



SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 @ 10:00 AM

South Florida Regional Planning Council
One Oakwood Blvd, Suite 250, Hollywood, FL 33020

www.soflalepc.org

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions, this meeting was conducted virtually via GoToMeeting.

1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon opened the meeting and welcomed the members at 10:02AM. Mr. McMahon also completed a Pledge of Allegiance ceremony.

2. Meeting Instructions (Jason McMahon)

Mr. McMahon instructed all participants to keep their microphones on mute to eliminate feedback and unnecessary noise from disrupting the meeting. During roll call and votes, microphones can be temporarily unmuted.

3. Roll Call (Jason McMahon)

In attendance were Junieth Arana, Niel Batista, Camile Campbell, Steve Collins, Alain Donderiz, John Johnson, Eduardo Koenig, Russel MacLees, Mary Napoli, Jeffrey Peleg, James Russo, Crystal Schaefer, Natasha Strokin, Freda Vaughn, Keith Westin, Richard Whitehurst, Gabriel Zahora, Lisa Gordon, Kate Boer (TCLEPC), Debbie Thayer (ECLEPC), Kelly Gibbs, John Meyer (TBLEPC), Matthew Currie, Walter King, James McClean, Erick Pena, James Crosby, Sylvia Rivera, Michelle Cechowski (ECFLEPC), Lilia Pines, Hugo Gonzalez, Curtis Knowles (CFLEPC), and Matthew Portilla.

4. Previous Meeting Summary (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon presented the Committee with the Meeting Minutes from the prior February 17, 2021, Meeting. The minutes were moved by Jeffrey Peleg and seconded by Gabriel Zahora.

5. Membership Changes (Jason McMahon)

Mr. McMahon informed the Committee that there were a few additions to the Interested Parties category, however, there were no additions to the Voting Members category. He explained that some changes were expected in relation to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) representation on the Committee.



6. Subcommittee Reports (Jason McMahon)

Training Subcommittee (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon updated the members regarding the LEPC-provided training that has taken place across the region since the Committee last met on February 17. Mr. McMahon explained that training has been provided to over 350 students since then for two separate agencies. This includes multiple 8hr OSHA HAZWOPER Refresher Courses for 50 employees of Broward Environmental & Consumer Protection, as well as over 300 employees of Miami-Dade's Water & Sewer Department. He also informed the members that planning was taking place to schedule a 160hr HazMat Technician Course for Broward County HazMat responders. Mr. McMahon added that the Miami-Dade Department of Environmental Resource Management requested OSHA HAZWOPER training to take place in July. Lastly, it was explained to the Committee that the LEPC has officially received additional funding from FDEM relating to the unused HMEP funds of the previous fiscal year. Mr. McMahon asked that any agency interested in chemical response or HazMat training reach out to him with any questions.

Planning Subcommittee (Jason McMahon)

The Planning Subcommittee does not have any activities planned for the year.

Exercise Subcommittee (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon began by thanking Lt. Tonanez for his assistance in planning this year's functional exercise. He explained that Lt. Tonanez was instrumental in bringing the Bureau of Radiation Control (BRC) down from Orlando to provide "hot" radioactive samples for a realistic training experience. Mr. McMahon reminded the Committee that the LEPC's Exercise Subcommittee met following the last LEPC Meeting on February 17, and that the functional exercise is planned for May 27. He informed the members that the LEPC's functional exercise is centered around a radiological event to take place at multiple locations in Miami-Dade and one location in Broward. At each location, the BRC will set up a "hot" radioactive substance, allowing HazMat responders to physically test their radiation reading equipment. It was noted that Memorial Healthcare System would be participating in a SimCell portion of the exercise, and other members were invited to participate if interested. This would allow participants to utilize our SimCell to initiate any emergency plans in their favor, while also being on-site of their business/agency's location.

7. SoFlaLEPC Coordinator Report (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon informed the Committee that a meeting was held with FDEM, along with the statewide LEPC Coordinators. During this meeting, it was noted by FDEM that the Offshore Hazmat training initiative is near completion. Mr. McMahon explained to the members what exactly the Offshore HazMat training course would entail, and how the funding would be used for the course. He added that the upcoming fiscal year's contracts are being finalized and are expected from FDEM soon. It was also noted that a new task on the LEPC Contract would allow RPC staff to be reimbursed for their time when responding to a disaster under the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement.



8. Member Comments

Kate Boer of TCLEPC added that Kenton Brown of FDEP has retired and will no longer be representing the agency at future LEPC meetings in the region. There was a short discussion about returning to in-person meetings, but ultimately it was decided that a hybrid (in-person/virtual) option would work best for all members.

9. Upcoming Meetings

The next SoFlaLEPC Meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2021, at 10:00AM. It will also be conducted virtually via GoToMeeting, and an in-person option will likely be available.

10. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was moved by Natasha Strokin and seconded by Niel Batista at 10:40AM. It was passed unanimously.