pittsford has undergone renovations and hopes to open Jan 1, 2022 as dormitory space for anyone coming to the academy for training. Fire Academy had a site visit for accreditation and will officially receive accreditation in January 2022. Undergoing a data management system change, reduces hurdles for students to sign up for classes, receiving application, etc.
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance Committee Report – No report.
 - b. LEPC / SERC Liaison Committee Report (Tory Littlefield) – Have not had a meeting yet but hoping to schedule one for next month. RFP went out last month for a contractor to manage the statewide LEPC.
 10. Public Comments – (Chair, Kim Lapierre) – None.
 11. Adjourn

Director Erica Bornemann motioned to adjourn. Chief Patrick McLaughlin seconded motion.
Meeting Adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, February 16th, 2022

All SERC and SERC Subcommittee meetings will be publicly warned at the Vermont Department of Libraries website located at <http://libraries.vermont.gov/events>