



SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, May 17, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

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

www.softalepc.org

This meeting was conducted in-person and virtually via Zoom.

1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance (LEPC Chair)

The LEPC Chair, Chief James Russo, opened the meeting and welcomed the members at 10:02AM. The LEPC Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence to honor the brothers and sisters who have made the supreme sacrifice and are no longer with us.

2. Meeting Instructions (Charlene Burke)

Charlene Burke instructed all participants to keep their microphones on mute to eliminate feedback and unnecessary noise from disrupting the meeting. During roll call, votes, and when making comments microphones may be temporarily unmuted. All attendees were notified that the meeting would be recorded.

3. Roll Call (Charlene Burke)

PRESENT:

Ray Aguilera, BSO FR Hazmat (zoom)
Stephanie Alami, Broward Schools (zoom)
Junieth Arana, DHL Express Hub & Aviation
Neil Buckeridge, City of North Lauderdale Public Works Utilities (zoom)
Alain Donderiz, Miami-Dade Environmental Resources Mgmt.
Rebecca "Georgie" George, FDEP
Jaimie Johnson, Allied Universal
Eduardo Koenig (Alt), Broward County Resilient Environment Dept (zoom)
Charles Lankford, Baptist Health South FL (zoom)
Yvette McLeod, Broward Schools (zoom)
Axel Rodriguez, Brenntag (zoom)
Adam Rohlinger, FL Dept of Transportation District 6
LEPC Chair, Chief James Russo, Hollywood FR
Dan Scarborough, Miami-Dade EM
Peter Schecter, Jet Blue



Marie Sullin, Aon (zoom)
Keith Westin, Miami-Dade Office of Safety

Stakeholders: Rudy Albert (American Airlines), Claudia Baker (FDEM), Lt. Jeff Barnes (USCG), Lt. Brian Brown, (Hollywood-FR), Deputy Chief RL Colina, Monroe County FR, Lt. Bobby Copeland (USCG), Jeff Manning (Monroe County EM), Jaylin Martir (SFWMD), Isabel Cosio Carballo (SFRPC ED), Christina Miskis (SFRPC staff), Alisha Lopez (SFRPC staff).

ABSENT:

Rick Barrett, Energy Transfer
Miguelangel Becerra (Alt), Dean Foods
Patrick Collins, Cliff Berry
Shannon Davis-Weiner, Monroe County EM
Lt. Maikel Garcia, Miami FR
Lisa Gordon, Interested Citizen
Josh Green, EM Planner City of Miramar FR
Jon Hines, Cliff Berry
Francisco Jaconetta, FL Dept of Transportation District 6
Troy Johnson (Alt), Miami-Dade EM
Jeasy Justiniano, Dean Foods
Chief John Johnson (Alt), Marathon FR
Romeo Lavarias, Miramar FR
Michael Laycock (Alt), Energy Transfer
District Chief Doug LeValley, Seminole Tribe of Florida FR
Shamila Lutchman (Alt), FL Dept of Health Reg 7
Battalion Chief Craig Marston, Monroe County FR
Greg Namoff (Alt), Allied Universal
Mary Napoli (Alt), Monroe County EM
Amed "AJ" Navarrete, Sentry Industries
Martha Payan (Alt), Memorial Healthcare System
Deran Ramkissoon, Gordon Food Services
Crystal Schaefer (Alt), FL Dept of Transportation District 6
William Senyshyn, FL Dept of Health Reg 7
Vincent Shanberg, FL Dept of Environmental Protection
LEPC Training Task Force Rep, Alvaro Tonanez, Miami-Dade FR
Jose Tovar, Miami-Dade Water & Sewer
Richard Whitehurst, Baptist Health South FL
Battalion Chief Gabriel Zahora, Fort Lauderdale FR

EXCUSED:

Camile Campbell, Tiphanee-Brown Francis, Natasha Strokin



4. **Election of Vice Chair**

The LEPC Chair asked members for any additional nominations for Vice Chair. No additional candidate nominations were offered online or in-person. The LEPC Coordinator confirmed no additional nominations were recorded electronically. A position description, bio, and nomination for Lt. Brian Brown, Hollywood Fire Rescue, was offered by the LEPC Chair who explained the nomination reflected a best practice for succession planning as well as Lt. Brown's extensive experience. Lt. Brown introduced himself to the members and welcomed the opportunity to serve. Motion to Approve the Vice Chair nomination for Lt. Brian Brown (Pete Schecter), second (Rebeca George).

5. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes from the February 15, 2023, meeting. Motion to Approve Minutes (Lt. Brian Brown), second (Axel Rodriguez).

6. **Membership Changes**

LEPC Chair announced membership updates for both members and alternates made in coordination with the LEPC Coordinator. Changes align with SERC rules, help to fill gaps in membership, and chart a better course for moving the LEPC forward including, to ensure the membership roster is up-to-date and that meetings achieve the required quorum. Thirteen (13) nominations were included in the agenda package and consisted of role changes for alternates & members and new nominations.

7. **Chair's Report**

Training

There is ongoing support for Monroe County to receive the 160-hour hazmat tech course training. Strategies, methods, and options to support Chief Colina were discussed.

Region 10 is well-represented at SERC meetings including the newly formed Training Task Force for Electric Vehicles & Lithium-ion (EV/Li-ion). Region 10 and others have provided guidelines and presentations to SERC to help to develop policy, education & outreach plans, partner coordination, etc. Pete Schecter (Jet Blue) reminded that FDNY has resources, information, and data available. He also noted that law enforcement is equally concerned with EV/Li-ion and suggested UASI may be a source of funding for EV/Li-ion training.

The statewide Health Care Coalition radiation tabletop exercise took place at the same time as the LEPC meeting. Region well-represented.

The LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan update was received from each county's emergency manager in Region 10. The updated version will be recirculated after the July SERC meeting to allow the region's emergency manager's more time for the next update. Moving forward, the LEPC Coordinator will follow a peer recommendation to place the Plan update on the agenda in a different quarter.



Broward completed the Hazmat Technician course with 24 students in four (4) teams with all passing. The first half was delivered by IFF. The second half was delivered by a round-robin rotation of in-house, on-duty and on hazmat teams. The vendor also conducted three (3) days of exercises with monitoring in addition to training.

Planning

The electric and alternative fuels school bus training will be held on May 18. The training concept and objectives are developed, and Hollywood Fire Rescue will host. The Chair emailed a request for two (2) representatives from every Fire Rescue municipality in Broward. Alisha Lopez, director of Southeast Florida Clean Cities Coalition noted that the Miami-Dade training will coincide with the release of Miami-Dade EV school buses in the Fall. The Broward training is to prepare for the arrival of Broward EV school buses in August. Ms. Lopez also noted that additional EV/Li-ion training is in progress for 2023. More details will follow once the anticipated funding is awarded. The DHS Integrated Operations Division presentation on Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards is in progress for the August LEPC meeting.

Exercise

In consideration of the recent incident in East Palestine, Ohio a rail car and chlorine safety exercise was selected by the Planning Working Group in April. The chair acknowledged support from Palm Beach hazmat who recently completed a similar exercise and provided support to the special operations teams. The exercise will take place in mid-June. Additional details forthcoming. All are welcome.

State Emergency Response Commission Updates

A significant action of the SERC has been the creation of the EV/Li-ion Training Task Force. Anticipate more to report after the next SERC meeting in July. With a unified front, rapid advancements for first responder & public safety are well under way. Highlighted the Hazard Analysis Working Group Report and that the Fentanyl Training Project is on hiatus as the in-person portion evolved to cover more than Fentanyl. The Offshore Hazmat Pilot Project will be held at Resolve Marine in Broward with a limited class size. Based on the first delivery of the pilot adjustments were made to improve upon lessons learned. Expect further details later this Summer. The FDEM Risk Management Plan Audit/inspection listed 30 high priority facilities which considers target hazards within target hazards. FDEM Hazmat Incident Reports for Section 304 compliance are provided in the agenda package. Provided an E-Plan filing reminder that, training for facilities is available and to contact the LEPC Coordinator for more information.

8. SoFlaLEPC Coordinator Report (Charlene Burke)

Continue to coordinate, collaborate, communicate with and attend Region 7 Hazmat Special Operations & Technical Rescue Team meetings. Attend all SERC meetings with the LEPC Chair. Announced the 2024 Hazmat Symposium will be held January 16-19 at Daytona Grande Oceanfront Hotel with funds provided by FDEM via HMEP grant. Discussed the new budget and selection process for training including a survey to identify training and equipment needs, ranking and evaluating requests, equitable funding across the region.



