



**MINUTES OF THE TREASURE COAST LOCAL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
June 1, 2017**

Chairman Frank Lasaga welcomed all in attendance, led the pledge of allegiance, and asked for roll call.

Committee Members

Lasaga, Frank, Chairman
Norris, Peter, Vice Chairman
Brown, Kenton

*Bruchall, Bridgett

*Burke, Kelley A.

*Duncombe, Wendy

Garfalo, John

*Garzaniti, Jon

Geier, Mike

Jones, Derrell

Mayer, Timothy

Miller, John

Oatley, Aaron

Pecci, Bill

*Roth, Heather

Rowley, William J.

Stewart, Barry

Valle, Carlos

Zabel, Dennis

**denotes Alternate Member*

Occupational Category

Emergency Management (City of Stuart Fire Rescue)

Facility Owner/Operator (Scripps Research Institute)

Local Environmental (Florida Department
of Environmental Protection)

Local Environmental (Florida Department of
Environmental Protection)

Elected Official (Palm Beach County)

Health (Florida Department of Health - Palm Beach
County Health)

Facility Owner/Operator (Palm Beach County)

Law Enforcement (Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission)

Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)

Law Enforcement (Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission)

Health (Florida Department of Health - Palm Beach
County Health)

Facility Owner/Operator (Palm Beach County)

Firefighting (Boca Raton Fire Rescue)

Emergency Management Agency (Martin County)

Law Enforcement (City of Stuart Police Department)

Fire Rescue (Palm Beach County)

Local Environmental (Zenith Environmental)

Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney)

Local Environmental (Florida Atlantic University)

Absent

Gojkovich, John

Holman, John

Laryea, Nicholas

McCartt, Jack

Occupational Category

Local Option/Education (Indian River State College)

Law Enforcement (City of Port St. Lucie PD)

Facility Owner/Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)

Local Option - Education (Advanced Technical and
Educational Consultants, Inc.)

Meding, Paul
Sanders, Nick
Weaver Sr., Steven M.

Facility Owner/Operator (Cliff Berry, Inc.)
Hospital (Select Specialty Hospital Palm Beach)
Non-Elected Local Official (Realtime Property
Development Services)
Emergency Management (Martin County Fire Rescue)

Wouters, Dan

Excused

Chen, Jauming
Dixel, Louis
Dunn, Cheryl

Ivey, Rachel
Koener, David
Lux, Harry
McKinlay, Melissa, Commissioner
Ortado, Derek
Perkins, Richard

Occupational Category

Facility Owner/Operator (St. Lucie County)
Transportation (Florida Department of Transportation)
Health (Florida Department of Health - Indian River
County)
Emergency Management (Indian River County)
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)
Local Option - Safety (Hazmat & Safety Solutions, Inc.)
Elected Official (Palm Beach County)
Law Enforcement (City of Stuart Police Department)
Facility Owner/Operator (City of Port St. Lucie Utility
Systems)
Emergency Management (Tropicana Products, Inc.)
Local Option – Safety (Palm Beach County)
Facility Owner/Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)
Local Option - Education (ntb Group, LLC)
Local Option – Safety (Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC)
Hospital (Martin Memorial Health Systems)

Peterson, Vince
Phillips, Tom
Rawicz, Dave
Seldes, Paul
Thompson, Gregory
Wolfberg, Steve

Visitors

Richard Barrett
Brian Caulkins
David Crowe

Condell Eastmond

Mike Gerwin
Douglas McGlynn
Dr. Thomas R. Reinert

Florida Gas Transmission Company
Biowaste LLC
Regional Emergency Response Adviser, Region V,
Florida Department of Health
Area Director, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational
Safety and Health Administration
City of Stuart Police Department
District Chief, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
Regional Director, South Region, Florida Fish and
Wildlife Conservation Commission
Region IV Coordinator, Florida Division of Emergency
Management (FDEM)

Carly Swartz

Staff

Kathryn Boer
Kim Koho

Emergency Programs Director, TCLEPC, TCRPC
Administrative Assistant, TCRPC

Ms. Boer introduced Dr. Thomas R. Reinert, Regional Director, South Region, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commissioner (FFWC). Dr. Reinert explained that the South Region includes: Broward, Collier, Dade, Hendry, Lee, Martin, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties. The Regional office encompasses the following divisions: Law Enforcement, Hunting and Game Management, Fresh Water Fisheries Management, Marine Fisheries Management, and the Office of the Executive Director. The FFWC research institute staff is located at a field office in Jupiter,

