



---

---

**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT 10 LOCAL EMERGENCY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
February 5, 2009**

**Committee Members/Alternates Present**

Hassan Al-Buhaisi  
Mark Anderson  
Bill Amador  
Chris Bushman, Chairman  
Richard Daniels  
Anthony DiFruscio  
Cheryl Dunn  
John Gojkovich  
Steven Graff (Alternate)  
Keith Holman  
John Johnson  
Frank Lasaga  
Dave Maloney  
Jack McCart  
John O' Malley  
Houston Park (Alternate)  
Paul Seldes  
Clint Sperber  
Barry Stewart  
Greg Thompson  
Carlos Valle  
Danny Wells  
Dan Wouters  
Arthur Wyman (Alternate)

**Members Absent**

Cheryl Dunne  
Mike Geier  
Steven Huntsberger  
Nicholas Laryea  
Etta LoPresti  
Harry Lux  
Paul Meding  
Joseph Passanesi  
Lisa Wilson-Davis, Vice-Chairman

**Occupational Category**

Local Environmental (Florida Department of Environmental Protection)  
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Firefighting (Town of Palm Beach Fire Rescue)  
Firefighting (St. Lucie County Fire District)  
Emergency Management (City of Port St. Lucie)  
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)  
Health (Indian River County Health Department)  
Law Enforcement (Port St. Lucie Police Department)  
Law Enforcement (Stuart Police Department)  
Emergency Management (Martin County)  
Firefighting (City of Boca Raton Fire Rescue)  
Emergency Management (City of Stuart)  
Transportation (Florida Department of Transportation)  
Interested Citizen (Educational Consultants, Inc.)  
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)  
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Interested Citizen (NTB Group, LLC)  
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)  
Local Environmental (Hazardous Waste Services)  
Interested Citizen (Sun Sentinel)  
Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney – Rocketdyne)  
Facility Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)  
Firefighting (Martin County Fire District)  
Community Group (American Red Cross)

**Occupational Category**

Facility Operator (Syngenta Crop Protection)  
Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)  
Interested Citizen (Indian River Community College)  
Facility Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)  
Emergency Management (Indian River County)  
Interested Citizen (Hazmat & Safety Solutions, Inc.)  
Facility Operator (Cliff Berry, Incorporated)  
Law Enforcement (Martin County Sheriff's Office)  
Non-Elected Local Official (City of Boca Raton)

**Staff**

Kathryn Boer  
Terry Hess  
Penny Myszkowski

TCRPC/LEPC District 10  
TCRPC/LEPC District 10  
TCRPC/LEPC District 10

**Visitors**

George Danz  
John Long  
Bronson McClary  
John Sherry  
Dennis Zabel

District 11 LEPC Chair  
Florida Gas Transmission Company  
Florida Gas Transmission Company  
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue  
Florida Atlantic University

Chairman Bushman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Chairman Bushman requested roll call and staff announced a quorum was present. Staff welcomed visitors, including George Danz, LEPC District 11 Chairperson and member of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), John Long and Bronson McClary, Florida Gas Transmission Company, and Dennis Zabel, Florida Atlantic University.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF FEBRUARY, 2009 MEETING**

Mr. Greg Thompson moved approval of the agenda. Mr. Paul Seldes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Motion**

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2008**

Mr. Greg Thompson moved approval of the November 6, 2008 District 10 Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Steven Graff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Motion**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**2009 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week**

District 10 LEPC recognized January 18-24, 2009 as Florida’s Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. The designation represented a statewide coordinated awareness effort focused on the safe disposal of Mercury present in Compact Fluorescent Lamps. District 10 prepared radio spots for the awareness campaign and sponsored 182 radio spots on four different radio stations over the week long event. Those ads were also presented using web-streaming. At the same time, the Indian River County Health Department staff manned a collection point for Mercury at the Indian River County Mall for disposal at the Annual Electronics Recycling Event in Vero Beach. Staff noted that Home Depot is also a repository for unbroken fluorescent bulb disposal.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**State Emergency Response Commission Meeting**

*2008 Thomas Yatabe Awards and Certificates of Appreciation*

On January 9, 2009, the SERC awarded the 2008 Thomas Yatabe Award to Mr. Bruce Pisani, Martin County Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Pisani has been a District 10 LEPC member since January of 2004 and has worked in emergency management for Martin County for several years. He has enhanced efforts in hazardous materials planning and supported compliance and planning projects

regarding Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act. Chairman Bushman presented the award to Mr. Keith Holman, who accepted the award for Mr. Bruce Pisani.

A Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Battalion Chief Dan Wouters who has served Martin County Fire Rescue since 1988 as fire fighter/paramedic and coordinator of the Martin County Hazardous Materials Team. He was recently appointed as Battalion Chief and also serves as Chairman of the Florida Association of Hazardous Responders and serves on the SERC Subcommittee on Training.

A Certificate of Appreciation was awarded posthumously to Mr. Wayne Landowski, Florida Atlantic University. Mr. Landowski, who served as a liaison member of the LEPC since 2004, representing Florida Atlantic University, passed away in July. His alternate, Mr. Dennis Zabel, received the award on his behalf.

Staff said that Mr. Richard Daniels, City of Port St. Lucie Emergency Management, was nominated for a Certificate of Appreciation in 2007 and was able to come to the meeting and receive his certificate today. Mr. Daniels began his appointment to the LEPC in January of 2007. He has taken an active role in coordinating and providing space for hazardous materials training and promotes LEPC training opportunities at all agencies. He attended the 2007 biennial exercise, participating as a player in the public works emergency support function role for his agency.

Mr. Greg Thompson presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Kathryn Boer for her work with the East Central Florida District 6 LEPC.

#### *Guidelines for Granting and Terminating Access to E-Plan*

Staff explained the nationwide database, E-Plan, for first responders for chemical information is on-line and being utilized regularly. The E-Plan guidelines for granting and terminating access are in draft form and will be put before the SERC at the next meeting on April 3, 2009. All responders are being granted access with the approval and authorization of their agency head. Emergency managers, LEPC staff, or Shanti Smith with the Department of Emergency Management may also grant access to personnel. It will be for use by planners, emergency first responders, and hazmat teams. Mr. John Sherry said there are many improvements that have been made to the system and the State hopes to get all the hazmat teams on the E-Plan. He also said that [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) will have a site for a beta version of inventory management on line. It is password protected and requires registration. Industry personnel will eventually be able to modify their chemical inventories on the database daily.

Chief Wouters said there is a new version of CAMEO (2.0) and in April or May a completely revised Marplot will be coming out on-line. It will have the ability to import Tier II information and PDFs directly into the software system.

#### *Hazardous Materials Incidence Reports*

□

Staff provided information through reports and graphs on release of hazardous materials within the District 10 Region for the time period of December 1, 2007 through November 30, 2008. Staff noted the entire report is available on-line at <http://www.hazmat.floridadisaster.org/meet.htm>. Staff will include

information on regional spills that occur with any follow up data sent from the facility involved at the next meeting.

#### **Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairs Meeting Update**

Members discussed the occupational category list in the agenda package. There was discussion as to whether LEPC occupational categories could be added, deleted, or combined. The LEPC Chairs would like to bring a consensus of ideas to the April 2, 2009 SERC meeting regarding additions and category combinations to the current list. It was asked if occupational categories should be standard for all LEPCs in the state. Staff suggested four new categories which were common to many of the state LEPCs; education, safety, hazardous materials, and public and private utilities. There could be a fifth category, that would allow for specific occupational categories specific to regional characteristics. Staff explained that the Print and Broadcast Media categories could be combined; as State and Local Officials categories to Elected Officials; and Civil Defense could be Military Support. Member discussion of the occupational category listing followed. Ms. Cheryl Dunn made a motion to add the five new categories to the occupational category list and that the list should be standard to all the LEPCs in the state. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jack McCartt. There was further discussion with the suggestion to combine health and medical categories. An amendment to the motion was made by Ms. Dunn to adopt the additional categories, agree and recommend the combined categories for better definition and include Health and Medical as a combined category. The motion was seconded by Mr. Daniels and carried unanimously.

**Motion**

**Amended  
Motion**

Regarding the question as to whether retired members maintain their previously assigned categories, Mr. Jack McCartt motioned that retired members should retain their previously assigned categories. The motion was seconded by Richard Daniels and carried unanimously.

**Motion**

Regarding the question as to whether one person can represent two categories, Mr. Jack McCartt motioned that an LEPC member represent one occupational category and have one vote. The motion was seconded by Chief Dan Wouters and carried unanimously.

