



**Northeast Florida
Local Emergency Planning Committee**
Wednesday, August 8th, 2012



10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

A meeting of the Northeast Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee was held on Wednesday, August 8th, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., at the Clay County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 2519 State Road 16 West, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043. Chair Richard Knoff called the meeting to order with the following members:

Present

Mr. Henry Bonar – Facility Owner
Michelle Sanders for Paul Crist – Transportation
Mr. Bill Decker – Local Environmental
Adam Faircloth for Sheriff Joey Dobson – Law Enforcement
Chief Lenny Ensalaco – Firefighting
Ms. Maria Haney – Emergency Management
Det. James Watford for Chief John Hartley – Law Enforcement
Chief Richard Knoff, Chair – Firefighting
James Murphy for Andy Sikes – Hospital
Danny Yeager for Chief Harvey Silcox - Firefighting
Mr. Ken Wilkey, Vice Chair – Facility Operator
Lt. Jonathan Lamm – Clay County Fire Rescue
John Ward – Emergency Management

Excused

Morrison Braren – Senior Planner
Ms. Sandi Courson – Health
Mr. Gerry Gividen – Interested Citizen
Ms. Martha Ira – Local Environmental
Bill Lord – Facility Operator
Mr. Steve Milican – Emergency Management
Lt. John Scott – Firefighting
Mr. Roger Studenski – Transportation
Chief Williams – Law Enforcement
Chief Joel Sneed
Mr. William Lord – Facility Operator
Ms. Gracie Kennedy – Local Environmental
Chief Joel Sneed – Firefighting

Absent

Terry Carr – Local Environmental
Rolf Preuss – Emergency Management
David Dunkley – Transportation
Brad Elias, MD - Health
Chief Mike Lambert – Firefighting
Quin Romay – Emergency Management
Kenton Brown – Interested Citizen
Lt. Sheldon Todd Smith – Firefighting

Guests: Chase Decker, Environmental Business Partners
Robert Crosby, DHS
Jake Lyons, Clay County Fire Rescue
David Seymour, Clay County Fire Rescue
Eric Padgett, Clay County Fire Rescue

Staff Present: Eric Anderson

Chairman Knoff welcomed everyone to the Clay County Emergency Operations Center and made a tour available to anyone interested at the end of the meeting. He asked Mr. Anderson if there was a quorum.

Mr. Anderson explained that SERC did not have a quorum so there was not an opportunity to purge old members and vote on new ones. After calling roll, it was determined that quorum was not met.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Knoff called for a motion to approve the May 9, 2012 minutes. Due to a lack of quorum, the minutes were not voted upon.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Anderson gave a brief update on this year's HMEP/LEPC Contract, which is split into two sections: a Planning Section and a Training Section. The Planning Section is to implement an annual project. There is a list of projects that can be done with these funds. He discussed the project options listed in the attached Memorandum. The state is pursuing doing a Port Commodity Flow Study, with Jacksonville as one of the four ports listed. There is about \$20,000 for an annual project, but nothing is definite since the contracts have not been finalized.

From a Training standpoint, there is about \$38,000 per training, of which \$26,000 has been set aside for the training of first responders. Calvin Williams will be contacting Chief Silcox to arrange for training opportunities utilizing funding that will expire at the end of September. A list of available training available over the next year will then be provided.

Hazards Analysis Update – Mr. Anderson, said that five of the counties will be handled by himself regarding hazards analysis site investigations. He pointed out that the attachment to the Agenda lists the Section 302 facilities for each of the four of the five counties. He notified the group that they were welcomed to accompany him on his site visits. Half of the sites listed must be completed by November and the remainder will be due by May. Mr. Anderson plans to schedule the first half some time during October and he will notify the group of his appointments in the event anyone would like to join him.

OLD BUSINESS

Training Task Force Update – Lt. Lamm followed up on the conversation from the last meeting, regarding the Hazardous Materials Survey. He said he has a presentation on the survey, which was to gather data that was requested by the Florida SERC and the Training Task Force and the Florida HazMat Responders Association. Potential training topics for the development of hazardous materials career track at Fire Rescue East 2013. It was not conducted as a comprehensive needs analysis, but as a way to obtain an overall picture of what HazMat Technicians were looking for as far as classes and courses were concerned. Input was from all levels, from Chief Officers to Firefighters. So far 127 responses have been received with 55% from first-line personnel. Lt. Lamm discussed the results and responses. The top three requests were Illicit Drug Labs, Victim Care for HazMat and Understanding Chemical Physical Properties. The responses were further broken down into what specific materials training the group was interested in. Biological Weapons, Webinized CWA and Tics, and Explosives ranked highly. The group was most interested in the explosives class - not on the white paper, but the new guideline from SERC to integrate EODs and HazMat teams together. The groups were asked about specific time frames for courses.

Unified Response to Explosives would be a 90-minute class covering tools and ensembles – familiarization of bomb suits and how that would integrate with HazMat. Emergency Procedures and Developing Interagency Relationships would also be covered.

