



**Northeast Florida
Local Emergency Planning Committee**
Thursday, May 16, 2013



10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

A meeting of the District IV Local Emergency Planning Committee was held on Thursday, May 16th, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., at the Flagler County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), 1769 E. Moody Boulevard, Bunnell, Florida 32110. Chair Richard Knoff called the meeting to order with the following members:

Present

Chief Michael Bazanos - Firefighting
Morrison Braren – Facility Owner
Terry Carr - Environmental
Sandi Courson – Health
Brad Elias – Health
Lenny Ensalaco – Firefighting
George Faucher, Jr. – Firefighting
Ben Huron – Interested Citizen
Gracie Kennedy – Environmental
Chief Richard Knoff – Firefighting
William Lord – Facility Owner
James Murphy – Community Group
Michelle Sanders – Transportation
Eric Vanes – Law Enforcement

Excused

Henry Bonar – Facility Owner
Bill Decker – Environmental
Gerry Gividen – Interested Citizen
Steven Millican – Emergency Management
John Russell – Environmental
Harvey Silcox – Firefighting
Chief Joel Sneed – Firefighting
Roger Studenski – Transportation
John Ward – Emergency Management
Ken Wilkey – Facility Owner

Absent

Andy Sikes – Hospital
Chief Mike Williams – Law Enforcement
Martha Ira – Environmental
Sheriff Joey Dobson – Law Enforcement
John Scott, III – Firefighting

Guests:

Lt. Jonathan Lamm, Alternate for Chief Knoff
Jennifer Stagg, Planner, Flagler County
Ben Nelson, Meteorologist, National Weather Service

Staff Present:

Eric Anderson

Chief Knoff called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves. He extended a special welcome to Jack Pittman, who has been a long standing member of the LEPC and is from the Flagler County area.

The group pledged allegiance to the flag. Chief Knoff then reminded the group to make sure they have an alternate member appointed, so their agencies could be in attendance to fill a quorum.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Knoff called for a motion to approve the February 13, 2013 minutes. Mr. Terry Carr requested a correction to page 5 showing that the fuel spill leaked onto the “access road leading to the tarmac” and into the storm water “management” system. A motion to approve with the above corrections was made by Lt. Lamm, seconded by Mr. Terry Carr. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness Grant: Mr. Anderson stated that in HMEP planning, we have officially begun the Commodity Flow Study. The Council intern, Ms. Sarrah Stanley, has been working on this and has identified several different corridors within the region. He briefly discussed the attachment regarding what is anticipated to be accomplished. Ms. Stanley will give a presentation at the August meeting regarding her findings. Mr. Carr asked why the study was being limited to interstate trucking and not rail systems. Mr. Anderson explained that the State is currently conducting a Commodity Flow Study of the ports and Jacksonville is one of the ports being surveyed. We can submit an advance request for the next grant to cover rail in the future. We do have a large quantity Ethanol train that comes north to south through our region on a weekly basis and we would like to concentrate on that in the future. Lt. Lamm explained that 96 cars come through our region twice a week heading from the Georgia area to the port of Tampa. Once the port has been expanded, they are anticipating up to 136 cars twice a week.

Regarding HMEP training, this is the end of the training cycle. Eight members will be attending the International Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference at the beginning of June. He commented on other courses which were held during the month of May. The new contract will begin July 1 and he believes the contract will be renewed with funds for planning and training.

Discussion ensued regarding the class being held at the upcoming HazMat Conference dealing with Ethanol fires. TRANSCAER will also be conducting a course related to this during the month of September.

Hazards Analysis Update: Mr. Anderson explained that there was concern about whether the Hazards Analysis Program would continue into the future. There will be a working group that will be created to try to improve the program. Lt. John Scott will be the representative from our region. They are to come back within six months with any changes and recommendations. Next year’s funding and program will remain the same, but Mr. Anderson felt there will most likely be changes in the following year.

Biennial Exercise Committee: The first meeting will be scheduled after July 1. Chief Knoff thanked all the members who volunteered to be on the exercise committee and feels that we should be able to come up with some worthwhile exercises. Mr. Anderson has been in contact with other LEPC’s to see what types of exercises they have conducted. He said he hopes to provide this information to the committee when they meet, so we can develop our regional exercises.

NEW BUSINESS

Training Task Force Update: Lt. Lamm said that TRANSCAER will be doing classes at the State Fire College in Ocala focusing on chlorine, ethanol and anhydrous ammonia. He felt this was a great course and it is free. He said that Mr. Anderson will be providing further information when it becomes available. Lt. Lamm pointed out that these classes are open to anyone, not just firefighters. This will build a better relationship between organizations.

Lt. Lamm said they have already begun working on next year's HazMat Symposium. They have organized a committee to work on the types of classes to be held. They are working with the FFCA to firm up the dates and space available to do "hands on" training. He asked for suggestions and/or vendors. It will be at Fire/Rescue East in Daytona again.

