



**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT 10 LOCAL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**
February 7, 2013

Committee Members

Anderson, Mark
Bushman, Chris, Chairman
Dunn, Cheryl
Engel, Norm
Graff, Steven
Guertin, Stephanie (Alternate)
Lasaga, Frank
LoPresti, Etta
Lux, Harry
Meding, Paul
Murphy, Michelle (Alternate)
Nelson, Joe, Vice Chair
Perkins, Richard
Rawicz, Dave
Seldes, Paul
Sperber, Clint
Stewart, Barry
Strock, Dianne (Alternate)
Waite, Sally
Wouters, Dan
Zabel, Dennis

Members Absent

Carberry, Edward
DiFruscio, Anthony
Dunne, Cheryl
Gannon, Ana
Holman, John
Jones, Derrell
Laryea, Nicholas
Mayer, Timothy
McCartt, Jack
McCaughy, Debra
Norris, Peter
Passanesi, Joseph
Peterson, Vince

Occupational Category

Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)
Firefighting (St. Lucie County Fire District)
Health (Indian River County Health Department)
Firefighting (City of Boca Raton Fire Rescue)
Law Enforcement (City of Stuart Police Department)
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)
Emergency Management (City of Stuart)
Emergency Management (Indian River County)
Interested Citizen (Hazmat & Safety Solutions, Inc.)
Facility Operator (Cliff Berry, Inc.)
Firefighting (Boca Raton Fire Rescue)
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)
Facility Operator (City of Port St. Lucie Utility Systems)
Facility Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)
Interested Citizen (ntb Group, LLC)
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)
Local Environmental (Zenith Environmental)
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)
Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)
Firefighting (Martin County Fire Rescue)
Local Environmental (Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute)

Occupational Category

Transportation (Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC)
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)
Facility Operator (Syngenta Crop Protection)
Local Environmental (Department of Environmental Protection)
Law Enforcement (City of Port St. Lucie Police Department)
Law Enforcement (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission)
Facility Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)
Interested Citizen (ATEC, Inc.)
Emergency Management (Martin County)
Facility Owner and Operator (Scripps Research Institute)
Law Enforcement (Martin County Sheriff's Office)
Emergency Management (Tropicana Products, Inc.)

Phillips, Tom	Interested Citizen
Sanders, Nick	Hospital (Select Specialty Hospital Palm Beach)
Thompson, Greg	Interested Citizen (Sun Sentinel)
Valle, Carlos	Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney – Rocketdyne)
Wilson-Davis, Lisa	Non-Elected Local Official (City of Boca Raton)

Staff

Kathryn Boer	TCRPC/LEPC District 10, Coordinator
Penny Myszkowski	TCRPC/LEPC District 10, Staff

Visitors

Lt. Victor Dixon	Indian River County Fire Rescue
Dave Dyal	Stuart Fire Rescue
Kevin Herndon	St. Lucie County Fire District
Kenton Brown	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Chief Joe Ferrara	Martin County Fire Rescue
Chief Kevin Herndon	St. Lucie County Fire District

APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF FEBRUARY 7, 2013 MEETING

Steven Graff moved approval of the February 7, 2013 agenda. Frank Lasaga seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. **Motion**

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 15, 2012

Mr. Lasaga moved approval of the November 15, 2012 minutes. Mr. Graff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. **Motion**

NEW BUSINESS

State Emergency Response Commission Meeting

Kathryn Boer reported the last State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) meeting was held in Daytona Beach in conjunction with the Fire Rescue East Conference/Hazmat Symposium on January 25, 2013. The SERC Training Task Force (TTF) meeting was held on January 24, 2013 and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chairs and Staff meeting were held January 24, 2013. Staff briefed the District 10 LEPC on the following new business:

