

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)
LEPC Liaison Committee Meeting
Tuesday July 31, 2018 – 9:00 AM

Committee Members Attending

- Al Barber – LEPC 1
- Prescott Nadeau – EMS Seat on the SERC
- Erik Rosenbauer – LEPC Seat on the SERC
- Shaun Coleman – RPC Seat on the SERC
- Josh Cox – Non-Voting Member – Vermont Emergency Management

Committee Members Absent

- Peter Lynch – Vermont Fire Academy
- Robert Gowans – Fire Department Seat on the SERC
- Mike Collins – EHS Seat on the SERC
- Len Wallace – Non-Voting Member - EPA

Call to Order – 9:01 AM

No public comment.

No changes to agenda.

Minutes from the June 27, 2018 meeting were discussed. Motion to approve the minutes with one change: In the last sentence of the draft minutes the word “management” changed to “manageable”.

Motion approved.

Further Discussion On The Role Of This Committee

Discussion from the last meeting on this committee’s mission was continued. Everyone agreed on the mission statement from the last meeting. Prescott, Al, and Shaun will setup a meeting with Shelburne Town Manager Lee Krohn to discuss an LEPC paid position and to develop funding requirements for this position.

The question of what products are LEPCs supposed to be creating was discussed. LEPCs could be providing digital chemical facility reports and derivative data such as GIS layers including evacuation zones to first responders. The need for Tier II data being tactically useful to fire departments was discussed. Also LEPCs could provide plan templates to their membership. The State of Maine and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts were discussed as being good LEPC plan templates. LEPC 4 uses ARC GIS mapping of Tier II data. Bennington County may have a good LEPC Response Plan template as well.

Priorities Of This Committee

Priorities of this Committee were discussed. Erik stated the priorities should be ranked as follows

- Priority 1: Identifying an electronic data mobile system.
- Priority 2: Identifying an LEPC Response Plan template.

Erik reported on LEPC 6’s status. Brattleboro Retreat has become the fiscal agent. All officers have resigned and Erik is now the Chair of LEPC 6. He is focused on developing an LEPC 6 website as well.

Support For LEPCs

Support for Vermont's LEPCs from the EPA was discussed. Perhaps Len Wallace could contact EHS reporters to encourage their participation with LEPCs.

Prescott talked about exercise support from Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) and how beneficial it is. Prescott raised the idea that Max Kennedy from VEM should be invited to present to this Committee on best practices of exercises.

Shaun brought up the role of the Citizens Corps Advisory Committee (CCAC). The decision was made to ask the SERC what the status of the CCAC is. LEPC 4 and LEPC 13 always have a check-in with CCAC every meeting.

Concerns Regarding Regional Planning Commissions (RPCs)

Bob Schlachter (LEPC 2 Chair) spoke about the questions he still has as to why Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) and other RPCs are backing out of LEPC involvement. Shaun stated that RPCs are a little scared due to the presentation SERC Chair Cosgrove gave in February 2018. Having some assurance from Department of Public Safety (DPS) Legal Counsel on the liability of RPCs would be valuable and SERC Chair Cosgrove is working on getting this. No LEPC wants to lose the progress that has been made over the years.

Al stated that another concern from RPCs is the DPS Finance policy that LEPCs are only reimbursed after expenditures are made. Shaun stated that RPCs can not use Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funding for their involvement with LEPCs anymore so this puts more pressure on the limited Hazchem funding available to LEPCs.

Collaboration with the SERC Finance Committee

Prescott stated that this committee's work should be coordinated with the work the SERC Finance Committee is doing. Both committees should be collaborating. Bob Schlachter (LEPC 2 Chair) spoke about LEPC 2's desire to work with this committee going forward.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:02 am.

Resource Lists

Resource lists for LEPC-wide assets was discussed as being valuable to first responders and this was generally considered to be something the LEPCs should be working on.

Future Meeting Date & Location

Future meeting date of Tuesday, August 28, 2018 at 9:00AM was agreed upon. Location will probably be in Waterbury but could also be at other locations.

Meeting Adjourned - 9:59AM