



RECAP OF JULY 8, 2011 STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION MEETING

George Danz served as meeting Chair and called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Following introductions of those in attendance, Chair Danz welcomed Ms. Heather Komarnisky as the assumed new Legal Counsel for the SERC. Ms. Komarnisky currently serves as Legal Counsel for the Florida Division of Emergency Management. Due to the restructuring of the Florida Department of Community Affairs, it is anticipated that this would be the final meeting for Lesley Anderson-Adam. Chair Danz recognized and thanked Ms. Anderson-Adams for her many years of service.

The items of business were:

- **Approval of April 8, 2011 SERC meeting Minutes.** SERC member Gary Weiss requested a revision to reflect a revision to the LEPC reference number for one LEPC member recently appointed by the SERC. The *Minutes*, as revised were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Approval of new/revised Local Emergency Planning Committee Appointments (Statewide).** The SERC unanimously approved new LEPC appointments requested by each of the 11 LEPCs. As a subset of this approval, the following changes were recognized for the District 8 LEPC membership:
 - LCDR Navin Griffin (Primary) and Lt. Jessica Paxton (Alternate) of the U.S. Coast Guard/Sector St. Petersburg) were appointed under the Category of “Law Enforcement” to replace the departed LCDR Thomas Boyles and his formerly designated Alternate Lt. Michael Viles; and
 - Mr. Scott Davies (Primary) and Mr. William Stanfield (Alternate) were appointed to replace retiring LEPC member John Ballaron of the Manatee Port Authority under the category of “Transportation.” Mr. Davis had previously been appointed Mr. Ballaron’s Alternate since 2005.

One additional LEPC membership modification requested was requested by LEPC staff but inadvertently overlooked by FDEM staff. The request, which will be recognized in association with the October 7, 2011 SERC meeting, consisted of the redesignation of Alternates for Capt. Steven LeCroy (St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue) from Chief Bill Ward to Chief Robert Ballou due to Chief Ward’s former retirement

- **Audit/Inspection Work Plan for the Risk Management Planning (RMP) Program for FY 2011-12.** SERC unanimously approved the proposal to conduct 23 RMP audits statewide during FY 2011-12. Three of the facilities are located with LEPC District 8 (one in Pasco & two in Hillsborough). The Tampa Bay area audits are tentatively scheduled for February 7-9, 2012.
- **National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) Annual Conference.** The 2011 NASTTPO Conference was held in 2011 in Tempe, AZ. During the Conference, Association President Dawn Warren asked the Florida contingency to provide tentative conference venues for the April 2012

NASTTPO Conference to be held in Florida. FDEM staff has solicited six such proposals for various facilities across the State, including two in the Tampa Bay area for the possible hosting of the 2012 Conference. It is anticipated that the NASTTPO Board will make a determination between venues by early-August 2011. SERC unanimously and “enthusiastically” supported the selection of Florida for the April 2012 NASTTPO Conference, regardless of particular meeting location.

- **Single Reporting Point for Tier II Annual Report *Memorandum of Understanding*.** FDEM staff recognized that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has published a “clarifying interpretation” (i.e. 75 FR 39852, 39855) suggesting that a formal agreement (e.g. *Memorandum of Understanding* or “MOU”) be developed between the SERC, LEPCs and local fire departments if the State desires to implement an electronic information sharing program. If accepted, the terms of the MOU would release Florida facilities that submit their annual hazardous material inventories (i.e. Tier II data) electronically through “www.FloridaHMIS.org” from the additional obligation of providing hard copies of the Reports to the LEPC(s) and the fire department(s). However, if hard copies of inventories continue to be alternatively submitted in lieu of electronic filing, the Tier II Reports shall continue to be provided to all three entities [i.e. SERC, LEPC(s) and fire department(s)]. SERC staff will populate the E-Plan system with updated FloridaHMIS data on at least a monthly basis. SERC will elect to use the “Opt Out” format for the MOU, meaning that entities opposing the terms of the MOU must do so in writing “prior to November 1st of each reporting year and that “no response” would be considered acceptance of terms. Facilities will be notified of agencies that have opted out during the on-line reporting process and will be directed to ensure they provide a paper copy of the Tier II Report to the respective agency(ies).” In addition, any/all future change(s) in MOU verbiage or intent (if applicable) would be re-submitted to LEPCs and fire departments for “re-opt” consideration. The SERC unanimously approved the processing of the MOU.