2012 District 10 Thomas Yatabe Awards and Certificates of Appreciation

Ms. Boer stated that this is the first year that all of the fire districts have been recognized for their continuous efforts in promoting the Emergency Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) mission through support of the District 10 LEPC activities. These four agencies were nominated because the fire departments and districts’ hazardous materials teams have consistently provided advertising to personnel, training space, and expert guidance in exercise, planning and training. Lieutenant Dixon, Indian River County Fire Rescue, accepted the award for John King, Director of Emergency Services and Fire Chief of Indian River County Fire Rescue. Chief Joe Ferrara, Martin County Fire Chief, accepted the award for Martin County. Chief Kevin Herndon accepted the award for the St. Lucie County Fire District. Chief Mark Anderson, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, received the award for

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. Chairman Chris Bushman expressed his appreciation to the award recipients for past and continued support of the LEPC. Chairman Bushman announced that after 35 years of service, he officially retired as Assistant Chief of the St. Lucie Fire District as of January 31, 2013. His LEPC category will change to "Interested Citizen," however he has graciously agreed to continue to serve as the LEPC Chairman.

Ms. Boer showed a video on Statewide Interoperable Communications, technology which provides communication on demand for public safety agencies. It allows different radio systems statewide to communicate between various agencies such as sheriff, fire, National Guard, military, the forest service, public safety agencies, and highway patrol. Interoperability improves response to disasters through better coordination and allocation of resources because more information can be gathered and distributed to everyone more effectively through radio connectivity and compatibility. Ms. Boer added that two years ago the regional planning councils around the State helped update the Interoperable Plan for the State of Florida.

Etta LoPresti commented that the State did an ongoing interoperability drill the first week of February in Lake County. Indian River County dispatchers participated in the drill and found it very useful.

Cheryl Dunn commented that communication is always one of the most important issues in any incident or disaster. Ms. Boer added that amateur radio systems such as ARES and ham radios are depended on during emergency situations. Paul Seldes said that amateur radio operators support hospital communication and other hospital related agencies.

Hazardous Materials Incident Reports

Tables 1 and 2 list incidents for the period of September 1, 2012 through November 30, 2012. Table 1 lists hazardous materials incidents that are potential Section 304 investigations. Table 2 lists fixed facility hazardous materials incidents with evacuations, injuries and deaths.

Graphs I and II provide information on hazardous materials incident reports from January 1, 2000 through November 30, 2012. Graph II compares incidents that occurred at fixed facilities to those involving transportation related incidents during the same time period. The incidents in Graph II have been further refined to list petroleum vs. non-petroleum incidents for both fixed and transportation related incidents. The full report is available on the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) website in the January 2013 SERC Agenda package.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairs Meeting Update

The LEPC Chairs and Staff meeting was held on January 24, 2013 in Daytona Beach. Captain Joseph Nelson, District 10 Vice Chair attended. He noted that there have been ongoing discussions by FDEM staff to eliminate or change the Hazards Analysis Grant Program. The LEPC Chairs and Staff opposed that idea because that is the only time in the process that a person visits the facilities to verify information that facilities annually report on Tier II's to FDEM. It is also an opportunity for industry to have personal contact with fire departments, local emergency management and LEPC personnel to discuss compliance issues and understand facility responsibilities. In addition, site visits have been a strong aid in building good relationships between local and State public/private relationships.

Ms. Boer discussed the background of the Hazards Analysis Program. Hazards Analyses are conducted in 67 counties within the State of Florida annually. Part of that visit is a compliance visit in regard to storage of Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS). If there is a release at a facility, local governments, response agencies and media consult the LEPC for information and compliancy in reporting and filing their chemical data through Tier IIs. If there is a release, first responders use collected data from site visits and Tier IIs in CAMEOofm software databases, which enables a more informed response to a facility. Ms. LoPresti visits facilities in Indian River County, Sally Waite and Michael Geier in Palm Beach County, Martin County Fire Rescue personnel visit in Martin County, and Ms. Boer in St. Lucie County. After the site visit, information is entered into CAMEO database software which can be accessed by any first responder on a laptop. If cell towers are down, information from E-Plan would not be available via the internet. The LEPC Chairs and Staff put forth a request to the SERC to consider approval to maintain the program. The SERC approved the continuance of the Hazards Analysis Grant Program and the funding for that purpose. Captain Nelson said there was good support to continue the program and it was agreed to look at the scope of work to eliminate any redundancies of information. Ms. Boer added that E-Plan is a good online software program used nationally and this year many more facilities will be reporting Tier II information online using E-Plan. Ms. Boer added that once the Hazards Analysis is completed, reviewed, and approved by the FDEM, notices are sent to all the applicable facilities of analysis availability. Hazardous materials teams, fire departments, and emergency management coordinators receive a copy of the database. Facilities often request copies of the hazards analysis to use as tool in risk management planning.

