

Minutes

STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION TRAINING COMMITTEE

October 16, 2013

Office of the State Fire Marshal, Providence, RI

The October 2013 meeting of the SERC Training Committee was called to order in the Office of the State Fire Marshal at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman William T. Giannini.

ATTENDING

William Giannini, Chairman

Tina Ahlborg, RI Fire Academy

Paul D'Abbraccio, RIEMA

James Gumbley, RI State Fire Marshal's Office

Melinda Hopkins, RIEMA

Susan Mayo, J&W University

Mark Pare, RI Fire Academy

Kevin Quinn, LEPC-4

Steven Preston, LEPC-1

Jeffrey Varone, LEPC-2

Minutes of the September meeting were read and accepted. (MMS – Preston, Quinn)

OLD BUSINESS

A discussion was held regarding the Plymouth hazmat conference. Chairman Giannini explained that funds that were approved by the SERC Training Committee allowing LEPC members to attend the conference were subsequently denied during the subgranting process and that attendees were not notified of this until after the conference was held. Consequently, the attendees who were relying on funding from the HMEP grant would be forced to bear the cost of attendance themselves. Upon making RIEMA Director McDonald aware of this situation via email from Chairman Giannini, the director restored the funds. Mr. D'Abbraccio explained that a critical issue was the timing of the request; it came quite late in the process. Chairman Giannini and Mr. Preston explained that the funding requests for the conference came late in the process because the Training Committee wanted to make sure that funds were made available for necessary training within the LEPCs before spending it on a conference. Additionally, funding for necessary training ran late this year because the grant was not ready until March, five months behind schedule. This problem should not arise with the FY2014 grant if it is ready for distribution by the beginning of the year. Mr. Gumbley suggested that training expenditures for FY14 be projected a prioritized in order to help avoid the situation again. The failure rate for the Hazmat Ops class was discussed. The comprehensive statistics provided by the RI Fire Academy were not useful in helping determine the root cause of the failure rate. Newly appointed RIFA Director Mark Pare would begin an

analysis of the problem and report back.

REQUESTS FOR TRAINING – see attachment

All requests for training were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

The Training Committee requested the RIEMA, as the parent body of the SERC, determine the viability of LEPC-5, as we have received no requests for training in some time.

A motion was made authorizing the HMEP Grant Program Manager, Mr. Gumbley, to serve as meeting chair in the absence of Chairman Giannini at any future meeting. The motion passed unanimously. (MMS – Preston, Varone)

Meeting adjourned at: 3:07 p.m.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for: November 13, 2013

Submitted;

WILLIAM T. GIANNINI

Training Committee Chairman