HazMat Risk Assessment – Physical and Chemical Properties would be anywhere from a 90 to 120 minute class. Lt. Lamm discussed the risks that would be covered. Illicit Drug Lab classes would be about 90 minute long and would address common lab types; chemical processes and risk assessment, unified response and case studies. We want to address more than just meth amphetamine labs, the course should also include the Mom and Pop Marijuana grow houses. The Meth labs use more lethal chemicals, so this is important to address.

The HazMat Victim Care will go along with the Tox Medic protocols sent out by SERC that talk about how to treat victims who were exposed to hazardous atmospheres. We need to know what the antidotes are and how to treat people, not only victims but first responders and fire fighters.

Detection and Analysis for Initial Entry will be a 90 minute course addressing operating characteristics of detection equipment. It will also include action levels and decision making. Operation Response to Chemical Suicides is another popular topic. Doug Wolffe has gathered information for us in order to make this presentation. Most of the instructors are not charging for the training classes.

We are looking at doing a split program starting on the 23rd of January with four classes starting after lunch and reconvening in the morning for four additional courses. Lt. Lamm is working with the Fire Chief's Association in trying to find out if there can be a separate registration fee for the HazMat Responders in case they only want to attend the HazMat track and not pay the entire registration fee. Additional information should be available shortly.

Lt. Lamm went on to discuss TRANSCAER, which has not been available in Florida for some time. This agency offers a lot of free training. Paul Wotherspoon is working with TRANSCAER so we can offer free training. Lt. Lamm suggested contacting Mr. Wotherspoon with any questions or recommendations.

The next conference call meeting is scheduled for September 5th to discuss the seminar for Fire Rescue East regarding cost and things of that nature. The HazMat Seminar will be a perfect opportunity to put responders out there on all levels, not just first responder level, but all the way to technicians and get the information out to them. The Florida Fire Chief's Association has been wonderful in allowing us to tag on to Fire Rescue East and providing space for us in Daytona. If anyone has any suggestions, please forward them to Eric so Lt. Lamm can get to work on them.

Chief Knoff explained that TRANSCAER is the Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response funded by private industry and DEM has mentioned providing funds to get this program back on track in Florida. In the past, it has been held at the Florida Fire College, but details are still being worked out. If anyone would like to serve on that committee, please contact Paul Wotherspoon.

LEPC Chair/Staff Meeting – Eric Anderson explained that the State normally does a statewide hazardous materials awareness week with a specific designation. Last year it was mercury. It has been decided not to have a statewide awareness week for a specific chemical and return it to the LEPCs to implement an awareness week regarding their specific community needs. No chemical has been identified as yet, but the

week of February 10 – 16 has been designated. More information regarding the chemical and efforts to be made will be available at the next meeting.

We do have a Chair of Chairs, Mr. George Dance, who sits on the State Emergency Response Commission. Mr. Dance has retired and Jennifer Hobbs from District 6 has been named to the position.

The next SERC meeting as well as TTF and LEPC staff meetings will be held in Tallahassee on October 4 and 5. The location has not been determined.

SERC Meeting Update – Eric Anderson said that due to lack of quorum there was no voting at the July SERC meeting. The Draft Protocol for Hazardous Materials and Explosive Ordinance Teams Integration is included in today's packet for information purposes. Mr. Anderson said there was very little discussion on it at the meeting.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – Chief Knoff explained that the report was contained in the Agenda packet. Mr. Anderson said the CD has a current balance of \$5,547.85 which will be reduced by about \$1,000 which would be appropriated for additional training. The remaining funds will be rolled into another CD.

Training Committee Reports – Danny Yeager stated that in the absence of Chief Silcox he had nothing to report. Chief Knoff said the list of courses that were conducted was contained in the Agenda packet.

There was a future training request form in the packet that members were welcomed to fill out and return to Eric Anderson with any training requests, which will then be forwarded on to Ty Silcox or Calvin Williams to be processed. Eric Anderson said that a listing was compiled last year, of which about half had been addressed. He suggested submitting the form as soon as possible to address any other requests.

Hazardous Materials Release Report – Mr. Anderson explained that there were three tables contained in the Agenda packet which addressed the period June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012. The first section addresses Potential 304 investigations or releases of which there were three within the region. One was a water treatment plant with a minimum release, but the transportation release was related to a train derailment where six cars were derailed in Duval County. Lt. Scott was prepared to speak on this topic, and may be asked to at the next meeting. Nassau County had a sulfur dioxide release at the Rayonier Pulp Mill and a St. Johns County had a minimal Anhydrous Ammonia release at a water treatment plant. There were no fixed facilities with releases in the region during this period, and in transportation incidents there was a diesel fuel spill of 1,500 gallons and one with a small quantity.

Mr. Anderson said there is a supplemental environmental projects list. These are used as a baseline to begin negotiations with the company and the EPA. They are not required to stick to the lists, but it provides a base to start. We have a supplemental environmental project that is getting ready to start in Flagler County and they have agreed to provide more education to other facilities. So we provided all the 302 facilities within St. Johns, Volusia, and Flagler Counties to identify businesses that may attend specific training. We have been working with Mary Beach of the EPA in Atlanta. There are actually eight different categories where a fine can be levied, and rather than put the monies into a coffer, it can be used to provide other projects. Chief Knoff said that the LEPCs do not have any say in the project negotiation. We can provide three projects from our Region. The third project we identified was combination meters

for rural areas. The EPA, DEM and the corporation being fined, determine the project creation based on their wants and needs.

