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**MINUTES OF THE TREASURE COAST LOCAL EMERGENCY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)  
May 18, 2016**

Chair Joseph Nelson welcomed all in attendance. He led the pledge of allegiance and asked for roll call.

**Committee Members**

Nelson, Joseph, Chair  
Brown, Kenton

Gojkovich, John  
Harshburger, Daniel, Alternate  
Koener, David  
Lasaga, Frank, Vice Chair  
Pecci, Bill  
Rawicz, Dave  
Seldes, Paul  
Valle, Carlos  
Zabel, Dennis

**Absent**

Holman, John  
Laryea, Nicholas  
Mayer, Timothy  
Norris, Peter, Alternate Vice Chair  
Phillips, Tom  
Sanders, Nick

**Excused**

Daly, Tom  
Dunn, Cheryl  
Garfofalo, John  
Geier, Mike  
Jones, Derrell  
  
LoPresti, Etta  
Lux, Harry  
  
McCartt, Jack

**Occupational Category**

Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Local Environmental (Florida Department of Environmental Protection)  
Local Option – Education (Indian River State College)  
Fire Rescue (Martin County)  
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)  
Emergency Management (City of Stuart Fire Rescue)  
Emergency Management Agency (Martin County)  
Facility Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)  
Interested Citizen (ntb Group, LLC)  
Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney)  
Local Environmental (Florida Atlantic University)

**Occupational Category**

Law Enforcement (City of Port St. Lucie PD)  
Facility Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)  
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)  
Facility Owner and Operator (Scripps Research Institute)  
Interested Citizen  
Hospital (Select Specialty Hospital Palm Beach)

**Occupational Category**

Emergency Management (St. Lucie County)  
Health (Indian River County Health Department)  
Transportation (Florida Department of Transportation)  
Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)  
Law Enforcement (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission)  
Emergency Management (Indian River County)  
Interested Citizen (Hazardous Materials & Safety Solutions, Inc.)  
Interested Citizen (Advanced Technical and Educational Consultants, Inc.)

**Excused**

Meding, Paul  
Ortado, Dennis  
Perkins, Richard  
Peterson, Vince  
Stewart, Barry  
Thompson, Greg

**Occupational Category**

Facility Operator (Cliff Berry, Inc.)  
Law Enforcement (City of Stuart Police Department)  
Facility Operator (City of Port St. Lucie Utility Systems)  
Emergency Management (Tropicana Products, Inc.)  
Local Environmental (Zenith Environmental)  
Local Option - Safety (Sun Sentinel)

**Staff**

Kathryn Boer  
Kim Koho

Coordinator, TC LEPC, TCRPC  
Staff, TC LEPC, TCRPC

**Visitors**

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay  
John Booth  
Jauming Chen  
Steven Graff  
Michelle Murphy  
Steve Wolberg

Palm Beach County, District 6  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Allied Universal Corporation  
City of Stuart Police Department  
Boca Raton Fire Rescue  
Martin Memorial Health Systems

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF MAY 18, 2016 MEETING***

Chairman Joseph Nelson noted that the agenda was amended to reflect a change in item 5D. There would be a presentation by Ms. Kathryn Boer, Treasure Coast LEPC coordinator, regarding Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) 2016 summary of changes from ERG 2012. Mr. Bill Pecci moved approval of the May 18, 2016 amended agenda. Mr. John Gojkovich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Motion**

***APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 18, 2016***

Mr. Pecci moved approval of the February 18, 2016 minutes. Mr. Gojkovich seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Motion**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Meeting**

Chairman Nelson stated that the SERC met on April 8, 2016 in St. Petersburg, Florida and voted to continue support of the upcoming 2017 Hazmat Training Symposium. Ms. Boer noted that the Treasure Coast LEPC will be sending an invitation for the Symposium to its members in mid-September or early October and encouraged attendance, as well as team enrollment. The Symposium consists of a hazardous materials competition, classroom, and hands-on training. The City of West Palm Beach Fire Rescue won several individual bests of the competitions last year including best overall. The teams consist of 3 members and one alternate.

Chief Michelle Murphy asked if a date had been set yet and Mr. Paul Seldes said the dates for the Symposium are January 18 - 21, 2016.

Ms. Boer stated that the Symposium is being coupled with the Fire Rescue East conference. For those planning to attend, she encouraged early registration.

The Treasure Coast LEPC will provide reimbursement for travel and hotel, but found that it was more efficient to prepay where possible these expenses prior to the Symposium. The Symposium Coordinators are also looking at online registration for the symposium.

