



Missouri Emergency Response Commission
2302 Militia Drive PO Box 3133
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
573-751-1700

Missouri Emergency Response Commission Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: 10:00 a.m. January 23, 2025

Location:
SEMA Conference Room

WebEx Call In: (650) 479-3207

Meeting number (access code): 2631 290 0793

Meeting password: UcB4n8PcY3Q

Attendees: Lisa Jobe, Karen Eagleson, Kim Brundage, Alex Fisher, Terry Cassil, Sara Allen, Lana Nelson, LeAnn Hoelscher, Cory Jorgensen, Matthew Loehr, Greg Landwehr, Stephanie Norton, Patrick Seamands, Sean Counihan, Jason White, James Remillard, Lisa Cardone, Amy Lepper, Nikol Enyart, Cody Garner, Chris Berndt, Stephen McLane, Jodi Harper, Brandon Jenson, Tammy Snodgrass, Tim Taylor

Welcome/Introductions

LEPC Grant-Amy Lepper

Awarded \$750,000. 18 total grant awards. Two agencies asked for foam and one agency asked for assistance with foam removal. Expect this number to increase next year. DNR funding for removal of funding has fallen through, so DNR won't be able to get rid of foam for departments. There are no submissions for reimbursement yet, so we are waiting for them to submit for reimbursement.

Minutes from the previous meeting 7-18-24

Motion to Approve: Sean Counihan

Second: Lisa Cardone

Approved meeting minutes

Old Business:

- Status of MERC Director- Not in the position to hire a director yet.

New Business:

- HMEP Applications will be out in late September- moved \$18,000 of unspent money from previous years to add extra classes.

We are attempting to spend every dollar.

Chris Berndt, Chairman

Cory Jorgensen, Vice-Chairman

- Fees- system has been updated to stop charging fees as of Aug 28, 2024. Tier II's are required through federal law, they will still file Tier II's but don't have to pay fees.
- Fee Letter- a letter will be sent out to Tier II filers prior to January 1, 2025. This letter was being reviewed by the attorneys.
- Bylaws- Lisa Cardone stated they are moving forward with this progress on the bylaw project.
- Legislation moving forward- Bill in the House and Bill in the Senate to change the sunset dates. The sponsoring representative and senator have indicated that this is their top priority.
 - House Member Tim Taylor sponsored the House Bill
 - Senator Brian Williams is sponsoring the Senate Bill
 - State of the state is next week, we are waiting to see if the NDI of \$1 million will come through to hold us over during the interim.

MERC Staff reports

Planner-

LEPC/LEPD CEPF Compliance 2024-25 – LEPC/LEPD CEPF Compliance 2024-25-This is the requirement for them to fill out even though there won't be a payout. This is for them to show us how they are spending the money that they already have.

Motion to approve as is except change the year from 2024 to 2025- Sean Counihan

Second- Patrick Seamands

Motion passed

**** New Streamlined Process** LEPC/LEPD Annual Compliance 2024-25**- Specific to every LEPC/LEPD. People are sending updates and meeting minutes very well this year. If Sara has received this information in a previous application (like their bylaws) and they haven't changed, she won't request them. She will send an individualized packet to each LEPC each year based on what she doesn't have from that particular LEPC. Have tried to streamline this process to make it easier for LEPC/D's. We used to have them send everything every year. Now we will only require them to send what we don't have that's updated.

Motion to approve this document with date change from 2024 to 2025- Chris Berndt

Second- Sean Counihan

Motion carried

LEPC/LEPD Annual Compliance Checklist-

Three places that need changed.

Notes that it needs to be HSEEP format.

Nothing in writing that says to whom the AAR is to be sent.

Acknowledgement that there are two separate packets rather than one packet.

Suggestion to separate the Complete/Return LEPC/LEPD CEPF Compliance checkbox into two separate bullet points.

Also, the date at the top will change to reflect today's date.

