



## Washington State Emergency Response Commission Meeting (SERC)

Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2022

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Virtual via Microsoft (MS) Teams due to COVID-19

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Patrick Reid, SERC Chair

Chief Mike Harris, SERC Vice-Chair

Melissa Gannie, Washington State Patrol, Primary

Bill Slosson, Washington State Patrol, Alternate

Laura Hayes, Department of Ecology, Primary

Eli Levitt, Department of Ecology, Alternate

Troy Newman, Military Department, Primary

Erin Coyle, Department of Agriculture, Primary

Chandra Fox, Local Emergency Manager, Primary

Cindy Stanley, Local Emergency Manager, Alternate

John Geppert, Department of Labor and Industries, Primary

Sean Davis, Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)-Eastside, Primary

J Havner, Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)-Westside, Primary

Cherie Nevin, Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)-Westside, Alternate

### GUESTS PRESENT

Kathleen Shea, Alaska SERC

Jason Reinfeld, Chelan County LEPC

Justine Chorley, Clallam County, LEPC

Anne Chastain, Clallam County LEPC

Ashley Strickland, Columbia County LEPC

Ernie Schnabler, Cowlitz County LEPC

Tina Meier, Garfield County LEPC

Erika Katt, Lewis County LEPC

Daniel Cromwell, King County LEPC

Tom Sharp, King County LEPC

Steve West, Pend Oreille County LEPC

Todd Kilpatrick, Pierce County LEPC

Hans Kahl, Skagit County LEPC

Adenea Thompson, Stevens County LEPC

Amelia Stanger, Colville Tribes

Aaron Markham, City of Yakima LEPC

Ashley Hillis, Department of Ecology

Mike Means, Department of Health

Nathan Weed, Department of Health

Sierra Wardell, Military Department (EMD)

Lorraine Churchill, ASTI

Erin Williams, EPA

Vincent Papol, NOAA

Reid Wolcott, NWS-Seattle

### SUPPORT STAFF PRESENT

Susan Forsythe, Military Department (EMD)

Kim Mask, Military Department (EMD)

Diane Fowler, Department of Ecology

Pete Hartmann, Military Department (EMD)

Patrick Wicklund, Military Department (EMD)

Chris Caprio, Military Department (EMD)

Stephanie Haertling, Military Department (EMD)

Damaris Deschner, Military Department (EMD)

Zoie Choate, Military Department (EMD)



#### CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS

Chief Patrick Reid opened the meeting with welcoming members and guests.

#### REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 3, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Sean Davis motioned to approve the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes as presented; Chandra Fox seconded the motion. All attending members approved the minutes as written.

#### LEPC SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT

##### **Equipment Grant and Inventory – Laura Hayes (Dept. of Ecology)**

Laura explained how part of the grant program that awards for Equipment Cache Trailers that are staged across the state and ready to respond in the event of an oil spill. On the Department of Ecology website, there is a [Spills Map](#). The tab for Equipment and inventory listed on the Worldwide Regional Response List (WRRL), which is a giant database of response equipment can be located here. This provides a good representation of where the trailers are and how they have been distributed across the state.

#### WORKGROUPS AND STANDING REPORTS

##### **Training Coordination (HazMat Training) –Scott Lancaster**

COVID-19 is still altering our hazmat training process. We are working with agencies to ensure our training program meets agency, local, state and federal health standards to make sure everyone is safe during training.

##### Training

Since the beginning of the year (2021) we have trained over 1,725 responders in Awareness, Operations HM-On Scene Incident Command, HM Technician, Hazmat IQ and Chemistry. We had a busy last quarter of 2021 training over 180 responders

##### Combination LEPC/Hazmat Conference Series

We are planning the 2022 Hazmat Workshop along with the Annual LEPC/TERC Conference which will held virtual in April and May. Topics for the Hazmat Workshop will include, “Hazmat and Special Operations”, “Battery Emergencies, “New Trends in Hazmat and Terrorism” with Gary Sharp and Dr. Christina Baxter from Hazard 3, “Creating a Hazmat Response Team from the Ground Up”, and others

##### For the Good of the Organization

NFPA 470, “Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Standard for Responders” has been published and is available from NFPA. This is a consolidation of NFPA 472, 473 and 1072.

Battery Technology and Energy Storage Systems are becoming an emerging concern for emergency responders with the increase in battery operated vehicles and energy storage systems throughout the country. Lithium-Ion battery technology and its use in rechargeable electric scooters, bikes, cellphones, and other accessories. The batteries can short out and cause what is known has a runaway process of heat



and fire reaction. Putting out these fires is difficult if not impossible and even when they appear out, they can reignite hours, days or weeks later. More information is needed to determine proper training and response protocols. Increase of inspecting and building codes will also need to happen to understand the hazards before they happen.

