

State Emergency Response Commission Meeting
January 11, 2006
1:00 pm

Voting Members Present:

Rudy Raynes Fire Marshal
Giles Watson Industry
Mike Dorsey Environmental Protection
Jesse Adkins Environmental Protection
James Riggs Division of Highways
Joseph Wyatt Bureau for Public Health
Alan Abbott Public Service Commission
Mike Goff State Police
Dan McKinney Natural Resources

Call to Order

Rudy Raynes called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm, at the WV State Emergency Operations Center, for those in attendance see attached roster. Mr. Raynes asked those assembled to review the minutes from November 11, 2005 for corrections, deletions or additions. *Jim Riggs moved to approve the minutes as submitted, Giles Watson seconded. Motion passed.*

Introduction

Mr. Raynes introduced Larry Lake the new Chairperson from Cabell/Wayne County LEPC who is replacing Shirley Lawson, Shirley retired at the end of December. Ms. Lawson was a dedicated and involved LEPC Chairperson who assisted in the Cabell/Wayne LEPC into becoming one of the more active LEPCs in the state. Mr. Raynes also introduced Steve Allen, Berkeley County and David Michaels, Morgan County who are attending today's meeting.

Old business

2005 HMEP Grants have been completed and the final report submitted to US DOT along with the request for reimbursement.

2006 HMEP Grant

Initial payments to Greenbrier, McDowell and Preston counties were processed and mailed in November.

SERC/LEPC Grants

Mason County's SERC/LEPC grants were completed in November, finishing the 2005 SERC/LEPC grant year.

Laverne asked if the 2006 grants will be funded using the same format as the 2005 grants, \$500 as an initial payment and if funds remain after 1 July those will be reallocated to approved LEPCs? The Commission stated yes, until the legislation is passed the SERC will have to live within it's funding capabilities. Realistically there are is no additional money, so in order to maintain solvency and fund the state match to the US DOT HMEP grant the LEPC grants will have to stay the same.

LEPC Memberships

Mason County LEPC submitted an update to their current LEPC membership, Joe Wyatt stated one member Mr. Fowler has moved to Jackson County, however the required number of members are correct. *Jim Riggs moved to approve the submitted Mason County LEPC membership with correction. Joe Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.*

By-Laws

Currently Laverne is continuing the effort to obtain signatures for SERC by-laws from members as they become available. Jackson County LEPC will be sending in revisions to their submitted By-laws. They currently have approved By-laws but are revising those to fit the new direction & structure of their LEPC.

Training Subcommittee

Herb Lattimore has been named acting Training Officer replacing Jim Cox who retired in October. Mr. Lattimore would like members of the SERC and LEPCs to begin efforts to become NIMS Compliant. It is now a requirement for entities who receive federal grant funds to be NIMS Compliant. Mr. Lattimore stated the old ICS195 course is no longer being offered by EMI or FEMA, however if you have previously passed the course it does count towards compliance. Those who need to become compliant must take IS100, 200, 700 and 800 in 2006, also by 2007 you will need to have IS300 & 400. These courses can be taken on-line by either going to FEMA or EMI's websites. RESA has been contacted to begin preparations to offer these courses as well. Members had concerns on who in their agencies are required to take these courses and how many more courses may be required in the future. Some agencies are very large and their structures do not make it easy to determine who needs to be compliant. Mr. Lattimore made suggestions on how to assist agency personnel on compliance.

Treasurer's Report

The current report states the SERC has an \$18,000 surplus, however, some of RESA's receipts have not been received from the 2005 HMEP grant year, once reconciled, should indicate a surplus closer to \$14,000. As soon as Admin finishes their reconciliation, updated information will be submitted to the commission.

New Business

The IOGA meeting was conducted Tuesday. There continues to be a stalemate. The viewpoint of IOGA is Oil and Gas facilities pay an unfair percentage of fees collected by the SERC. Previously their biggest complaint was the Oil Field/Lease guidance in the Tier II information sent to facilities to assist in compliance. After careful review by the Attorney General's Office, information relating to Oil Field/Leases was removed for the current 2005 reporting year. However, IOGA continues to contend oil and gas producers pay a disproportionate amount of fees as opposed to others. Currently 46 oil and gas producers pay more than \$25 and 189 producers pay \$25 for an average of \$6.47 per site. 318 Non oil and gas reporters paid more than \$25 and 775 reporters paid \$25 for an average of \$71.11 per site (2004 figures). The cost to oil and gas reporters if the current legislation passes is \$75.00 per year, all other non oil and gas reporters will see increases from \$75 to \$300 per year. It appears there may be more to IOGA's unwillingness to support or at least not oppose the legislation than is currently known.

