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**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT 10 LOCAL EMERGENCY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
November 12, 2009**

**Committee Members/Alternates Present**

Chris Bushman, Chairman  
Hassan Al-Buhaisi

Mark Anderson  
Cheryl Dunn  
John Gojkovich  
John Holman (Alternate)  
Keith Holman  
Stephen Huntsberger  
John Johnson  
Frank Lasaga  
Gloria Lopez (Alternate)  
Etta LoPresti  
Jack McCart  
John O'Malley  
Joseph Passanesi  
Paul Seldes  
Clint Sperber (Alternate)  
Barry Stewart  
Greg Thompson  
Carlos Valle  
Sally Waite  
Herbert Waller (Alternate)  
Arthur Wyman (Alternate)  
Dennis Zabel

**Members Absent**

Bill Amador  
Richard Daniels  
Anthony DiFruscio  
Cheryl Dunne  
Steven Graff  
Nicholas Laryea  
Harry Lux  
Paul Meding  
Tom Phillips  
Lisa Wilson-Davis, Vice Chairman  
Dan Wouters

**Occupational Category**

Firefighting (St. Lucie County Fire District)  
Local Environmental (Florida Department of Environmental Protection)  
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Health (Indian River County Health Department)  
Law Enforcement (Port St. Lucie Police Department)  
Law Enforcement (Port St. Lucie Police Department)  
Emergency Management (Martin County)  
Interested Citizen (Indian River State College)  
Firefighting (City of Boca Raton Fire Rescue)  
Emergency Management (City of Stuart)  
Transportation (Florida Department of Transportation)  
Emergency Management (Indian River County)  
Interested Citizen (Dania Beach Fire Rescue)  
Health (Palm Beach County Health Department)  
Law Enforcement (Martin County Sheriff's Office)  
Interested Citizen (NTB Group, LLC)  
Health (St. Lucie County Health Department)  
Local Environmental (Hazardous Waste Services)  
Interested Citizen (Sun Sentinel)  
Firefighting (Pratt & Whitney – Rocketdyne)  
Emergency Management (Palm Beach County)  
Facility Operator (Cheney Brothers, Inc.)  
Community Group (American Red Cross)  
Local Environmental (Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute)

**Occupational Category**

Firefighting (Town of Palm Beach)  
Emergency Management (City of Port St. Lucie)  
Health (Martin Memorial Health Systems)  
Facility Operator (Syngenta Crop Protection)  
Law Enforcement (Stuart Police Department)  
Facility Operator (Indiantown Cogeneration L.P.)  
Interested Citizen (Hazmat & Safety Solutions, Inc.)  
Facility Operator (Cliff Berry, Incorporated)  
Firefighting (Palm Beach County Fire Rescue)  
Non-Elected Local Official (City of Boca Raton)  
Firefighting (Martin County Fire Rescue)

**Staff**

Kathryn Boer  
Penny Myszkowski

TCRPC/LEPC District 10  
TCRPC/LEPC District 10

**Visitors**

Joe Nelson

Palm Beach County Fire Rescue

Chair Chris Bushman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Chair Bushman requested roll call and staff announced a quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF NOVEMBER 12, 2009 MEETING**

Mr. Keith Holman moved approval of the agenda. Deputy Chief John Johnson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Motion**

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2009**

Mr. Keith Holman moved approval of the August 6, 2009 District 10 Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting minutes. Deputy Chief John Johnson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Motion**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**State Emergency Response Commission January Meeting Location**

The State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) met October 2, 2009 in Tallahassee for the quarterly meeting. In January the SERC will meet in Palm Beach County on Singer Island. Staff welcomed LEPC members to attend that meeting and a luncheon on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**State Emergency Response Commission Meeting**

*Hazards Analysis Workgroup*

A Hazards Analysis Working Group met on September 9 and October 14, 2009 in St. Lucie County. It was determined that site visits are a leading factor in reducing accidents. Cell phone towers constitute a significant number for the annual site visits. A motion was made and approved by the SERC to modify future Hazards Analysis contracts to exempt/exclude the phone towers because no personnel man these locations.

*Natural and Propane Gas Industries Emergency Response Efforts Report*

Chief Jack McCartt reported that both the Florida Natural Gas Association (FNGA) and the Florida Propane Gas Association (FPGA) are working within the gas industries to identify ways to better communicate with the fire services through individual contacts, training programs, state and local association meetings, conferences and seminars. A statewide bulletin was issued to all licensed propane

gas companies operating in Florida reminding them of their emergency response requirements under Chapter 527, Florida Statutes and under the Florida Administrative Code. Under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Public Service Commission, all natural gas systems must have operator qualification plans in place to meet federal pipeline safety requirements.

#### *Web HMIS (Hazardous Materials Information System)*

Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) staff has been working to develop the Tier II Chemical Annual Reporting package to be filed electronically. This will be available on January 1, 2010. Several benefits of online submission include: 1) companies can update information more frequently; 2) completed forms are turned into "PDFs" that can be emailed and/or printed; 3) electronic records will be simultaneously transmitted to the State Emergency Response Commission/FDEM, the LEPC and local fire departments; 4) facilities will now be reporting chemical inventories in pounds, not range codes.

