

State Emergency Response Committee
Helena, Montana
October 2006

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The Legislative Committee reports that the Governor has not supported the 50-cent fee proposed to fund HazMat; he states that it's a new tax and will not support any new taxes. All six HazMat teams have each sent a letter, stating that without funding they will not be able to continue as State HazMat members and that they will only be able to respond in their local jurisdictions.

The **Intrastate Mutual Aid System** was passed by the SERC. This will not affect any prior mutual aid systems already in place, i.e., Montana Fire Mutual Aid system. For more information, please contact either Chief Steve Larson at the Helena Fire Department or Chief Ken Mergenthaler at the Eastgate Volunteer Fire Department.

MRL TransCar (HazMat Training Car): Contact your local DES Coordinator to set up training.

FY 2007 Homeland Security funding: Montana expects 14% less than last year.

The **Montana NIMS status** has been submitted to Homeland Security for compliance.

The **Governor's Emergency Preparedness Summit** will be a biannual conference, held in the off-legislative years, i.e., 2008.

During May's SERC meeting, the Board voted to remove the FSTS's seat; they felt it was redundant due to the fact that the MSFCA has a seat. The SERC denied MSFCA's request to have this reviewed.

The next SERC meeting will be held in March, 2007.