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**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT 10 LOCAL EMERGENCY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)  
FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
May 7, 2015**

**Committee Members**

Nelson, Joseph, Chair  
Brown, Kenton  
Engel, Norm  
\*Harshburger, Daniel  
Herndon, Kevin  
Holman, John  
Iversen, Kent  
Jones, Derrell  
Koener, David  
~~Engel, Norm~~  
Lo Presti, Etta  
Joseph, Glenn  
Lasaga, Frank  
Lux, Harry  
  
McCaughey, Debra  
Meding, Paul  
Norris, Peter  
Perkins, Richard  
Phillips, Tom  
Peterson, Vince  
Valle, Carlos  
\*Vogt, Charles  
Zabel, Dennis

**Excused**

Daly, Tom  
Mayer, Timothy  
McCartt, Jack  
  
Ortado, Derek  
Rawicz, Dave  
Sanders, Nick

**Occupational Category**

Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Local Environmental (FDEP)  
Firefighting (City of Boca Raton Fire Rescue)  
Fire Rescue (Martin County)  
Firefighting (St. Lucie County)  
Law Enforcement (City of Port St. Lucie PD)  
Facility Owners and Operators (Allied Universal)  
Law Enforcement (Palm Beach)  
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)  
~~Firefighting (City of Boca Raton Fire Rescue)~~  
Emergency Management (Indian River County)  
Non-Elected Official (City of Boca Raton)  
Emergency Management (City of Stuart Fire Rescue)  
Interested Citizen (Hazardous Materials & Safety Solutions, Inc.)  
Emergency Management Agency (Martin County)  
Facility Operator (Cliff Berry, Inc.)  
Facility Owner and Operator (Scripps Research Institute)  
Facility Operator (City of Port St. Lucie Utility Systems)  
Interested Citizen  
Emergency Management (Tropicana Products, Inc.)  
Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney)  
Health (Indian River County Health Department)  
Local Environmental  
(Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute)

**Occupational Category**

Emergency Management (St. Lucie County)  
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)  
Interested Citizen (Advanced Technical and Educational Consultants, Inc.)  
Law Enforcement (City of Stuart PD)  
Facility Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)  
Hospital (Select Specialty Hospital Palm Beach)

Seldes, Paul  
Stewart, Barry  
Thompson, Greg

Interested Citizen (ntb Group, LLC)  
Local Environmental (Zenith Environmental)  
Safety (Sun Sentinel)

**Absent**

Echazabal, Tony  
Laryea, Nicholas

**Occupational Category**

Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)  
Facility Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)

**Staff**

Kathryn Boer  
Kim Koho

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

**Visitors**

Owens, Sandy  
Rowley, Bill  
Leighton, Steve

Geo Syntec  
Palm Beach Sheriff's Office  
Martin County Sheriff Department, Department of  
Emergency Management  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency  
Interested Citizen  
Allied Universal  
Florida Department of Health

Carmen, Roger  
Bucell, Bridgette  
Gojkovich, John  
Prince, James  
Gosein-Rodriguez, Drovica

*\* denotes Alternate was present in Primary member's seat.*

Kathryn Boer welcomed all in attendance.

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF MAY 7, 2015 MEETING***

Chief Herndon moved approval of the May 7, 2015, agenda. Peter Norris seconded the motion, **Motion** which carried unanimously.

***APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 5, 2015***

Chief Joseph moved approval of the February 5, 2015, minutes. Mr. Lux seconded the motion, **Motion** which carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**State Emergency Response Commission Meeting**

**2015/2016 Risk Management Planning Program Audit/Inspection Work Plan**

Ms. Boer reviewed the Risk Management Planning (RMP) Program's annual work plan. It identifies the facilities recommended for audit inspections based on list of criteria centering on chemical characteristics. Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) is required to conduct audits of facilities that have been identified as high priority due to the possibility of an accidental release of a regulated substance. The list, included in the agenda item, is approved by the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). District 10 has three sites within Palm Beach County that will be

visited this year, these include: Cheney Brothers, Cosco Wholesale West Palm Beach, and Loxahatchee Environmental Control District.

### **Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports**

Ms. Boer reviewed the Hazardous Materials Incident Reports graphs and charts and stated that detailed information is available upon request from the State Watch Office and the report is in full for all the regions in the SERC agenda located on the FDEM website.

Ms. Boer stated that the SERC has had discussion adding port and rail related incidents to the report. The upcoming LEPC Biennial exercise will be engaging a rail incident with hazardous materials and derailment. The members were in agreement that there were many issues involved with rail transport including derailments.

Ms. Boer asked if anyone could provide her with a more direct contact to the Florida East Coast (FEC) railway or CSX Corporation. Mr. Brown said that he could provide her with contacts for both the FEC and CSX. Chief Bill Rowley also suggested that she contact Mike Kenny of Representative Patrick Murphy's office.

