SERC MEETING MINUTES – 2/28/22

Via Microsoft Teams

**In Attendance:**  Ally Sleiman, Lorri Gifford, Dawn Brantley, James Devlin, John Viveiros, Kenyi Suarez, William Fisher, Spencer Lord, Heather Tecce, Bud McDonough, Charles Colley, Mike Castro, David DiGregorio, Mark Munroe, David Ostiguy, Leonard Wallace, John Illingworth, Charles Goodwin, Marc Nascarella, Tiffany Skogstrom, Scott Cluett, Lauren Sardella, Martha Mittelstaedt, Tom Walsh, Justin Kates, Kari Sasportas, Andy Goldberg, Andrew Beaulieu, Soriano Renee, Desiree Kocis, Jason Ehrets, Rachel Fleck, Christian Cunnie, Diana Rawles, Andrew Trice, Katy Bellemare, Matthew Kolhonen, Robert Barry.

Spencer Lord reviewed the Governor’s Executive Order regarding public meetings RE virtual environment.

* All members will be participating remotely
* Recording is allowed, Kenyi Suarez from MEMA will be recording the meeting
  + All others who would like to record should identify themselves (no committee member stated that they will be recording)

**Welcome:**

John Viveiros spoke briefly regarding upcoming changes to the SERC and potential reform of the program.

**Review and Approve Meeting Minutes**:

John Viveiros asked for a vote on the previous meeting minutes.

Meeting minutes for 11/09/22 – Tom Walsh motioned to approve, and Dave DiGregorio 2nd the motion. Unanimously approved

**Len Wallace:** Len Wallace from EPA, presented on Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) 101 - Chemical Inventory Training. Len will send John Viveiros a link to the SERC Training and information on counterparts from other states. Len mentioned that FEMA and the National Response Team have a guidance document on how to review an LEPC Plan.

**DFS Training Update:** Dave DiGregorio from DFS provided a DFS training update and HMEP Grant allocation. The HMEP funding goes to the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy – Special Hazards Training. This is the Annual Hazmat conference in Plymouth, MA hosted by an independent association of Hazmat Technicians. The funding also supports the cost of support personal and supplies for the courses and the travel and salary for instructors and technicians to attend conferences outside of MA. Dave DiGregorio mentioned that DFS uses social media to advertise their courses.

**EPC Certification Application for review:** None for this meeting.

**Tier II Reporting:** Roughly 5,000 facilities submitted their reports by mid-February, a couple of thousand more are expected to be submitted by the end of the reporting period. We are working with our current vendor to increase capability of Tier II reporting; we hope to have a better program in place by next year.

**HMEP Grants:** Lorri Gifford provided an update on the HMEP Grant, this is the 3rd year of the 3-year grant. Lorri mentioned that they have passed through $ 132,000 to fire services for training support and conferences. This year they plan to pass through $ 138,000 to EPC subgrants. Her department has around 33 projects that they will be funding. All the projects that were submitted through the application process will be funded. They have 13 planning projects, 10 exercises, 14 trainings. They are working closely with EPCs to make sure that they are reviewing and updating their plans. They have officially received the approval to extend out the performance period – the grant was going to end September 30th, 2022 and it has been extended for one more year.

**Administrative Sub Committee Updates:** John Viveiros spoke on the appointments to the SERC; we will be setting up a meeting with individual SERC members.

**Planning Sub Committee**

John Viveiros shared a registration form and showed the process on filling it out. He explained why the information on the form is needed. The idea of the form is to collect updated community information. It will also serve as a needs assessment for the program.

**Regional Report Out:**

Lauren Sardella, no new applications for EPC certifications.

Bob Barry, no new applications for EPC certifications.

**Facilitated Discussion**

Spencer Lord, we should have the meeting link on the agenda; though having the ability to have virtual meetings requirement will expire on April 1st.

John Viveiros stated that the next meeting would be on May 10th, 2022 at MEMA Headquarters, 10 AM to 11:30 AM. The next meeting may be hybrid.

**End of Meeting**:

It was motioned and 2nd to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved

Next SERC meeting date is May 10th, 2022.