#### **EPCRA Compliance and Outreach – Diane Fowler**

Diane reported that she is in the middle of “Tier II Reporting Season”, so reports are starting to come in. 1,300 reports have been received so far. A reminder notice will be sent out that they are due March 1<sup>st</sup> for those who have not submitted.

The EPCRA Mobile App is in the final stages for testing. The application that are on the App Playstore Platform are in test mode. Once the final version of the app is released to first responders, emails with the new passcode will be sent.

#### **EPA Tier Two Enforcement – Erin Williams**

The Western SERC meeting was held the prior week, which included EPA Regions 8, 9, and 10. A two-day virtual conference was held virtually with over 85 participants in attendance.

The SERC/TERC Handbook is complete and posted to the LEPC Toolbox. If there are any questions, reach out to Erin. EPA had one settlement with SGL in Moses Lake. There will be a press release on this settlement. If LEPCs are having issues with facilities not complying, they can reach out to Erin as they are still focusing on off-site compliance monitoring. EPA has created a monthly newsletter. [The link to sign up can be accessed here.](#)

#### **SERC Budget Report – Kim Mask**

Due to Covid-19 and travel restrictions, zero dollars from the Community Right to Know fund were applied to the SERC budget in 2020-2021. However, the SERC did give WSEMA \$5,000 to support their fall conference.

For the next budget cycle, beginning July 1, 2022, the SERC can submit requests to the EMD Budget Manager between now and March 31. Any requests will be reviewed and be allocated to the SERC by July 1, 2022. The maximum funding available will be \$7,000 and include the \$5,000 given to WSEMA to support their conference in September 2022. The additional \$2,000 will be available to the chair/vice-chair attend national conferences and other travel requests to attend in-person meetings.

#### **HMEP Grant Update – Zoie Choate**

PHMSA has offered a 1-year extension of the 2021 grant. This will not affect the upcoming grant for 2022. As the date this is the percentage breakdown between recipient/subrecipients:

- State M&A: 9% (up to an allowable 20%)
- HazMat Workshop: 6%
- LEPC/Tribal Conference: 6%
- WSP-FPB: 70%



## State Emergency Response Commission

- LEPCs/Tribes: 9%

The tentative timeline for grants is as follows:

- March 2022: Grant announced and NOFO released
- Competitive applications open to LEPCs/TEPCs
- May 2022: Application due to PHMSA
- September 2022: Award received for new 3-year Period of Performance

[The presentation can be found here.](#)

A motion was made by Chandra Fox to approve and move forward with the percentages that Zoie gave. Sean Davis seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

### **LEPC Planning Update – Susan Forsythe**

During the last meeting, Thurston County had submitted their plan for review. Since then, the plan has been reviewed and met all nine EPCRA planning requirements. Clallam County and Grays Harbor County are expected to turn their plans in for review before the next meeting.

Susan introduced Chris Caprio as the new planner in the southwest Washington region.

### **Strategic Planning Update – Chandra Fox**

Chandra provided an overview of the work that had been completed so that a vote for approval could be done during the April meeting. Following the April meeting there will be a work session scheduled to make any adjustments to points of contact and primary agencies responsible for follow up in the work plan.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **FAST Act and HHFT Information Sharing – Susan Forsythe**

The document that describes the High Hazard Flammable Train (HHFT) was sent out the SERC. The document has been added to EMD's website and can be [found here](#) if anyone is wanting more information. Susan will be doing a presentation for Thurston County during their LEPC meeting on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

### CLOSING REMARKS

#### **Good of the Order – Chief Patrick Reid, Chair**

Damaris Deschner provided an update on the training calendar on EMD's website. She also reminded anyone hosting training to reach out to her to have them added to the calendar.

Kim Mask recognized two new members to the SERC. Cindy Stanley will be an alternate to Chandra Fox, representing Local Emergency Managers (WSEMA) and Cherie Nevin from Thurston County will be the alternate to J Havner, representing the westside LEPCs.

Cindy Stanley reminded everyone that the WSEMA Conference will be held September 20-22, 2022 in Poulsbo at the Clearwater Resort. The September SERC meeting will be held the day before on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

### NEXT MEETING



The next meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2022 at 10:00 am. This meeting will be virtual. A TEAMS calendar invitation and agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting. This meeting will kick off the 2022 *Virtual* LEPC-Tribal Conference and Hazmat Workshop.

ADJOURN

Mike Harris made a motion to adjourn. Chandra fox seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:58 PM.