OTHER

LEPC Membership – Chief Knoff explained that Mr. Anderson compiles information that he believes would be of interest to the Committee and includes it in the Agenda Packet. Mr. Anderson said he prefers to include relevant information for the Committee rather than bombard them with emails throughout the quarter. This was to be the first quarterly meeting of the new two-year membership cycle. Since there was no quorum at the SERC meeting, everything is in a holding pattern. We are currently 13 members shy of a full board for the State Emergency Response Commission. There has been no appointment to the Commission since the Crist administration. We will be losing two more people by January, which will put us further in the hole. We are hoping for a quorum at the October meeting.

New Tier II Reporting Requirements – Mr. Anderson said that the forms appear to have been simplified and new things have been added to reporting. New mandatory and optional data elements have been added under the facility identification and contact information sections of both 302 forms. Separate data fields have been added for pure chemical and mixture reporting. Facilities must provide a description for storage types and conditions rather than reporting codes. The form was also revised to allow reporting of any additional state or local reporting requirements or to voluntarily report hazardous materials. Mr. Anderson said he included links in the Agenda packet. The new forms and materials will be used for the 2014 reporting cycle. Additional information on the Tier II forms and reporting was contained in the Agenda packet as well.

First Responder Support Tools for Bomb Threat Application – Mr. Anderson said the Department of Homeland Security has worked with private partners to identify this new First Responders Support Tools app. The hope is that the app will provide details pertinent to bomb threats, such as potential blast radius, location of nearby schools and hospitals, evacuation routes and roads to be blocked off. The hope is that First responders will no longer have to carry additional tools such as hard-copy blast standoff guidance cards, rulers or maps.

Changes to Federal HazMat Regulations – Mr. Anderson said this is associated with Harmonization with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. Apparently there is no standardization for how shipping names, classes of materials, packing group assignments, so there is a push to standardize that so when chemicals come in from international destinations, the same nomenclature will be used.

Warren E. Isman Education Grants – Chief Knoff said that this explains the application process. Normally these grants go to departments attending the IAFC conference that we usually send a team to in Maryland each year. So if anyone has a HazMat team they would like to send, the information is provided in the Agenda packet.

CSX Interactive Training for First Responders – Mr. Anderson stated that CSX is now offering free, online training to educate emergency personnel on how to safely respond to incidents on and around railroads as well as their property and rail equipment. He said the classes are available on csxsafe.com and are about an hour long and are divided into four parts. Upon completion, a certificate will be issued.

CSX is doing a lot of outreach to first responders due to the increase in tonnage and types of materials being transported.

EPA's use of the Toxic Substances Control Act – Mr. Anderson explained that the EPA is preparing to have more authority when it comes to chemicals. Although they have had the authority for some time, they are actually going to implement its use. Under Section 6 of this act the EPA must prove it has substantial evidence that a chemical poses an unreasonable risk before it can ban, restrict, or take other actions to manage that risk. The section also requires the EPA to use the least burdensome means to adequately protect against the unreasonable risk. They are talking about identifying 83 different chemicals of which they may incrementally start to regulate using the Toxic Substances Control Act. When more information becomes available, Mr. Anderson said he will pass it along.

Training Class for Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations – Mr. Anderson said he met with Quinton Jones of FDLE who will be offering this class in Duval County. It appears to be a two-day training on October 16 and 17. He notified the group to sign up or refer members of their organizations to the website provided. Chief Knoff explained the procedure to sign up for the class. Mr. Anderson said the ultimate goal is to have the state website be the one-stop area to sign up for training within the state.

Yatabe Award Nominations – Chief Knoff explained that this award is given annually at the SERC meeting to signify outstanding contributions made in the implementation and support of the emergency planning community Right-to-Know Act through achievements, accomplishments, or superior participation in hazardous materials planning or response. Last year's award recognized our chairman, Ray Ashton, for that award and he believe the year before it was Jim Corbin from Emergency Management. He asked that anyone interested in submitting someone for the award, should turn their nominations in to Eric before August 31 and provide as much detailed information regarding the person's accomplishments or other comments as to why you are recommending them for the award. Each LEPC district selects someone to be recognized for this award, which is presented at the first SERC meeting of the year. He encouraged the group to make their submittals to Eric.

Next Meeting - Chief Knoff said that the next meeting is scheduled for November 14th at the Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

Chief Knoff said that there were some Clay County Material Response Vehicles outside and Captain Seymour was available to show the vehicles after the meeting. Clay County receives state dollars to support their team, since they are a Regional Response Team for the State, between Clay County, Orange Park Fire Rescue and Keystone Heights Volunteer Fire Department.

John Ward will be available to provide a tour of the two-story Emergency Operations Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.