



SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, August 18, 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 10:00AM. 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, Alain Donderiz, Jaimie Johnson, John Johnson, Eduardo Koenig, Russel MacLees, Bret Maxwell, Ray McDonald, Mary Napoli, Martha Payan, Axel Rodriguez, James Russo, Peter Schechter, Stephen Shaw, Natasha Strokin, Alvaro Tonanez, Freda Vaughn, Keith Westin, Lisa Gordon, John Meyer (TBLEPC), MSTC Charles Jacobs (USCG), Frank Cesario (USCG), Trisha Gunderson (FDEM), Arnoldo Arana (CBP), Yvette Mcleod, Marie Sullin, Sarah Chavez, James McClean, Michelle Cechowski (ECFLEPC), Van Schoen (Tamarac EM), and Rudy Albert.

4. Previous Meeting Summary (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon presented the Committee with the Meeting Minutes from the prior May 19, 2021, Meeting. Mr. McMahon asked members to make any objections known, and hearing none, the minutes were approved unanimously. It was noted that these minutes have been uploaded to the South Florida LEPC's website.

5. Membership Changes (Jason McMahon)

Mr. McMahon informed the Committee that Kenton Brown, the LEPC's Primary Member representing Florida's Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), has retired. He announced that Ms. Bridjette Bucell, an Environmental Manager in FDEP's Office of Emergency Response, is the new Primary Member representing the agency. Mr. McMahon continued to explain that Lt. Alvaro Tonanez of Miami-Dade FR



was appointed as the LEPC's newest SERC TTF Representative. Mr. McMahon expressed his appreciation on behalf of the LEPC to Lt. Tonanez for taking over the position.

6. Subcommittee Reports (Jason McMahon)

Training Subcommittee (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon updated the LEPC on training activities that have concluded since the last meeting as well as courses that are being planned. He explained that the LEPC-sponsored OSHA HAZWOPER course provided to Miami-Dade's Water and Sewer Department concluded in late May after students completed examinations. This training was provided to over 300 of their employees. Alain Donderiz of Miami-Dade WASD commented on the training; he noted that that the training went smoothly aside from typical virtual glitches. Mr. McMahon also explained that the LEPC-sponsored HM160 course provided to Broward HazMat Responders successfully concluded in late May as well. He added that the LEPC had also sponsored four students to attend a CAMEO training course that started in early August. The four students are the individuals responsible for filing hazard analyses in the South FL region. Mr. McMahon ended the Training Subcommittee report by noting that the LEPC still has available funding for agencies across the region and called for Monroe County representatives to reach out for any training inquiries. Mr. McMahon announced his intentions to rotate training priorities by county as needed. Mary Napoli of Monroe County EM explained that she would reignite conversations in Monroe County among FD's regarding HazMat training needs. Finally, Mr. McMahon explained that HMEP funding can be used for certain expenses related to HazMat training, and not solely the courses.

Planning Subcommittee (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon explained that the LEPC's 2021 HazMat Response Plan was approved by the Chair on June 9th, 2021, before being finalized and turned into FDEM's SERC. He informed the Committee that he intends to expand the Planning Subcommittee, along with the other subcommittees. The goal behind this is to ensure that each subcommittee is performing to their fullest capability and fulfilling their purpose.

Exercise Subcommittee (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon provided the LEPC with a briefing on the LEPC's May 27 Radiological Exercise. He explained to the members that FDOH's Bureau of Radiation Control provided "hot" radiological samples at five locations for Miami-Dade FR HazMat squads before traveling to Hollywood FR's training facility to meet with Broward HazMat responders. Chief James Russo added that with the limitation placed on us due to COVID-19, we were still able to facilitate an inclusive and beneficial exercise. Lt. Alvaro Tonanez added that we met all the objectives we set out to meet. Lt. He also noted that we should focus on increasing participation from our private business members and that responders did a great job utilizing RadResponder software for the first time. Mr. McMahon explained how important it is that chemical facilities are on board with our exercises due to them being the first ones to respond to emergencies at their facilities. It's vital that they exercise their plans in conjunction with our exercises.



7. SoFlaLEPC Coordinator Report (Jason McMahon)

Coordinator Jason McMahon explained to the LEPC that FDEM has moved their focus to hurricane response and continues to relieve their COVID-19 response duties to FDOH. On top of this, FDEM is still in the process of finalizing the plans for both the 2022 HazMat Symposium and Off-Shore HazMat Training course. Mr. McMahon added that he will keep interested Fire Departments in the loop regarding these training events and looks forward to Lt. Tonanez serving as the liaison on this topic in the future. Coordinator Jason McMahon explained to the Committee that the LEPC Contract with FDEM has restarted for the new fiscal year, so new tasks including EPCRA, and Shelter-in-Place presentations are now able to be planned. Mr. McMahon concluded by reminding the members that meetings will be conducted virtually until further notice, at the direction of FDEM. Vice Chair Steve Shaw added that he is excited to get back out to the HazMat Symposium and recommended holding a meeting regarding the funding for this event and how we can ensure it's set aside. He also noted that local responders have submitted White Papers to teach at the Symposium.

8. Member Comments

There were no member comments.

9. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

10. Upcoming Meetings

The next SoFlaLEPC Meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2021, at 10:00AM. It will also be conducted virtually via GoToMeeting.

11. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was moved by Vice Chair Steve Shaw and seconded with no objections. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 10:35AM.