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

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

LEPC Chairman, Captain Joseph Nelson, stated that the Florida Sunshine One Call was the first item on the Training Task Force (TTF) agenda. He explained that there is a data base which is a digital mapping system for underground utilities and that it will be available, but only to one person from each LEPC. There is a possibility that fire chiefs will also be allowed access. Chief Engle asked if it located just main feeds and distributions and Chairman Nelson stated that it was all of the distribution systems which include maps to all of the utilities. Chief Engle stated that an agreement was reached with Florida Public Utilities (FPU) and the Boca/Delray area to provide the first responders with utility line locations, and he foresees being able to expand the area once a relationship is developed. He stated that if anyone is interested in a guided tour of the Florida Sunshine One Call facility, to please contact them.

Chairman Nelson said that the Supplemental Environmental Projects Data Base should be ready to roll out by the SERC meeting in July of 2015. He reminded the committee that when there is a fine issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to a facility, there is an option available to the facility that up to 75 percent of the fine can be put into a supplemental environmental project. This allows the facility to create good will within the community and positive public relations. Two points of contact will be required, along with a sunset date, in order for the project to be entered into the data base. Ms. Boer said that the funds can be used for training, equipment, and planning. The projects will be reviewed by EPA, FDEM, and the spiller. The LEPC will also be looking at the project from a regional aspect. There was discussion among the members regarding how hazards are reported and how the LEPC could facilitate better communication between local agencies.

Frank Lasaga asked if the after action report for the chemical incident in Stuart had been completed and Chief Harshburger said that the draft report would be ready soon. Chairman Nelson asked if the report could be presented at the next LEPC meeting. Chairman Nelson suggested doing outreach to

the local fire rescue departments, and inspectors, providing them with an overview as to what they should be looking for with regards to hazardous materials at sites. Ms. Boer suggested hosting a regional meeting that would include fire rescue, emergency management, and local building departments (including permitting and inspections) to discuss interagency reporting of hazardous materials. Deputy Fire Chief Joseph suggested that the line of communication of possible hazards on a site should go from the building department to fire rescue, and then from fire rescue to Ms. Boer, and then Ms. Boer could contact emergency management, and Chief Engle added that the line of communication can also be reversed.

Chairman Nelson said that in Palm Beach County all of the fire chiefs meet and have created the Association of Fire Chiefs to discuss local issues. He asked if there was a counterpart to that in other counties and Mr. Lasaga said that there was. He added that in Martin County, they were developing a life safety section that would create a great avenue for discussions on a regional level.

Chairman Nelson asked if the members had access and used E-Plan. Mr. Brown said that he did, but it does not contain a lot of information. Chairman Nelson said that if the information is not in there then it has not been reported. Ms. Boer asked Mr. Brown to let her know when he runs into a problem. Chairman Nelson suggested providing Mr. Brown with the Cameo data base which is done locally and Ms. Boer said she would.

Chairman Nelson stated that currently information from the hazards analysis is being loaded into GATOR which will provide statewide access for all of the hazards analysis. Work is currently being done to work through administrative technology restrictions. This tool will be beneficial for hazmat teams deployed regionally. Ms. Boer said that it will also be useful when determining hot zones as it will provide population figures of surrounding facilities.

Chairman Nelson said that regarding the task book requirements for new hazardous materials technicians and for reoccurring training, it was decided that if a local agency feels that one of the task book items does not apply, because their agency does not do that type of work, then it is not required that the objective be accomplished. For example, if an agency does not do product transfers, then training is not required in product transfers.

Chairman Nelson said the SERC and the Florida Fire Chiefs Association (FFCA) are working together on the 2016 Hazmat Training Symposium. The FFCA has hired an event planner which should streamline the events. The venue for the symposium and the conference will be the same but the details have not yet been confirmed and added that the 2015 conference was very successful.

Chairman Nelson said that Ernst and Young will be performing a risk assessment to obtain an objective of the threads and if there are resources available to meet them. This was in response to the reduction of hazardous materials teams. Several of the specialty teams, such as Martin County, had funding eliminated.

Chairman Nelson said that the United States Coast Guard (USCG) discussed the possibility of training local hazardous materials teams, in areas with a port, using them as responders with regards to oil spills. Since it takes the USCG time to coordinate a regional team, this would provide assets to the USCG team more quickly. The SERC will be discussing the issues associated with this coordinated effort such as how to get the teams on the ships, and what type of training would be required.

