

Rhode Island State Emergency Response Commission

Minutes February 6, 2012

Attendees:

Gina Friedman – DEM

Paul D’Abbraccio – RIEMA

Steven Preston – LEPC 1

Jim Ball – DEM

Michael Carey – LEPC 5

Richard James – RISFMO

Susan Mayo – JWU

Kevin Quinn – Union Fire District

David DiMaio – LEPC 3

Jim Larisa - SERC DLT

Bill Howard – National Grid

Mike Brazel – FEMA

Jim Gaffey – EPA

Bryan Greenwood – RIEMA

Jim Gumbley – RIEMA

E Stefan Coutoulakis – LEPC 4

Rodney Leighton – Haywood

Ed Johnson – RIEMA

Theresa Murray – RIEMA

Edward Mello – RI Police Chiefs

Jeffrey Stevens – DOH

Chris Harwood – JWU

Craig Kampmier – Elmhurst Extended Care

MEETING WAS IN PROGRESS WHEN I ARRIVED – PROBLEMS WITH RECORDER REVIEW OF BYLAWS WAS IN PROGRESS

Article IV Membership

Looks like we are down to just the one – Professional fire fighters association – do we have documentation that we have tried to contact them – no just trying to hunt down a name – should we send an official letter and get a response. Does anybody know who they are?

We are agreeing to eliminate to Leagues of Cities and Towns and Professional Fire Fighters – does RI general law say that there are specific to be invited – because the governor had zapped it out and then put it back in – this was a problem with grant - there is nothing by state statute that says anything about SERC - grant package to be reviewed.

Article V Duties of Office

Jim Ball – clarify who is SERC coordinator/vice chair – for next meeting Theresa will be chair – Jim is no longer vice chair. Paul is back up - OK with Jim Ball. Who is responsible for changes on website – updates are done as given. A member of the SERC has to

be the secretary - need to change Division to Agency – has always been Eva - bottom line is that a secretary will be provided to take the minutes.

Article VI Meetings

By laws says 6 times per year or every other month – we made changes to that – because we were trying to get up to speed – progress made – do we want to keep that – not hurting on these because it says regular meetings will be held at least 6 times a year so there is nothing precluding us to have additional meetings so we are good there.

Section 3 recommend that we change from 11 members to 7 members – do we have seven today – yes we have 8 – we are usually a lot closer to 7 than 11 – could even be worded that a quorum be a majority of voting members present which removes a number all together. A lot more would be done if we did not have to worry about a quorum this letter has been around since last August – either way is correct in Roberts Rules of Order – you can put a number or you can state that a quorum shall be majority of the voting members present - either way will work or you can reduce down to 5 as suggested by the Director. Amend to majority of voting members present.

Section 4 is all set

Section 5 Absences – some people have not played an active role but some people contribute a lot and they have not been able to make because of circumstances beyond their control – we do not want to lose people like that. This was put in here because when the bylaws were redone it was during the time when we were redistricting the LEPC’s from 9 to 5 – when we did that we also put into effect some qualifications for the LEPC chairs to ensure that we had competent people in those positions and to ensure that we got the best for our bang – this was put in there – anything in the bylaws can be stricken – this is just history since I did write them. I will not be upset if anything is removed. Looks good the way it is –

Article 7 Voting

Section 1 all set

Section 2 – will be amended to: a member may vote by written letter to the chair appointing his/her proxy. Proxy votes shall be limited to one per present member. Proxies shall also be accepted by written letter, email and fax.

Section 3 – a new section 3 would be approved voting means shall be by written and any other electronic means

Change old section 3 to new section 4

Article 8 Employees

Stands as is

Article 9 Committees

Standing Committees

Planning and Training committees are ok as is

Term of office – recommendation is for term of office of 2 years

Article 10 Amendments

OK as is

Training Committee – no changes

Planning Committee – let it stand

Recommendations from Preston – working with Jim Gaffney and trying to be more consistent with other New England States and to alevate some potential problems that the other LEPC chair can face – I would recommend that we look at Maine and Vermont – which mirror

one another – probably some of the best out there that would ensure continuity with the other NE states. Review policies and adapt accordingly for vote at next meeting for all changes to bylaws.

Planning Committee Report – met – reviewed the planning funds that were 75% for the LEPCS, voted to LEPC1 do the website – the other chairs voted for LEPC 1 to do flow study – take the balance and put into plan updates and hazmat conferences – sub grants written and forwarded to RIEMA.

Training Committee Report – Bill could not make it today.

LEPC District Reports –

LEPC1 – next meeting is April 18 at 1:30 at North Providence Public Library – we are currently receiving Tier 2 data – hope to get flow study time with the limited time we have left in the grant – takes 4 -5 months – quite encompassing – had been negligent in the past – plan is up to date – copies have been submitted to RIEMA to EPA.

LEPC3 – still working on district plan – should be done this month – meeting to be held in March – no location yet.

LEPC4 – Report was sent in – next meeting is 3/27 at 10AM at Quonset Development.

LEPC5 – Emergency response plan is still ongoing – last meeting was held 1/26 – next meeting is 4/6 at 10 AM at Middletown Police Station. One incident in district – St Andrews School.

New Business

Conference in Portland Maine – who is going, who wants to go, who is planning to go – how are we going to fund it? Web site is available for specifics. It is the 5th and 6th of April. Off line conversations to be had to determine what will be happening.

Issues concerning information regarding the correct counting of Tier 2 facilities – discrepancies in how counted. Theresa Murray to schedule meeting with all the players to clarify and resolve issues.

Stefan Coutoulakis – Michelle was been able to schedule federally funded advanced Cameo session - April 10 thru 12. Like to get the word out to the fire departments – class is limited to 30 – out of state interest is there – is at Radisson Hotel. Publicly thank her for her efforts. Push out to the Hazmat group – to be posted.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD MARCH 5, 2012 AT 10AM IN THE PLANNING ROOM AT RIEMA.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20.