REPORTS

- **SERC’s Training Task Force (TTF).** Aside from the above recognized items, the following highlights of the July 7, 2011 TTF meeting were also recognized by Don Sessions, TTF Chair:
 - **Teleconferences.** TTF Chair Don Sessions indicated that teleconferences were held on May 25 and June 15, 2011, primarily to discuss the potential endorsement for statewide credentialing/ accreditation of Hazmedics & Toxmedics although there is currently no statutory authority to impose such certification. Acknowledging that Section 473 NFPA is currently in the process of being reviewed, the TTF has decided to “table” further action or recommendation(s) until the revisions have been adopted and reviewed.
 - **Hazmat Team “Drug Boxes.”** There was discussion about the potential to allow hazmat teams to include “drug boxes” in the hazmat vehicles to ensure timely and appropriate on-scene treatment and decontamination of hazmat team members and the public. The actual components and quantities could be determined by each County Medical Director, as currently recognized in Section 5.8.1. of the draft “Operational Readiness Evaluation/Capability Assessment Tool for Type II Hazardous Materials Response Resources,” which is stated as follows: “*medical formulary to be consistent with medical protocols established by the jurisdiction’s Medical Director with special attention paid to WMD treatment.*” Recommendations regarding the potential standardization of components will be further evaluated by the TTF Committee.
 - **Hazardous Materials Field Operations Guide Review Items.** The TTF has maintained an errata sheets for all proposed changes for the Guide. All changes will be submitted to the SERC

simultaneously for consideration once complete, rather than incrementally.

- SERC’s Training Task Force (TTF) “Project Board.” FDEM has recently made significant improvements to the SERC’s TTF Project Board by making it interactive with links to status updates for each initiative being undertaken by the TTF. The lead party(ies) and their affiliation(s), responsible for each initiative, is also identified. The Board is accessible from FDEM’s website (<http://www.floridadisaster.org/hazmat/serc/training.htm>).
- New Initiative for Project Board: “Hazmat Training” (or comparably titled). Noting the vast array of knowledge possessed by various hazmat team members and first responders across the State, a discussion item was added to the Project Board to evaluate the possibility of conducting a “Hazmat University” (or comparably-titled forum) within Florida whereby participants could attend a single venue for training. Discussion ensued about the potential for limited funding to, at minimum, offset the travel expenses of numerous presenters. Selection of a centralized training location would be key to success of the event and would have a bearing on limiting travel expenses.

As a potential/future TTF initiative, it was additionally recognized that the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) guidelines may also need to be evaluated since they were last updated in 2001-02.

- **Financial Status Report.** Mr. Sam Brackett, FDEM staff, reported that the SERC Agenda materials contained numerous tables and graphs depicting a comparison of the various revenues and expenditures associated with FDEM’s Hazardous Materials Planning and Risk Management Planning Programs over the past two years.
- **Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports.** Mr. Sam Brackett advised that detailed listings of fixed facility and transportation-related hazardous materials incidents were prepared and included the Agenda materials to describe incidents occurring between the period of March 1, 2011 and May 31, 2011. Such Reports documented these incidents and portrayed the number of persons evacuated, injured or deceased down to the County and corresponding LEPC District level.

The following constitute the hazardous material incidents recorded for District 8 during this period involving evacuation, injury(ies) and/or death(s):

County	Date of Release	Type*	Chemical	Amount Released (Lbs.)	Business Type	# Evacuated	# Injured	# Fatalities
Hills.	None Identified							
Manatee	3/24/11	TR	Gasoline	192	Traffic Accident	0	1	0
Pasco	4/11/11	FF	Phenol	0.99	Pharmacy	0	1	0
	4/13/11	TR	Diesel Fuel/ Hydraulic Oil	Unknown	Traffic Accident	0	5	0
	4/19/11	FF	Unknown Chemicals	Unknown	Meth Lab	0	2	0
Pinellas	4/15/11	FF	Natural Gas	Unknown	Office Complex	100	0	0
	4/17/11	FF	Hydrogen Sulfide/ Carbon Dioxide	Unknown	Church	300	4	0
	5/30/11	FF	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Residence	1	0	0
TOTAL →						401	13	0

* - FF = Fixed Facility incident / TR - Transportation-related incident.

