

**Connecticut State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)
January 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes -Approved**

Attending Members/Designees

Chairman Goudreau, Jeff Morrisette, John Elsesser, Bill Abbott, Matt LaFayette, John Littell, Bob Araujo, David Kallander, Kyle Zimmer, Peter Zack and Diane Duva.

Guests

Richard Coleman, Paul Thompson, Jerry Luckowski, Jamie Cuticello, Several members of the public and additional agency representatives were present.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P.M. by Chairman Goudreau.

Vote/Approve – Meeting Minutes

A motion to accept the **November 14, 2019** Meeting Minutes was made by Bill Abbott and was seconded by Bob Araujo. Motion carried without revisions

Member vacancies - Chairman Goudreau noted we have public and facility member vacancies. He noted there are some individuals interested. If others have suggestions, please forward the names to him.

Meeting schedule - There was a discussion as to whether any adjustments are needed for the 2020 schedule. None were identified at this time. It was noted that the schedule was distributed to members previously via email and is also available on the SERC website.

HMEP Grant activities: review of 2019 and planning for 2020

Jeff Morrisette summarized the accomplishments from the 2019 grant, including training of 792 public sector employees;

DEEP representatives Peter Zack and Diane Duva summarized plans for the 2020 HMEP grant: similar level of training and provision of guidance manuals; specialized training; exercises for Geographic Response Plans incorporating a transportation related release scenario. Peter Zack flagged we are also in the process of submitting the state's application for next year's grant and welcomed input from SERC members.

Discussion turned to the topic of PFAS. Bob Araujo questioned if any funds are available for PFAS training & awareness, what replacements to purchase, what new practices are needed for replacements; for Fire Departments, facilities.

Comments noted about potential for take back program. Matt LaFayette stated there is no update yet regarding funding for take back. There is concern about interim storage practices and the need for continued guidance on interim storage practices. The guidance distributed in June regarding best practices for selecting when to use types of foams was referenced.

Members agreed to keep the PFAS and foam topic on agenda for next meeting in March.

CT National Guard exercise planning overview:

Captain Jamie Cuticello SFE Project Officer with the CT National Guard and his colleagues presented an overview presentation for the October 16-19 exercise which is an all hazards response evaluation. He

noted it is an unclassified exercise designed to focus on operational improvement and address training gaps. Cyber and physical attacks will be part of scenario. Next planning meetings 0900 – 1600 on March 11-12 Camp Nett, Niantic CT; June 16-17; September 16-17; AAR November 18-19;

Discussion following presentation. Lt. Cuticello noted that the CTNG facilities are available for training needs of other organizations.

New Business:

EPCRA March 1 submittal deadline—we have been receiving many already—the DEEP webpage will shift between platforms during February. Questions can be sent via email to the CTEPCRA email address.

Diane Duva noted that the DEMHS Statewide Advisory Council approved the *2020-2025 Statewide Emergency Management and Homeland Security Strategy*.

Potential future meeting topics and participation for 2020—CTNG noted that the Civil Air Patrol might attend to present their capabilities; EPA and USCG may attend; Interest expressed in inviting EPA EPCRA staff to attend—interest in learning when next CAMEO Training may be held. USCG willing to provide presentation at a future meeting on the Sector.

USCG noted there will be a Change of Command and new Captain in June or July. Noted upcoming events in which the USCG is engaged: Feb training on command side, and continuity of operations exercise with Boston; Feb 6 training with Navy; National level exercise in May; OpSail is cancelled; SailFest is weekend after July 4 [so July 11]; CT maritime Heritage Festival September; will participate in CTNG October exercise.

Public Comments (opportunity for comments from any members of the public present)

None.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kyle Zimmer and seconded by Bob Araujo. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.