Captain Nelson said that E-Plan is not being funded by the federal government. It is being funded by the University of Texas, who has committed to continue funding it for the next eight years. The State of Florida has paid the University of Texas to make enhancements to E-Plan that would allow paying online and the collection of additional data. Ms. Boer mentioned that E-Plan seems to be the most user friendly program thus far in the online reporting systems that have been tried. 2010 and 2011 information that facilities reported online has been migrated over to the E-Plan system.

Ms. Boer noted that the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) has now been reorganized directly under the Office of the Governor. New auditing procedures and additional reporting requirements were designed to aid in transparency and fraud prevention. A defined list of support documentation requirements for LEPC, HMEP, Hazards Analysis, and any contracts with the FDEM was disseminated to LEPC Staff at the January SERC meeting.

The next SERC meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2013 in Tallahassee.

State Training Task Force Update – Captain Nelson

The State Training Task Force (TTF) met on January 24, 2013 in Daytona Beach in conjunction with the Fire Rescue East Conference and the first annual Hazmat Symposium. Captain Nelson said there was an impressive turnout and the TTF will start planning for another training next year, possibly including operational training and a competition in hazardous materials functions.

Captain Nelson said the U.S. Coast Guard is working with the League of Cities to work on issues of environmental concerns. There is an ongoing discussion about hazardous materials technicians assisting in oil spill cleanup. In the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, local responders were not permitted to be part of the cleanup because a very specific 40-hour hazwoper training was required. Even though the

hazardous materials technicians in the State had 160 hours of technician level training, OSHA did not recognize that training. The U.S. Coast Guard is working with OSHA to make possible a 4-hr online training module to teach specifics of oil spills in the marine environment that would allow responder participation in the cleanup of future events.

Captain Nelson said TRANSCAER is an organization that provides training related to rail traffic of hazardous materials. This year in Florida on April 17, 2013 there will be an ammonia safety day that will take place at the Florida State Fire College. Ms. Boer will send information to the committee members. Captain Nelson said there will also be training related to hazardous materials response to pressurized rail cars on September 10-15, 2013. There is no cost for the two training classes.

Captain Nelson said there was on-going discussion regarding putting information on open networks like the internet. Some of the planning documents are not for public consumption. There is a share-point site that the FDEM staff maintains for SERC and TTF information considered sensitive for their open website. Ms. Boer asked about the password process needed to obtain access and Captain Nelson said interested persons should e-mail the FDEM staff and apply for a password. Ms. Boer will send information to LEPC members at their request.

Captain Nelson added that on May 17-23, 2013 there will be an exercise for the Florida National Guard called Vigilant Guard. He said they always have a simulated component in the exercise where local first responders come in first and then hand off response to the Florida National Guard. This is the first time where first responders will actually respond and participate in the exercise. Anyone interested can observe or assist in evaluating the response of the first responders. Ms. Boer will send information to any members who are interested in participating. Captain Nelson said the Florida State Fire College is interested in hosting training events free of charge. There usually are dorms available for people to stay during the training.

Other matters discussed at the TTF meeting included the completion of hazardous materials teams self assessments for funded hazardous materials teams and the distribution of antidotes for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) by the Department of Health (DOH). Staff asked about the antidote for radiological contamination. Captain Nelson said that it would be best to leave a contaminated area and that simple iodized salt is a good antidote.

