



**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT 10 LOCAL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
November 3, 2011**

Committee Members/Alternates Present

Brennan, David (Alternate)
DiFruscio, Anthony
Dunn, Cheryl
Gaff, Steven
Guertin, Stephanie (Alternate)
Dan Harshburger (Alternate)
Holman, John (Alternate)
Koerner, David (Alternate)
Lasaga, Frank
LoPresti, Etta
Lux, Harry
McCaughey, Debra (Alternate)
Nadeau, Larry
Nelson, Joe (Alternate)
Phillips, Tom
Rawicz, Dave
Schuessler, Glenn (Alternate)
Sperber, Clint
Stewart, Barry
Strock, Dianne (Alternate)
Waite, Sally
Zabel, Dennis

Members Absent

Anderson, Mark
Bushman, Chris, Chairman
Dunne, Cheryl
Gannon, Anna
Gojkovich, John
Holman, Keith
Huntsberger, Stephen
Johnston, Scott
Laryea, Nicholas
McCart, Jack
Meding, Paul
O'Malley, John
Passanesi, Joseph
Seldes, Paul
Thompson, Greg

Occupational Category

Transportation (Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC)
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)
Health (Indian River County Health Department)
Law Enforcement (Stuart Police Department)
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)
Firefighting (Martin County Fire Rescue)
Law Enforcement (Port St. Lucie Police Department)
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)
Emergency Management (City of Stuart)
Emergency Management (Indian River County)
Interested Citizen (Hazmat & Safety Solutions, Inc.)
Emergency Management (Martin County)
Emergency Management (City of Port St. Lucie)
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)
Facility Operator (Cheney Brothers, Incorporated)
Health (Indian River County Health Department)
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)
Local Environmental (Hazardous Waste Services)
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)
Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)
Local Environmental (Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute)

Occupational Category

Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)
Firefighting (St. Lucie County Fire District)
Facility Operator (Syngenta Crop Protection)
Local Environmental (Dept. of Environmental Protection)
Law Enforcement (Port St. Lucie Police Department)
Emergency Management (Martin County)
Interested Citizen (Indian River State College)
Firefighting (City of Boca Raton)
Facility Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)
Interested Citizen
Facility Operator (Cliff Berry, Incorporated)
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)
Law Enforcement (Martin County Sheriff's Office)
Interested Citizen (NTB Group, LLC)
Interested Citizen (Sun Sentinel)

Valle, Carlos
Wilson-Davis, Lisa
Wouters, Dan

Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney – Rocketdyne)
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

Visitors

Vergie Bain
Darlene Fossum
Jim Simmons
Jesse J. Streeter
William Harris

U.S. Department of Labor – OSHA
U.S. Department of Labor – OSHA
Sysco Southeast Florida
Fort Pierce Police Department
Port St. Lucie Police Department

APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 3, 2011 MEETING

The November 3, 2011 agenda was amended to move Agenda item 6D, Canine Demonstration – Officer William Harris, Port St. Lucie Police Department, to the first item under Old Business to facilitate Officer Harris’ presentation. Mr. Harry Lux moved approval of the modified agenda. Ms. Cheryl Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Motion

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 4, 2011

Mr. Frank Lasaga moved approval of the August 4, 2011 District 10 Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Tom Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Motion

OLD BUSINESS

Officer William Harris, Port St. Lucie Police Department, gave a canine demonstration with Canine Officer Oliver, a Belgian Malinois. Officer Harris explained the bomb and hazardous materials training and work of this type of dog while Oliver “Ollie” remained at his side.

Officer Harris explained how the sense of smell organ in the dog’s nose helps to process odors in distinct segments. Trainers capitalize on this trait to train the dogs to pick out certain smells among many other odors and then go to the source of the odor.

Every six months the dog is trained and recertified. The bomb dog is trained on eight primary odors which include hazardous materials and over thirty seven combinations of those odors. Staff may involve Officer Harris and Oliver in the next LEPC exercise.

Demonstrating his training, Oliver found a magazine of bullets that had been hidden in a duffel bag in the LEPC meeting room. During the search, the handler watches for a change in breathing, behavior, or posture in the dog. Oliver sat and looked at Officer Harris when he found the bullets.

