

# ORS TAC MINUTES

Department of Public Safety  
1970 W. Broad St.  
Columbus, OH 43223

**Date:** Jan. 15, 2013  
**TAC:** HM TAC  
**From:** Mark Vedder

**File Number:**  
**Approved:**



1. **Attendees:** See attached Sign-in Sheet.
2. Co-Chairs Mark Vedder and Harry Burdick called the meeting to order at 1000 hrs. All attendees were welcomed and thanked for attending.
3. The minutes of the November 2012 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Caggiano to approved, second by Hobson. Unanimously approved. There was no meeting in December 2012.
4. **Old Business:**
  - a. Site Visits – No site visits are currently scheduled. Vedder expressed concern that we need to set up verification for the remaining teams. Discussion followed on how that may be encouraged, especially in Regions 1, 7 and 8.
  - b. Revision of the Site Visit Procedure - Vedder announced that he had received a proposed revision to the Site Verification Procedure from the OEMA staff. With the departure of Mel House, the OEMA staff has been reviewing what records they have to insure that they are complete. They contacted Vedder who provided some additional documents, but OEMA continues to search for several documents missing from the original site visits. The proposed revision was reviewed by the attendees. Motion by Brobst, second by Caggiano to approve as written. Passed unanimously. (see attached)
  - c. Physical Exams – Brobst indicated he was contacted by Crawford County and he noted that the cost of OSHA required physical exams were a problem for some teams. And may be an obstacle to verification. The committee offered up a few suggestions ways to offset costs. Using Fire Grant moneys or using department’s general physicals to cover HM team members were some of the ways mentioned to address the issue. There was discussion about discontinuing the verification of Type 3 teams. After further discussion, it was decided not to pursue this option at this time.
  - d. CBRNE TAC – Bindernagel reported that the last meeting was in November. The committee is still working to develop a framework, including sampling standards (what equipment to use, how to determine proficiency, etc.)
  - e. HMO/HMSO Training - Vedder announced that the he received an email from Phil Johnson at OEMA indicating that the Hazardous Materials Officer/Hazardous Materials Safety Officer (HMS/HMSO) course had been approved by DHS on November 19, 2012 and is now listed in the catalog of approved courses. Therefore, it is now eligible for state homeland security grant funding. We now have 17 certified instructors throughout the state. The course paperwork is being run through the OFA and will be offered at the

OFA as well as through direct delivery. The OFA has some HMEP funds to deliver a number of courses and OEMA has HMEP funding as well that we hope to use to deliver 5 or 6 courses around the state between now and June 30, 2013. Caggiano indicated that Mahoning Co. is sponsoring one of the courses.

- f. Trumbull County Hazmat - Caggiano reported that there has been no real change with the status of Trumbull Co. HM Team. At their request, they are still remaining temporarily out of the Ohio Fire Response Plan. He reported that there will be discussion soon on an MOU for working with Mahoning and possibly other counties. Vedder indicated that he received an email from Don Waldron regarding other teams that may be forming in Trumbull County. Vedder expressed his intent that the TAC will support Trumbull County with response, training and team development, but that the TAC will stay out of the politics going on there.

## 5. New Business:

- a. Train-the Trainer: The Ohio Fire Academy is offering a series of Hazmat/WMD Technician and Hazmat/WMD OPS Mission Specific Objectives Train-the-Trainer programs in January. The updated course materials for FRA, FRO, MSO and HM Tech are now available on the Ohio Hazmat TAC website. This includes updated textbooks, instructor manuals and powerpoints. ([www.OhioHazmatTAC.com](http://www.OhioHazmatTAC.com))
- b. Donated Equipment: Brobst announced that he had received a large amount of Drager Colormetric Detection devices and supplies from the Battelle Institute in Columbus. They are being offered to public safety agencies and training centers for use in response and/or training. They may not be sold or redistributed and a transfer of asset form must be signed. Some of the units were distributed after the TAC meeting, others may be available by contacting Captain Brobst.
- c. Ohio Dept of Health Request for Roster: Eric St. Germain from ODH discussed his desire to obtain an Ohio Hazmat Team List. He wants to contact each team, update the contact info, and determine what equipment and capabilities each team has in Chem/Bio/Rad/Explosives. He will use this info to help determine if ODH needs to acquire a screening area for receiving samples in. After the discussion, the TAC decided to release the list to the ODH with the understanding that operational security would be maintained.
- d. Agency Briefing
  1. FBI WMDC – No Report
  2. Ohio EPA – Kevin Clouse reported that EEI had an explosion in SW Ohio with waste from NY state – there was a fatality and the EPA investigation is still continuing. He also reported that Wes Drake recently retired as the Central Ohio OSC and they will be working to fill the position. NW Ohio had a crude oil spill and wanted to put the waste into an injection well.
  3. Ohio Fire Academy – upcoming training includes: HMO/HMSO Feb 22-24, HM/WMD Tech Mar 25-29, HM/WMD Tech Apr 15-19, check the OFA website.
  4. 52<sup>nd</sup> Civil Support Team – No Report
  5. Ohio Dept of Health – No Additional Report
  6. Ohio Fire Chiefs Association – No Report
  7. Ohio EMA – No Report
  8. US-DHS – No Report