Florida. Dr. Reinert explained that as the Regional Director he oversees operations in the region. He welcomed the members to the FFWC and offered to host the TCLEPC again.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2017

A quorum was not present; therefore, the February 16, 2017 minutes will be approved at the August 3, 2017, meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Meeting

Chairman Lasaga stated the SERC meeting was held May 9, 2017, in Cocoa Beach along with the National Association of SARA Title Three Program Officials (NASTTPO) conference. Ms. Boer said that the conference is held twice a year in Florida and the next Florida conference will be held in Tampa in November, 2017. If any member wishes to attend the next conference, please let her know, since it is an eligible expense. Ms. Boer said that she would send the Hazardous Materials conference lists and the NASTTPO schedule to the members.

Ms. Boer said the Risk Management Plan Rule discussion has been postponed until final legislation is approved. She added that Governor Rick Scott has not finalized the guidelines for chemical spill notifications. Chairman Lasaga stated that the draft guidelines state that facilities would be required to notify Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) within 24 hours of a release. FDEP would have 24 hours to place the notification on their website allowing the public to opt in.

Risk Management Program - Audit/Inspection Work Plan

Ms. Boer said that the 2017/2018 Audit/Inspection Work Plan Risk Management Program (RMP) was approved at the May SERC meeting and is comprised of 30 Statewide facilities with three being in the Treasure Coast Region. There are two in Palm Beach County and one in St. Lucie County. Ms. Boer asked for any member to contact her should they want to attend an audit. Each site has extremely hazardous substances and reports how and where it is stored and how it is transported.

Mr. Pecci asked what it meant that five facilities on the report are listed as high risk. Ms. Boer responded that the RMP's annual work plan prioritizes and identifies the facilities recommended for audit/inspections based on the audit selection criteria found in the Florida Accidental Release Prevention and Risk Management Planning Act of 1998, Chapter 252, Part IV, Florida Statutes. Chairman Lasaga noted that the audit inspections are coming up currently in the month of June.

Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports

Chairman Lasaga reviewed the Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports and said that there were several transportation incidents in the region. The only incident that impacted people was in Palm Beach County where there were some small scale evacuations for natural gas releases. Ms. Boer said the agenda provides the report for the Treasure Coast region but detailed information is available upon request from the State Watch Office (SWO) and the entire report for all ten regions is in the SERC agenda package, which is located on the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) website.

FDEM will also provide a report if you call them. Carly Swartz, FDEM Area Coordinator, noted that if an organization needs a report for a specific county in her region, they would need to contact her.

Kenton Brown, FDEP, stated that his region, which includes three districts (Treasure Coast, Okeechobee and Miami-Dade), has the highest number of incidents reported by the SWO. He responds to incidents that disrupt the public or environment. He only assists with gas leaks unless FDEP is called by fire rescue. He gets calls from the SWO and from private citizens. Mr. Brown said that he rarely gets calls from the facility because they usually come from the county. Ms. Boer said that she would try to set up a natural gas pipeline presentation for the next meeting on August 3, 2017.

Ms. Boer reviewed the following tables, Potential Section 304 Investigations and Hazardous Materials & Traffic Incidents with Evacuations, Injuries, and Deaths, as well as the graphs reflecting Hazardous Materials Incident Reports from January 1, 2002 and February, 28, 2017, and Florida Hazardous Materials Report from December 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017.

Mr. Geier suggested that Emergency Management, the SERC, or FDEP develop a flow chart for facilities and government agencies to simplify the notification process. Chairman Lasaga agreed that a flow chart would be helpful and pointed out the biggest problem is with the facilities reporting spills is for them to know what they are supposed to do. Mr. Brown said the rule is being violated when the facility notifies fire rescue instead of the SWO.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairman and Coordinators Meeting Update

The ten Florida LEPC Chairs and Coordinators met on May 8, 2017 in Cocoa Beach, Florida, one day prior to the SERC. The next meeting will be held July 20, 2017 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Chairman Lasaga stated the Hazmat Symposium & Hazmat Competition offered 51 classes with over 160 hours of training. There was a 12 percent increase in pre-registration and 95 percent of those registered attended the conference. St. Johns County swept the team awards, but two West Palm Beach team members won individual awards. Ms. Boer announced that West Palm Beach came in second on the team awards and thanked Chief Matty and West Palm Beach Hazmat team for their hard work. Next year the City of Boca and Palm Beach County will also enter the team competition. Training throughout the week includes hands-on and classroom training. The symposium attendees are not only from hazmat, but include law enforcement, departments of health, emergency management, and fire rescue.