**Motion**

#### **Subcommittee on Training Update**

Staff reported there were SERC Subcommittee on Training conference calls that took place in January 2009 regarding natural gas industry credentialing for emergency responders. Mr. John Sherry reported there was good communication between the public and private sector responders. He explained that first responders will know that the industry responder working next to them will also have had training. Mr. McCartt said they are working on standard guidelines for levels of training required for Emergency Management Service (EMS) responders in a hazardous chemical emergency. He said that the intent of the committee is to define a standard of care across the State of Florida for responder training levels for EMS personnel, specifically for paramedics and antidotal therapy.

Regarding the 2008/2009 strategic plan action items, the current projects being worked on by the SERC Subcommittee on Training are listed in the agenda package. Staff will bring a full description of the completed projects and new initiatives to the next LEPC meeting in May.

## **REPORTS**

### **Planning Subcommittee**

The Planning Subcommittee met prior to the LEPC meeting. Staff reported that the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning contract requires the LEPC to do a biennial exercise. This LEPC has done tabletop/functional exercises and would like to do a full scale exercise this year. Staff said this year there will be a tabletop exercise and the HMEP exercise will be a functional exercise. Florida Gas Transmission Company addressed the subcommittee about operational lines between Martin County and Palm Beach County. The exercise is required to be multijurisdictional and will engage several different incidents within the region. Ms. Nicholas Laryea, Indiantown Cogeneration, would also like to participate and the exercise may include a chemical release at their site

Mr. Houston Park stated the planning committee discussed the interaction with the gas industry and hazmat and law enforcement. They will focus on scaling down the exercise to make the exercise fully functional for the agencies involved. The exercise will test notification and alert elements of the Regional Hazardous Materials Plan. Mr. Park noted that past incidents involving Martin and Palm Beach Counties could be reviewed to determine where agency response problems existed. Chairman Bushman suggested the subcommittee use conference calls to work on these details.

### **Public Information/Marketing Subcommittee**

Staff reported that this committee has not met recently. Staff is providing compliance presentations for the Region's 302 facilities that require compliance input and technical assistance. The model for the Shelter-In-Place from last year has been completed and essential instructions have been posted on the

LEPC website regarding shelter in place situations with a chemical release. Three to six Train the Trainer awareness level classes for the Shelter-In-Place program are required. Staff will be doing compliance Shelter-In-Place presentations in schools, nursing homes, etc. and information will be presented at the next Hurricane Expo on May 16, 2009.

### **Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities**

A list of the LEPC planning activities since the previous meeting of November 6, 2008 was included in the agenda packet.

### **Contract Activities Update**

Staff noted the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Training Grant funds have been received. This funding has increased from \$24,000 to \$36,000. Planning dollars were increased from \$11,000 to \$18,000. The following classes have been requested for the upcoming quarter: three Hazwopper eight-hour courses; one forty-hour Hazwopper certification class; four Hazardous Materials Awareness Level courses; and two Hazmat IQ courses. There was also a request for a ToxMedic review refresher course.

### **Membership**

Chairman Bushman welcomed new member Battalion Chief Mark Anderson, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, and three alternate members, Mr. Joseph Holland for Ms. Cheryl Dunne, Mr. Arthur Wyman for Ms. Sharon Rayner, and Ms. Gloria Lopez for Mr. Dave Maloney.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND STAFF**

Chairman George Danz, District 11 LEPC, said the LEPC chairs and staff meet quarterly in Tallahassee and the District 10 LEPC is well represented. He encouraged members to participate on the LEPC subcommittees to facilitate the work of the LEPC.

### **COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Battalion Chief Wouters said he applied for an International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) hazmat instructor trainer class, for which he received verbal approval, and he is working on scheduling dates. He wants to extend this opportunity to other local departments who would like to send someone to become an instructor for the IAFF program.

Mr. Barry Stewart said they will be offering a Radiological/Nuclear Weapons and Mass Destruction Awareness Level Class to the Region and he will let staff know the date, location and time.

Mr. Clint Sperber said there will be a radiological exercise in Palm Beach County with 13 to 14 hospitals participating. They are looking for evaluators and observers and he welcomed any volunteers.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting will be held May 7, 2009 at Indian River State College Chastain Campus, Stuart, Florida.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.