

Patrick C. Sheehan  
Director

Major General  
Warner A. Ross, II  
The Adjutant General

**Tennessee: State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
March 27, 2025

**Call to Order**

On March 27, 2025, State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) meeting at the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) was called to order by Shawn Puckett, TDEC and SERC Vice-Chair, at 1003 CST.

**Roll Call**

**7 Voting Members were present:**

Mr. Patrick Sheehan, Chair, TEMA Director  
Mr. Shawn Puckett, Vice-Chair, TDEC  
Ms. Errol Christos, TDOT  
Mr. Garrett Rea, TOSHA  
Mr. Brandon Ward, TDH  
Col. Trey Robinson, TNNG  
SGT. Larry Hitchcock, THP

**Non-Voting Members present:**

Mr. Michael Rinehart, TEMA HQ  
Ms. Trichelle Wilson, TEMA HQ  
Ms. Dawn Cummings, Office of General Counsel  
Mr. James Tabor, Grants Manager  
Mr. Tim Holden, TEMA HQ  
Mr. Matthew Heckard, TEMA Assistant Director  
Mr. Todd Jones, TEMA East Regional Director  
Mr. Mack Green, TEMA West Regional Director  
Mr. Caleb Lawson, TEMA District Coordinator

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### **Approval of December 19, 2024 SERC Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Shawn Puckett, TDEC and SERC Vice-Chair, asked for a motion to accept the December 19, 2024, SERC meeting minutes. Mr. Brandon Ward made the motion to approve the meeting minutes presented. SGT. Larry Hitchcock seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Record of Vote:      6 – For  
                                 0 – Against  
                                 0 – Abstain

### **Old Business**

No old Business to discuss.

Record of Vote:      0 – For  
                                 0 – Against  
                                 0 – Abstain

### **New Business**

Tier II Update – Mr. Michael Rinehart

- i.      EPCRA requirement
  - a.    The purpose of this form is to provide state, tribal, and local officials, and the public with specific information on potential hazards.
  - b.    Deadline Jan 1 – March 1
- ii.     Tennessee
  - a.    18 counties had a 2-22% increase in Tier II's from the previous year
  - b.    19 counties had a 10-33% decrease in Tier II's from the previous year

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAD) Substances - Ms. Emily Leard

- i.      PFAS associated health risks & exposure pathways
- ii.     Federal Rules & Updates
  - a.    Designation of PFOA and PFOS as CERCLA Hazardous Substances Final Rule - (April 19, 2024)
  - b.    Currently under 60-day court stays for new Administration review
    - 1.    Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) establishing the First National Drinking Water Standards for 6 PFAS in finished drinking water
    - 2.    The designation of PFOA & PFOS compounds as hazardous substances under CERCLA
- iii.    Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF)
  - a.    FAA – Guidance for change out in Mobile Firefighting Systems

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- b. DOD – Working to address challenges to transitioning to PFAS free alternatives
- iv. TDEC's PFAS Response
  - a. Completed all initial source water sampling
    - 1. February 2025 – verified the results of samples tested
  - b. Response Strategy
    - 1. Information – Make data driven decisions
    - 2. Education – Bring together education institutions and networks
    - 3. Mitigation – Aim to be proactive and preventing further introduction of PFAS into the environment
  - c. Ongoing Efforts
    - 1. Biosolids & Permitting – Considering incorporation of testing for PFAS in biosolids
    - 2. Research - TDH lab capacity and expanding PFAS testing
    - 3. Funding – Anticipated Funding opportunity through EPA

Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) – Mr. Michael Rinehart

- i. Final rule is effective on April 3/2024 with Compliance date on March 4/2025
  - a. Flexible packaging option for compressed natural gas
  - b. Aligning the HMR with international standards by establishing clear and consistent rules for transporting very small amounts of poisonous substances
  - c. Defining the required design and construction standards for cylinders intended to store hydrogen mixtures, including pressure ratings, materials, and safety features.
  - d. Requiring specific labeling on cylinders to clearly indicate the presence of hydrogen and its concentration, as well as any relevant safety information.
  - e. Creating marking exception for lithium button cells installed in equipment.

Morristown Hazardous Response Team (HMRT) – Mr. Michael Rinehart

- i. Evaluated for a Type II HazMat Team
  - a. may conduct offensive operations at all HazMat incidents of known and unknown chemical hazards, except which are known or suspected WMD
- ii. Pending Director approval

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### **Statements from SERC Members**

No statements from SERC Members.

### **Statements from Attendees**

No statements or other business were raised.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Patrick Sheehan, TEMA Director and SERC Chair, asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Shawn Puckett made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Garrett Rea.

Patrick Sheehan, TEMA Director and SERC Chair, adjourned the meeting at 1044 CST.

Minutes submitted by T. Wilson