



**MINUTES OF THE TREASURE COAST LOCAL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
May 24, 2018**

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

**Denotes Alternate Member*

Committee Members

Lasaga, Frank, Chairman

*Burke, Kelley A.

Burchall, Pete

Brown, Kenton

Dixel, Louis

Garofalo, John, Vice Chairman

Geier, Mike

*Gerwan, Michael

Graff, Steven

Ivey, Rachel

Jones, Derrell

King, Matthew

Meding, Paul

Mikels, Daniel

*Murphy, Michelle

Thompson, Gregory

Valle, Carlos

*Vogt, Charles "CV"

Zabel, Dennis

Absent

Brennan, David

Gojkovich, John

Holman, John

*Koerner, David

Mayer, Timothy

Phillips, Tom

Rowley, William

Sanders, Nick

Stewart, Barry

Occupational Category

Emergency Management (City of Stuart Fire Rescue)

Alternate for Commissioner McKinlay (Palm Beach County)

Facility Owner/Operator (St. Lucie County)

Local Environmental (Florida Department of
Environmental Protection)

Transportation (Florida Department of Transportation)

Facility Owner/Operator (Palm Beach County)

Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)

Law Enforcement (City of Stuart Police Department)

Law Enforcement (Jupiter Island Department of Public Safety)

Emergency Management (Indian River County)

Law Enforcement (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission)

Facility Owner/Operator (Tropical Shipping)

Facility Owner/Operator (Cliff Berry, Inc.)

Firefighting (St. Lucie County Fire Rescue)

Firefighting (Boca Raton Fire Rescue)

Local Option – Safety (Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC)

Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney)

Health (Florida Department of Health – Indian River County)

Local Environmental (Florida Atlantic University)

Occupational Category

Owner/Operator (Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC)

Local Option/Education (Indian River State College)

Law Enforcement (City of Port St. Lucie Police Department)

Health (Florida Department of Health - St. Lucie County)

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

Local Option – Safety (Palm Beach County)

Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)

Hospital (Select Specialty Hospital Palm Beach)

Local Environmental (Zenith Environmental)

Weaver Sr., Steven M.

Non-Elected Local Official (Realtime Property Development Services)

Excused

Barrett, Richard
Nelson, Joseph
Pecci, William
Perkins, Richard
Peterson, Vince
Rawicz, Dave
Seldes, Paul
Vilchez, Gustavo
Wolfberg, Steve

Occupational Category

Facility Owner/Operator (Florida Gas Transmission Co.)
Local Option, HazMat Special Ops (Palm Beach Fire Rescue)
Emergency Management (Martin County)
Facility Owner/Operator (City of Port St. Lucie Utility Systems)
Emergency Management (Tropicana Products, Inc.)
Facility Owner/Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)
Local Option - Education (ntb Group, LLC)
Emergency Management (St. Lucie County Public Safety)
Hospital (Martin Memorial Health Systems)

Visitors

Don McDilda

St. Lucie County’s Critical Incident Stress Management CISM Team, Executive Director

Staff

Kathryn E. Boer
Kim Koho

TCLEPC Coordinator, TCRPC
Administrative Assistant, TCRPC

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Gregory Thompson moved approval of the May 24, 2018, agenda. Vice Chairman John Garofalo seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. Kenton Brown inquired as to the information in Attachment C, Hazardous Materials Incident Reports and Ms. Kathryn Boer explained that it came directly from the State Watch Office.

Motion

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Vice Chairman Garofalo asked that the minutes be amended to reflect the attendance of Sergeant John Miller, Palm Beach State College. Captain Steven Graff moved approval of the February 15, 2018 meeting minutes as amended. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Motion

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Boer stated she met Mr. Don McDilda, Executive Director, St. Lucie County’s Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team at the Emergency Management Networking for the Department of Environmental Protection Agency where he made a presentation about St. Lucie County’s CISM Team. She introduced Mr. McDilda, who has been critical in the implementation of the program.

Mr. McDilda stated the four letters of Critical Incident Stress Management, CISM, are four letters that have become well known to the Emergency Services Industry. The purpose of using CISM techniques is to provide timely and valuable intervention for those individuals who have made a career choice to be first responders. The goal is to help them mitigate the impact of traumatic stress that can result for various reasons. The model used by the St. Lucie County CISM Team was developed by Jeffery T.

Mitchell, Ph.D. The CISM is part of an international organization called the International Critical Stress Management Foundation.

Mr McDilda said the types of emergency personnel that can benefit from CISM services include any emergency response personnel such as law enforcement, fire departments, emergency management services (EMS), nurses, doctors, mental health professionals, social workers, clergy, school crisis team members and many more. The primary purpose of CISM is to provide an intervention following a critical incident in order to minimize stress-related symptoms. CISM has replaced the formerly known Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD).