9. Member Comments

Claudia Baker introduced herself as the FDEM Region 7 Emergency Management Coordinator (Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach). She has served the region for about one year. Prior to that she served in the same role in Central Florida. Ms. Baker reported there are a high number of mechanisms for training in the region, but situational awareness of all the different training courses needs to improve. For example, training is being conducted by UASI, RDSTF, FDEM, Securing the Cities, and FEMA for the Turkey Point nuclear power plant. In addition, Region 7 has two LEPCs, two Coast Guard sectors, and two NWS sectors (Miami, Key West). Different counties have offered the same training with both going unfilled and resulting in cancellations. Greater coordination is needed to merge training and to encourage cooperation and interaction outside of individual jurisdictions. This supports mutual aid response. Ms. Baker has initiated quarterly meetings with the Region 7 county emergency management training coordinators (Jeff Manning, Monroe; Troy Johnson, Miami-Dade; Tatiana Riesgo, Broward; Josh Green, RDSTF) to improve training coordination toward a whole community approach. The annual review for the region is based on the Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) process to assess the region's gaps and needs, but that meeting has not been well attended in the last few years. This absence is reflected in the number of classes that are repeated. There is a perception the region lacks certified trainers. This has resulted in an increased reliance on consultants. Given the geographic area and the expertise and experience within the region greater situational awareness will help to alleviate these concerns. Ms. Baker is committed to improving the region's training coordination, helping to ensure the correct people are taking the correct training, support and encourage effective communication to reduce duplication of efforts, and where possible identify strategic opportunities to pool the region's resources.

The LEPC Chair responded that the LEPC website clearinghouse supports Ms. Baker's efforts and agreed to support pre-planning for the IPP meeting in January and quarterly meetings with county emergency management training coordinators. Ms. Baker added crossing county boundaries has been somewhat problematic, but solutions are being worked on. The LEPC Coordinator requested Ms. Baker to participate in the Training Working Group to select funding requests for training to help address stated concerns. Pete Schecter asked Ms. Baker if using existing channels of communications that are well-funded and intended to be interoperable can be leveraged, for example, Web EOC. Ms. Baker noted FDEM uses SERT TRAC, and that the 2.0 Version is coming soon. SERT TRAC is intended to satisfy all veins of public safety training with access via county training coordinators. The LEPC Chair offered to work with the FCABC Training Sub-Committee to increase interoperability.

Junieth Arana (DHL Hub & Aviation) commented that more should be done to leverage the private sector to increase local response pre-planning including, to support effective communication, and to ensure capability to handle local hazmat situations. Ms. Arana stated support from the private sector is underutilized but highly recommended. Pete Schecter agreed and added that a NY LEPC maintains a roster of Subject Matter Experts (SME) tasked with response to support the regional hazmat teams, State EMA, specialty gas companies, Lindy, and others. The private sector provided resources beyond expertise such as equipment. In addition, NY established a command post and push-button contacts to activate support teams. This resource is missing from the LEPC but is needed. Mr. Schecter suggested that the



LEPC Coordinator set up a meeting with EHS providers to determine what resources are available. Mr. Schecter added that the private sector can also help to provide financial support for training. The LEPC Chair suggested establishing an onsite SME list for the private sector with target hazards including points of contact and resources on what to do and whom to call in the event of an incident.

10. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

11. Administrative Items

The LEPC Chair requested that, moving forward, members refer to items attached to the agenda. Any item can be pulled for discussion. The LEPC Chair discussed the Cyber Florida Survey presentation at SERC and asked members to participate and assist with data collection, assessment of vulnerabilities, and to create an awareness of Cyber Florida resources.

The LEPC Coordinator shared a new request from FBI Miami. The Bureau is conducting updates for Tripwire initiatives to include healthcare providers and hospitals that maintain radiological sources including blood irradiators and gamma knives with a concentration on cobalt and cesium sources. As part of the initiative, the FBI seeks to better understand source security and countermeasures to deter any unauthorized access or theft. The FBI is currently working with the University of Miami - Sylvester, and Baptist Health Cancer Centers, and seeks assistance to identify facilities in Broward and Palm Beach counties. The LEPC Coordinator reached out to Palm Beach LEPC which followed up with the FBI.

The LEPC Chair noted the Florida Fire Chief's Association deadline for scholarship applications is June 15.

The LEPC Chair suggested the need for outreach for a Region 10 inventory of assets. No deadline was specified, but support from first responders will be appreciated.

12. Upcoming Meetings

The LEPC Chair announced the next in-person/hybrid SoFlaLEPC Meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2023, at 10:00AM.

Upcoming SERC meetings in St. Augustine:

Training Task Force Jul 20 @ 09:30

LEPC Jul 20 @ 13:30

SERC Jul 21 @ 09:30

13. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn (Yvette McLeod), second (Pete Schecter) at 11:30 AM.