



ARIZONA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY
MINUTES – September 28, 2021

The Arizona State Emergency Response Commission convened via GoToMeeting.

VOTING MEMBERS/DESIGNEES PRESENT VIRTUALLY

Laura Malone	AZSERC Executive Director AZDEQ (AZ Department of Environmental Quality)
Kathy Hassett	DEMA (AZ Department of Emergency and Military Affairs)
Cheryl Bowen Kennedy	AZDOHS (AZ Department of Homeland Security)
Michael Stidham (Alt.)	AZDOHS (AZ Department of Homeland Security)
Sgt. Joshua Henson	AZDPS (AZ Department of Public Safety)
Brent Cain	AZDOT (AZ Department of Transportation)
Dwayne Uhlig	AZDA (AZ Department of Agriculture)
Suzette dePersio (Alt.)	AZDA (AZ Department of Agriculture)
Geoffrey McCormick	AZCC (AZ Corporation Commission)
Bryce Rucker	AZICA (AZ Industrial Commission of Arizona)
Cassie Peters Jr.	AZDFFM (AZ Department of Forestry & Fire Management)
Tom White	ASMI (AZ State Mine Inspector)
Rob Biscoe	AFCA (AZ Fire Chiefs Association)
Theresa Ehnert	AZDHS (AZ Department of Health Services)

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

GUESTS

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mimi Hernandez La Paz County LEPC

Curt Bagby	La Paz County LEPC
Frank Granados	Santa Cruz County LEPC
Tony Badilla	Yuma County LEPC
Stephanie Booher	Yuma County LEPC
Mike Erfert	Yuma County LEPC
Russell Hartley	Yuma County LEPC
Joshua Yungvirt	Maricopa County LEPC
Wade Brannon	Pinal County LEPC
Eddie Rodriguez	Pinal County LEPC
Robert Church	Coconino County LEPC
Sam Beckett	Coconino County LEPC
Ron Sauntman	Yavapai County LEPC
Tammi-Jo Wilkins	Cochise County LEPC
Gary Robinson	Gila County LEPC
Paul Kramkowski	Pima County LEPC
Jason Payne	Heber-Overgaard Fire
Catrina Jenkins	Navajo County LEPC

STAFF PRESENT

Arcangel Barragan	ADEQ-ERU (AZ Department of Environmental Quality Emergency Response Unit) - Presenter
Michele Martinez	ADEQ-ERU (AZ Department of Environmental Quality Emergency Response Unit) - Presenter
Chris Nutter	ADEQ-ERU (AZ Department of Environmental Quality Emergency Response Unit) – Presenter
Dave Varela	ADEQ-ERU (AZ Department of Environmental Quality Emergency Response Unit) – Presenter
Jamie Hernandez	ADEQ (AZ Department of Environmental Quality)
Mannie Bowler	ADEQ (AZ Department of Environmental Quality)
Melissa Hayes	ADEQ (AZ Department of Environmental Quality)
Roxanne Linsley	ADEQ (AZ Department of Environmental Quality)
Morgan O’Conner Presenter	ADEQ (AZ Department of Environmental Quality) - Presenter

1. A quorum is established. Ms. Malone noted a quorum of voting members participating virtually with twelve members present and none absent.

2. Ms. Laura Malone, Executive Director of the Commission, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

3. Welcome and Introductions/Review of Minutes

Ms. Malone welcomed members and attendees.

Ms. Malone went over virtual housekeeping for attendees.

Ms. Malone requested Commissioners review the May 25, 2021 minutes and then called for a motion to accept the minutes.

Cheryl Kennedy asked that her name be corrected to Cheryl Bowen Kennedy.

Geoffrey McCormick offered the motion with the recommended change that was seconded by Brent Cain.

The motion carried 12/0/0 absent.

Ms. Malone welcomed and introduced the new AZSERC Members, Kathy Hassett, Training Manager, MA Emergency Management Division with the Department of Emergency & Military Affairs (DEMA); Sgt. Joshua Henson, Hazardous Materials Response Unit with the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS); Michael Stidham, Critical Infrastructure Coordinator with the Department of Homeland Security (AZDOHS); and Don Herrington, Interim Director with the Department of Health Services (AZDHS).

Ms. Malone acknowledged the changes in representation for SERC members. She thanked Matt Heckard (DEMA), Gilbert Orrantia (AZDOHS), James Ashley (AZICA), Joe Heart and Laurie Swartzbaugh (ASMI); and Dr. Cara Christ (AZDHS) for their commitment and service to the SERC and to the community.

4. Executive Session

None

5. ADEQ Community Liaison Presentation

Morgan O’Conner presented on the ADEQ Community Liaison & Resources. Each of the team members were introduced and gave a brief overview of their capabilities.

