

Arkansas Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Commission

June 18, 2015

Minutes

The Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Commission met on June 18, 2015 at 1:07 p.m. at the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management in North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Members Present:

Kevin Looney, Arkansas Department of Labor
Dean Vanderhoff, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Garnett Wise, Industrial Representative
Kenny Harmon, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management
Shirley Louie, Arkansas Department of Health
Jim Burns, LEPC Rep.
Ross Batson, Arkansas Highway Police
Scotty Bell, Virco Manufacturing Corp.

Members Absent:

Ben Blankenship, Fire Service
Rachel Nix, Arkansas Fire Training Academy
Lt. Ron Casey, Arkansas State Police
Richard Dawe, Ozark College
Wright Cookus, 61st CST, AR ARNG
David Maxwell, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management

Others Present:

Latryce Robinson, ADEM
Sheila Annable, ADEM
Mark Hooker, ADEM
Steve Moore, ADEM
Steve Mason, EPA

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 pm by Mr. Scotty Bell. Mr. Bell asked if everyone had a chance to review the previous meeting minutes and if there were any necessary corrections to these minutes. Mr. Burns moved to have the previous meeting minutes approved as distributed, Mr. Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and the minutes were approved. Mr. Bell then turned the floor over to Kenny Harmon to update the Commission on the status of the SARA Tier III report for the Haz Mat Program.

Training Numbers, Conferences, Fees and Reporting:

Mr. Harmon made reference to a handout reflecting the total number of classes that have been taught and total number of students that have attended Haz Mat training from October 1, 2014 – June 15, 2015; for a total of 234 activities and 4791 participants.

Mr. Harmon stated that HotZone was scheduled for October 22-25, 2015 in Houston, TX and he will be in attendance. NASTTPO (National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials) partnered with HotZone at the 2014 conference and was also for this year's conference. The NASTTPO conference was scheduled for April 13-17, 2015 and Kenny missed it due to teaching a class. AEF conference is October 1-2, 2015 in Hot Springs.

Mr. Harmon will be having the HazMat Weekend at the DoubleTree Hotel on September 11-12, 2015 this will be our 3rd HazMat Weekend and last year we had 101 participants. AEMA conference is August 24-28, 2015.

Old Business:

Kenny is still working on getting information about the Drilling Sites for wells and gas. Also, I have been one instructor down but I hired one in March his name is Bill James. The Legislature has gotten the caps fixed on the Tier II and TR-I reports. The Tier II reports have been shown to have an 80% approval with filing the reports electronically online. The LEPC meetings that have been scheduled for this year have been completed. There are only 38 of the 75 LEPC that are active in the workshops. Steve Mason from EPA and Kenny Harmon are trying to get the other 37 active, but some don't have industry. Jim Burns wants a list of LEPC's that aren't active and he is willing to go out and talk with some county judges to help them become active. Kenny Harmon is going to get with the new county coordinators and get them to sign the agreement to get the Tier II information out to the Local Fire Departments.

New Business:

IFSAC is at the Fire Academy for Accreditation this week and Rubow and Harmon had sat down and come to agreement on some things then later a letter came from the Governor's Office stating the Mr. Harmon isn't cooperating well with others. A meeting was set up later with Deputy Director Tina Owens from ADEM, Director Rachel Nix from AFA and Mr. Harmon and Mr. Rubow. Director Nix wanted the Mission Specific to go to NFPA and the SERC voted not to except that because of the liability factors and Mr. Harmon sat down and rewrote the Mission Specific and he is waiting for results back from Rubow. The Mission Specific course will go from 24 hours to 28 hours by Mr. Harmon's guess and the HazMat Operations class will go from 16 hours to 24 hours. Mr. Harmon is hoping to have some results about the above information by the end of the week if deemed possible, and they want to go with their own courses but it will have to be brought to the SERC and a new meeting will have to take place.

PPE course chemical protective clothing slide presentation done and student manual is done. This class will explain what to wear when there is nothing out there to tell you what to wear, and Kenny is going to buy a suit tester for this class as well.

Kenny presented the instructor fee pay to the SERC the Instructors have been getting 25.00 per course hr since 2006 and the new pay fee per course hour will be 30.00 and the SERC voted and approved this increase motioned by Jim Burns and Second by Garnett Wise. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm by Scotty Bell SERC President.