Paul Meding asked if the first responders were covered under Florida's Worker's Compensation insurance and suggested that they verify that they are covered. He said that once you cross a bulk head, there is no coverage under Florida Worker's Compensation. He suggested looking into Marine Worker's Compensation insurance such as United States Longshoreman and Harbor Worker's Compensation insurance (USL&H) or Maritime Economics and Logistics (MEL). Chairman Nelson said he would look into those insurances. Mr. Lux volunteered to collaborate in the discussion regarding training as to what work and how much work can be done on vessels. He said that most of the work lies in being able to contain the spill. Mr. Meding stated that there were several agencies that deal with off shore applications such as SEACORE Marine. Chief Murphy suggested contacting Bob Royal, with the Huston Fire Department out of Harris County, Texas, since they deal with that type of situation on a regular basis and would provide him with that contact.

## **REPORTS**

### **Planning Subcommittee**

Ms. Boer said that the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan is updated annually. The updates are due by the end of June, 2015, and once the updates are complete, she would make them available.

Ms. Boer said that the District 10 LEPC Biennial Exercise will be held at Indian River County EOC on June 29, 2015, at the Indian River County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located in Vero Beach. Everyone will be invited and five or six evaluators will be needed. She will also need assistance in review for items such as the scenario, situation manual, and capabilities. Chief Murphy, Sergeant Holman, Mr. Vogt, and Captain Nelson, volunteered to be on the District 10 LEPC Biennial Exercise Committee. Ms. Boer said that new requirements for the exercise include a diorama.

### **Public Information Exchange**

Ms. Boer distributed two handouts: Kids in Danger Zones fact sheet; and United States Secret Service (USSS) Orlando Electronic Crimes Task Force and the Federal Bureau of Investigation INFRAGARD Quarterly Meeting Notice. She said that the Kids in Danger Zones fact sheet summarized just how close schools and other critical facilities are at risk of chemical catastrophes. She said that she would email the reports to the members.

Chairman Nelson said that the SERC will be adding a member opening for the Department of Education. They feel that it is important that this information get to the schools. In Palm Beach County, there are several schools that are co-located with water treatment plants that use gaseous chlorine. Ms. Boer said that several weeks ago invitations were sent to the school boards of each county in the region to become District 10 LEPC members.

Ms. Boer said that if anyone was interested in cyber security, the USSS will be providing an excellent training opportunity, which is open to public and private sectors.

Ms. Boer asked the members if they had any exercise or training coming up that they wish to announce.

Chairman Nelson said that Palm Beach County has begun updating the Tox-Medic Hazardous Materials Protocols in order to match the National Fire Academy's Protocols, and the U.S. Department of Home Land Security's expansion of the number of toxidromes reviewed. The SERC has approved a project box. Chief Joseph is spear heading a team that will be updating those protocols in Palm Beach County and the recommendations will go to the State level.

Chief Joseph said that the first draft is done and being reviewed by the team. The goal is to develop a recommended protocol in order to train locally. There is a disconnect on the national level to the local needs of the first responders. This will be the toxidrome standard for the next five years and the protocols are free and open to all and will not be copyrighted.

Ms. Boer asked that if the training were to be done in Palm Beach County should they be using the new protocols. Chairman Nelson stated that the protocols will be completed shortly and it might be better to wait on training until they are completed. Chief Joseph said that they are still waiting on additional feedback, but the frame work has been completed. Chairman Nelson said that once it is completed on the local level, it will be presented to the SERC. Ms. Boer asked if the Florida Fire College (FFC) was involved and Chief Joseph said they were not as the working group needed to stay small and controlled. Chairman Nelson said that the FFC has input on the TTF and will be able to review it at that time.

Chief Harshburger extended thanks to all of the agencies (St. Lucie, City of Stuart, Palm Beach County, and Okeechobee County) who helped with the chemical explosion in Martin County last week. Ms. Boer asked who she should request an after action report from regarding the explosion as she would like to use it for the exercise and he said that it would be Chief Schobel.

Ms. Boer asked if anyone was retiring and Chief Herndon said that the August, 2015, LEPC meeting would be his last.

### ***Membership***

On April, 10, 2015, the SERC met to consider the LEPC nominations for membership. The District 10 LEPC submitted for appointment a nomination for primary and alternate members. The SERC approved and appointed Mr. Kent Iverson as a primary member. The SERC also approved Mr. Pete Bruchal (Kent Iverson) as an alternate member. Mr. Iverson said that Mr. Bruchal will not be the alternate and he will be submitting an application for Mr. James Prince.

The following categories were mentioned: first aid, elected local/state official, civil defense, broadcast media, print media, community group, and utilities. She asked that if anyone knew of any one in those categories who would be willing to serve to please contact staff for nomination forms.

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

None.

### ***COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS***

None.

***PUBLIC COMMENT***

None.

***NEXT MEETING***

The next meeting of the District 10 LEPC is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, 2015.

***ADJOURNMENT***

Chief Harshburger moved for adjournment of the meeting. Chief Joseph seconded the motion, which **Motion** carried unanimously.

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