



KENTUCKY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Andy Beshear
Governor

Boone National Guard Center
100 Minuteman Parkway
Frankfort, KY 40601-6168

Jeremy C. Slinker
Director

Inaugural Meeting

Kentucky Qualification System (KQS) Advisory Committee

Mr. Dustin Heiser,
KYEM (Chair)

Mr. Steve Brukwicki,
KYEM

Mr. Drew Chandler,
Woodford County EM

Mr. Michael Froelich,
EEC

Mr. Grant Gillion, KDPH

Ms. Jennifer Hitch,
KYEM

Mr. Marc Rudder, KY
Fire Commission

Mr. Todd Schulkers,
Kenton County HS/EM

Maj Darren Stapleton,
KSP

Mr. Kevin Vogelwohl,
Boone County EM

Mr. Jason York, KYEM

Ms. Charla Sands,
DMA, Legal Counsel,
Nonvoting

Dr. Charlie Harris,
KYEM, Secretary,
Nonvoting

PowerPoint Used for Guiding the Meeting Is
Attached at the End of These Minutes

Date: 29 June 2023

Location: Room 208, Emergency Operations Center,
Boone Center, Frankfort, KY 40601

Call to Order: Col Jeremy C. Slinker at 2:04 PM

Roll Call: All members of the Advisory Committee were
in attendance.

Director's Comments: Col Slinker welcomed all the
committee members to the meeting. He emphasized
the importance of the committee to effectively
implement KQS in the Commonwealth, an initiative
that will increase the ability of the state to respond
to disasters. Col Slinker also talked about the
quality of the committee members, and he thanked
everyone on the committee for serving.

Introductions: All committee members introduced
themselves, stating their name, title, agency, position,
any experience with the National Qualification System.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: No minutes were
provided since this was the committee's first meeting.

Meeting Agenda: Next, Mr. Heiser covered the agenda.
Major portions of the agenda included:

(1) Review of the KQS Plan Submitted to FEMA.

(2) Regional Incident Management Team Presentation.

(3) Discussion of the Advisory Committee's Next Steps.

Meeting Objectives: After the agenda, Mr. Heiser discussed the meeting's main objectives:

(1) Establish the Advisory Committee to Support the Implementation of the KQS.

(2) Facilitate understanding of the committee's role and road ahead for the implementation of KQS.

National Qualification System and the Committee's Charter: Next, Mr. Heiser reviewed the National Qualification System (NQS) and how it fulfills a need for FEMA to maintain a roster of deployable personnel who are certified and credentialed to deploy to disasters and incidents. Mr. Heiser continued that the overall charter of the committee is to advise and assist the Director of Emergency Management with the development of KQS, Kentucky's own version of NQS.

KQS Report to FEMA, Implementation Timeline, and Network Diagram: Dr. Harris presented the one-page plan required by FEMA. He emphasized several aspects of the submitted report including the Director's intention to initiate KQS in the Commonwealth this fiscal year and to focus upon Type 3 All-Hazard Incident Management Teams (AHIMTs). Dr. Harris displayed a timeline for implementation of KQS, noting the next milestones are to set up the Qualification Review Boards and to fully establish KQS by the end of the calendar year with credentialed persons available on AHIMTs. Dr. Harris transitioned to talking about the Project Network Diagram of KQS. He noted that some of the next critical actions encompass the development of KQS Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG), forming of the Qualification Review Boards, packet evaluation, and the issuing of credentials, among others.

Incident Management Team (IMT) Presentation: Mr. Todd Schulkers provided an overview of how events in the Commonwealth, including the recent Eastern Kentucky Flood, illustrated the need for a Statewide Qualification System. To support a statewide system, one of the initiatives already in progress are regional incident management teams, which received much emphasis at the September 2022 Kentucky Emergency Services Conference. KQS will assist these teams with a common training standard.

Qualification Review Boards (QRBs): Mr. Heiser reviewed the need to ultimately establish two QRBs in Kentucky. One will be to certify persons for Incident Management Teams and the other to concentrate upon EOC Assistance Teams. Mr. Heiser mentioned that deciding the composition of the teams will be one of the main aims for the next Advisory Council meeting.

Next Steps - Policy and Procedures Subgroup: Mr. Heiser asked for volunteers to serve on the Policy and Procedures Subgroup to write the SOG for KQS. After discussion, four persons indicated their interest; Mr. Kevin Vogelpohl, Mr. Todd Schulkers, Ms. Charla Sands, and Dr. Charlie Harris. They decided on 11 July 2023 for their first meeting.

Next Steps - Advisory Committee's Next Meeting: Members of the Advisory Committee checked their calendars and reached consensus for the next two meeting dates on 17 July at 9:00 AM and on 21 August at 2:30 PM.

Public Comments: None.

Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Attachments:

Advisory Committee Slidedeck 29 JUN 23 (PowerPoint)

KQS Meeting 06-29-2023 (PowerPoint)