



Northeast Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee



Wednesday, February 11, 2015
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

A meeting of the District IV Local Emergency Planning Committee was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 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

Chief Michael Bazanos – Firefighting
Terry Carr – Environmental
Sandi Courson – Health
Bill Decker – Environmental
Chief Lenny Ensalaco - Firefighting
Gracie Kennedy – Local Environmental
Chief Richard Knoff – Firefighting
William Lord – Facility Owner
Tenneth Minor – Firefighting
James Murphy – Community Group
Chief Harvey Silcox – Firefighting
Roger Studenski - Transportation
Ken Wilkey – Facility Owner

Alternates

Julius Rinosa – Transportation
James Watford – Law Enforcement
Maria Haney – Emergency Management
Brian Mitzel – Firefighting

Guests: Alex Sease, Westway Terminal Company, LLC; Fred Rogers, Emergency Management for Marine Corp Support Facilities, Blount Island; and Jason Schmerer, NEFRC Intern

Staff Present: Eric Anderson and Sheron Forde

Chair Knoff called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Knoff called for a motion on the August and November 2014 meetings Minutes. Bill Decker made the motion to approve the August and November 2014 Minutes, seconded by Terry Carr. The motion carried unanimously.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant: Mr. Anderson stated that staff received the HMEP grant. However, the timing has changed. It is now in the federal fiscal year; therefore, the requirements to conduct an exercise is by September 30th. He stated that staff is coordinating with CSX, St. Johns and Clay Counties' Fire and Rescue Departments on the multi-jurisdictional exercise. Further updates will be provided at the next meeting.

Annual Training Numbers: Chief Knoff stated that 364 students participated in 3,680 hours of training conducted by District 4 LEPC. Mr. Anderson provided a breakdown of the individuals trained by level and profession through the eight training opportunities.

Annual Hazardous Materials Symposium Update: Chief Knoff reported that the symposium went very well this year with over 200 attendees. Six to eight teams participated in the HazMat team competition; with Clay County placing second overall and a team member winning best overall risk assessment. He stated that the classes were very informative and believes the overall and continued success of the program is doing well. Chief Knoff stated that there are plans to hold another HazMat Symposium next year at the same venue, Fire Rescue East, along with the team competition. It is hoped to have more teams from around the Region and the State to participate.

It was recommended that Clay County Fire and Rescue be presented with a certificate of accomplishment for their success in the team competition. Chief Knoff stated that staff can draft something for presentation.

Training Grant & New Training Opportunities: Mr. Anderson provided an overview of training conducted since November 2014 highlighting the HazMat IC-Street Level Command and Control, the 3rd annual HazMat Symposium and the CSX Operation Respond training classes. He stated that the CSX classes were taught by the private industry; therefore, no LEPC funding was utilized for the training except for coordination purposes. A total of 181 people participated in LEPC sponsored training, which is better than the previous year mainly due to the private partnerships. The LEPC will seek to do more private industry training partnerships in the future due to their expertise and available resources.

Discussion followed on ways to achieve assistance with training and resources through the private industry. It was mentioned that FEC and CSX rail companies could be good sources for training and props for the LEPC training. Mr. Anderson stated that some of the other LEPCs do have resources that could be borrowed and utilized if needed as well.

Mr. Anderson stated that, in working with CSX, this fall they will be trying to bring the CSX Safety Train into our Region, which could allow for training on all types of containers that they have on the rail line. It is different than the TRANSCAER initiative that they had.

Upcoming Opportunities: Mr. Anderson stated that an advertisement was sent out regarding Norfolk Southern's rail safety training on chlorine ethanol later this week in Jacksonville. Additionally, potential future courses were identified based on need from last year. These will be worked on through this current funding cycle in preparation for the next funding cycle.

Hazards Analysis (Section 302 Facilities) Update: Mr. Anderson has provided information on the list of facilities requiring visitations for each county. These visits have begun with Baker and Nassau Counties having been completed. The remaining counties will be coordinated with in the coming days; Duval and Flagler County takes care of their own. The State deliverable for the first half is February 1st; these have been

submitted to the State for their review. All the facilities are required to report their chemical inventory reports by March 1st. This aligns with the annual reporting for March 1st and happens to be our ‘How to Comply’ training, which goes over the rules, regulations, why we are the way we are and how facilities navigate the electronic reporting system of E-Plan.