Mr. Gianato informed IOGA during Tuesday's meeting, Tier II reporting next year will be electronic. Funding for the project is unsure however, Mr. Gianato said these reports need to be electronic to provide a more usable product for LEPCs and Fire Departments.

There was discussion on types of programs/systems offered by companies and how to fund the project. Mr. Gianato has said it will be done, funds will be found. Laverne has some concerns about geo-locating some information based upon sensitivity of materials and locations.

Mr. Gianato has said a SERC/LEPC conference will be conducted this year, Laverne is currently solicitation information from hotels in Charleston and surrounding areas. Costs for the conference are a concern and funding will need to be worked out, however, the conference will be held in August of 2006.

Gene Nance from US EPA reported he and EPA staffers attended a recent Cabell/Wayne LEPC meeting. They have also conducted a meeting with the US Coast Guard on the USCG's upcoming exercise. Unfortunately the USCG exercise will not be sufficient for EPA's need. USCG will be conducting a table top and a functional is required in coordination with an FRP facility. Letters have been sent to potential facilities, EPA would prefer a company volunteer for the project, however, they can compel compliance and will do so if necessary. Currently the exercise has been tentatively rescheduled until September to give the company time to prepare once selected.

Jim Riggs moved to adjourn, Giles Watson seconded, Motion passed.
Meeting ended at 1:45 pm.

The next scheduled meeting will be March 8th, 2006, at 1:00 pm at a location to be determined later.

LEPC Reports -

Berkeley

Conducted a Quad State Exercise with participation by Berkeley County & Jefferson Counties in West Virginia ; Frederick & Warren Counties in Virginia; Washington County in Maryland and Franklin County in Pennsylvania. The County Emergency Operations Plan guidelines are being updated on CD. Berkeley County met with the contractor who will be conducting the Hazardous Materials incident scenario for the 2006 HMEP grant of \$2900. The LEPC voted to apply for the 2007 HMEP grant to conduct a NIMS City true table-top.

Cabell/Wayne

Completing information and new pricing for securing grant funding for a "reverse 911" communication system to fill a big void in our local community emergency communications network, starting drill preparation and planning for the fall Tri-State Airport tri-annual emergency drill, working with a contractor for conversion of Cabell and Wayne County's Emergency Operations Plan to be NIMS compliant.

Kanawha/Putnam

The KPEPC website has been re-engineered at www.kpepc.org

Lewis/Upshur

Assisted Holbrook Nursing Facility in developing their Evacuation/Emergency Plan, conducted a drill, served as evaluators and critiqued the drill. Currently working with the upshur Co. Regional Airport to develop an Emergency Response Plan. Reviewing Tier II's and determining if Emergency Response Plans are needed and assisting those who need help. Coordinating with OEM on the upcoming Strawberry Festival and developing an Emergency Plan for the incident.

Mason

Wednesday, March 15, 2006, AEP Point Pleasant
Welcome and Lunch – Thanks to Ginger MacKnight & AEP

Tyler

Proposed LEPC meeting date:
03/23/06, Time: 06:00 pm, Place: Tyler County OES Office, Middlebourne

Webster

The LEPC offered the National Incident Management System NIMS IS - 00700 Course to our members and is encouraging them to comply as soon as possible. Also introduced at this meeting was information packets regarding Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Planning. LEPC members will participate in the Pandemic Preparedness Coordinating Committee for Webster County to draft our local plan. Dianna Gertz, Health Alert Network Coordinator with WV DHHR gave a presentation on the "West Virginia WARN System".

Webster County Health Department Threat Preparedness Coordinator, Jonathan Roberts updated the members on how the WARN systems works with the Health Alert Network (HAN) and will function here in Webster County. New officers were elected in February .