

# ORS TAC MINUTES

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

**Date:** March 18, 2014  
**TAC:** HM TAC  
**From:** Mark Vedder

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



1. **Attendees:** See attached attendance list.
2. The meeting was held at the Ohio EMA and was called to order at 1000 hrs. Co-Chairs Mark Vedder and Harry Burdick thanked everyone for attending.
3. **Minutes:** Brooke Matzen moved to accept the minutes of the January 2014 meeting as sent out by email. Motion seconded by Brian Robertson. Motion unanimously approved.

#### 4. **Old Business:**

##### a. Site Visits

###### Region 7 – Logan FD:

Vedder reported that the site visit was conducted on January 31, 2014 and that there were a few issues that Chief Robertson has requested to address. He requested that consideration of his site visit be tabled until the April conference call.

###### Region 3 - Dayton FD:

Vedder reported that he spoke with Denny Bristow who requested to move the site visit to May 2014.

###### Region 8 – Muskingum, Washington and Jefferson:

Doug Hobson reported that Muskingum County Hazmat (Type 2) and Jefferson County Hazmat (Type 2) are on hold due to funding issues on their physical exams. He also reported that Washington County Hazmat (Type 2) was ready to go and would confirm a date.

###### Region 1 – Findlay Hazmat:

Harry Burdick reported he had not heard from Findlay FD, but will follow up with them

###### Region 5 – Columbiana County:

Bill Jones reported that funding for physical exams was also an issue for Columbiana County.

###### Region 4 – Logan County:

Bill Brobst reported that Logan County contacted him about needing funding for additional equipment and a MARCS radio. Vedder explained that teams were previously identified to fill known gaps and that grant funding from OEMA was

then provided to those that applied to fill those gaps. OEMA has moved on to other projects and that no funding remains for additional equipment. He suggested contacting the county LEPC and/or EMA to apply for SHSGP funding.

b. Ohio Fire Response Plan – Hazmat Team Database Update

Vedder stated that he has requested a conference call with Todd Truesdale, Harry Burdick and Russ Rife to discuss changes to the Ohio Fire Response Plan database.

c. ODH Survey and Hazmat Team Database Update:

Eric St. Germain reported that he continues to work on the AHRF survey.

d. Mass Decon Resource List

Vedder reported there had been no further action on the Mass Decon Resource List.

e. HMO/HMSO Training Requirement for Typed Teams

Vedder reviewed a proposal to require HMO/HMSO training for all verified hazmat teams within a specific time period. A copy of the proposal was emailed to the TAC in January and February for review and comments. There was a substantial amount of discussion on this topic, including questions on what exactly is required, how and where it can be obtained, whether the OEMA Ohio course is required and availability of the training program. At the end of much discussion, a change to the proposed language was made and it will be distributed for review prior to the April conference call.

f. Re-Verification of Typed Hazmat Teams

Vedder reviewed a proposal to require all verified hazmat teams to periodically re-certify. The proposal had been emailed to all TAC members in January and February for review and discussion. There was considerable discussion regarding the proposal and the best method to accomplish the objective and reduce the amount of work on the TAC representatives. Changes were proposed to the language of the proposal and will be emailed to the TAC for review prior to the April conference call.

## **5. New Business**

- a. Tipping Fees: Sil Caggiano warned that his county commissioners were reducing funding to the Mahoning County Hazmat Team by diverting “tipping fees” from landfill dumping that have traditionally gone to fund the hazmat team. Sil warned that others may see similar effects.

## **6. Training Opportunities**

- a. OEMA Sponsored Training: A handout provided by David Nunley showed the HMEP grants and other OEMA sponsored training opportunities related to hazmat.

## **7. Partner Agency Updates**

- a. FBI WMDC – No report

- b. Ohio EPA – Kevin Clouse reported that Craig Butler was recently appointed as the new director of the Ohio EPA. He has previous experience in emergency response. Kevin also reported continued issues with foreign truck drivers, especially on the turnpike, who would feign inability to speak English following an accident or spill. This sometimes created compliance issues when they would plead ignorance. There was also a discussion on the advantages of FlexViewer as a software tool being populated by USEPA.
- c. Ohio Fire Academy – No report
- d. 52<sup>nd</sup> Civil Support Team – The CST reported they have successfully completed their annual evaluation and are now able to focus on other issues. They also discussed some new equipment they have received and a real world incident involving mustard agent that they handled.
- e. Ohio Dept of Health – No additional report
- f. Ohio Fire Chiefs Association – No report.
- g. Ohio EMA – No additional report
- h. US-DHS – No representative present
- i. Ohio DHS – No Report

8. **Next Meeting: April 15, 2014 @ 1000 hours – CONFERENCE CALL**

Respectfully,



Mark Vedder, Co-Chairman