

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Louisiana Emergency Response Commission (LERC)**

Meeting Title Louisiana Emergency Response Commission Meeting
Date of Meeting December 13, 2017
Where Louisiana State Police Headquarters
7919 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Start Time 10:01 a.m.

1. Lt. Col. David Staton called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
2. Tara Guidry, LSP/Right-to-Know Unit, called roll as follows:

Lt. Col. David Staton, Department of Public Safety, PRESENT
Jeff Dauzat, Designee for Department of Environmental Quality, PRESENT
Dr. Brent Robbins, Designee for Department of Agriculture and Forestry, PRESENT
Casey Tingle, Designee for Governor's Office of Homeland Security, PRESENT
Command Technician (CT) Taylor Moss, Department of Public Safety, PRESENT
James "Jim" Polk, Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Association, PRESENT
Cecil "Keith" Bennett, Carroll L. Herring Fire and Emergency Training Institute, NOT PRESENT
Marty Chabert, Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinators Office, NOT PRESENT
Edward Flynn, Louisiana Chemical Association, PRESENT
Chief Bobby Black, PRESENT
Joel "Joey" Dugas, Dow Chemical, PRESENT
Jennifer Reynolds, Webster Parish Office of Homeland Security, NOT PRESENT
Travis Perrilloux, St. John the Baptist Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness, PRESENT
Obed "Obie" Cambre, Jr., ExxonMobil, PRESENT
Sgt. Kenneth "Scott" Bowman, Baton Rouge Police Department, NOT PRESENT
Chris Guilbeaux, Governor's Office of Homeland Security, PRESENT
Senator Mike Walsworth, NOT PRESENT
Senator Mack "Bodi" White, PRESENT

The records reflect that the following visitors were present:

Xiaoping Nie, Department of Health and Hospitals
Nissan Patel, Assistant HazMat Director, Jefferson Parish Fire Services
Clay Trachtman, Department of Health and Hospitals

The records also reflect that the following LSP/Emergency Services Unit personnel were present:

Gene Dunegan
Tara Guidry
Paul Schexnayder, Louisiana State Police Legal Counsel

3. Lt. Col. Staton thanked members for their faithfulness to attend meetings and carry out the commission's work. Lt. Col. Staton welcomed new designees Jeff Dauzat of the Department of Environmental Quality and Casey Tingle of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security.

4. Lt. Col. Staton asked the commission to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2017 LERC meeting. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Jim Polk to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

5. **Committee Reports:**

Long Range Planning: Lt. Col. Staton passed the floor to Chief Bobby Black for the report from the Long Range Planning Committee. Chief Black asked members to suggest groups that they could make presentations to and get the word out about the LERC. Chief Black said that when they have done presentations, they get good feedback from attendees. Mr. Edward Flynn recommended that the LERC reach out to the Regional Transportation Center and request to make a presentation to their members. Mr. Flynn said that he will speak to Mr. Chris LaBorde of the RTC about making such a presentation.

Emergency Notification: Lt. Col. Staton passed the floor to Mr. Edward Flynn for the report from the Emergency Notification Committee. Mr. Flynn did not have a formal committee report but mentioned the next workgroup meeting between industry and regulatory groups is scheduled for Thursday February 1, 2018 at 1:30 PM at the Louisiana Chemical Association. Mr. Flynn also presented to members a brief video produced by the Louisiana Chemical Association called “Heroes of the Homefront” which showed how chemicals produced by Louisiana industries aided the war effort during World War II.

Emergency Plans Review: Lt. Col. Staton passed the floor to Mr. Chris Guilbeaux for the report from the Emergency Plans Review Committee. Since the previous meeting, the committee has reviewed plans from the following parishes: East Baton Rouge, Livingston, Red River, Tangipahoa, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana. Five of the parishes met all EPCRA requirements. They are working with East Baton Rouge Parish to have their EOP uploaded in WebEOC for review. The next quarter plan reviews will include Assumption, Calcasieu, Avoyelles, and LaSalle Parishes.

Training and Resources: Lt. Col. Staton stated that Mr. Keith Bennett was unable to attend the meeting, but that there was a written training report included in the members’ folders. Mr. Chris Guilbeaux announced that the Hazardous Material Planning Grant had additional money that could be used for regional training in 2018. The training would be similar to the HazTran17 conducted last year and will include a tabletop exercise involving a hazardous material release.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Service: Lt. Col. Staton passed the floor to Mr. Jim Polk for the report from the LEPC Service Committee. Mr. Polk said that since the previous meeting, he made a presentation on the LERC at the November 14th meeting of the Jefferson Parish LEPC. He also passed out a draft email that he will send to LEPC chairs next year, which mentions the Local Governments Reimbursent Program (LGR) from the Environmental Protection Agency. The LGR program allows local governments to apply for reimbursement for hazmat response actions up to \$25,000. The draft email also includes a link to an online training course that helps state, local, and tribal agencies learn the requirements of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and its regulations.

Lt. Col. Staton said that he appreciated that Mr. Polk included in his draft email an invitation to LEPC chairs to attend the quarterly LERC meetings.

Mr. Jeff Dautat said he thinks the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office also has money available to help with oil spills with no responsible party that impact drainage canals.

Public Information – There was no report submitted by the Public Information Committee.

6. Old Business

The only item of old business concerned Tier II filing. Mr. Gene Dunegan explained that at the last meeting he advised members that the Tier II forms were being updated because of the new Global Harmonization Standards (GHS). The update has been completed and industry should be able to begin or continue Tier II inventory filing.

7. New Business

The first item of new business concerned LEPC membership updates for two parishes: St. James and St. John. **A MOTION** was made by Chief Bobby Black to approve the updates. The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

The next item of new business concerned the LEPA conference. Mr. Jim Polk stated the upcoming 2018 LEPA Conference will be Monday, May 14, 2018 to Thursday, May 17, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza in Baton Rouge.

The final item of new business concerned filling the seat on the commission that was vacated when Chief Guy Bonin resigned. Chief Bobby Black offered to contact the president of the Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association to see if another member of the fire service could be recommended to fill the vacant seat. Mr. Gene Dunegan replied that Chief Bonin's resignation letter was submitted to Boards and Commissions, and that the Governor would appoint his replacement. Two designee letters for Mr. Jeff Dautat of the Department of Environmental Quality and Mr. Casey Tingle of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security were also submitted to Boards and Commissions because the designees also need to be approved by the Governor. Mr. Dunegan suggested that Chief Black touch base with him about recommendations for replacements. A recommended individual would submit an application and would have to be vetted by Boards and Commissions.

8. Lt. Col. Staton asked if there were any questions or announcements from the audience.

Mr. Nissan Patel introduced himself. Mr. Patel is the new Assistant Hazmat Director for Jefferson Parish.

CT Taylor Moss announced that the upcoming second quarter LERC meeting would be his last. CT Moss is retiring from Louisiana State Police next June.

There were no other questions or announcements from the audience.

9. Lt. Col. Staton gave the floor to Mr. Gene Dunegan to discuss scheduling of the LERC's next quarterly meeting which normally occurs on the 2nd Wednesday of the 3rd month of the quarter. The next LERC meeting date would be on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at 10:00 AM, at the Louisiana State Police Headquarters building in Baton Rouge. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Chris Guilbeaux to accept the next meeting date. The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

11. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Travis Perrilloux to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed without opposition. The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.