



**Northeast Florida
Local Emergency Planning Committee**
Wednesday August 14, 2013



10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

A meeting of the District IV Local Emergency Planning Committee was held on Wednesday, August 14, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Florida. Chair Richard Knoff called the meeting to order with the following members:

Present

Morrison Braren – Facility Owner
Sandi Courson – Health
Bill Decker – Environmental
Brad Elias – Health
George Faucher, Jr. – Firefighting
Maria Haney – Emergency Management
Matthew Harris – Local Environmental
Ben Huron – Interested Citizen
Martha Ira – Environmental
Chief Richard Knoff – Firefighting
Jonathan Lamm - Firefighting
Steven Millican – Emergency Management
James Murphy – Community Group
Amy Pilgrim – Facility Owner
John Russell – Environmental
John Scott, III – Firefighting
Michelle Sanders – Transportation
Roger Studenski – Transportation
Ken Wilkey – Facility Owner

Guests: Louis Quarterman, Praxair Distributors
Robert Crosby, DHS IP
Sarrah Stanley, NEFRC Intern
Brian Teeple, NEFRC

Staff Present: Eric Anderson and Bonnie Magee

Excused

Henry Bonar – Facility Owner
Paul Christ - Transportation
Gerry Gividen – Interested Citizen
Gracie Kennedy – Environmental
William Lord – Facility Owner
Harvey Silcox – Firefighting
John Ward – Emergency Management

Absent

Chief Michael Bazanos – Firefighting
Terry Carr – Environmental
Lenny Ensalaco – Firefighting
Quin Romay – Emergency Management
Andy Sikes – Hospital
Chief Joel Sneed – Firefighting
Chief Mike Williams – Law Enforcement
Sheriff Joey Dobson – Law Enforcement

Chair Knoff called the meeting to order and asked the group to pledge allegiance to the flag. He then requested a roll call, which confirmed a quorum. The Chair then asked the guests to introduce themselves and he extended a special welcome to the guests. Eric Anderson stated that there were no new members.

*APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Knoff called for a motion to approve the May 16, 2013 minutes. A motion to approve was made by Lt. Lamm, seconded by George Faucher. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant: Mr. Anderson said that we now have FDEM contracts regarding Planning and Training, with the same allotment as last year, about \$58,000 - \$20,000 of which will be for the planning of the transportation and hazardous materials related exercise. Mr. Anderson said he will be contacting the committee for the exercise shortly to schedule the initial meeting. In terms of training, the training committee met and gave direction on the classes that should be procured. There are two classes being offered this quarter, the first is a TRANSCAER initiative railway car class, which is being offered for two days. There will also be a compressed gas class which will be held August 28, 29 and 30th with 8 hour sessions each day. Future classes are planned to include Chemical Suicide and Clandestine Drug Lab courses. The training committee will get together to determine where to utilize the remaining funds.

Mr. Anderson explained that last year's HMEP Planning Project was a Commodity Flow Study. He introduced Ms. Sarrah Stanley, a graduate student who is interning with the Northeast Florida Regional Council, who was tasked with completing the study. Ms. Stanley discussed her findings in a presentation to the Committee. She discussed the methodology of the study, involving the recording of observed hazardous substance placards at specific locations on Regional corridors, both north/south and east/west. The observations included the placard numbers, the chemical names, the carrier names, direction of travel, date/time of observation and the type of truck. Maps were then generated and information was provided to County Emergency Management.

The second task was to prepare and submit a written report to the FDEM, together with any recommendations.

Ms. Stanley then discussed the routes, and explained the types of trucks that were observed during the study, as well as the types of materials that are typically transported by those trucks. She commented on the most common hazardous materials being transported and discussed the recommended training for response to incidents involving them.

Hazards Analysis Update: Mr. Anderson explained that the state has heard from the concerned parties in emergency management who conduct hazards analysis that the program needs to stay intact in some form. Ultimately, a group was assigned to conduct an investigation and to provide recommendations to the State Emergency Response Commission. The program will continue as it is for at least another year, with minor changes to the contract whereby a pre-training must be attended prior to conducting hazards analysis to ensure that everyone is on the same page. John Scott is the local contact from our committee.

Biennial Exercise Committee: We will be conducting an exercise this next year since we have a contract in hand. Mr. Anderson said that in addition to the members on the Exercise Committee, he plans to contact the Weather Service to see if they would like to participate in the exercise, since they have

modeling software that can include hazardous materials. He plans to send an email to the committee within the next week to get the planning started.

