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**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT 10 LOCAL EMERGENCY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**  
*February 2, 2012*

**Committee Members/Alternates Present**

Anderson, Mark  
Bushman, Chris, Chairman  
Carberry, Edward  
DiFruscio, Anthony  
Dunn, Cheryl  
Gannon, Ana  
Gojkovich, John  
Graff, Steven  
Guertin, Stephanie (Alternate)  
Harshburger, Daniel (Alternate)  
Holland, Joseph (Alternate)  
Holman, John (Alternate)  
Holman, Keith  
Koerner, David (Alternate)  
Laryea, Nicholas  
Lasaga, Frank  
LoPresti, Etta  
Meding, Paul  
Nadeau, Larry  
Nelson, Joe (Alternate)  
O'Malley, John  
Peterson, Vince  
Rawicz, Dave  
Sperber, Clint  
Stewart, Barry  
Valle, Carlos  
Waite, Sally  
Zabel, Dennis

**Members Absent**

Dunne, Cheryl  
Lux, Harry

**Occupational Category**

Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Firefighting (St. Lucie County Fire District)  
Transportation (Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC)  
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)  
Health (Indian River County Health Department)  
Local Environmental (Dept of Environ. Prot.)  
Law Enforcement (Port St. Lucie Police Dept)  
Law Enforcement (Stuart Police Department)  
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)  
Fire Rescue (Martin County Fire Rescue)  
Facility Operator (Syngenta Crop Protection)  
Law Enforcement (Port St. Lucie Police Dept)  
Emergency Management (Martin County)  
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)  
Facility Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)  
Emergency Management (City of Stuart)  
Emergency Management (Indian River County)  
Facility Operator (Cliff Berry, Incorporated)  
Emergency Management (City of Port St. Lucie)  
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)  
Facility Operator (Tropicana Products, Inc.)  
Facility Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)  
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)  
Local Environmental (Hazardous Waste Svs.)  
Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney – Rocketdyne)  
Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)  
Local Environmental (Harbor Branch  
Oceanographic Institute)

**Occupational Category**

Facility Operator (Syngenta Crop Protection)  
Interested Citizen (Hazmat & Safety Solutions, Inc.)

McCartt, Jack  
Passanesi, Joseph  
Phillips, Tom  
Seldes, Paul  
Thompson, Greg  
Wilson-Davis, Lisa  
Wouters, Dan

Interested Citizen  
Law Enforcement (Martin County Sheriff's Off.)  
Interested Citizen  
Interested Citizen (NTB Group, LLC)  
Interested Citizen (Sun Sentinel)  
Non-Elected Local Official (City of Boca Raton)  
Firefighting (Martin County Fire Rescue)

**Staff**

Kathryn Boer  
Penny Myszkowski

TCRPC/LEPC District 10, Coordinator  
TCRPC/LEPC District 10, Staff

**Visitors**

John Long  
Dave Parham  
Lynn Echim  
Russ Maclees  
Peter Merritt  
Maura Heffernan  
Peter Norris  
Jim Roberts

Kearby & Associates, Inc.  
Florida Gas Transmission Company  
Florida Gas Transmission Company  
Florida Gas Transmission Company  
Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council  
Pratt & Whitney  
Scripps Research Institute  
Florida Dept. of Emergency Management

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF FEBRUARY 2, 2012 MEETING***

Captain Joseph Nelson moved approval of the February 2, 2012 agenda. Ms. Etta LoPresti seconded the **Motion** motion, which carried unanimously.

***APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 3, 2011***

The 2011 District 10 Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting minutes were amended to include Daniel Harshburger (alternate for Dan Wouters) as present at the November 3, 2011 meeting. Mr. Larry Nadeau moved approval of the November 3, 2011 modified minutes. Lt. John Gojkovich seconded the **Motion** motion, which carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**State Emergency Response Commission Meeting**

*2011 Thomas Yatabe Award and Certificates of Appreciation Presentation*

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) met on January 6, 2012 in Altamonte Springs, Florida. The following District 10 LEPC members were awarded the 2011 Thomas Yatabe Award and Certificates of Appreciation for their outstanding contribution to the hazardous materials planning program:

**2011 Thomas Yatabe Award:**

Mr. Tom Daly – Emergency Management Coordinator, St. Lucie County Division of Emergency Management.

