



Arizona Emergency Response Commission

1110 West Washington St. Phoenix, AZ 85007 | Phone: 602-771-0397 | azdeq.gov/AZSERC

REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES – June 3, 2026

The Arizona State Emergency Response Commission convened virtually via GoToWebinar on June 3, 2026.

VOTING MEMBERS/DESIGNEES PRESENT

Gabe Lavine (late arrival)	AZDEMA (AZ Dept of Emergency and Military Affairs)
Chris Pitman (initial voting member)	AZDEMA (AZ Dept of Emergency and Military Affairs)
Cpt. Tom Neve, Chair	AZDPS (AZ Department of Public Safety)
Michael Stidham, Vice-Chair	AZDOHS (AZ Department of Homeland Security)
David Egliskis	ADOT (AZ Department of Transportation)
Joseph Pinkerman (Present)	AZCC (AZ Corporation Commission)
Bryce Rucker	AZICA (AZ Industrial Commission of Arizona)
Chris Kriebel	AZDFFM (AZ Department of Forestry and Fire Management)
Les Presmyk	AZSMI (AZ State Mine Inspector)
Brian Darling (Present)	AFCA (AZ Fire Chiefs Association)
Edward Valinski (Virtual)	AZDHS (AZ Department of Health Services)

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dwayne Uhlig	AZDA (AZ Department of Agriculture)
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GUESTS

James Olson	AGO (Attorney General's Office)
John Tuepker	AZDPS (AZ Department of Public Safety)
Sonya Herrera	ADOT (AZ Department of Transportation)
Eric Villa (audio difficulties)	AZCC (AZ Corporation Commission)
Tony Shamblen	AZDFFM (AZ Department of Forestry and Fire Management)
Jason Jessamine	AFCA (AZ Fire Chiefs Association)
Tony Badilla	Yuma County LEPC
Albert Echave	Cochise County LEPC
Joseph Cruz	Maricopa County LEPC
Justin Quarles	Gila County LEPC
Derek Tilbury	Humana
Jason Scott	La Paz County LEPC
Erin Abel	Atlas Technical Consultants
Joey Kosiorowski	Pima County LEPC

Megan Sheldon
Joan Roberts

City of Glendale
Unknown (Schoolmail.site)

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PRESENT

Julie Riemenschneider	ADEQ - WPD Director
Alicia Chacon	ADEQ - WPD EA
David Varela	ADEQ - Emergency Response Unit
Michele Martinez	ADEQ - Emergency Response Unit
Joaquin Marruffo	ADEQ
Roxanne Linsley	ADEQ
Justin Harris	ADEQ

1. Establish quorum (Roll Call)

A quorum was established. Chairman Neve noted a quorum of voting members participating virtually. Ten members are in attendance virtually, and one was absent. Commissioner Villa, representing the Arizona Corporation Commission, was present but lacked audio capability; therefore, he was unable to cast a vote. There were two representatives present from each of the following agencies: the AZ Dept of Emergency and Military Affairs, the AZ Department of Public Safety, the AZ Department of Transportation, the AZ Department of Forestry and Fire Management, and the AZ Fire Chiefs Association. Only one representative voted on behalf of each agency.

2. Call meeting to order

Meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Chairman Neve.

3. Welcome and introductions

Chairman Neve Reviewed virtual housekeeping items for the attendees. He welcomed Sgt. John Tuepker as the alternate representative for the Arizona Department of Public Safety. He advised the Commission that Ms. Laurie Swartsbaugh is no longer the alternate for the Office of the State Mine Inspector, and he thanked her for her service to the Commission from October 2025 to April 2026.

4. Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Update. Due to persistent audio difficulties, Director Riemenschneider was unable to present this item. This update will be deferred and added to the agenda for the next scheduled meeting. **No action was taken.**

5. Approval of Minutes – Chairman Neve asked the Commissioners if they had reviewed the draft minutes for the March 31, 2026, Regular Session SERC Meeting. Chairman Neve then called for a motion to accept the minutes. Commissioner Pittman moved to accept the minutes, and Vice-Chair Stidham seconded the motion. **The motion carried with a vote of 9-0, with Commissioner Villa abstaining due to audio difficulties and one member was absent.**