Chairman Lasaga stated that he had suggested that feedback be provided on competition team performance. Currently they are scored on the assigned tasks, which are based on the training provided at the symposium.

Chairman Lasaga said the October SERC meeting will be the end date for the Hazardous Materials Team Assessments. It is up to the LEPC's to coordinate the self-assessments and site visits. Scott Chappell from the State Fire Marshall's Office is available to help. Since it is a self-assessment it is open to all teams regardless of whether they are funded. Ms. Boer said that the second assessment is currently a three year process but the LEPCs are working to reduce the time to one year and six months.

Chairman Lasaga said that when team evaluations and assessments are to be done by the Domestic Security Coordinating group, to save administrative time, they should do the requirements together. Ms. Boer asked if Chief Rowley had his assessment done. They are required to do assessments under the Palm Beach County Regional Hazmat Oversight Committee. They use the same assessment tool as the Florida Fire Chiefs Assessment and are maintained by the Regional Hazmat Oversight Committee. Chairman Lasaga asked if there would be any objections to the assessment information being sent to the State, and Chief Rowley stated he would make inquiries. Ms. Boer said she would follow up with Chief Rowley. Chairman Lasaga said that it is useful information to assess training and equipment shortfalls. Ms. Boer added that if funding becomes available, then the training and equipment shortfalls are documented. She said that she would follow up with Mr. Chappell to find out what is expected for the Treasure Coast Region.

TRAINING TASK FORCE UPDATE – CHAIRMAN LASAGA

Chairman Lasaga reviewed the Training Task Force (TTF) updates and stated that with a reduction in staffing at the Preparedness Technological Hazards Section at FDEM, they are looking to use share point sites and more information will follow at the upcoming conference call. There was discussion regarding Shipboard Hazardous Material Spill Response and developing agreements with the U.S. Coast Guard. Ms. Boer said that most of the training funds that the LEPCs receive are from Florida Department of Transportation which is coordinated through the State programs that they disperse to the LEPCs. They in turn use it to provide training and planning projects. This year the TCLEPC received \$63,000; \$26,000 went to the exercise (planning project) and \$40,000 was spent on hazardous materials training. Chairman Lasaga said that the TTF has requested suggestions for training opportunities that are needed or wanted and asked the members to send their requests to Ms. Boer who will forward it to the TTF.

Ms. Boer stated that last year's training request list included the Hazardous Materials IQ, CAMEO, Hazardous Material Technician Refresher 8-hour, and a 16-hour Operations, and a HAZWOPPER 8-hour and 24-hour class. Ms. Boer stated she would send the members a list of the current classes and asked the member to review and make edits and return it to her.

Chairman Lasaga said the TTF are still developing equipment recommendations for the trailer for Hazardous Materials Teams. Ms. Boer stated that Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness funds can purchase equipment for the training trailer. She has asked her LEPC colleagues who have trailers to forward lists of what items they have and any suggestions for what they might still need to use as a guide. She has been compiling a small list of these items and will send it out to the team captains and the TCLEPC members for review. Since the TCLEPC cannot own the trailer, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue has offered to host the trailer and handle the maintenance and keep its license and registration current. Ms. Boer offered her TCLEPC staff time in coordinating the use of the trailer between agencies. Chief Rowley stated that the trailer use will be coordinated through Palm Beach County Fire Rescue's training division. She suggested coordinating a meeting with fire rescue representatives from Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River counties.

Ms. Boer stated that she has met with Chief Rowley regarding this year's planning project, which is to develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) update for responding to a flammable liquids and suggested they review the SOP at the same meeting that the trailer equipment recommendations are

discussed. Upcoming planning meetings are scheduled with Indian River, Martin, and St. Lucie County Fire Rescue departments.

Chairman Lasaga said the TTF discussed the Hybrid 160-hr Technician Training course. Ms. Boer stated that she has been working on gathering information for this course. Ms. Boer stated that Chief Rowley has completed the hybrid course and asked that he provide her with the contact for that course. Chief Rowley added there is an additional benefit of 40 Continuing Education Units by doing the Hybrid 160-hr Technician Training course online. He discussed Palm Beach County's experience with the development of their course. Ms. Boer said she is working with Chief John King, Indian River County, to develop a course.