- e. Ohio Citizen Action – Fracking Gag Order: Caggiano of Youngstown Fire brought up an issue surrounding Gas & Oil Drilling in Ohio. He was contacted by a physician and representatives from the Ohio Citizen Action group and learned that a new state law in Ohio makes it difficult for emergency responders to get information about chemicals used in fracking. In addition, physicians are bound under a gag order to prevent them from releasing the names of the chemicals to warn others of the chemical danger. The Ohio State Medical Association has also issued a position paper on the new law. Caggiano noted that the Ohio Citizen Action group is trying to address the situation through lobbying. Additional info can be found at [www.ohiocitizen.org](http://www.ohiocitizen.org)
6. **Action Items**: Talk to OEMA on Grant Money availability.
7. **Next Meeting**: is scheduled for Feb. 19, 2013. This will be a Conference Call @ 10:00 AM. Call Information to follow.

Respectfully,  
Mark Vedder, Chairman

15 JAN 13

Henry Bunk

Dale Dittrick

Roger D Hobson

Sil Caggiano R-5

William Jones

DAVE COPUS

Ed Hower

Jim Painter

Todd Townsdale

Tom Lakamp

STEVE GROVES

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UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY

Lima FD

Shawnee FD

Shawnee FD

Cincinnati Fire

SUMMIT CO HAZMAT

Marion Twp. F.D.

SERT Hazmat / Breuners FD

Cleveland Fire Dept.

Ohio EPA

ODH LAB

COLUMBUS FIRE

SOLOW FIRE

OEMA

Greater Cinti HM



# DRAFT Hazmat TAC Site Visit Protocol

Department of Public Safety  
1970 W. Broad St.  
Columbus, OH 43223

**Date:** November 27, 2012

**File Number:**

**To:** Mark Vedder

**Approved:**

**From:** OEMA



# ORS

Use the following protocol when requesting and performing a Hazmat Team site verification visit:

1. The Hazmat organization contacts Ohio EMA Readiness and Response Chief to request a site visit for team verification purposes.
2. The Ohio EMA Readiness and Response Chief provides site verification paperwork package to the Hazmat organization.
3. The Hazmat organization returns the completed paperwork package to Ohio EMA Readiness and Response Chief who will maintain a file on all original paperwork related to the site visit.
4. The Ohio EMA Readiness and Response Chief reviews the application for completeness and forwards the information to the Hazmat TAC Chair.
5. The Hazmat Chair coordinates with Hazmat organization to determine date and time for a visit.
6. The Hazmat Chair organizes a verification team to conduct the visit. The verification team generally consists of the Hazmat TAC Regional Representative, the Ohio EMA Field Liaison for the county, and one other Hazmat TAC Representative. In some cases an Ohio EMA management representative will accompany the verification team.
  - The Ohio EMA Field Liaison ensures the County EMA Director is invited to participate.
7. The Hazmat TAC Chair notifies Ohio EMA Readiness and Response Chief of the arrangements made for the verification visit (date, time, location, personnel assigned from the TAC, etc.).
  - The site visit will be cancelled if application is not on file with Ohio EMA.
8. The site verification visit is completed and the team submits the results to the Hazmat TAC.
9. The Hazmat TAC is briefed on team's findings and votes to approve the team typing or makes recommendations to correct deficiencies.
  - Once approved, the Hazmat TAC chair notifies the Ohio Fire Service Response System coordinator to record findings in the Ohio Response System database and notifies Ohio EMA Readiness and Response Chief.
  - If deficiencies are found, the HazMat organization has 30 days to make corrections and be approved by the HazMat TAC. If deficiencies take longer than 30 days to correct, another site verification visit must be scheduled.
10. A formal letter is prepared by the Ohio EMA Readiness and Response Chief to the Hazmat organization to verify the Hazmat Team's typing or explain further actions needed. Copies are sent to the Hazmat Team Fire Chief, Ohio Fire Service Response System Coordinator, Hazmat TAC Chair and Regional Hazmat Coordinator, Ohio EMA Executive Director and TAC Representative.