6. **America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA)** – Michele Martinez provided an overview of all disruption in water services that occurred from March 27, 2026, to May 25, 2026. **This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken.**
7. **Highly Hazardous Flammable Trains (HHFT)** – Michele Martinez provided an overview of all HHFT Confidential reports submitted from March 12, 2026, to May 26, 2026. Staff disseminated these reports to Commission members, impacted LEPCs, and Fire Chiefs in accordance with the established process. **This item was for informational purposes only; no action was taken.**
8. **New Business**
 - a. **Emergency Response Plan Review for Yavapai County LEPC** –Chairman Neve asked the Commissioners if they had reviewed the emergency response plan. Discussion was held. Due to time constraints, the Commissioners noted they lacked sufficient time to thoroughly review the plan. The item was tabled until the next scheduled meeting. **No action was taken.**
 - b. **Emergency Response Plan Review Committee** – Discussion was held regarding SERC members forming a subcommittee to review LEPC emergency response plans. Commissioner Valinski moved to table this agenda item until the Commission received legal advice from Assistant Attorney General Olson regarding whether the subcommittee would be subject to open meeting law quorum requirements. Commissioner Kriebel seconded the motion. **The motion carried with a vote of 9-0, with Commissioner Villa abstaining due to audio difficulties and one member was absent.**
9. **Old Business**
 - a. **LEPC Emergency Response Plan Yuma County** – Chairman Neve asked the Commissioners if they had reviewed the emergency response plan for Yuma County. Commissioner Lavine moved to approve the Yuma County Emergency Response Plan as revised, and Commissioner Darling seconded the motion. **The motion carried with a vote of 9-0, with Commissioner Villa abstaining due to audio difficulties and one member was absent. Note: Gabe Lavine will vote on behalf of the Arizona Dept of Emergency and Military Affairs from this item forward.**
 - b. **Conflict of Interest Form Status** – Michele Martinez informed the Commission that all conflict of interest forms had been received. **This information was for informational purposes only; no action was taken.**
10. **Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)**
 - a. **Review of Emergency Response Plans.** This matter was cross-referenced and disposed of during earlier agenda items. The Yavapai County LEPC Emergency Response Plan review was tabled under Item 8(a), and the Yuma County LEPC Emergency Response Plan was approved under Item 9(a). **No further action was taken.**

- b. **Biennial Exercise Training Status (A.R.S. §49-125 (C))** – Michele Martinez provided an overview of all LEPC biennial exercises that have been conducted, along with their scheduled due dates for compliance. **This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken.**
 - c. **LEPC Membership Application Ratification** – Michele Martinez presented the LEPC Voting Membership Application to the Commission for their review and ratification. Vice-Chair Stidham moved to approve the application as presented, and Commissioner Lavine seconded the motion. **The motion carried 9/0 with a vote of 9-0, with Commissioner Villa abstaining due to audio difficulties and one member was absent.**
 - d. **LEPC Meeting Status** – Michele Martinez presented the status of all LEPCs who are actively holding meetings in accordance with Arizona Revised Statute. **This item was for informational purposes; no action was taken.**
11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Commissioner Lavine moved to enter Executive Session to receive the Arizona Attorney General’s Office Open Meeting Law training under A.R.S. §§38-431 to 38-431.09, and to receive legal advice from Commission counsel regarding subcommittee requirements under Open Meeting. Vice-Chair Stidham seconded the motion. **The motion carried with a vote of 9-0, with Commissioner Villa abstaining due to audio difficulties and one member was absent.**
- Commission members adjourned and entered Executive Session at 2:00 p.m.
12. **Resume Open Session (Roll Call) Establish Quorum** – Chairman Neve reestablished quorum. The Commission reconvened into open session at 2:37 p.m.
13. **Executive Session Review** – Chairman Neve reported that the Commission entered Executive Session solely to receive Open Meeting Law training from the Attorney General’s Office and to obtain legal advice regarding subcommittee requirements. He stated that no official business was transacted and no votes or legal actions were taken during the closed session.
14. **Action Item Review** - None
15. **Call to the public.** No comments from the public.
16. **Future Agenda Items.** None
17. **Proposed Date and Time of Next Meeting.** Discussion held. The next regular AZSERC meeting will be tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.
18. **Adjournment**

There being no further business. Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Meeting minutes approved 9/24/2026.