



RECAP OF THE JANUARY 21, 2015 STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION MEETING

The January 21, 2015 SERC meeting was held at the Hilton Daytona Beach Resort/Ocean Walk Village. The Recap summarized below was enhanced by discussions/dialogues which ensued at the January 20, 2015 meetings of SERC's Training Task Force and the LEPC Staff & Chairs. The SERC meeting was chaired by FDEP Director Gwen Kennan. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance and a roll call of SERC members and introduction of audience attendees.

Mr. Paul Wotherspoon (FDEM) recognized and welcomed the new SERC appointees designated by the Governor in December 2014: Tom Byron (FDOT), Robert Kincart (ACT) and Gwen Keenan (FDEP). Mr. Wotherspoon additionally recognized Ms. Kate McMillan and Mr. Robert Dietrich of FDEM staff and indicated their new roles with FDEM. It was identified that Mr. Robert Dietrich will additionally maintain his role within the Risk Management Plan (RMP) program and they are currently seeking one additional staff member to constitute a second team of inspectors. It is envisioned that this would enable 45-50 RMP sites statewide to be evaluated and assessed annually.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Approval of October 3, 2014 SERC meeting Minutes.** Aside from a minor modification requested by SERC member Larry McIntyre, the revised *Minutes* from the October 3, 2014 SERC meeting were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Local Emergency Planning Committees Appointments.** Ms. Isabell Parker requested approval of membership modifications recognized for each LEPC. The membership changes for LEPC District 8 approved during the quarter were the: establishment of *Battalion Chief Chris Gould* as a Primary member representing Southern Manatee Fire Rescue and designation of his Alternate - *Mr. Mike Bloski*; redesignation of Primary/Alternates for Pinellas County Fire & EMS Administration (to *Ms. Sandy Brooking/Mr. Keith Murray*) and the American Red Cross (to *Ms. Pamela Bartley/Mr. Robert Gallen*); splitting representation of Mosaic to Mosaic/Port & Terminal Operations and Mosaic/Plant Operations with corresponding Primary/Alternate designations (i.e. *Ms. Lynne Vadelund/Ms. Sarah Buck* for Port & Terminal Operations and *Mr. Jeffrey Stewart/Mr. Scott Lehr* for Plant Operations); and redesignation of Alternate for Pasco County Emergency Management (to *Mr. David Paloff*). SERC unanimously approved all changes requested by each of the LEPC Districts.
- **Thomas Yatabe-SERC Award Presentations.** The SERC presented 11 Thomas Yatabe Awards, one for each LEPC District as designated by each respective Local Emergency Planning Committee. The Award signifies "*outstanding contribution made in the implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act through achievement(s), accomplishment(s) or superior participation in hazardous material planning or response.*"

The 2014 Thomas Yatabe Award winner for District 8 was Capt. Christopher Atherton of the National Guard's 48th Civil Support Team. Capt. Atherton attended the SERC meeting to receive his Award in person. His Nomination Form read as follows:

CAPT Christopher Atherton was critical to the establishment and implementation of the "Hightide" exercise conducted in Tampa Bay on April 5, 2014. The scenario involved a terrorist's simulated release of Chlorine within a cargo container aboard a large stationary vessel in Tampa Bay, essentially midway between southern Tampa (Hillsborough County) and St. Petersburg (Pinellas County). The exercise required the establishment of a unified, on-shore, command and a joint mobile response of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Tampa Fire Rescue, St. Petersburg Fire Rescue and FBI hazmat teams to respond to, address, remediate and investigate the Chlorine release. The joint hazmat teams entered the cargo container on three occasions. The first entry was to investigate for potential explosive device(s), the second to secure and mitigate the Chlorine being release and the third entry was for evidence collection. A smoke machine was utilized to emulate Chlorine being released. Participatory agencies included: National Guard/48th Civil Support Team, FBI, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Hillsborough County Emergency Management, Tampa Fire Rescue, Tampa Emergency Management, United States Coast Guard, FDEM/Region 4, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, St. Petersburg Fire Rescue and the U.S. Army Reserve.



Pictured from Left to Right: John Meyer (LEPC Staff), Capt. Christopher Atherton (Award Winner), Chief Jeff Patterson (LEPC Chair) & Paul Wotherspoon (FDEM)

LEPC District 8 was able to capitalize on this initiative as their biennial exercise requirement.