LEPC Chair/Staff Meeting: Mr. Anderson said that we may see some changes in E-Plan. The State has decided to switch to E-Plan as a reporting tool. Now, with the sequester, E-Plan is on the chopping block. There has been information put out to either have the State step in and fund E-Plan or request the facilities to pay a \$25.00 fee toward funding. Chair Knoff commented that as we were converting over to E-Plan, DEM considered E-Plan the up and coming format that would be the answer for industry for its ease of reporting. But there were still concerns from the First Responders about accessing correct data. It was then announced by the University managing E-Plan that there would no longer be funding for server maintenance and upkeep. We just have to stay tuned to see how this plays out. Mr. Anderson said that this year's reporting was 78% on E-Plan. Previous best reporting under the former system was 46%.

SERC Meeting: Mr. Anderson said the April SERC meeting in Tallahassee was pretty straight forward. There will be Risk Management Program site visits in June, which are listed in the attachment provided in the agenda packet.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – Chair Knoff said there is currently a balance of \$3,878 in the LEPC account. No money was used over the last quarter.

Training Committee Report – Mr. Anderson said that we are using our remaining dollars for the upcoming training. After July 1, we will have a better idea of what we will have available for training. There is a general consensus that we are going to procure items as training props that can be checked out and used throughout the region. We are hoping to allocate \$5,000 for this purpose.

Hazardous Materials Release Report – Mr. Anderson mentioned that under Table 1, there was a Coke Dust and Hydrogen Peroxide release. Under Table 2, we had one natural gas release at a hotel in the Orange Park area. Under Table 3, there were traffic accidents which resulted in 2 injuries.

OTHER

Chair Knoff introduced Ben Nelson of the National Weather Service, Jacksonville Office, who thanked the LEPC for the opportunity to speak with them.

He explained that he had an Emergency Preparedness background, working for the Division of Emergency Management. He discussed the operational paradigm. He discussed the Jacksonville Office and its function and mission to protect life and property. He said they are shifting from text products to graphical products, which are better for the public and first responders. They try to forecast all weather elements including the marine side for up to seven days. Focus will now be more on short term – getting the forecast out for first responders. He encouraged Emergency Managers to call the service to let them know their needs. Briefing packets for severe weather events will still be sent out. There is a daily weather briefing online by 7:00 am to update on weather conditions. He then discussed dispersion modeling that they have in place regarding wind speed and direction. The trajectory model is called HYSPLIT (Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory) which runs a lot of simulations to diagnose the conditions. If an EM contacts the Weather Service to report an event, they can use HYSPLIT to diagnose and simulate plume calculations. He informed the group what information needs to be provided so they can run a HYSPLIT within a ten minute time frame. Mr. Nelson provided a handout of his slide presentation. He also provided a website for a spot fire weather forecast. He then briefly discussed the upcoming hurricane season.

Chair Knoff thanked Mr. Nelson for his presentation.

An After Action Report overview on the Clay County Regional Exercise which was held on February 12, 2013 involving Clay and St. Johns County regional hazardous response teams plus local responders who went to the incident was presented by Chief Knoff. The incident focused on a leak at a water treatment plant which was being cleaned up by a contractor. One of the drums began leaking resulting in a driver being incapacitated. There were also drum leaks within the building and a tank leak outside the building. The event took place at an abandoned water treatment plant. There were three objectives:

- 1) evaluate capabilities of the hazmat response teams;
- 2) establish communication between Clay and St. Johns Counties;
- 3) mitigate the hazmat release.

Chief Knoff further discussed the exercise details and the ability to meet the State requirements. The teams worked very well together. The only difficulty was for the Incident Commander to reach the Forestry White Channel due to his having a new radio. All other radio communications went well. Chief Knoff served as the manager for exercise planning. The team leader, Captain Bronson served as the lead exercise planner and Lt. Lamm was also one of the planners to plan and coordinate the exercise. Chief Knoff offered copies of the AAR to anyone who wished to have it. Mr. Anderson asked if there was another exercise planned that might piggy-back off this one. Chief Knoff said none are planned, but it would be based on state funding.

Jennifer Stagg, the planner for Flagler County Emergency Management, thanked the group for coming and sharing their facility. She said it was helpful for her to get to meet everyone and “connect the dots”. She provided some background on her experience. She then spoke to the Guardian Centers which opened its first center in Perry, Georgia and was profiled on First Coast News. She discussed the service that the center provided. Their plan is to bring in First Responders and Emergency personnel to be able to deal with more simulated disaster activities.

Gracie Kennedy wanted to make a clarification to a previous discussion. She said that a contractor was hired to clear up a spill. The fire department put some absorbent on the spill, but she requested additional absorbent, which the fire department refused to do. Ultimately, the responsibility fell to the DOT, who

has contractors under contract. She said they normally try to get the responsible party to hire a contractor and to clean up their mess. Chair Knoff asked the quantity of the spill, to which Ms. Kennedy said it was about 10 gallons. Discussion ensued about normal procedures in other areas for spill clean-up.

Chair Knoff discussed the Vigilant Guard exercise will be held at Camp Blanding beginning on May 17th through the following week. Clay and St. Johns teams will be participating, along with some State teams.

Next Meeting – Mr. Anderson said the next quarterly meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2013 at the Northeast Regional Planning Council, 6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, Florida. He plans to reach out to another county to possibly host the November meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, Chair Knoff asked for a motion to adjourn, which was made by Lt. Lamm, seconded by Mr. Lord. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.