Training Task Force and LEPC Chair/Staff Meetings: Chair Knoff stated that the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) issued a contract to a vendor to develop the HazMat Technician Taskbook and learning objective requirements in compliance with NFPA 472, which is moving forward with anticipated completion by early summer. FDEM was also tasked with doing the same thing for the operations level.

SERC Meeting: Mr. Anderson reported that there have been several presentations on the refinement of a GIS tool that every county can use for the hazards analysis. He provided some background on the State’s ‘Gator’ tool, which is utilized by many Emergency Managers. One of the layers being added to the Gator is all the facilities information. A beta test has been conducted, where a Regions’ hazards analysis were uploaded and added to Gator so when you go to a Gator map, all the Region’s facilities populate. When a facility is selected, all the documents that have been pdf’d for that facility will be displayed. Following more beta testing, it is hoped that within the next two years it will be standardized for all counties to be able to do their hazards analysis using Gator. Additionally, there have been discussions regarding FDEM contracting out to the LEPCs to perform the review of hazards analysis within their own region in the future. This would allow a more tangible feel of the site visits being conducted in our region. It is hoped that the contract will be executed by next year.

REPORTS

Treasurer’s Report: Chair Knoff reported there is currently \$162.55 in the LEPC account.

Hazardous Materials Release Report – Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the hazardous materials incident reports statewide, highlighting those in Region 4. This information was provided in the agenda packet.

OTHER

Thomas Yatabe Award Winner: Chief Joel Sneed was awarded the Thomas Yatabe Award.

Clay/St. Johns HazMat Training Exercise: Captain Brian Mitzel provided an overview of the Clay/St. Johns County HazMat Training exercise. Agencies participating in the drill were St. Johns County Fire Rescue, Clay County Fire Rescue, St. Augustine Fire Department, St. Johns County Sheriff’s Office, St. Augustine Police Department, St. Augustine Beach Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Florida East Coast Railway, and the 44th CST out of Camp Blanding. The drill was a simulated EHS chemical leak due to malicious activity. Although there were challenges such as communication and site logistics, the training was an overall success. A brief discussion followed.

Duval County Plating Facility HazMat Release: Mr. Terry Carr provided an overview of a situation that occurred at a plating facility in the City of Jacksonville. He presented the dangers that existed and the problems encountered in addressing and remedying the situation. Highlighted were the various avenues that are open to both businesses and first responders in identifying potential hazardous material release and resources in its prevention and/or containment. If you’re not sure a site contains hazardous materials, contact the local agencies first, then the State Watch Office, then the National Response Center, and finally to the federal level. A brief discussion followed.

Changes to LEPC Structure and Organization: Mr. Anderson provided an overview of recommended changes to the LEPC structure and organization. It was determined that the core functions the LEPC should be responsible for are Training, Hazard Analysis and Public Outreach & Education. These areas will now be the main Sub-Committees of the LEPCs. The LEPC meetings will now include the dissemination of information from the State and then break out into the three subcommittees. The LEPCs have been asked to participate in the Statewide Training Exercise Planning Process this year. Information will be sent to each of the Counties regarding developing their GAP analysis. This information will be used to prepare a three-year training schedule.

The Training Sub-Committee will be chaired by Chief Silcox. This Sub-Committee will be tasked with developing a three year training calendar and the costs/budget associated with that, coordinate with private partners for additional training opportunities, and develop a database of local qualified instructors. The goal is to have this work completed by the February meetings annually.

The Hazard Analysis Sub-Committee will be chaired by Bill Decker. This Sub-Committee will be tasked with reviewing and approving Hazard Analysis information for 152 sites. This group would need to meet in February to review/approve the first half of the analyses and again in April to review/approve the second half.

The Public Outreach and Education Sub-Committee will be chaired by Terry Carr. This Sub-Committee will be tasked with designating the HazMat Awareness week, conduct one public outreach event annually, identify a public information officer for the LEPC, and identify supplemental environmental projects that can be submitted to the State.

Mr. Carr suggested that an asset would be to have an interested citizen on the Sub-Committees in addition to the media representation.

Chief Knoff stated that SERC is looking at developing a supplemental environmental project template for use statewide by each agency that submits a supplemental environmental project. This would allow the point of contact information to remain current.

Chief Knoff stated that if anyone interested in serving on any of these Sub-Committees to let Mr. Anderson know. This information will be passed on to the Chairs.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Next Meeting – Chair Knoff announced the next quarterly meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2015 at the Northeast Florida Regional Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place Jacksonville, Florida 32216.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the LEPC, Chair Knoff adjourned the meeting at 11:19am.