Supplemental information also contained in the SERC Agenda materials, including annual comparisons of:

- Potential Section 304 Investigations identified by County and date;
 - annual comparison of the overall Statewide number of Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports;
 - comparison of hazardous materials incidents reports by District;
 - *Total Chemical Inventory* by District;
 - quarterly quantification of statewide *Notices of Violation/Second Notices* (since March 2008); and
 - annual quantification of *Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Reports* prepared (by type) since 2007.
- **Update on LEPC Activities.** SERC Member George Danz recognized that the majority of accomplishments achieved by each LEPC is captured in the *Hazmatters* section of the backup SERC materials.

The following accomplishments were identified for District 8, primarily for the period of March - May 2011:

- attended the Quarterly SERC meetings held in Tallahassee at the Betty Easley Conference Center on April 7-8, 2011 and conducted the District 8 LEPC meeting on May 25, 2011. Staff additionally attended the FDEM Region 4 quarterly meeting held at the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Center on June 1, 2011;
- short of a formal meeting, the LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) Chair Chet Klinger met with LEPC Staff Coordinator John Meyer on April 21, 2011 to discuss strategies designed to renew or invigorate Subcommittee participation, bolster new membership, potentially redefine Subcommittee purpose, and brainstorm future training opportunities. It is envisioned that a "Facility Disaster Preparedness Forum" will be scheduled in late June or early July of this year. A new database of e-mail addresses of potential Subcommittee members was amassed while recently performing (and completing) an assessment of LEPC hard copy Tier II hazardous material inventory records with those of the State's electronic database. A listing of all discrepancies was compiled and shared with FDEM staff. Upon receipt of a response from FDEM staff regarding these discrepancies, the response will be shared with the LEPC membership. The LEPC website (i.e. www.tbrpc.org/lepc) is routinely and frequently updated to ensure all activities and initiatives of the LEPC are current;
- participated in a series of teleconferences administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management regarding Training Task Force initiatives (March 16 & May 25, 2011);
- no Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning (HMEP) program courses/workshops were conducted during the quarter. In addition, the LEPC's pre-scheduled Training Subcommittee meeting was canceled due to numerous scheduling conflicts. However, Subcommittee members were contacted, reminded and encouraged to identify training initiatives desired for the remainder of the 2010-11 HMEP funding cycle (i.e. ending September 30, 2011). A listing of HMEP funded courses conducted over the past couple of years by three of the LEPCs, as was compiled by LEPC District 4 staff Mr. Jason Taylor, was transmitted to Subcommittee members for their additional consideration;
- represented the Tampa Bay LEPC at the March 8 and May 10, 2011 meetings of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee and the U.S. Coast Guard Area Committee which immediately followed the March 8th meeting;
- assisted with the March 9 & April 10, 2011 meetings of the Pinellas Police Standards Council held at the TBRPC/LEPC offices;
- assisted with the March 23, 2011 meeting of the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee held at the TBRPC/LEPC offices; and
- attended the Ammonia Handlers/Operators meetings held on March 24 (@ C.F. Industries), April 26 (@ Hillsborough County EOC), and May 24, 2011 (@ Mosaic). The meetings are rotationally located and are focused on discussing initiatives and activities conducted by or of interest to the ammonia operations facilities located within or adjacent to the Port of Tampa.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Hazardous Materials Awareness Week.** Meeting Chair George Danz identified that the LEPC

Chairs/Staff suggested that “Mercury Awareness & Dangers” be selected as next year’s Hazardous Materials Awareness Week topic/emphasis. Typically, the themes are bolstered with the issuance of a *Proclamation* by the Governor each February. SERC members unanimously approved next year’s theme/topic.

- **Report on MOU between FDEM & EPA.** FDEM staff has proposed the SERC to enter into a MOU with the Environmental Protection Agency regarding potential future enforcement actions and the preference for Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) in lieu of EPA levying fines to non-compliant industries. SEPs are preferred since the funds would be spent locally and the resulting training would benefit the local hazardous materials response community. FDEM staff had an initial conversation with EPA staff regarding this topic to a non-committal response. SERC unanimously approved a recommendation for continued dialogue between the staffs of the FDEM and the EPA towards this goal.
- **Certificate of Appreciation.** Various SERC members suggested the presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation for Lesley Anderson Adams for her numerous years of service as Legal Counsel to the SERC. It is anticipated that such Certificate may be provided in conjunction with the October 2011 SERC meeting that is scheduled in Tallahassee.

COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT.

- **Next Meeting.** It was announced that the next SERC meeting will be held in Tallahassee on October 7, 2011. Members were advised that the January 2012 SERC meeting may be scheduled in the Orlando or Sarasota area.
- **Adjournment.** Following a motion and a second, the SERC meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.