

IOWA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

Corrected Minutes of November 07, 2002
Stanley Conference Room
First Floor - Iowa Workforce Development
1000 E. Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa

Members present:

Chris Scase
Dave Miller*
Elizabeth Christiansen*
Pat Paustian
Don Flater
Anne Jackson*
Sue Lagneaux*
Mahala Cox
Jim Kinkle*
Deb Madison

Members Absent

Julie Bell
Frank Magsamen
Tom Sever*

*denotes voting member

Staff Present:

Dan Lee - EMD
Paul Sader - EMD
Kathy Lee - DNR

Guests Present:

Bob Goldhammer - Polk County
Scott Hansen - Region 6/Benton County
Gene Evans - EPA
George Hess - EPA
Tina Lowery - EPA

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Scase. She had everyone introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes:

July 30, 2001
January 3, 2002

Moved approval of the minutes by Elizabeth Christiansen, second by Sue Lagneaux.
Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence, Speeches, Conference Reports

Chris announced that Ellen Gordon had resigned and David Miller has been appointed in her place.

Chris talked about the Annual Conference June 3-5, 2002. Kathy Lee commented that flooding in eastern Iowa during that time created a disaster for county coordinators, many of whom had to leave the conference. The next conference is June 4, 5 & 6, 2003. Mahalia wants one day for just LEPC component. She said there is a need for better advertisement on LEPC part.

Committee Updates: Membership / Reports

Executive - An Executive Committee meeting was held in October to discuss quorum issues, staffing and direction of the IERC and how EPCRA plans can mesh with current initiatives.

Information Education - Mahala reported on the Hazmat Symposium and the 4 hour LEPC segment that was presented.

LEPC Support - no report

LEPC Activity- Regional Planning Districts

Southeast Iowa Regional Planning District - no activity.

Region 6 - the LEPCs in Benton, Cedar, Clayton, Delaware, Jones have petitioned the IERC to form a planning district named Region 6. Chris reviewed the statutory requirement of designating LEPC planning districts. Paul Sadler reviewed the IERCs requirements for petitioning the IERC to form a multi-county planning district. He stated that the application for Region 6 is complete all requirements have been met. Although the boundaries are not contiguous, there is a consensus that other counties will join later on.

Motion by Elizabeth Christiansen to disband the individual LEPCs in Benton, Cedar, Clayton, Delaware and Jones Counties and form the boundaries of the Region 6 Emergency Planning District, comprised of the same counties. Second by Anne Jackson. Motion carried.

Region 7 LEPC Conference

The Region 7 LEPC Conference, for SERCs and LEPCs from Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas will be held August 21-24, 2003, at the Double Tree Hotel in Omaha, Nebraska. Nominations for LEPC Awards will be taken. Deadline for nominations is July 1st. Sunday Morning will be a meeting of the SERCs of the four states. Paul Sadler and Bob Goldhammer are on the planning committee.

Fees

A discussion originated from the previous discussion concerning fees to benefit LEPCs paid by facilities that file tier 2 forms. Chris asked for volunteers to begin the process of looking at fees for to benefit LEPCs. Kathy Lee volunteered to get the group together the first week in December. Chris Scase, Dave Miller, Elizabeth Christiansen, and Mahala Cox will be the rest of the informal committee.

EMI self-study course for LEPC members pilot. A pilot home study course is being offered by the Emergency Management Institute for LEPC. Input will be taken to make improvements to the course before it is released for general use.

Discussion of 2003 meeting dates

It was decided to continue to meet on the first Thursday of every other month. It was also decided that future meetings will be held at the Iowa Emergency Management Division, Level A, Hoover Building, Des Moines at 9:00 a.m.

Future meeting dates are:

January 2, 2003

March 6, 2003

May 1, 2003

July 3, 2003

September 4, 2003

November 6, 2003

January 8, 2004

New HMEP Grant Award Information

Dan Lee provided three documents for the IERC, copies attached to official minutes. He discussed each document. There were no penalties to applicants this year. The base amount for each applicant county is \$1000 and additional amount is prorated on the basis of need. Chris said that the money can only be used for approved hazmat planning and training. Other means are available for equipment and other needs. Dan said that the counties may use some of their award money for attending the Regional LEPC conference in August 2003. Dan said the documents would be available to the IERC electronically.

Agency Reports

Section 301 – Emergency Management Division

LEPC membership – Paul Sadler reported that six nominations were appointed and he asked that four resignations be approved. Elizabeth Christiansen moved, Jim Kinkle second, motion passed.

LEPC Membership Report - Sadler reported there are at least two LEPC members in each district.

Section 303 – Emergency Management Division

Sadler distributed maps that show the status of the EPCRA plans in Iowa. It indicated that 7 counties have no plan on file, 18 are in progress and 65 have a completed plan. Each county is required by Emergency Management to have a current Hazardous Materials Plan in their Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 304 – Dept. of Natural Resources

Emergency Notifications Kathy Lee reported that DNR has received 924 reports. She said that is on par with last year at this time. Kathy briefed the group on the legal action in Plymouth County between a tanker truck company and the Sioux City Hazmat Team. It appears that the 3rd party exemption has rarely been able to be used successfully used as a manner of defense for not paying a bill. She said there appears to be no reason to amend the Iowa Code.

Section 305 – Emergency Management Division

Upcoming training for Annex P mentors - EPA grant will be used to train "mentors" in the new version of the Cameo suite on December 4-5. They will be able to go out to counties in their IEMA Districts to assist other counties in their EPCRA plans. Jerry Norfolk will be the instructor.

Section 302 & 312 – Division of Labor

Tier II Reporting & facility Submissions - Anne Jackson reported that the bulk of the data base for this year is completed and will be ready for distribution. She said that "on-line interactive tier two reports" will be available on the Workforce Development website.

Section 313 – Dept. of Natural Resources

Form R Reporting -Kathy Lee reported that about 100 Form R's have been received.

EPA/FEMA Reports

George Hess reported for EPA that the Tier 2 Submit program is now available on the EPA Headquarters webpage. TRI workshops will be conducted this year in the spring. Excess computers remain in the warehouses until litigation is settled. RMP/Clean Air Act The reporting center where facilities send their RMP has a new address has changed. Grants for 2003 - one grant of \$20,000 was awarded to Iowa Emergency Management. The strategy for RMP inspections will change in 2004, the bulk of emphasis in the past was on those facilities that have not filed that should have filed. There will be an emphasis on the quality of submissions and instead of inspections they will be doing audits. Voluntary audits are being conducted by some of the trade organizations. Site security for critical and vulnerable targets have been looked at with the assistance of LEPCs.

Public Comment:

Don Flater reported on the nuclear shipping fees that will be collected and the potential of shipping across Iowa and safety precautions that are in place and being practiced.

Kathy Lee announced that in her unit, there will be two people will be changing jobs and new people will be hired to replace them. She indicated she will not be able to do Cameo Training in 2003, but EPA has hired people who can do training.

Bob Goldhammer, presented a letter signed by the Polk County LEPC expressing concern about the lack of quorums and inactivity of the IERC.

Don Flater reported on the status of the Iowa Ammunition Plant at Burlington.