



**INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (IERC)
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Firefighters Union Hall
748 Massachusetts Avenue
Indianapolis, IN. 46204**

March 9, 2020 [Start Time: 09:55 am]

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Larmore—Local Government Representative, Chair
Ian Ewusi—IDHS
Amanda Horner—IDHS
Dawn Mason—IDHS
Stephanie McKinney—Local Government Representative
James Pridgen—Business/Industry Representative
Madison Roe—IDHS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON THE PHONE:

Becky Waymire—Local Government Representative

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Matt Bilkey—Designee for Superintendent of ISP
Shawn French—Business/Industry Representative

The following Commissioners, IDHS staff, and audience members were present:

None

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Mr. Larmore welcomed everyone to the Communications Committee meeting and requested the determination of a quorum.

QUORUM

Ms. Mason indicated a quorum was present.

Roll Call

Mr. Larmore—Yes
Mr. Pridgen—Yes
Ms. Waymire—Yes

Mr. Ewusi—Yes
Ms. Roe—Yes
Ms. McKinney—Yes

Ms. Mason—Yes

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion to accept the January 13, 2020, meeting minutes was made by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Mr. Ewusi. No further discussion occurred. All present were in favor.

Roll Call

Mr. Larmore—Yes
Mr. Pridgen—Yes
Ms. Waymire—Yes

Mr. Ewusi—Yes
Ms. Roe—Yes
Ms. McKinney—Yes

Ms. Mason—Yes

Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS

Risk Management Program (RMP) Update

Mr. Larmore discussed the communication outreach to the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandated Risk Management Program (RMP), in which facilities are required to contact LEPCs and conduct exercises within the next five years. He asked if more information was available to send to the LEPCs regarding the program. Ms. Roe advised that staff planned to attend the National SARA Title Three Professional Officials (NASTTPO) conference at the end of April where more information would be presented about RMP. She advised that staff relay the information to the Communications Committee once more information is received.

Questions for Tier II Facilities

Mr. Larmore discussed the questions Tier II Facilities are required to answer in Tier II Manager system which should help LEPCs build their Hazardous Material plans. Ms. Roe stated the questions would be part of the new Tier II Manager system module to help LEPCs build their plans once it is created. She said the module is on hold due the busy schedule of the Tier II reporting season but afterwards staff should know more about the module and implementing the required questions.

Mr. Larmore stated several of his facilities are not comfortable answering the questions due to security concerns from the facilities storing extremely hazardous materials protected by confidentiality. Ms. Roe stated she addressed those concerns with the facility in the workshops. Mr. Larmore said it was a good start, but he hopes to see more done with the facilities to help them understand why the questions are required.

No further dialogue or voting occurred.

NEW BUSINESS

IAHMR VS EMAI Conferences

Mr. Larmore discussed the request made by Mr. Hamby at the committee meeting on January 13, 2020, regarding the partnership between the IERC and the Indiana Alliance of Hazardous Materials (IAHMR) Conference. Ms. Mason informed the committee that Mr. Hamby requested a decision in order to create the agenda for the upcoming IAHMR conference scheduled for November 17, 18, and 19, 2020.

Mr. Pridgen explained the differences between the EMAI and the IAHMR conference and stated the IERC is interested in programs that deliver hazmat related presentation geared toward the LEPCs. Ms. McKinney and Mr. Pridgen discussed the agenda for the EMAI conference and different speakers to add. Mr. Larmore stated the agenda needs to include hazmat content but if the hazardous material content is not met then other avenues must be pursued to meet the content requirement. Mr. Pridgen suggested speakers that discuss planning and what constitutes a hazardous materials plan.

Mr. Ewusi informed the committee the voice recorder had been off during part of the meeting. The chair advised staff to do a summary of the overall discussion during the period the recorder was off.

Ms. Steadham noted the conference is LEPC related and should be designated as such, and the request should be IERC approved. Mr. Larmore advised an asterisk was placed near conference material on agendas in the past to identify hazmat related content. Mr. Pridgen referenced a conference years ago as one of the best related to LEPC with the largest attendance of LEPC chairs. Mr. Ewusi stated he would research previous IERC publications to find the conference agenda and topics.

The committee discussed the tentative funding for the EMAI and the IAHMR conferences and decided on seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) for EMAI and two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) donated to IAHMR. Mr. Pridgen requested the committee review the agendas for each conference before remitting funds. Mr. Larmore agreed the funding would be conditional upon approval of the final agendas.

Further discussion occurred regarding vendors, obtaining speakers for the EMAI conference, as well as the possible merger of the EMAI, IAHMR, EMS and IERC conferences in 2021. The discussion can be obtained from the Communication Committee recording on March 9, 2020, through a request to IDHS Public Records.

CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING

A motion to recommend funding for both IAHMR and IERC conferences in 2020 in the amounts of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) and seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) respectively, contingent upon both organizations offering 51% of hazmat related content on the conference agendas was made by Mr. Ewusi and seconded by Ms. Roe. No further discussion occurred. All present were in favor.

Roll Call

Mr. Larmore—Yes
Mr. Pridgen—Yes

Mr. Ewusi—Yes
Ms. Roe—Yes

Ms. Mason—Yes

Ms. Waymire—Yes

Ms. McKinney—Yes

Motion Carried

IERC MEETING DATE CHANGE

Mr. Larmore questioned holding the IERC meeting at the EMAI conference or at the IAHRM conference. Ms. McKinney suggested presenting the LEPC awards at the EMAI conference and holding the IERC meeting at IAHRM conference, which would allow for the IERC meeting schedule to remain the same as previous years.

A motion to present LEPC awards at the EMAI conference in October and hold the IERC meeting at the IAHRM conference in November was made by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Mr. Pridgen. No further discussion occurred. All present were in favor.

Roll Call

Mr. Larmore—Yes
Mr. Pridgen—Yes
Ms. Waymire—Yes

Mr. Ewusi—Yes
Ms. Roe—Yes
Ms. McKinney—Yes

Ms. Mason—Yes

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Pridgen and seconded by Ms. McKinney. The meeting adjourned at 11:36 am. No further discussion occurred. All present were in favor.

NEXT MEETING

May 11, 2020

Indiana Government Center South (IGCS)
302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN. 46204



Jeff Larmore, Chair