



**INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (IERC)
POLICY/TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Indiana Government Center South
302 West Washington St.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
May 11, 2020 (Virtual/Teleconference)**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ian Ewusi—IDHS
Amanda Horner—IDHS
Madison Roe—IDHS
James Pridgen—Business/Industry Representative, Chair
Jeff Larmore—Local Government Representative
Laura Steadham—Designee for IDEM Commissioner
Cara Cyrus—Business and Industry Representative
Becky Waymire—Morgan County LEPC

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

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

The following staff were present:

Justen Guedel—IDHS
Elliot Anderson—IDHS

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Mr. Pridgen welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a determination of a quorum. The meetings was called to order at 11:15am.

Ms. Roe confirmed by roll call that a quorum of members was present, with eight (8) of ten (10) members in attendance.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mr. Pridgen requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the March 9, 2020 meeting. Ms. Roe made the motion to approve the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Ewusi.

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Pridgen—Yes
Mr. Ewusi—Yes
Ms. Horner—Yes

Mr. Larmore—Yes
Ms. Roe—Yes
Ms. Waymire—Yes

Ms. Cyrus—Yes
Ms. Steadham—Yes

No further discussion occurred. All present were in favor.

Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS

Vision for 2020

Mr. Pridgen tabled the 2020 vision discussion until the July meeting due to COVID-19 pandemic difficulties.

LEPC Meeting Minutes Policy Update

Ms. Roe reported the issues staff had with meeting minutes have been resolved after a conversation with IDSi, the developer of the Tier II Manager system.

NEW BUSINESS

COVID-19 LEPC Compliance Requirements

Ms. Horner reported several LEPCs have concerns about meeting compliance requirements by the end of the year due to the various Executive Orders (EOs) put into place because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Guedel noted the EO indicates compliance deadlines can be extended by sixty days and questioned if any deadline needed the extension. Ms. Horner reported the May 1st deadline for exercise proposals is the only one requiring an extension. She also reported some LEPCs have inquired if addressing the current public health emergency can be considered to fulfill the exercise requirement for this year. Mr. Ewusi informed the committee that COVID response does not fulfill the SARA exercise requirement. Mr. Pridgen suggested waiving the exercise requirement for the year. Ms. Roe suggested inviting LEPCs to attend the tabletop exercise tentatively planned for the EMAI conference to fulfill the exercise requirements. Mr. Ewusi and Mr. Pridgen both agreed waiving the exercise requirement for the year is the most appealing/feasible option. Mr. Guedel added, assuming the IERC does not withhold funding, waiving the requirement is a viable option.

Ms. Horner asked if the LEPC meeting requirement for the remainder of the year could also be modified. Mr. Guedel recommended adjusting the LEPC meeting requirement from four meetings to two meetings by the end of the calendar year. Mr. Pridgen stated the IERC will not withhold funding from LEPCs based on the meeting or exercise requirements. Mr. Guedel stated the meeting requirement adjustments will be left open ended to allow for future changes if necessary.

No further discussion occurred.

Knox County EPA Concern

Ms. Roe reported that Ms. Mason had reached out to her with concerns that a facility in Knox County was not in compliance with Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act (EPCRA) reporting. She contacted the EPA and an audit was performed on the facility which found the facility compliant with

EPCRA. Ms. Roe reported the facility voiced concerns to the EPA about difficulties with the LEPC and fire departments. Ms. Roe noted both the facility and EPA reached out to the LEPC and fire departments and received no response. She requested permission to contact the LEPC to discuss the EPA findings and to bridge the communication gap between the facility and the LEPC. Mr. Pridgen and Mr. Larmore suggested Ms. Roe take a soft approach to the situation by mailing a letter to the LEPC. Ms. Roe noted she will draft and present a letter for approval at the July meeting.

No further discussion occurred.

America's Water Infrastructure Act

Ms. Roe informed the Committee that staff is working with IDEM on this project and suggested the conversation be tabled until the next meeting in July.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Palin and seconded by Mr. Pridgen.

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Pridgen—Yes
Mr. Ewusi—Yes
Ms. Horner—Yes

Mr. Larmore—Yes
Ms. Roe—Yes
Ms. Waymire—Yes

Ms. Cyrus—Yes
Ms. Steadham—Yes

No further discussion occurred. All present were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

Motion Carried

NEXT MEETING

TBD


James Pridgen, Chair