



# State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 10, 2020  
Location: Virtual

1. Call to Order - Kim Lapierre, Chair
2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda – None.
3. Roll Call – conducted by the Secretary (designee) and included below.

Name & Seat	Present	Absent
Kim Lapierre, Chair - HazMat Transportation Seat	X	
Todd Sears, Vice Chair – Agency of Transportation Seat	X	
Erica Bornemann, Secretary – Vermont Emergency Management Seat	X	
Todd Cosgrove – Department of Public Safety Seat	X	
Dan Batsie – Department of Health Seat		X
Anne Macmillan – Agency of Agriculture, Food, & Markets Seat	X	
Tim Cropley – Agency of Natural Resources Seat	X	
Dan Whipple – Department of Labor Seat	X	
Erik Rosenbauer – Local Emergency Planning Commission Seat	X	
Prescott Nadeau – EMS Seat	X	
Carl Rogers – Municipal Seat	X	
Christopher Dube – Fire Service Seat	X	
Victoria (Tory) Littlefield – Regional Planning Commission Seat	X	
Matthew LaRock – EHS Facility Seat	X	
Kate Hammond – Hospitals Seat	X	
Vacant – Law Enforcement Seat	N/A	N/A

4. Public Comments – None.
5. Meeting Minutes – Todd Cosgrove moved to approve the February 19, 2020 SERC Meeting Minutes without correction. The motion was seconded. **The motion was adopted unanimously.**
6. Discussion of any reported impacts from COVID-19 on EHS facilities (All)
 

Matt LaRock - Global Foundries took immediate action and put in place their Global Crisis Management team, as well as additional teams. Over the course of March, they put in place new policies where anyone who could work from home had to. Temperature screening was put



in place mid-March and identified three entrances to the site. Heavily involved in temperature screening, assisted facilities team to ensure that areas where there's known to be congregation that there is none, conference rooms and cafeteria/break rooms on site limited, tables & chairs removed. Also implemented employee benefits so if you came on site and had a temperature, initially it was a 24-hour return to work and then 72 hours (with no fever). If you were identified as an employee who contracted COVID-19 it was a 14-day period. The benefits team activated emergency leave, so you were still paid while quarantined. There have been very few cases in the Northeast region of the company.

## 7. Team Reports

a. Tier II Submissions/Financial Report & HAZMAT Team Report – (Todd Cosgrove) The team is full with 30 part time employees. Two members are currently on leave of absence due to COVID-19 interference. Team has completed their 40 hours of Technician Level Certification/Recertification using Jones and Bartlett, Hazardous Materials – Managing the Incident (4th Edition). The Authors of this book were Greg G. Noll and Michael S. Hildebrand, who have 45+ years of experience in Hazardous Materials response. The course meets the requirements of OSHA 1910.120, NFPA 472 and NFPA 1072 – 2017 editions. Refresher training by VHMRT – 48 hours provided to 215 responders (police, fire, EMS). Responded to 59 incidents so far in 2020. The Hazmat Team has replaced the following equipment which has been identified in a 6-year Equipment replacement plan, as needing replacement as the equipment will not be supported starting 2020. Team has completed the annual testing of all Level A suits. 1 suit failed the testing and has been replaced with a new suit.

b. ANR Spill Team Calls – (Tim Cropley) Noticed a reduction in spills and releases during the initial parts of COVID. Usually there are 10-15 spills a week, but that time period had roughly 4-5 a week. From 2/1-5/31 there were 161 spills. The biggest spills are from heating oil releases from above ground storage tanks. When there is a release that has the potential to impact a public water supply, there's a requirement that the release gets reported. ANR is working on figuring out a way to do that and to know where these facilities are located and where the public water supplies potentially at risk are located. ANR is going to plug into their drinking water program to get that information as they have mapping to get that information. The Act says it will go through the SERC, so ANR is working on a process where the information would go to VEM and all the agencies that need to know.

## 8. Committee Reports

### a. Finance Committee Report

i. Report on LEPC financials (Rhonda Camley) All of fiscal year 19 has been de-obligated and closed out (over \$15k). Fiscal year 20 is still on track; there has been \$25k paid out so far. There are some payments in the system/in the works that haven't been recorded on here yet. Fiscal year 21, we've had 5 LEPCs apply for the initial \$5k and 3 request additional funding. There are another 4 days to get applications in, and then the SERC will need to vote on recommendations by the Finance Committee.



b. LEPC / SERC Liaison Committee Report (Tori Littlefield)

i. Re-Alignment of LEPCs Discussion – New Date for LEPC Chair meeting: Glenn presented the whole LEPC consolidation plan that the sub-committee has come up with, which involves merging into one statewide LEPC with a mechanism that each of the 13 LEPCs become something else – we haven't decided on the name yet. That takes the statutory stuff away from volunteers, like Tier II reporting and facility response plans. The main comments at the meeting surrounded funding for this new group (Emergency Regional Planning Committee) and we're taking name suggestions. I thought it went very well. Implementation timeline is July 2021

ii. Status of HMEP Contractor – (Josh Cox): November 2019 we initially issued request for proposal and responses were due on 12/19. We received three responses and we needed some of the vendors to refine their responses, which occurred on 3/9 and 3/11, which is when the Governor declared the State of Emergency, so everything was put on hold. We're in the final steps of selecting a vendor and hope to have that completed soon. The delay won't impact the deliverables in the project as there was a lot of padding of time in the project.

The first part of the project was the gap analysis and needs assessment. The next step is to create and revise the LEPC plans. In parallel, part of the HMEP project is to draft a hazmat annex so the contractor will be working with various state partners and VEM to develop that; after the plans are drafted, we move into the phase of validating those plans through tabletop exercises.

Lastly, based on those tabletop exercises, there will be after action reports generated and corrective actions identified in those reports will be acted upon.

c. Report on training activity of the Vermont Fire Academy (Peter Lynch): We went virtual with all classes and suspended those that needed to be. All Firefighter 1 classes were complete with the exception of retests; we've managed to do the retests on a 1-on-1 basis. We had a program that had just started in Derby that we suspended and now it will take place in the fall. We're awarding all FY21 programs; those will be scattered around the state and when we meet next, I'll have a clearer understanding of where they are. Our flammable gas control program is up and running, pretty much ready to go out.

9. Other Items – The topic of having a presentation on the state's Critical Infrastructure program was discussed.

10. Todd Cosgrove made a motion Adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. **The motion was adopted unanimously.**

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