



## Nebraska State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

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January 10, 2019  
Meeting Minutes  
SCC – Continuing Education Center  
301 S 68<sup>th</sup> St Place  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
1:00 PM CST

- I. Call to Order**, Introduction of Members and Guests
- a. An open meeting Statute, available for review, is on the registration table.  
John Grimes, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM CST.

| Member  | Affiliation  | Present |
|---|--|---------|
| Sheri   | Blaha<br>County Elected Official                   |         |
| Steven  | Danon<br>Small Business                            |         |
| Teri  | Blunk<br>EPA- Region 7                             |         |
| Jim<br>Designee: Frank Peck   | DeFreece<br>State Patrol                           | X       |
| Keith   | Deiml<br>Education                                 |         |
| Sue   | Dempsey<br>Health and Human Services               | X       |
| Joe   | Francis<br>Department of Environmental Quality     |         |
| Rick  | Grauerholz<br>City Government                      |         |
| John  | Grimes<br>Chair, Industry                          | X       |
| Tim   | Hofbauer<br>Vice Chair, Local Emergency Management | X       |
| Matthew   | DiVito<br>Crete Carrier Corporation                | X       |
| Polly   | Jordening<br>Labor                                 |         |
| Jim   | Macy<br>Dept of Environmental Quality              |         |
| Sharon  | Medcalf<br>Community Health                        |         |
| Dana  | Miller<br>Fire                                     |         |
| Joe   | Oswalt<br>Agribusiness                             | X       |
| Kimberly  | Plouzek<br>Environmental Protection                | X       |
| James   | Rashilla<br>SERC Coordinator                       | X       |
| Ben   | Salo<br>Union Pacific Railroad                     |         |
| Tom   | Sands<br>Department of Roads                       |         |
| Bryan   | Tuma<br>NE Emergency Management                    | X       |
| <i>Others in attendance: Ryan Lowry (PPC), Mike Schmidt (FBI), Aaron Alward (Douglas Co. EM), Tom Smith (Dodge Co. EM), Kyle Keeling (Union Pacific), Ron Leal (Region 21 EM), Jesse Eret (Sarpy Co. EM), Julie Bergfield (NEMA), Jeff Edwards (NDEQ), John Hauser (Douglas Co. LEPC)</i> |  |         |

**II. Approval of the agenda** for January 10, 2019

There was a motion by Kim Plouzek to approve the January 10, 2019 agenda; Sue Dempsey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

**III. Approval of the minutes** from the October 11, 2018 meeting

There was a motion by Tim Hofbauer to approve the October 18, 2018 meeting minutes; Bryan Tuma seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

**IV. Elections**

*Election shall be annually, by simple majority vote of the members present, at the first SERC meeting of the calendar year. Election shall be from among the citizen membership as specified in NAC 81-15,210 and may be either by secret ballot or roll call (or voice) vote as determined by simple majority of the members present. – SERC Bylaws 2018*

**a. Chairperson**

There was a motion by Sue Dempsey to nominate John Grimes as the SERC Chairperson, Kim Plouzek seconded the motion. There was a motion by Tim Hofbauer to cease nominations, Bryan Tuma seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

**b. Vice-chairperson**

There was a motion by Sue Dempsey to nominate Tim Hofbauer as the SERC Vice-chairperson, Bryan Tuma seconded the motion. There was a motion by Sue Dempsey to cease nominations, Bryan Tuma seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

**V. New Business**

**a. SERC Membership update**

**James Rashilla:** There are five (5) vacancies on the SERC Board: County Elected Official, Education, Fire, Public Health, and Rail. Trent Kleinow with the North Platte Fire Department is under review with the Governor's office to replace Dana Miller on the SERC Board as the Fire representative. Sharon Medcalf has resigned her position on the SERC Board as the Community Health representative. Tonya Ngotel with the University of Nebraska Medical Center has expressed interest in the Community Health representative position. Sherry Blaha is retiring from public office and will no longer be representing County Elected Officials on the SERC Board. Keith Deiml is moving out of state and will no longer be able to represent Education on the SERC Board. Kyle Keeling with Union Pacific has expressed interest in representing Rail on the SERC Board. All interested individuals will be forwarded to Governor for acceptance. Per Bryan Tuma, Nebraska State Patrol will look to fill Jim DeFreece's position as well.