Mr. McDilda provided a brief history of CISD program. The program as evolved from a singular form of crisis intervention to a multi-management approach. Case studies of major events reveal that significant numbers of emergency personnel experience some form of stress-related symptoms either during, immediately after, or in some cases, long after the incident. Some of the effects can be delayed, surfacing later, after a period of time with no apparent symptoms. Without professional intervention, the personnel may exhibit stress-related signs such as a decline in work performance, deterioration of family relationships, as well as increased health problems. He cited the Pulse Night Club shooting in Orlando, Florida as an example of how the CISM Team was used to help personnel deal with the after effects. The St. Lucie County CISM Team primarily treats the Treasure Coast region but they go where they are needed. The need for assessment by trained CISM Team members in every incident cannot be overstated.

Mr. McDilda stated that CISM are a multi-disciplinary volunteer team, made up of emergency response personnel, nurses, clergy, mental health professionals, etc. There are a total of 45 people on the team and have been together for over 25 years. Within the team there are five clinicians with three being licensed social workers and the other two being physician/psychologists. The CISM team goes into action when someone in the service industry feels that there has been a critical incident. The CISM Team is accessible by calling a member and providing a brief explanation of the incident and the number of people involved in the incident, which includes all disciplines of people. Once it is mutually understood that there is a critical incident, coordination begins. The Team uses a multi-management approach, which includes pre-incident training, one-on-one support, defusing, debriefings, and follow-up and referral services. Defusing is done in a group setting and a debriefing is done one on one with a licensed clinical physicians or phycologists so it becomes confidential and is protected by law. The Team will work with supervisors and other necessary staff to establish a time for a defusing or a debriefing. The timeline for a defusing is always "immediate." Mr. McDilda thanked the Committee for inviting him to speak about CISM and asked that if any group needs help to please reach out to him or other CISM Teams.

Ms. Boer said that several Committee members are owners and operators of facilities that are not related to fire rescue or law enforcement. She asked if they could have assistance provided to them by the CISM Team. Mr. McDilda said they could be because the Team includes pastoral members and clinical psychologists. Mr. McDilda provided a brochure that explained what the CISM Team does and provides a contact number.

Mr. Thompson stated that many of the large companies have assistance to handle crisis incident and will bring in a team to address it. Mr. McDilda said that the St. Lucie County CISM Team would be willing to join other teams because in joining forces, it makes them stronger.

Ms. Boer asked what the time frame was to bring in a CISM Team after an incident. Mr. McDilda said that under the model a diffusing is done within the first two hours and the diffusing is all participant volunteer, no one is required to attend.

Chief Carlos Valle said that the company he works for, Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne, has used CISM teams and it is a very value added service in healing a department or company and getting it back in service. Mr. McDilda agreed stating that the goal of the CIMS is to get the individuals to be able to return to service.

Ms. Boer asked what the number one symptom or trigger that CISM Teams find and Mr. McDilda said that the answer is as broad as the individual and the type of work they do.

State Emergency Response Commission Meeting

Ms. Boer stated the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) met on April 13, 2018 in St. Augustine, Florida. The SERC reviewed the Audit/Inspection Work Plan for the Risk Management Planning (RMP) for Fiscal Year 2018/2019. The list of forty-one RMP (112) facilities to be inspected has been provided to the membership as part of the agenda. Most of the visits are for those who have large amounts of extremely hazardous materials. Mr. Brown asked if all releases were reported and Ms. Boer said that only the facilities with extremely hazardous are listed on the RMP report. Mr. Brown asked who managed chemical releases for 302 facilities such as Freon gases and Ms. Boer said that she would check with the State.

Mr. Mike Geier asked if one of the criteria for a site inspection was having a prior release. Ms. Boer stated that a site can be visited for several reasons. They can be visited if there has been a historical record of past releases, haven't been visited in five years, have large amounts of chemicals on site, or sites can just be grouped together by location.

Ms. Boer said that if any members wished to attend all or one of inspections, please contact her. She will have more detailed information about 8 days prior to the scheduled inspection. Captain Daniel Mikels asked if he would be allowed to bring a 10 to 12 person crew to one or all of the inspections. Ms. Boer said that there would be no problem with that number of persons attending.

Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports

Ms. Boer reviewed the Hazardous Materials Incidents reports and noted that the report reflects Region 10 instead of the Treasure Coast Region. Chairman Frank Lasaga asked why a golf course would show a chemical release. Mr. Brown explained that it was reported that way because an incident of dead fish in a canal, which was called in to the State. The individual making the call thought they viewed a golf course employee spraying the area and made the assumption that there were toxic releases being made into the canal and neighborhood. The South Florida Water Management District was actually spraying the vegetation in the canal.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Chair's and Coordinator's Meeting Update

Ms. Boer stated that the TCLEPC Committee Chair's and Coordinator's meeting took place on April 12, 2018 in St. Augustine, Florida. The Committee discussed the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) Grant Section Updates. The Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) funding comes from those FDEM grants and is on track for funding to start October 1, 2018. HMEP is the funding source that allows the LEPC to provide training.