Mr. Paul Wotherspoon mentioned that he enjoys presenting such Awards to recognize the hard work and initiatives being undertaken all across the State. In addition, it is also understood that there are countless others that are deserving of such an award annually.

REPORTS

- **Report from SERC's Training Task Force (TTF).** The following highlights of the January 20, 2015 TTF meeting were identified by Subcommittee member Lt. Jonathan Lamm (of Clay County Fire Rescue):
 - FDEM awarded a contract to Emergency Response Educators and Consultants (EREC) to update the Hazmat Competency Guidelines & Checklist (due 2/03) and SERC hazmat guidelines (due 3/31). Since "Operations" and "Awareness" will follow preparation of the updates, as appropriate, a corresponding "box" has been added to the *TTF Project Tracking Chart*. Mr. Lee Newsome of

EREC staff will provide an overview of these updates in association with the April 2015 TTF & SERC meetings.

- Mr. Mathew Marshall identified that the Florida Association of Hazardous Materials Responders (FLAHR) will be convening on January 21st in the afternoon to discuss updating a document specifying who can provide hazmat training and required resources. Mr. Wotherspoon requested that all LEPCs be provided a copy of the document once finalized since the procedures and specifications are integral to the HMEP/Training program and funds being implemented by each of the LEPCs in their own Districts.

Mr. Marshall also identified that he and Mr. Scott Chapel of the Florida Fire College are traveling around the State conducting and voluntary and free assessment of local hazmat team's policies and resources. Recently, assessments of the Pinellas and Clay Counties hazmat teams were conducted. The teams from Hillsborough County and the City of Gainesville have recently requested the conduct of such assessments which will be scheduled.

- The preliminary status of the 2015 Hazmat Symposium was identified. Currently, there are approximately 200 registered with the expectation of that number to increase with Fire Rescue East attendees jointly participating in the Symposium. Mr. Lamm did identify that the Florida Fire Chiefs Association was "exceptionally accommodating" of any/all requests and resolution of issues identified by the Symposium organizers.

Lt. Lamm did identify that the Hazmat Team competition started at 8:00 a.m. on January 21st in front of the Ocean Center conference facility and is expected to last until 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Additionally, training on Thursday, January 22nd will be hosted at the Volusia County Training facility. Free buses will be made available to transport Symposium attendees to this venue between 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. with plans for return transportation. Food trucks will be provided at this site to feed the attendees. Lt. Lamm concluded by thanking Mr. Tim Kitchen and Ms. Amanda Webb (of ECFRPC) for their persistence, diligence and hard work as well as FDEM staff for their dedication and support.

A motion was unanimously approved to proceed to initiate preparation of next year's Symposium in conjunction with the Fire Rescue East Conference in Daytona Beach again, although the location and venue are currently subject to change.

- **Financial Status Report.** Mr. Paul Wotherspoon indicated 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 and present year. Graphics were provided in the Agenda materials to quantify and illustrate:
 - Revenues received by Month for RMP & EPCRA programs since mid-FY 2012-13; and
 - Breakdown of General Appropriations and Expenditures by Category for the Hazardous Materials Planning Program and the Risk Management Program for FYs 2012-13 & 2013-14 (through November 2014).
- **Hazardous Materials Incidents Reports.** Mr. Paul Wotherspoon indicated that detailed listings of Section 304 investigation, as well as fixed facility and transportation-related hazardous materials incidents were prepared and included with the Agenda materials to describe incidents occurring between the period of September 1- November 30, 2014. Such Reports included documentation of these incidents and portrayed the number of persons evacuated, injured or deceased down to LEPC District and ultimately County level.

Although the routine “*Transportation Incidents with Evacuations, Injuries and Deaths*” table was missing from the SERC materials, the following constitute the “Potential Section 304 Investigations” combined with “*Hazardous Materials Incidents with Evacuations, Injuries and Deaths*” (at fixed facilities):