#### *2009 Thomas Yatabe Award and Certificates of Appreciation*

Chief Dan Wouters, Martin County Fire Rescue, will receive the 2009 Thomas Yatabe Award for his service to the District 10 LEPC as the Representative on the State Subcommittee on Training and his dedication to the hazardous materials planning program. The award will be presented at the January 2010 SERC meeting on Singer Island in Palm Beach County. Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of the outstanding contributions made in the implementation and support of the District will be presented to Mr. Stephen Huntsberger, Dean of Public Service Education, Indian River State College, Captain Joe Nelson, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, and Mr. Bronson McClary, Florida Gas Transmission Company.

#### *Hazardous Materials Incident Reports*

Staff provided information through reports and graphs on the release of hazardous materials within the District 10 Region for the time period of September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009. Staff noted the entire report is available on-line at <http://www.hazmat.floridadisaster.org/meet.htm>.

#### **Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairs Meeting Update**

Staff attended the Local Emergency Planning Committee Chairs Meeting in Tallahassee on October 1, 2009. The updated Hazardous Materials Information System (HMIS) will be distributed in electronic format via mail to each LEPC district this quarter.

FDEM staff is testing the integration of E-Plan with the 911 dispatch systems in two jurisdictions. Staff reported that all 36 SERC recognized hazmat teams have now registered for E-Plan as well as emergency management directors in fifty of the sixty-seven counties in Florida.

FDEM staff reported that the overall revenues collected from facilities required to report their inventories have been reduced due to the closure of numerous facilities and/or reductions in the workforce.

The SERC approved the LEPC chairs decision to designate Hazardous Materials Awareness Week February 14-20, 2010. The theme will be promotion of chemistry education and youth. One idea to

facilitate student participation is to have a poster contest for certain ages in schools. Posters would be displayed. Captain Joe Nelson said there is a lot of chemistry involved in cooking and suggested this area could be considered for a project.

### **Subcommittee on Training Update**

Assistant Chief Bushman reported on the Subcommittee on Training (SOT) meeting on October 1, 2009 in Tallahassee. Conference calls were conducted on August 5 and September 16, 2009 to discuss on-going projects and strategic initiatives.

Chief Jack McCartt reported that protocols are being developed to provide standard of training recommendations for responders to facilitate rapid medical identification and intervention of a victim(s) of chemical exposure. The draft HazMat Medical Treatment Protocols are attached to the LEPC meeting agenda. Draft Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Sampling Protocols are being circulated to various agencies for comments and recommendations. Health departments and law enforcement agencies are working to draft protocol for evidence collection and testing.

Staff reported that the Chemistry Education Initiative is being developed to encourage students to pursue careers in the sciences.

## **REPORTS**

### **Planning Subcommittee**

The 2008/2009 technical assistance contract for the District 10 LEPC required that the District 10 Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan be updated annually. The Plan was submitted to the Florida Division of emergency Management (FDEM) for approval. The FDEM and the SERC approved the District 10 plan update at the October SERC meeting.

### **Public Information/Marketing Subcommittee**

Staff is using the outreach presentations approved by the LEPC to administer requested workshops and seminars. The power point presentation defines the roles of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act, the LEPC roles and responsibilities, and has a training segment on TIER II annual reporting for Section 302 Chemical Facilities.

Any information for public dissemination can be delivered to staff for mail out and/or addition to the LEPC website.

### **Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities**

A list of the LEPC planning activities since the previous meeting of August 6, 2009 was included in the agenda packet. Also included is a list of other emergency management and preparedness activities staff is participating in through the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

### **Contract Activities Update**

During the fourth quarter, the LEPC sponsored the following classes:

- Two Incident Commander for Hazardous Materials Incidents (Martin County)
- Two HazMat IQ Smart Charts (St. Lucie and Palm Beach Counties)
- Two Hazardous Materials Awareness Level (Martin County)
- Two Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS-300) (Martin and St. Lucie Counties)

The Regional Public Joint Information Exercise was conducted on September 28, 2009 at the Martin County public safety offices. The exercise built on the results of the LEPC Biennial Exercise conducted June 29, 2009 and focused on regional information dissemination through Joint Information Centers in cases of regional disasters or incidents.

Staff has completed the 2008/2009 Hazardous Materials Analyses on behalf of St. Lucie and Martin Counties. The analyses were submitted to and approved by the Florida Division of Emergency Management. Staff will conduct the St. Lucie County Hazards Analysis for the 2009/2010 cycle.

### **Membership**

District 10 LEPC did not submit any new nominations for primary or alternate memberships.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND STAFF**

### **COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Dean Steven Huntsberger said that on November 4-8 there were 240 participants in the Fire School EMI training. There will be a variety of Public Safety training courses offered at the Banner Center for Public Safety, Indian River State College. Information will follow.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting will be held February 4, 2010 at Indian River State College Fee High Liability Building, Fort Pierce, Florida.

The LEPC Quarterly meeting dates for 2010 are: February 4, May 6, August 5, and November 4, 2010.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.