Ms. Boer stated that on May 22 and May 24, 2018, TCLEPC sponsored two Incident Commander for Hazardous Materials Incidents classes.

Ms. Boer stated that Mayor Melissa McKinlay, TCLEPC Member, requested to see a tabletop discussion exercise that would address the challenges about getting resources to the rural areas of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay during an emergency. A scenario has been developed that will present an unmet need, identify a response plan, and determine what equipment would be needed. Sheltering in place as well as evacuation routes will be a challenge as well as developing a hot zone. Currently there is a small planning group. The tabletop exercise will take place on June 28 or 29, 2018.

Captain Derrell Jones asked if the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission would be invited and Ms. Boer said that she would make sure to forward them an invitation and added that all stakeholders will be invited.

TRAINING TASK FORCE UPDATE – Chair Frank Lasaga

Chair Lasaga provided updates on TTF's current projects. He stated that Chief Michelle Murphy has been involved with the group working on developing the United States Coast Guard Draft Memorandum of Agreement pertaining to shore based teams responding to ship board incidents. More information will be available at the July, 2018 TTF meeting of the SERC. There is an unmet need with regards to Hazards Materials leaking into the open waters. The only practical short term mitigation solution is to use local Hazardous Materials Teams.

The State of Florida has a grant program administered through the State Fire Marshall's Office which provides funding to purchase field decon systems. The systems provide a rinse down of the firefighter to remove the toxins as soon as possible and prior to returning to their station. Chairman Lasaga reported that firefighters have an eight percent higher incident of cancer than the general public along with a fourteen percent higher mortality rate. They are exposed to carcinogens caused by the release of toxins from fires burning synthetic products, plastics, and chemicals. The last date to apply for the third and final round of grant funding is May 31, 2018.

Chairman Lasaga stated that 2018 Hazardous Materials Team Self-Assessment Tool is in the process of being developed. Type I and Type II funded teams are done on an annual basis. The unfunded teams are encouraged to use the assessment as a tool for team improvement.

Captain Mikels asked who the Hazardous Materials funded teams in the Treasure Coast Region are and Chairman Lasaga stated that the Delray Beach Fire Rescue and Boca Raton Fire Rescue are the funded Hazardous Materials Teams for the Region. Captain Mikels stated that St. Lucie County's Hazardous Materials team needs more equipment.

Ms. Boer stated that the Hazmat Symposium does offer excellent training opportunities but suggested that TCLEPC organize a local training competition to exercise teams within the Treasure Coast Region. A local training competition might address specific needs within the Region. Chairman Lasaga suggested that the TCLEPC start a Hazmat Training Committee. Ms. Boer said that in the past the TCLEPC has had training committees. The most challenging issue with providing training is finding out what the TCLEPC really needs. She suggested focusing on providing training that is not readily available to the members.

Chief Murphy asked Ms. Boer if she had reached out to the Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RSTDF) regarding training. The RSTDF Region 7 meets 4 times a year to discuss different training needs and plan drills. They meet at the Broward County Convention Center and the next meeting is June 14, 2018. Ms. Boer stated that she would like to attend and asked that Chief Murphy send her a contact for RSTDF Region 7. Ms. Boer said that Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties are in Region 5, which is hosted in Volusia County, which is difficult to attend due to scheduling conflicts.

Ms. Boer asked that a preliminary training committee be organized to discuss training needs and possibly organize a local training competition. The following members volunteered to serve on the TCLEPC Training Committee: Vice Chairman John Garofalo, Palm Beach State College; Captain Dan Mikels, St. Lucie County Fire Rescue; Mr. Charles Vogt, Florida Department of Health - Indian River County; Mr. Thompson, Sysco Southeast Florida, LLC; and Mr. Brown, Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency. Chief Murphy said that she would find a volunteer from RSTDF Region 7 to serve.

Chairman Lasaga continued with the TTF update stating that the Tox-Medic Protocol will be ready by the July 2018 SERC meeting.

PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Boer stated that the Planning Subcommittee is working on the TCLEPC 2018 Tabletop Exercise and stated there was a need for two to three additional evaluators.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Chief Murphy attended the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 471/475 meeting in Orlando, Florida on February 20 and 21, 2018, which addressed the visioning process for Standards for Competencies for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents. She provided an overview stating the NFPA is crossing over standards to NFPA 475, which will involve more law enforcement personnel and outside agencies. There was a walk over from standard 472 to 1072 proposing a re-terminology of Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) versus the terminology "back-up teams." The outcome was the terminology cannot be changed due to Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards, which is the law abiding agency, who uses the terminology "back-up teams." There was discussion regarding NFPA standard 473, which involves needing medical exclusion, since vital signs need to be in a certain range prior to entering a hot zone. However, since vital signs can be different for those who are athletes and diabetics, the discussion involved changing the requirement to giving the medical directors control in the authority over jurisdiction.

Chief Murphy announced that the International Association of Fire Chiefs Hazmat Association Conference, which is the premier conference for hazardous materials responders, will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, on June 7 – 10, 2018. There are still opportunities to apply on line for free admission through scholarships. She will be teaching a class on Situational Unit Leaders, which will allow for the utilization of the technology, needed for law enforcement's drones providing real time updates to Emergency Operation Centers. Ms. Boer stated that drones were used during the 2017 Regional Exercise and agreed that training regarding this type of technology is important and useful.

Mr. Geier stated that the 2018 St. Lucie Power Plant evaluation exercise, which involved Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), was done in February, 2018. It went well and there were no findings, planning concerns or areas requiring corrective action. FEMA was not able to attend the previous TCLEPC meeting with him to provide a briefing, as he had hoped. He stated that the St. Lucie County RIT Task Force members are also FEMA site specialists. One member who came from Miami Dade Emergency Management, Alejandro Sera, was killed in a car accident on Monday, May 21, 2018. If any member wants to attend his memorial service, please contact Mr. Geier for more information. Ms. Boer stated that he was an outstanding member of the FEMA team and that she was very sorry to hear the news.

Mr. Geier stated that Cobalt Magnet 19 is an exercise developed around the Kennedy Space Center 2020 Mars launch. A land rover will be powered by a radioactive thermal electric generator powered by plutonium. The exercise will be held in January, 2019 and was created to help avoid another Challenger tragedy. It will involve the Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration. There will be senior official workshops organized for November 2018, and a recovery workshop being organized for April 2019.

Mr. Geier stated that the National Council of Radiation creates national guideline documents. One of the guidance documents released last year, CRP179, discusses a nuclear radiation emergency, and the use of dosimetry. Dosimetry in this document is used to calculate the amount of radiation that emergency responders absorb. He suggested that everyone take a look at it. Palm Beach County Emergency Management is currently reviewing it.

Mr. Geier stated that the State of Florida used to have a state-wide Radiological Emergency Preparedness Task Force, which included Indian River, Brevard, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Miami Dade and Monroe counties. It also included the nuclear facility, FEMA, and two state agencies. The task force was abandoned and the group is now working through a work group within the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association.

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Ms. Boer stated that she finished the ongoing Small Quantity Generator (SQG) program for St. Lucie County, which included over 125 site visits. Every county in the State of Florida is required to maintain a list of all businesses that contain chemical waste and inspect those sites. The State requires that all of the sites be visited every five years. It is an unfunded mandate, which the counties must shoulder; however, it is a very useful program because it provides a trend analysis for the county of what business is generating what types of waste. There is also a Large Quantity Generator program as well. The Florida State Statutes says that if a county does not have the staff to do the SQG inspections,

then the local LEPC will do them. Ms. Boer then briefly discussed the Hazards Analysis program is different in that it is funded by facilities and not the counties.

CONTRACT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Ms. Boer explained to the Committee that a sponsorship cap will need to be placed on registrations for the 2019 Hazmat Symposium taking place in January 2019. The expenses to the LEPC are registration and hotel lodging for the entire duration of the Symposium. She asked the Committee to consider either having a cap of 30 full sponsorships with the TCLEPC paying for registration and hotel costs for the entire duration of the Symposium or paying for the registration and 3 days of hotel stay. Ms. Boer said that she will send all of the details to the membership via email asking the Committee to vote on their preference.

MEMBERSHIP

Chairman Lasaga welcomed the following new primary members appointed at the April 13, 2018, SERC meeting: Mr. Matthew King, Tropical Shipping as Owners and Operators; Captain Daniel Mikels, St. Lucie County Fire District as Firefighting and Mr. Rodney Dewson, St. Lucie County Fire District was approved as alternate for Captain Mikels.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND STAFF

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Charles Vogt noted that on attachment C, page 15 of the agenda, a footnote should be included to explain the content of the date range referred to on the document.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEXT MEETING

The Committee discussed the meeting dates available in August and agreed to schedule the next meeting of the TCLEPC for August 9, 2018. The location is to be determined. Captain Mikels moved approval of the August 9, 2018 TCLEPC meeting date. Captain Steven Graff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. **Motion**

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Garofalo moved to adjourn the meeting. Captain Steven Graff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. **Motion**

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.