The State is undertaking a statewide disaster EMS protocol with a portion regarding Tox Medic response. Captain Nelson said the SERC has already done a model protocol for tox medics and he will review the two protocols to make sure they are the same.

REPORTS

Planning Subcommittee

The Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan will be updated this year. Ms. Boer will send members their county information for review, corrections, and to determine if any updates are needed.

Public Information Exchange

Chairman Bushman requested that LEPC staff be informed about any informational materials from agencies relating to hazardous materials, including training and exercises that can be posted on the District 10 LEPC website.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities

A list of the planning activities since the previous meeting of November 15, 2012 was included in the agenda packet. Also attached was a list of emergency management and preparedness staff activities.

Contract Activities Update

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness

The 2012/2013 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant began October 1, 2012. This grant provides annual funding for hazardous materials related training to the District 10 LEPC region and for specific hazardous materials` planning projects.

Training

During the first quarter of the 2012/2013 HMEP contract cycle, The District 10 LEPC sponsored one 16-hour CAMEOfm/MARPLOT class and Aloha software training class hosted by Indian River County Emergency Services held at the Emergency Operations Center in Vero Beach on October 22-23, 2012. Ms. LoPresti attended this class. In addition, Captain Nelson was sponsored to attend the E-Plan Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, October 23-25, 2012.

Second quarter upcoming classes include three (3) 3-hour Chemical Suicide for the First Responder classes to be conducted February 26-27, in Martin, St. Lucie, and Palm Beach Counties. Staff noted that many chemical suicide incidents happen in vehicles off the road. Many times law enforcement respond and are injured from residual chemical gases in the vehicles. This class is an update to the class given two years ago with the same instructor from the Department of Homeland Security. Ms. Boer encourages all agencies to send personnel to attend the 3-hour Awareness Level training.

Planning

The planning project for the 2012/2013 grant cycle is Option 4 – Facility Hazards Summary. This entails a complete listing of 302 Facilities that store, manufacture, or maintain extremely hazardous substances within the District 10 region. Information will include contacts, locations, and chemical inventories.

Hazardous Analyses

Ms. Boer reported that site visits to Section 302 facilities are on-going in St. Lucie County. Once completed, an update of information to the CAMEOfm software of the hazards analysis for each facility will be forwarded to the FDEM for review and approval. The 302 facilities will then be notified of the availability of their analysis. County emergency management, fire rescue and hazardous materials teams will receive the CAMEOfm database in CD format for planning and response use.

Membership

Membership Appointment

On January 25, 2013, the SERC approved the appointment of the following members:

PRIMARY

Captain Joseph Nelson
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
Occupational Category: Firefighting

Mr. Nick Sanders
Select Specialty Hospital Palm Beach
Occupational Category: Hospital

Mr. Derrell Jones
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Occupational Category: Law Enforcement

Mr. Timothy Mayer (Ms. Dianne Strock)
Palm beach County Health Department
Occupational Category: Health

ALTERNATE

Ms. Dianne Strock
Palm Beach County Health Department
Occupational Category: Health

Ms. Boer added that if a primary member resigns, their alternate is taken off the LEPC automatically.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND STAFF

Ms. Boer has the LEPC Resource Manual sent to all new LEPC members. Ms. Boer explained that the manual is slowly being updated.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Seldes said the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA) Emergency Management Planning training will be held at the St. Lucie County EOC on March 3 – 9, 2013. Mr. Seldes said he has coupons for dive training by Emergency Response Diving International to anyone who is interested. This is an online course.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEXT MEETING

The next LEPC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2013, at St. Lucie County Fire District, Milner Road, Fort Pierce, Florida. Please notify staff if your company or agency would like to host a future meeting. The meeting dates for 2013 are noted below:

May 2, 2013
August 1, 2013
November 7, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.