NEW BUSINESS

State Emergency Response Commission Meeting

Staff reported the last meeting was held on October 7, 2011 in Tallahassee and was attended by Staff.

Thomas Yatabe Award Nominations

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) approved the nominations for the annual Thomas Yatabe SERC Awards Program. Mr. Tom Daly, Emergency Management Coordinator, St. Lucie County Division of Emergency Management, won the award for outstanding contributions to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and District 10 LEPC. Mr. Daly has been invited to the next SERC meeting in Altamonte Springs to accept this award. Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Mr. Larry Nadeau, City of Port St. Lucie, Emergency Management; Ms. Debra McCaughey, Martin County Emergency Management Agency; and Ms. Etta LoPresti, Indian River County Division of Emergency Management.

Legislative and Rule Changes

Legislative rule changes were made regarding fees for filing industrial toxic releases. The Technological Hazards Section is reviewing the feasibility of implementing an amnesty program where initial registration for facilities identified as delinquent can be made without fear of fines and late fees.

Fee and Regulation Brochure

A Fee and Regulation Brochure was designed by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) which will be provided to the new Department of Economic Opportunity for distribution to businesses seeking to relocate to Florida. The brochure contains information on Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know, Risk Management, Accidental Release and Toxic Release Inventory, and information on citations, rules and fees. The document contains information on web-sites, telephone numbers, and rules and statutes and answers questions. The final format will be approved by the SERC in January.

Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

Each year the SERC and LEPC's recognize one week targeting a specific hazardous chemical or safety focus. This year the LEPC Chairs adopted January 22-28, 2012 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week, targeting Mercury Safety and Awareness as the theme. The goal of this year's theme is to provide guidance and training for spill notification as well as proper disposal. Staff asked the LEPC committee for any ideas they might have for the mercury awareness theme. A copy of the Resolution to recognize Hazardous Materials Awareness Week will be signed by the LEPC Chair. A Resolution will also be brought to the December meeting of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council for adoption in support of the week. A motion was made by Cheryl Dunn and seconded by Etta LoPresti to adopt the Resolution recognizing Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. Discussion followed and the suggestion was made to add the theme of mercury safety and awareness to the Resolution in a separate paragraph beginning with Whereas.

Motion

An amended motion was made by Cheryl Dunn and seconded by Etta LoPresti to approve the amended additional language in the Resolution to insert the theme of mercury safety and awareness. The motion carried unanimously.

Hazardous Materials Incident Reports

Hazardous Materials Incident Reports for incidents for the period of September 1, 2010 through August 31, 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. Staff added Table 3 listing transportation incidents with evacuations, injuries and deaths for the District 10 region. The full listing of all regions is available on the SERC website.

Figures in Graph I indicate hazardous materials incident reports from 1999 to 2011. Figures in Graph II indicate petroleum versus non-petroleum incidents by LEPC District.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairs Meeting Update

The eleven Florida LEPC District Chairs and staff meet one day prior to the SERC meeting on a quarterly basis. Staff reported the LEPC District Chairs meeting was held on October 6, 2011 in Tallahassee. The next meeting will be held on January 5, 2012 in Altamonte Springs.

Florida has a Hazardous Materials Information System (HMIS). The updated Web HMIS containing the latest Section 302 Facility data and entries is now accessible to staff in electronic format via Web HMIS. Staff has local 302 hazardous materials information in CAMEOfm. That data is then sent to the State for approval and submission to HMIS and E-Plan.

The FDEM staff briefed LEPC Chairs and staff at the October 6, 2011 meeting on the additional Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) funding for the regions. In June staff requested an additional \$17,000 in HMEP funds, which was approved. Three additional Hazardous Materials Awareness courses were conducted in Indian River County, St. Lucie County, and one in Palm Beach County. Also a Toxicology class was held in St. Lucie County and an Incident Commander class was held in Indian River County. On October 13, 2011 a Hazwoper class was held in Palm Beach County.

Training Task Force Update – Captain Nelson

The Training Task Force met on October 6, 2011 in Tallahassee. Captain Nelson was unable to attend the meeting, but has kept up with the conference calls that preceded the meeting. The next quarterly meeting is January 5, 2012 in Altamonte Springs.