**2011 Certificates of Appreciation:**

Mr. Larry Nadeau – City of Port St. Lucie, Emergency Management

Ms. Debra McCaughey – Martin County Emergency Management Agency

Ms. Etta LoPresti – Indian River County Division of Emergency Management

*Approval of the Hazardous Materials Teams Type II and III Operational Readiness Evaluation Tools*

The Hazardous Materials Teams Type II and III Operational Readiness Evaluation Tools were approved by the SERC at the January 6, 2012 meeting. Captain Joseph Nelson said there had been minor revisions but there is still no mechanism for evaluating the teams. Staff said the assessments help the teams understand training needs in specific areas. LEPC members received a copy of the Type II and III Capabilities Assessment Tool that was approved at the January 6, 2012 SERC meeting.

*National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials Conference*

The National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials Conference will be held in St. Petersburg on April 24-27, 2012. There will be several training opportunities throughout the conference. The Statewide LEPC Chairs and Staff Training Task Force meeting will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The SERC meeting will be held April 24<sup>th</sup>. Captain Nelson, Chief Bushman and Staff will be attending the conference. LEPC members will be sent an agenda of training opportunities and are encouraged to attend. Cost of training, travel, and hotel will be covered by the LEPC.

*Hazardous Materials Incident Reports*

Hazardous Materials Incident Reports for incidents for the period of December 1, 2010 through November 30, 2011 were included in the agenda packet. Table 1 lists incidents that are potential Section 304 investigations. Table 2 lists fixed facility hazardous materials incidents with evacuations, injuries or death. Table 3 lists transportation incidents with evacuations, injuries and deaths for the District 10 region. The full listing of all regions is available on the SERC website [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org).

Figures in Graph I show Total Chemical Inventory by LEPCs. Graph II indicates the Notices of Violation and Second Notices, and Graph III shows EPCRA Outreach Activities in 2003 through 2012.

**Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairs Meeting Update**

Chairman Chief Bushman said one of the topics of the LEPC Chairs Meeting on January 5, 2012 was Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, held January 22-28, 2012, which featured the topic of mercury safety. A mass mailing to Tier II facilities on mercury safe disposal was done. There was a report on the E-Plan Users Group Conference. The International Offshore Drilling Response Plan was discussed. The U.S. Coast Guard is monitoring for any potential oil spill. Ms. Ana Gannon said that DEP is involved and has met with the Coast Guard in Miami.

Staff said that July is the normal upcoming biennial appointment for renewal of LEPC membership. At the LEPC August meeting, approval of the roster will take place. Members can let staff know if they do not want to continue to serve on the LEPC Committee.

### **Training Task Force Update – Captain Nelson**

The Training Task Force (TTF) met on January 5, 2012 in Altamonte Springs. Conference calls were conducted November 17 and December 14, 2011. Captain Nelson said the Task Force is revamping the Public Safety Sampling Standard Operating Guidelines. He said the Department of Health had some issues with health and safety sampling for patient care being done in the field vs. using the labs that are certified to test for biological materials with TCR testing, which is genetic testing. The labs can return information in a couple hours. They also recognize that public safety responders have to make public safety decisions regarding occupation and evacuation. He said first responders were also reminded not to immediately release their results to the news media. Mr. Clint Sperber stated that the FBI gets involved when there is a threat associated with an incident as with explosives.

Staff gave members a copy of the Training Task Force Project Board and SERC TTF Projects list. Captain Joe Nelson is the LEPC primary member and Chief Jack McCartt is the alternate on the TTF. Copies of all projects are available from staff upon request.

Captain Nelson said there had been a SERC/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Memorandum of Understanding providing for supplemental projects in lieu of penalties. That agreement will be renewed.

Captain Nelson said there was discussion on having training symposiums on hazmat and possibly some competitions between hazmat teams, a “hazmat rodeo”.

### **Presentation – Florida Gas Transmission High Pressure Gas Line Safety**

Mr. John Long, Florida Gas Transmission, gave a presentation on high pressure natural gas pipeline safety. He has spoken to first responders throughout the four county area and is available to speak to them at any time.

Mr. Long gave members a brochure covering information and an emergency number for the Natural Gas Transmission Company (1-800-238-5066). Natural gas steel lines are installed at least three feet underground. He had a number of maps showing the natural gas lines that run through the four county area. Maximum pressure in the pipeline is 975 lbs. Main lines run down through Florida along the Florida Turnpike with laterals that go to power plants, local distribution stations, transfer points, and regulator stations. Eighty percent of the gas goes to power plants. The other 20% goes to local distribution companies and citrus process plants.