NEW BUSINESS

Training Task Force Update: Lt. Lamm said that the Training Task Force discussed funding. Time was spent mostly on the next Hazardous Materials Symposium. White paper submissions were sent out to solicit classes. A “hands on” element will be added to this year’s symposium which will include props being provided by Seminole County. A HazMat competition will also be added in addition to the classroom and hands on elements.

Sponsorships are being solicited. TRANSCAER paid for the instructors for last year’s symposium. Some of the LEPCs have offered paying hotel rooms for the instructor(s). This would not include per diem or instructor fees. Most of the instructors have indicated they will donate their time if their lodging can be covered. Response Technology has offered to donate their time and equipment for the HazMat competition, which will save a lot of time and effort on behalf of the committee.

The Symposium is set for January 23 and 24, 2014. Lt. Lamm provided the titles of some of the classes that are being considered for the Symposium. Lt. Lamm was asked if there was a possibility of extending the Symposium to three days. He responded that perhaps future Symposiums can be longer, but the 2014 will be two days.

Mr. Anderson said that a TRANSCAER training exercise opportunity for a state-wide four day training at the fire college has been planned and will include chlorine, ethanol, and anhydrous ammonia training.

LEPC Chair/Staff Meeting: Mr. Anderson said that E-plan had sent out a plea letter requesting funding due to cuts in their budget. This was done without FDEM’s knowledge. Instead, several states have decided to band together and pay for E-Plan at no additional charge to facilities. The LEPCs will continue to provide E-Plan training for facility operators and responders.

SERC Meeting: Mr. Anderson said that after the West, Texas incident, many agencies began considering how to address the ammonium nitrate issue. It is overlooked in most reporting aspects. A representative from a fertilizer industry was present at the meeting to discuss how they can become involved with the LEPCs with regard to membership and participation. This involvement doesn’t really affect the northeast region, but does affect the south and southwest regions. The industry is trying to be more proactive and it definitely comes down to the LEPCs to become more proactive as well with regard to response planning.

REPORTS

Treasurer’s Report – Chair Knoff said there is currently a balance of \$3,878.77 in the LEPC account. Although funds were used during this quarter, they have not been finalized and will show up on the report for next quarter.

Training Committee Report – Mr. Anderson said that three different trainings were provided, spending the remaining money for that funding cycle. Eight people were sent to the International HazMat Teams Conference in Baltimore. Lt. Lamm thanked the district for permission to attend the conference. Having

eight people enabled each person to attend a different course to bring back information and materials that can be utilized in planning the Symposium. He discussed some of the instructors and the overall event. Mr. Anderson said that in addition to the Baltimore conference, four responders from Flagler County were sent to the Advance HazMat Life Support training in May. There were also 25 members who participated Hazardous Materials Incident Command training in Nassau County. Mr. Faucher said that training completed the requirements for certification by the State. The class was only required to be 8 hours, but because Incident Command is so crucial, further training was provided and enjoyed by all the participants.

Hazardous Materials Release Report – Mr. Anderson discussed the tables that were included in the Agenda packet. There was a sulfuric acid release in Duval County. There was a Clay County gasoline station that was evacuated for a release. There were several transportation related incidents involving diesel fuel spills in Duval, Baker, Putnam and St. Johns Counties and also a Hydrogen Sulfide Gas release in Duval County. He then discussed the HazMat incident reports which showed a total of 169 incidents over the last year.

OTHER

West, Texas Explosion - Mr. Anderson provided a presentation on the ammonium nitrate explosion which occurred at the Adair Fertilizer Company storage and distribution facility on April 17, 2013. The explosion occurred while responders were battling a fire at the facility. At least 15 people were killed and more than 160 were injured. It was determined that the fire led to the detonation of approximately 30 tone of Ammonium Nitrate. The building lacked any form of sprinkler system or any system to detect or suppress a fire. Mr. Anderson discussed the close proximity of residential housing, a nursing home, intermediate and high schools, all of which were devastated by the blast. The state of Texas does not have a statewide fire code and their law actually prohibits smaller counties from adopting one. Two videos were shown during the presentation, which Mr. Anderson said he would be happy to email to any members who request it. He then discussed ways the LEPCs can be more proactive with regard to these types of facilities.

Yatabe Award Nominations – Chief Knoff discussed the upcoming Yatabe Award and the Nomination Form that was included in the Agenda packet. He said that nominations must be received no later than August 31, 2013. Instructions and procedures were also included in the Agenda Packet. Members were advised to call Mr. Anderson if they had any additional questions.

Next Meeting – Chair Knoff announced the next quarterly meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2013 at the Northeast Regional Planning Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Florida 32216.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the LEPC, Chair Knoff adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am.