In the absence of Chief Scott Johnston, Captain Nelson reported that modifications were made regarding some of the assessment tools carried by first responders and to some of the plans that have to be in place. Hazardous Materials Training Guidelines from the SERC were discussed and some modification to the Tox Medic program will be needed.

Captain Nelson said the Public Safety Sampling Standard Operating Guidelines will need modifications. The health department wants the first sample taken in field screening to go to the Sate lab for testing with limited medical decision made on field samples. Clint Sperber, St. Lucie County

Health Department added that the health department wants to rule out chemical explosive and biological testing in the field. Captain Nelson reported that agreement in this matter was reached by the different agencies attending the Training Task Force meeting.

Some of the new business included Membership Guidelines review and a Hazardous Materials Training Rodeo to get teams to work together and hold some competitions. Also discussed were the Florida Fire Chiefs Association Update and Florida Association of Hazardous Materials Responders.

Presentation – Darlene Fossum, Occupational Safety and Health Administration Area (OSHA) Director

Darlene Fossum, Compliance Assistance with Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), explained OSHA’s role in emergency response. She said OSHA does not want to take over any emergency response investigation. OSHA’s role is to give support to the responders after the industrial site is under control. OSHA wants to come in as a resource to help and assist with information and equipment.

Ms. Fossum presented some slides from September 11, 2001. She noted OSHA supported the fire department in the work being done and set up a security line around the area and monitored conditions and air quality.

Vergie Bain, OSHA, spoke of their mission to work with private sector and general employees in the State of Florida. There are three OSHA offices in Florida, one in Tampa, Jacksonville, and Fort Lauderdale. OSHA assists in emergencies with hurricanes, tornados, and transportation issues, construction, and manufacturing emergencies, as well as hazardous materials spills, biohazards, chemical reactions, and radioactive materials.

Ms. Bain stated that OSHA works with industries to develop a plan for response to emergencies and hazardous materials releases and to help them get the proper equipment and training to deal with these incidents. OSHA will support first responders in assisting the identification of health hazards and providing adequate protective equipment. OSHA would like to improve communication with local, state, and Federal agencies. The OSHA website has information on monitoring that was done during all the recent state and national emergencies and offers much technical assistance at no charge. Ms. Bain said their job is to offer assistance, not enforcement. OSHA’s mission is to reduce dangers, illnesses, and fatalities in the workplace.

REPORTS

Planning Subcommittee

Staff reported that the Section 302 chemical facilities appendices, demographic data, and training and exercise activities sections of the District 10 Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan have been updated. Staff forwarded the Plan to the Planning Subcommittee members for review and update of agency response procedures information and then submitted it to the Florida Division of Emergency Management for review and approval. The Plan was approved by the SERC at the October meeting.

The After Action Report for the 2011 Biennial Exercise held on April 12, 2011 is available from staff upon request. Staff thanked the Planning Subcommittee members and LEPC members who volunteered to evaluate the exercise.

Public Information/Marketing Subcommittee

There are no current outreach projects in development at this time. Staff requested Committee members forward any ideas for outreach projects and information for public dissemination.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities

A list of the planning activities since the previous meeting of August 4, 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 2010/2011 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 fourth quarter of the 2010/2011 contract cycle, the District 10 LEPC received additional funding from the FDEM and sponsored three hazardous Materials Awareness Level 8-hour classes in Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties: one hazmat Toxicology class for the Emergency Care Provider in St. Lucie County; one Air Monitoring & Detection Hazmat Responders class; and one Incident Commander for Hazardous Materials Incidents class in Indian River 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 October 7, 2011, the SERC approved the District 10 LEPC nominations for appointment. Staff welcomed Mr. Larry Nadeau, City of Port St. Lucie, Emergency Management and his alternate Mr. Carmen Capezutto, City of Port St. Lucie, Emergency Management; Mr. Vince Peterson, Tropicana Products, Inc.; and Ms. Ana Gannon, Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND STAFF

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEXT MEETING

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2012. Mr. Clint Sperber, St. Lucie County Health Department, offered his facility to host the February LEPC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.