Chief Daniel Harshburger asked who sponsors the Symposium and Ms. Boer replied that it is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Florida Division of Emergency Management with significant coordination by the Florida Fire Chiefs Association, and the LEPCs.

### **Audit/Inspection Work Plan FY 2015/2016 – Risk Management Planning (RMP) Program**

Ms. Boer reviewed the RMP with the TC LEPC membership, explaining its purpose is for extremely large facilities that store, manufacture, or ship large inventories of extremely hazardous substances (EHS) chemicals safety planning. It is a program that identifies the facilities recommended for audits/inspections. These recommendations are based on several criteria, such as if they are considered a high priority, have a prior release, and/or are starting a new planning program. The inventory is reported to the Department of Homeland Security. The audit/inspection work plan is comprised of 34 facilities. Ms. Boer said that Palm Beach has three facilities on the list: US Foods, Inc., Central Water Treatment Plant, and Jupiter Water Treatment Plant. The visits are usually scheduled in November or December. Ms. Boer said that she will be attending and members could reach out to her if they are interested in attending.

Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Palm Beach County, District 6, shared her experience with hazardous materials explaining that her son has been a special ops cadet for the past 3 ½ years at the largest natural gas plant in the United States, which is in her district. Her district also contains Pratt & Whitney, the incinerator at Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority and large amounts of the agricultural lands that use huge amounts of pesticides. Ms. Boer acknowledged that her experience is an asset to the committee and the district she serves.

### **Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports**

Ms. Boer reviewed the Hazardous Materials Incident Reports graphs and charts received by the State Watch Office (SWO) for the period of January 1, 2001 through February 29, 2016. The detailed information is available upon request from the SWO and the entire report for all ten regions is in the SERC agenda package located on the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) website.

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

Chairman Nelson stated that progressive changes are being made to the State reporting fields that will be added to E-Plan and are also working on a date to migrate to Geospatial Assessment Tool for Operations and Response (GATOR), which is mapping software. Ms. Boer clarified that GATOR is

a spacial differentiation that enables the viewer to click on a facility on the map that will allow them to review a listing of the chemicals at the site, vulnerable populations and evacuation routes. Ms. Boer stated that CAMEO and GATOR exchange data and explained that CAMEO is a highly specialized data base that maintains information on facilities that store, manufacture, or transport extremely hazardous substances. It also provides different scenarios for different type of releases. Chairman Nelson said the difference between the two data sources is that CAMEO provided local data for local response areas whereas GATOR provided statewide data. Ms. Boer added that the TC LEPC has been requested to conduct local CAMEO training in the near future.

Ms. Boer noted that a presentation was given at the LEPC and SERC meetings by Burt McKee on major chemicals sheet/chemical response worksheets. A summary worksheet is used to provide an assessment on a facility listing its chemicals. A copy of the worksheet will be emailed to the members.

The National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials annual meeting will be in Nebraska this year and LEPC Coordinators are encouraged to attend.

Chairman Nelson stated that the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) has not approved the changes to the LEPC policies, but will be approved at the July, 2016 meeting. The approval will be positive as it provides flexibility on the number of members within a category. Ms. Boer said that two years ago a local option was added to the membership, which allows for the incorporation of education, safety, and risk management categories to be added to the options.

#### **TRAINING TASK FORCE UPDATE – CHAIRMAN NELSON**

The Training Task Force met on April 7, 2016 in St. Petersburg, Florida. Chairman Nelson reviewed the 160 hour Hazmat Technician Hybrid Pilot Program which delivers online course work along with hands on training for task book items. This course can be offered at considerable savings. The first pilot course was done by Clay County and Palm Beach County Fire Rescue will be offering this hybrid format soon.

Mr. Kenton Brown asked what the timeline was for the course. Chairman Nelson responded that the online training portion of the course takes about 20 hours of student time or about a month. The hands on session would be offered the following month. It would take about 40 hours and could be completed in a week's time. The course can be coordinated to be shift friendly.

Chairman Nelson stated that the LEPCs are able to purchase a trailer to house training props and equipment for any and all training in the region. A trailer would allow for a broader use of the props. There has to be a department that will sponsor storing the trailer, registering, and maintaining it. Under discussion, the committee talked about the liability issues of titling the trailer and the feasibility of obtaining insurance. There was also the consideration of leasing a trailer.

Chief Harshburger asked what size trailer the LEPC was looking to purchase and Ms. Boer stated approximately 9 x 13. He stated that Martin County Fire Rescue is looking for railcars for future training exercises and Chairman Nelson suggested they contact Chief Murphy, Boca Raton Fire Rescue to find out what issues are involved in moving them.