Material Safety Data Sheet on page one and back page should both change to Safety Data Sheet rather than Material Safety Data Sheet.

Motion to approve the LEPC/LEPD Annual Compliance checklist with the changes listed above- Patrick Seamands
Second- Sean Counihan
Motion carries

September 2023 MERC Commission Meeting, this commission voted that when LEPC's combine into one LEPD, they had to combine their money by December 31, 2023, we told LEPC's that they had to transfer money by this date. They are not combining their money and refuse to follow this guideline.

One LEPC refuses to combine their money and follow this guideline. Previous director told them as well that they had to combine their accounts by the deadline. Sara needs guidance on what to do with this situation. This is the Boonslick LEPD- Cooper/Howard County.

Jodi Harper said she can confirm what authority SERC's have over LEPC funding/spending.

We will table this issue until the next meeting to give some time to educate the commission on the authority this commission has over LEPC funding pertaining to this situation.

LEPC/LEPD Compliance is what they are spending.

Director Items not previously discussed: Karen received an email from one of the pipeline companies asking why they needed to file in the Tier II system when their NPMS system is more robust than ours. When we verified, this looks to be correct. We have heard from 3 or 4 different pipelines. We will respond that we are looking into this but it's in statute, but it has to change at the legislative level. We will give them a timeline of when this might happen. They are just asking why they have to file redundantly.

There's a concern that everything is in one place with Tier II system rather than having to go to several spots.

Talking about the NPMS system. Anyone can go there at any time and get all the pipeline information for all pipelines at one time. Emergency responders have access to that system also.

If you get people on the LEPC that aren't aware of the NPMS system but are aware of the Tier II system, we might have some folks who are missing the information.

Partner Agency Reports

- DHSS
- DFS- Greg Landwehr updated on funding from CEPF. For this year they get \$92,106. They have obligated all of that money for training. Have half that fund left right now. Have classes scheduled pretty far out. Greg gave Lisa the information on classes and contracts they have available. Greg will reach out to see what we want them to report on.
- EPA
- MoDNR
- 7th CST

Concerned Citizen- Stephen McLane would like to ask the commission to consider adding Li-ion batteries to the Tier II system. We are allowed to add chemicals to the system. They are exempt under EPCRA because they are designated for end use or recycling. Nobody knows these things are here unless they catch fire. Under state rules, this commission has the right to add this item to the filing process, just need to figure out reporting quantities.

Terry asked that we have some time to research some other states that are having people report Li-ion batteries. Maybe start with Illinois since they had the same company that had a big warehouse fire in Illinois as Missouri.

Is there a reportable quantity out there for Li/Ion Batteries?? (Jodi Harper)

Don't have an answer to that question because it's the same problem we have with mixtures. We have to know what is in each battery.

Report on the MERC bills -Tim Taylor joined the meeting- He had a meeting this morning with the Speaker's staff about the importance of this. We hope to see this assigned to a committee soon.

System is working pretty well for now.

Tier II filers are filing very well this year. Maybe because they are not required to pay.

Fiscal Report- Nikol

FY 26 Budget year, Nikol predicted by the end of this year what would be in our checking account.

\$679,560 in checking now

She projected \$1,000,014. We are 67 percent there, so we are sitting in a good spot because we are a third there. If that NDI goes through, we should be good to get through the year.

Firefighter training already spent 58% of their funding.

Appropriations are between 25 and 38%.

New HMEP application just opened up for year one of 3-year grant cycle. This is due at the beginning of March to get in our budgeted items.

We are pretty much on track financially.

Tim Taylor- Talking points on the bill for Tim Taylor- Breakdown of the fees that are extended to those filing the Tier II's.

Also fee structure for Tier II fees.

Need to send to the commission members too.

Motion to adjourn; Sean Counihan

Second: Lisa Cardone

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: April 17, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Rescheduled to May 15, 2025 at 10:00 am.