He gave a slide presentation that included pictures of a ruptured pipeline and explosion in Texas and examples of compressor stations which are every 75 miles along the pipeline route. Mr. Long said it is very important that any damage or other problems with the pipelines need to be reported immediately so the gas transmission company can follow through with any repairs. Law enforcement can stop any gas company workers to ask for their one call ticket number to confirm they are authorized to be on the gas transmission property.

Florida Gas Transmission is the largest gas provider to the State of Florida and is regulated by the Federal Emergency Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Department of Transportation works with them in new construction and safety. State agencies regulate environmental issues. Mr. Long said an airplane flies over the pipelines once a week and can determine the location of a possible leak which could be indicated by grass discoloration. There are also devices inside the pipes that can electronically detect imperfections in the pipes and hydrostatic tests which test with high pressured water in the pipes.

Local and state officials can access geospatial data and public contact information on the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) located at [www.npms.rspa.dot.gov](http://www.npms.rspa.dot.gov).

Staff said that in September or October the LEPC will begin planning the upcoming biennial tabletop training exercise and can include a gas pipeline transmission scenario. Mr. Long said that last year the gas transmission station in Fort Pierce worked with the St. Lucie Fire Department and brought them out for a sight visit to show them exactly what they do at the fully automatically run station. They notified the Martin Fire and Sheriff's Office as to what was taking place, but someone driving by called 911.

Chief Bushman related an incident in which lightning hit the compressor station. The plant was scheduled to take itself off line and isolate valves. While it was shutting down, a second lightning strike hit the stack and set it on fire. The valves didn't shut down all the way isolating the plant. Gas coming out was burning and calls were coming in. The neighborhood was evacuated and in about an hour the valves were shut down. They did lose one truck to the fire.

Staff said there was a presentation at the SERC meeting on mineral oil fires.

## **REPORTS**

### **Planning Subcommittee**

The Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan is being updated. Staff updated the Section 302 chemical facilities appendices, demographic data, and training and exercise activities. The Plan will be forwarded to the Planning Subcommittee members for review and update of agency response procedures information.

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

A Mercury safety flyer/fact sheet was loaded to the districts website and distributed to 302 facilities by mail and email for recognition of Hazardous Materials Awareness Week January 22-28, 2012.

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

A list of the planning activities since the previous meeting of November 3, 2011 was included in the agenda packet. Also included was a list of other emergency management and preparedness activities staff has participated in through the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

## **Contract Activities Update**

### Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness

The 2011/2012 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant provides annual funding for hazardous materials-related training to the region's first responders and for specific planning projects. It was requested that any specific training requests be submitted to Staff.

#### *Training*

Staff reported that during the first quarter of the 2011/2012 contract cycle, the District 10 LEPC sponsored two Hazardous Materials Awareness Level 4-hour classes and one Hazardous Materials Operations 8-hour class at the Port St. Lucie Utility Systems Department and one Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response class in Palm Beach County.

#### *Planning*

Staff noted that Planning Project Option #1, Commodity Flow Study, from the list of approved activities under the 2011/2012 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness grant was selected as the 2012 project. The project emphasizes transportation of chemicals on major intersections and highways

### Hazardous Analyses

Staff reported that the St. Lucie County 2011/2012 Hazardous Analysis is underway with site visits being scheduled at the 302 facilities.

## **Membership**

Staff reported that on January 6, 2012, the SERC met to consider LEPC districts nominations for membership. The District 10 LEPC had no new nominations for appointment.

Staff recognized Mr. Steve Huntsberger, Dean of Public Service Education, Indian River State College, for his service on the LEPC for the past several years upon his retirement. Staff recommended the District LEPC staff write a letter of appreciation to the Indian River State College and to Mr. Huntsberger in gratitude of service to the LEPC. Staff suggested the LEPC nominate Mr. Huntsberger for the next Thomas Yatabe Award. Mr. Scott Johnston is no longer able to serve as Vice Chair for the LEPC. Staff received a nomination for Captain Joe Nelson to serve as Vice Chair while continuing as the primary TTF membership representative.

Motion was made by Ms. Cheryl Dunn to accept Captain Joe Nelson to serve as LEPC Vice Chair. Ms. Sally Waite seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. **Motion**

Chair Chris Bushman congratulated Mr. Keith Holman on his retirement after 32 years of service in Emergency Management and invited members to have some cake in his honor. Staff thanked Mr. Holman for being a wonderful asset to the LEPC and for all his work in the many facets of hazardous materials and council projects.

**COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND STAFF**

None.

**COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2012. Please notify staff if your agency would like to host the next meeting. August 2, 2012 and November 1, 2012 are the remaining meeting dates for 2012.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.