



SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE - DISTRICT 11

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2013 @ 10:00 AM

South Florida Regional Planning Council

3440 Hollywood Blvd, Suite 140

Hollywood, FL 33021

www.sfrpc.com/lepc.htm

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gary Koen at 10:06 am.

2. Introductions

In attendance were Miguel Ascarrunz, James Baptiste, Ken Brown, Bob Christensen, Jaimie Johnson, Hugh Johnston, Paulette Kandel, Chair Gary Koen, Nick Kontax, Willie Lopez, Ray McDonald, Yvette McLeod, David Ostrander, Gregory Thompson, and Coordinator Manny Cela. Also present were Ken King, Gary Smith, Lisa Gordon, Jonathan Johnson, Jesse Spearo and Armando Piedra.

3. Previous Meeting Summary

The draft minutes from the February 13, 2013 meeting were moved by Gregory Thompson, seconded by Paulette Kandel and approved unanimously.

4. Subcommittee Reports

Training Subcommittee (Coordinator Manny Cela for Chair Mike DiGiovanni)

Prior to the meeting, Training Subcommittee Chair Mike DiGiovanni contacted Coordinator Manny Cela to affirm his interest in continuing in that capacity once his current assignment is completed in July. Mr. Cela indicated he had misunderstood Mr. DiGiovanni during their last conversation and welcomed the fact that no change was necessary.

Mr. Cela then reported on the current status of training activities. In addition to the March 26 and 27 HAZWOPER classes for Broward County Environmental Protection, two HazMatIQ classes had taken place May 1 (Fort Lauderdale) and May 2 (Hialeah). Additional classes are already planned, including HAZWOPER classes June 11 (Miami Beach Fire Department), June 26 (Florida International University) and July 29, 30 and 31 at Miami-Dade RER DERM. Other potential opportunities include HazMat Awareness for the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and Florida Keys Community College, Chemical Compatibility and Storage for the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority and Miami-Dade WASD. There is interest on the part of Hollywood FR HazMat and five other regional hazmat teams to team with the SoFlaLEPC to bring a HazMat160 class to South Florida. Finally, the training coordinator for Broward Health requested a list of the HMEP-approved classes and is considering our training.



Exercise Subcommittee (Coordinator Manny Cela for Chair Juan Farach)

Although there is no biennial exercise in FY1213, Mr. Cela indicated one is required next year (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014). The South Florida Regional Planning Council is helping plan and implement an exercise for the Region later this calendar year and there may be an opportunity for both exercises to be held jointly.

Planning Subcommittee (Coordinator Manny Cela for Chair Eric Borbe)

Mr. Cela reported that in order to complete this project, the latest hazards analyses for our three counties were needed. Monroe's HAs are already available as the SoFlaLEPC is responsible for those. Broward County EMA provided their completed HAs for this year. Miami-Dade provided only half of theirs and we are awaiting the rest. The members engaged in lengthy conversation on the merits of HAs, the difficulties in maintaining up-to-date information and complained about the number of changes in reporting software undertaken in Florida. There was unanimous support for E-Plan.

The discussion shifted to the possibility that the University of Texas at Dallas would be forced to abandon E-Plan due to lack of funding. Ideas were offered and questions asked. Mr. Cela was able to report that FDEM staff indicated the State would support continuation of E-Plan in one fashion or another. The topic of a letter of support from the Chair was discussed and authorized for submittal if FDEM deems it helpful or necessary.

5. Membership Changes (Manny Cela)

A single membership application was received after the agenda was mailed and made available for the members at the meeting: Ms. Heddy Rojas, Safety Officer for the Miami-Dade Internal Services Department Office of Safety as Primary in the Health and Safety Category. The application was moved by Gregory Thompson, seconded by David Ostrander and approved unanimously.

6. HazMat Emergency Response Plan Update (Miguel Ascarrunz, Chair)

Miguel Ascarrunz updated the members on the status of updating the Plan. Comments from the counties were received and the text edited accordingly. Minor formatting remains. A motion to submit the Plan to FDEM before the June 30 deadline was made by Paulette Kandel, seconded by Ray McDonald and approved unanimously.

7. Selection of Training Task Force Representative

This item was not voted on since SERC TTF Rep Mike DiGiovanni will remain in his post.

8. SoFlaLEPC Coordinator Report (Manny Cela)

Mr. Cela briefed the members on the April SERC meetings. The discussion on E-Plan and Tier2s planned for this time already took place during the Subcommittee discussions.

In anticipation of the possibility that a local facility may be fined by the EPA and choose instead to spend part of that fine on EPA Supplemental Environmental Projects, the members received copies of the FDEM-supplied project documents. An open discussion followed.



9. Members Comments and Presentations

Mr. Cela prepared a slide presentation on the recent chemical explosion at a fertilizer plant in West, Texas. The presentation included information on similar facilities in Florida, especially those in the District. This was followed by two videos produced by the Chemical Safety Board (CSB) on the same incident.

10. Upcoming Meetings

The next SoFlaLEPC meeting will take place August 21, 2013 at the SFRPC Hollywood Office.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Gary Koen at 11:55 am.