6. High-Hazard Flammable Trains (HHFTs)

a. HHFT (HMEP) Report Update - Ms. Malone informed the Commission that an amended report was submitted to PHMSA in response to HHFT information sharing to reflect the SERCs HHFT process is no longer in the planning stages. The established process has been implemented and successfully carried out.

b. Dissemination of HHFT Information Update - Ms. Malone informed the Commission as of September 24, 2021 all previous HHFT reports have been disseminated to those counties who were affected. As of September 16, 2021, the most recent report was disseminated.

c. HHFT Process – Michele Martinez provided an overview of the final HHFT Dissemination process. Ms. Malone thanked Commissioner McCormick for bringing the HHFT matter to the SERCs attention. Ms. Malone asked if the Commissioners had any questions regarding the process and then called for a motion to accept the process as presented.

Geoffrey McCormick offered the motion that was seconded by Laura Malone.

The motion carried 12/0/0 absent.

7. CALL TO SERC MEMBERS (ACTION ITEM RESULTS)

A. Action Item 1 Result- Ms. Malone informed the Commission that AZSERC staff completed dissemination of HHFT confidential information to LEPC Chairpersons and Fire Department Chiefs.

B. Action Item 2 Result – Ms. Malone informed the Commission that AZSERC staff completed task of emailing Conflict of Interest Policy (ADEQ) and Conflict of Interest Forms to all AZSERC members. Completed task of collecting signed Conflict of Interest forms from AZSERC members, including all new members.

8. Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)

a. Voting Membership Applications Ratification - Voting membership applications were presented to the Commission for ratification. Laura Malone called for a motion to ratify the membership applications as presented.

Brent Cain offered the motion that was seconded by Dwayne Uhlig.

The motion carried 12/0/0 absent.

b. LEPC Compliance – Michele Martinez presented the LEPC requirements for LEPC meeting requirements under A.R.S. §49-124 and LEPC Bylaws; and A.R.S. §49-125 requirements for conducting biennial exercises. Discussion held.

c. Emergency Response Plans (pursuant to A.R.S. §49-125) – Arcangel Barragan presented an overview of the emergency response plans that were submitted for review. He presented AZSERC staff’s recommendations for approval of eleven of the fifteen plans that were submitted.

Ms. Malone called for a motion to accept the recommendations as presented. Discussion held.

Cheryl Bowen Kennedy offered the motion that was seconded by Geoffrey McCormick.

The motion carried 12/0/0 absent.

- d. LEPC Bylaws – Michele Martinez presented information regarding status of recommendations made by staff to LEPCs regarding their Bylaws. Nine were returned for updates, four had no changes and two did not submit. Discussion held.

9. Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP)

- a. Status FY2021/FY2022 – Michele Martinez informed the Commission September 30th will conclude the second year of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant. The third and final year of the grant will begin on October 1, 2021. The grant award anticipated is \$353,350. Award letters will be sent to recipients on October 1.
- b. Regional Commodity Flow Study for SR 260 Update – Michele Martinez informed the Commission ADEQ completed a regional hazardous materials commodity flow study for Northern Arizona for SR 260 that included participation from five counties and one tribe (Apache, Coconino, Gila, Navajo, Yavapai and White Mountain Apache). The total cost of the study was \$88,515 using HMEP funds. The project began February 2021 and was completed July 2021. Discussion held.
- c. Regional Commodity Flow Study for Southern Arizona Update – Michele Martinez informed the Commission ADEQ started a second regional hazardous materials commodity flow study for Southern Arizona with thirteen monitoring sites that included participation from three counties and two tribes (Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, Pascua Yaqui Tribe and Tohono O’odham Nation.) The project began in July 2021. Monitoring of all sites concluded in September 2021, the final report is projected to be completed in January 2022. The cost associated with this project is \$153,710 using HMEP funds. Discussion held.

10. Emergency Response Fund (ERF)

Arcangel Barragan provided information regarding the results of the participation in the ERF program for FY 2022. Participation in the program increased by 54% due to an increase in outreach by the ERU staff.

11. Tier II

Arcangel Barragan provided information on enhancements for the Tier II system.

12. Action Item Review

Action Item 1 – AZSERC staff to contact LEPCs and offer any assistance if necessary to ensure compliance with biennial exercise requirements.

Action Item 2 – AZSERC staff to send a calendar invitation to AZSERC Members for the LEPC Workshop scheduled for 10/27/2021.

Action Item 3 – AZSERC staff to send Emergency Response Plan forms with recommendations to AZSERC members.

Action Item 4 – AZSERC staff to prepare options for AZSERC members regarding LEPCs who are not in compliance with A.R.S. Title 49. To be sent to Commissioners prior to the next AZSERC meeting for their review.

Action Item 5 – AZSERC staff to send a copy of the SR260 commodity flow study to Commissioner Cain.

11. Future Agenda Items

LEPC Compliance - Options for Commissioners to address non-compliance concerns.

Additional items for the agenda may be emailed to Michele Martinez at martinez.michele@azdeq.gov.

11. CALL TO THE PUBLIC


None.

Laura Malone announced the LEPC Workshop scheduled for 10/27/2021. AZSERC members will receive a calendar invite.

12. PROPOSED DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT



There being no further business, Ms. Malone called for a motion to adjourn.

Geoffrey McCormick offered the motion that was seconded by Sgt. Josh Henson.

The motion carried 12/0/0 absent.

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Minutes approved: March 23, 2022