Chairman Nelson stated the final version of the State of Florida Field Operations Guide (FOG) should be available in July, 2016.

Miami-Dade County will be doing a pilot training project that involves responding to liquefied natural gas leak, spill, or fire. Currently there is no training being offered in that type of response, so the pilot program is aimed at developing a curriculum. Once the curriculum has been developed it will be offered throughout the state of Florida as the entire state will be impacted by the expanse of natural gas such as the Florida East Coast Railway who will be running locomotives from Jacksonville to Miami on a hybrid that will utilize liquefied natural gas and diesel fuel.

Ms. Boer said that as soon as the funding source is identified, the TC LEPC will offer training on the hydrogen fuel cell refueling stations.

### **Presentation: Emergency Response Guidebook 2016 (ERG 2016) – Summary of Changes from ERG 2012**

Ms. Boer said the ERG is printed every 4 years and this year the TC LEPC has been allocated 5700 ERG 2016 books. She will coordinate the distribution of books within the region once they are notified of the shipment date. The book can also be found online and will be available in Spanish.

She summarized the changes, stating that revisions included an expanded section of shipping documents required by Florida Department of Transportation; a flow chart for using the guide book; the glossary of protective clothing; local emergency response numbers; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Fire Arms and Explosives chart; and other items such as a table of placards, markings, response guides, and labels. The orange color borders mark the pages that are used most frequently.

Mr. Boer reviewed the benefits of having and using the reference guide book. She stated Chairman Nelson has volunteered Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Support Services to house the 143 boxes of books for the TC LEPC. Ms. Boer will send a notice to the agencies when they are available and delivery will be worked out at that time. The TC LEPC will be offering training with regards to using the guide as a part of Hazardous Materials Awareness Level classes at the end of June.

## **REPORTS/UPDATES**

### **Public Information Exchange**

Ms. Boer stated that she coordinated to conduct two (2) “How to Comply” E-Plan workshops, which were taught in Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties. A regional contract was received for RDSTF District 5 to facilitate three full scale exercises within the region. These are funded by the Department of Homeland Security. The Exercise scenario will be developed during upcoming planning meetings.

Chief Harshburger said that Martin County Fire Rescue is in the second week of the 160-hour Hazardous Materials Technician Level classes and it has been successful. He announced that Martin

County Fire Chief Joseph Ferrara has retired and Chief William Schobel has been appointed the interim Fire Rescue Chief.

Mr. Kenton Brown, Department of Environmental Protection Agency (DEP), discussed two separate incidents involving abandoned contaminated vehicles. He said that his department took one of the vehicles and it was very difficult to have it removed. DEP should not be involved with private property and will no longer be taking them. Ms. Boer said that it was determined at the previous meeting that contaminated vehicles are dealt with on a case by case basis. Discussion ensued regarding the liabilities involved with contaminated vehicles. Chairman Nelson said that the issue warranted looking into and would bring it up for discussion at the SERC.

Mr. Lasaga noted on September 13, 2016, the City of Stuart Police Department will be holding the AWR 147 Railcar Awareness 8 hour class.

No additional public information was exchanged.

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

Ms. Boer is working on the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan update and will be adding a section regarding rail. Two Hazardous Materials Awareness Level classes are being scheduled for late June in Palm Beach and St. Lucie Counties.

Ms. Boer said that the Treasure Coast LEPC's planning project for the current year will be education outreach, but that she would like to include an additional project. She suggested coupling a Treasure Coast LEPC exercise with the regional full scale exercise.

Ms. Boer said the agenda provided a list of the LEPC activities completed since the previous meeting of February 18, 2016, along with a list of emergency management and preparedness activities, and of non-LEPC activities. She asked that Committee members contact her if they have any information to include or have any emergency planning information to share.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Ms. Boer welcomed the following primary members who were appointed to the TC LEPC on April 5, 2016, at the SERC meeting: Mr. William Pecci Jr., Martin County Fire Rescue; and Mr. David Brennan, Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC.

She then welcomed the following alternate members who were appointed to the committee on April 5, 2016: Ms. Debra McCaughey (William Pecci), Martin County Public Safety/Emergency Management Agency; Mr. Craig Barnard (David Brennan), Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC; Ms. Bridjette Bucell (Kenton Brown), Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency; and Lieutenant Jon Garzaniti (Derrell Jones) Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission.

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

None.

## **COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

None.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Treasure Coast LEPC is scheduled on August 4, 2016.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.