**b. Dakota County LEPC**

**James Rashilla:** After about three (3) years of inactivity, Dakota County is reinvigorating their LEPC. They held a meeting in the evening of Jan 9, 2019. There was good representation from local businesses. James wanted to recognize Deanna Hagberg working hard to get the LEPC active again.

## VI. Old Business

### a. *LEPC Membership Applications Approval*

There was a motion by Tim Hofbauer to approve the 41 LEPC membership applications, Kim Plouzek seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous acclamation vote with no abstentions or dissenting votes.

### b. *Other*

There was no other Old Business to report.

## VII. Subcommittee Reports

### a. *Training Subcommittee*

**Bryan Tuma:** NEMA is having internal discussion about the state training calendar and how to best coordinate it so that benefits not just emergency managers, but others who would benefit from it. NEMA will also continue to promote available training opportunities to SERC members.

**Sue Dempsey:** It was suggested that the results of the LEPC survey go out to those who took it and to follow up with them to let them know what training might be available. The #1 training request from survey results is ICS training, and these are available online and should be promoted. There is a consolidated calendar (TEPW) on the NEMA website. James will send out results of survey as well as links to available training (online ICS) and the consolidated calendar so they can see what's upcoming in their area. Bryan will send out the survey summary to SERC.

### b. *Outreach Subcommittee*

**James Rashilla:** James will gather metrics for the SERC to highlight how many meetings were attended across the state and how many areas were highlighted for development.

## VIII. SERC Member Reports

**NDEQ – Jeff Edwards:** NDEQ didn't have any emergency responses in the last quarter. The department participated in ESF training at NEMA in December 2018. The department is working on swine fever response guidance for producers, though it has not been detected in the United States. Tier 2 records should be sent to Terri Blunk at EPA. The department participated in the legislative breakfast. The department is going through a routine audit.

**Health & Human Services – Sue Dempsey:** Judy Martin, Deputy Director of Community and Environmental Health, is retiring.

**NEMA – Bryan Tuma:** Please send any names to fill SERC vacancies to James Rashilla so that he can forward them to the Governor's office for approval. James working with HAZMAT teams to identify training and equipment needs. Nebraska Medicine received a grant from the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) to be better prepared to respond to large scale incidents. Knowledge Center software was purchased with this grant allowing emergency management to communicate better with hospitals/health care systems during an incident. NEMA will have 1,000 user licenses for local stakeholders to use Knowledge Center. The goal is to have the draft platform

ready for NEMA to begin using by April 1, 2019, and a ready to use system for all by June 1 2019. Bryan provided a Homeland Security briefing update of any incidents that occurred in December 2018. It was suggested to go through the archive of Homeland Security briefs to look at metrics – types of incidents/industry/location etc. – to target training that might be useful.

**IX. Stakeholder Reports** (EPA, FBI, etc.)

**FBI – Mike Schmidt:** Norfolk will host WMD training in August. This training is geared toward first responders.

**EPA – Sue Dempsey (DHHS):** In Terri Blunk’s absence, Sue spoke for the EPA conference. Sue will be meeting with Sharon Medcalf and Tonya Ngotel. The University of Kansas will participate in the upcoming EPA conference (Aug 8-10, 2019 Region 7 EPA Conference in Omaha

<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/default.aspx?EventID=2538237>).

**NSP – Frank Peck:** Nebraska State Patrol sponsors active shooter training if locals are interested in this type of training. Anyone interested can contact the NSP for more information.

**X. Public Comments**

No public comments were expressed/presented.

**XI. Adjournment**

a. **Next Meeting April 9, 2019, 1:00 PM CST at SCC** (same location)

There was a motion by Bryan Tuma to adjourn, Sue Dempsey seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:54 PM CST.