

To: State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

From: Cindy DeWulf, Ohio EPA, DAPC

Subject: April 13, 2022, SERC Meeting Minutes

Date: May 13, 2022

The April 13, 2022, State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) meeting was held in person at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA) and called to order at 1:00 PM by Ohio EPA Assistant Director Laura Factor.

17 Voting Members were present:

Laura Factor, Ohio EPA Assistant Director, SERC Co-Chair (alt)
Sima Merick, Ohio EMA Executive Director, SERC Co-Chair (alt)
Jonathan Fulkerson, Ohio Attorney General's Office
Randy Van Dyne, Environmental Representative
John Williams, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Doug Johnson, Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Mike Fitchet, Ashtabula County EMA/LEPC
Sean Miller, Delaware County EMA Director
Edward Dadosky, Environmental Representative
David Whiting, Professional Firefighters' Representative
Mitchel Blackford, Ohio Department of Transportation
Cliff Mason, Fire Chief's Association
Jennifer Klein, Industry Representative
Mike Barnhorst, Municipality Representative
Tamera McBride, Ohio Department of Health
Kevin Reardon, State Fire Marshal
Russ Decker, Industry Representative

2 Voting Members not present:

Captain Kenneth Kocab, State Highway Patrol
Volunteer Firefighters' Representative (Vacant)

Introductions

Laura Factor stated that the SERC membership has a new member as Russ Decker (Nutrien Nitrogen- Lima) is coming back as an industry representative replacing Larry Lindrose.

Waive the 24-Hour Rule:

Laura Factor asked for a motion to waive the 24-hour rule. Mike Fitchet made the motion to waive the 24-hour rule. Motion was seconded by Clifford Mason. No discussion.

Record of Vote: 16 -For
 0 -Against
 0 –Abstain

Approval of April 13, 2022, SERC Meeting Minutes:

Ohio EPA Assistant Director Factor asked for a motion to accept the April 13, 2022, SERC meeting minutes that were e-mailed to all members. David Whiting made the motion to accept and approve meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Sean Miller. No discussion.

Record of Vote: 16 -For
0 -Against
0 –Abstain

SERC Committee Reports:

Executive:

Sima Merick stated that the committee met prior to today's meeting, and she deferred to the committee chairs to brief the members during their committee updates.

Cindy DeWulf discussed the request from Montgomery and Greene Counties to dissolve the combined LEPC and the request for the SERC to designate Montgomery and Greene Counties as separate planning districts. The combined Montgomery-Greene County LEPC originated in 1987 as approved by the SERC. Each county now requests to operate separately and both counties have submitted approved and signed resolutions requesting such with letters of support and intent by their respective County Commissioners. The request included members which would also be appointed as part of the resolution. The effective date of the action will be set at July 1, 2022.

SERC Resolution 2002-13, Dissolve Montgomery-Greene County Joint Planning District; Appoint New Memberships for Montgomery and Greene Counties under Chapter 3750 (ORC). Sean Miller made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Motion to accept was seconded by Mike Barnhorst.

Record of Vote: 16 -For
0 -Against
0 –Abstain

Administrative & Funding:

Cindy DeWulf stated that the Administration & Funding Committee met earlier and started to discuss and update the SERC equipment purchase document that dated back to 1997. The document shall be incorporated into the LEPC Funding document, and the committee has updated the equipment listing as received from the Ohio HazMat Technical Assistance Committee (TAC).

Operations and Issues:

Sean Miller commented that the Operations & Issues Committee met earlier. The committee is updating the SERC Planning & Exercise Planning Document and hope to have first draft updating completed by April 29, 2022. After that, committee will take an updating look at the LEPC Cross-walk document.

Training and Education:

Randy Van Dyne stated that the Training & Education Committee also met prior to this meeting. The committee reviewed the past LEPC Conference survey responses that were received. The committee thanked Ohio EMA and Anita for handling the survey on our behalf. The committee discussed topics that may be of interest for this year's October 2022 Conference. The committee members shall go in search of speakers. The committee did discuss the concept of two tracks for the conference with sessions for new LEPC members and separate sessions for the more advanced LEPC members who have a good understanding of the program. Sean Miller likes the 2-tier training approach.

Agency Reports:

Department of Public Safety/EMA

Andrew Elder indicated that twenty-three (includes 11 exemption waivers) LEPC exercises are recommended for SFY 2022 Exercise Concurrence. The exercise exemption waivers were approved by Executive Committee. Mike Fitchet made a motion to approve **Resolutions 2022-14 thru -36** as noted. Russ Decker seconded the motion.

Record of Vote: 16- For
0- Against
0-Abstain

Andrew Elder indicated that one LEPC plan is being recommended for SFY 2022 Plan Concurrence (Lucas planning district). Sean Miller made a motion to approve **Resolutions 2022-37** as noted. Mike Barnhorst seconded the motion.

Record of Vote: 15- For
0- Against
0-Abstain

Ohio EPA

Cindy DeWulf introduced **LEPC 2021-2023 Membership Appointments; Resolution 2022-38 thru -44**, appointing members to the Allen, Ashland, Butler, Cuyahoga, Fulton, Hocking, and Preble County LEPC's. The names for the county LEPC's were submitted by their respective County Commissioners. Clifford Mason made motion to approve the resolutions as presented. Motion seconded by David Whiting.

Record of Vote: 17- For
0- Against
0-Abstain

Statements from SERC Membership

Laura Factor wanted to discuss the format for the June 2022 SERC meeting, as the SERC is permitted to meet virtually through July 1, or we could meet in person. Sima Merick commented that Ohio EMA can accommodate a hybrid format where each SERC member can make their own choice and decision as to whether to attend in person or call-in using Teams. Committee members all agreed to the hybrid choice for the June 2022 meeting. Jennifer Klein likes the virtual format unless there is a lot more substantive matters that need to be discussed and voted upon. Randy Van Dyne stated

that the working committees can get a lot done through the virtual meeting format, but he can go either way for the in-person verse virtual gatherings. Sean Miller commented that coming from Delaware is a close drive for him, so he will defer to those members who have quite the distance to travel.

After some discussion, it was decided to have the June 9, 2022, SERC meeting as a hybrid meeting where members could attend the meeting through TEAM or in person.

Statements from Attendees

No other business was raised.

Other Business

Laura Factor adjourned the meeting.