Chairman Lasaga said the Florida State Fire College has made changes as to what comprises an Engine Strike Team and are in the adoption process. When a resource request is made for a strike team, a Type Two Hazardous Materials Team will be automatically assigned to it. Chief Rowley stated that the problem with this change is that many counties do not have the resources to accommodate the change. The change was announced by Scott Chappell. Ms. Boer said she would contact Mr. Chappell for a clarification about the change.

Ms. Boer asked if the TTF provided an update to the projects list. Chairman Lasaga said they are relying on Share Point for the updates and there will be additional information available on an upcoming conference call. He will provide the details of the call to Ms. Boer.

REPORTS/UPDATES

Planning Subcommittee

Ms. Boer said that she is currently updating the pieces of the Regional Response Plan. She will be including the results of the SOPs once it is completed along with the Commodity Flow Study. The Regional Response Plan is not a single coordinated plan for a regional response, it is a conglomeration of each county's response plan. Ms. Boer will be sending the Regional Response Plan to the members and asked that each member review their county's section.

Public Information Exchange

Ms. Boer asked the members to send her information that they would like her to distribute to the Committee or be placed on the Treasure Coast Region Planning Council TCLEPC website such as activities or exercises.

Chief Carlos Valle stated that Florida Power and Light Nuclear Power Plant will be testing its emergency alerts today.

Ms. Boer said that the next SERC meeting will be by July 20, 2017, and several new members will be appointed to the TCLEPC. She encouraged each member to consider assigning an alternate.

Chairman Lasaga suggested reviewing the attendance bylaws and follow up with members who have not been in attendance. Ms. Boer said that in the past staff has sent letters out to those members asking them to appoint a member within their agency who is able to attend. The TCLEPC needs

active members. Ms. Boer said she would move forward with encouraging member participation and reviewing the attendance bylaws.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities

Ms. Boer said the agenda provides a list of the LEPC activities completed since the previous meeting of February 16, 2017, along with a list of emergency management and preparedness activities, and non-LEPC activities. TCLEPC completed Operation Troubled Waters, which was funded through State Homeland Security Grant Program and coupled it with the Regional Domestic Security Task Force exercise. It was extremely successful. Kelly Burke stated that the media coverage was very good.

Ms. Boer provided an overview of the regional TCLEPC Biennial Exercise, Operation Troubled Waters, conducted on April 12th. The exercise scenario tested multi-agency response to large scale chemical release and exposure in three separate county incidents. It was the first multi-jurisdictional full-scale exercise in the Treasure Coast region. The exercise included 51 agencies at 10 operational sites in three counties. The purpose of the exercise was to identify strengths and areas to improve in operational readiness in response to a chemical release. Drones were assigned to each location, and their footage was piped into the Emergency Operation Centers via a web link. Ms. Boer stated that Ms. Swartz asked FDEM to provide use of a mock event in the State software, Constellation. Ms. Boer thanked the exercise committee and volunteers for their hard work. The After Action Report will be released once it is finalized. There was positive media attention. Congressman Brian Mast attended the FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute exercise site in St. Lucie County and Witham Air Field in City of Stuart, Martin County.

Barry Stewart remarked on the cleanup challenges involved in the exercise and Chairman Lasaga said that long term remediation is an extremely involved process.

Ms. Boer said she would provide a video presentation of the exercise along with the After Action Report at the next meeting. Chairman Lasaga suggested preparing a tabletop exercise around remediation for the next exercise.

Ms. Boer asked that Committee members contact her if they have any information to include or have any emergency planning information to share.

MEMBERSHIP

Chairman Lasaga welcomed the following new primary members appointed at the May 9, 2017, SERC meeting: Mr. Jauming Chen, Allied Universal Corporation; Mr. John Garofalo, Palm Beach State College; and District Chief William Rowley, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. He then welcomed the following alternate members who were also appointed to the Committee at the May 9, 2017 SERC meeting: Mr. Pete Bruchal, Allied Universal Corporation; Ms. Kelley Burke, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners; Mr. John Miller, Palm Beach State College.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND STAFF

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEXT MEETING

Ms. Boer stated that the next meeting of the TCLEPC is scheduled for Thursday, August, 3, 2017, at the City of Stuart Fire Rescue. The next SERC meeting will be held July 20, 2017.

Ms. Boer said if a member would like an item placed on the agenda or make a presentation, please notify her.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.