County	Date Released	Type	Chemical	Amount Released (Lbs.)	Business Type	# Evacuated	# Injured	# Fatalities
Hillsborough	9/07/14	304 (Closed)	Sulfuric Acid	12,268	Transportation	N/A	N/A	N/A
	9/08/14	FF	Natural Gas	Unknown	Private Residence	1	0	0
	10/03/14	FF	Natural Gas	Unknown	Apartment Complex	6	0	0
	11/11/14	304 (Closed)	Cleaning Solvents	Unknown	Gas Station	N/A	N/A	N/A
	11/11/14	FF	Cleaning Solvents	Unknown	Gas Station	5	0	0
	11/25/14	304 (Closed)	Sulfur Dioxide	89	Mining	N/A	N/A	N/A
Manatee	11/18/14	304 (Closed)	Glyphosate - Roundup	Unknown	Transportation	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pasco	NO INCIDENTS IDENTIFIED							
Pinellas	9/14/14	FF	Propane	Unknown	Private Business	1	0	0
TOTAL →						13	0	0

KEY: FF = Fixed Facility incident / TR - Transportation-related incident / 304 - Section 304 Investigation Launched (Status)

- **Update on Staff Activities and Reports by Section.** Mr. Wotherspoon indicated that various graphics were provided within the SERC Agenda materials to depict various staff functions and initiatives. These included:
 - annual enumeration of statewide *Hazardous Materials Incident Reports* since 2001;
 - breakdown of statewide *Hazardous Materials Incident Reports* by type (i.e. Fixed Facility with Petroleum, Fixed Facility without Petroleum, Transportation with Petroleum and Transportation without Petroleum) between December 1, 2013 - November 30, 2014;
 - quantification of the number of statewide Hazardous Materials Incident Reports by month since January 2004;
 - quantification of *E-Plan Filings* by District for 2013 by LEPC District (as of November 30, 2014);
 - monthly quantification of Technical Assistance calls received from Dec. 2013 - Nov. 2014; and
 - annual enumeration of Tier 2 Data in E-Plan since 2010 in terms of the # of facilities and # of chemicals.

- **Update on LEPC Activities.** SERC member Jennifer Hobbs (Local Emergency Planning Committees) identified that the topics discussed at the LEPC Staff & Chairs meeting on January 20th were much the same as those summarized as part of earlier SERC discussion items. Within the March 1st reporting deadline approaching, Ms. Hobbs did mention that the LEPCs are working to provide EPCRA How-to-Comply workshops in their respective Districts and that FDEM staff is assisting with providing the E-Plan filing component of the workshops. Ms. Hobbs concluded by encouraging SERC members to review the

Hazmatters reports contained in the Agenda materials to see what is happening within their Districts and throughout the State.

The following serve as the documented tasks identified by LEPC District 8 staff for the period of September - November 2014:

- District 8 LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at the Betty Easley Conference Center in Tallahassee on October 2-3, 2014. The quarterly LEPC District 8 meeting was held on November 19th.
- The LEPC's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee (FDPS) met on October 22nd. The meeting included a variety of discussions topics. The primary topics included: overview of SERC and LEPC initiatives, including an overview of the anticipated FY 2014-15 Planning project (i.e. Commodity Flow Study); summary of SERC meeting; and significant progress towards initiative of compiling numerous resources and links to serve as an All Hazards Guide for Businesses. As currently envisioned, it will likely be a single electronic database containing various resources and links that could/would assist facilities in planning for a variety of hazards (e.g. hazardous materials, storm surge, hurricane, flooding, tornados...) and will likely include a compilation of past planning efforts made by the LEPC, the TBRPC and the County Emergency Management departments (e.g. All Hazards Guide, Facility Business Disaster Survival Kit...). As an end-product, it is envisioned that the consolidated resources could/would be tailored to County level, where applicable.
- LEPC staff recently completed a Hazardous Materials Training Needs Assessment as a quarterly, interim, initiative/project. Survey results were solicited from local fire, law enforcement, water management district, Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and other officials. The Survey results were characterized in the HMEP Quarterly Report submitted to the Florida Division of Emergency Management. While no guarantees of future training were provided to Survey respondents but the Survey results are of intended to provide invaluable insight when strategizing future course offerings through FY 2017-18.
- The LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee also met on November 19th with the ambition of refining the HMEP training schedule for FY 2014-15. Since the 1st Quarter of FY 2014-15 was encumbered (and extended) as a 5th Quarter to the FY 2013-14 HMEP Contract, the sole HMEP training event was the conduct of **three**, shift-friendly, 24-hr. Life Safety and Command courses on dates ranging from August 4-15, 2014, primarily for the Manatee County fire department personnel. A total of 50 first responders attended the training. No Training was proposed or conducted during the slightly overlapping 1st Quarter of FY 2014-15 (i.e. October 1 - December 31, 2014). Anticipated and previously proposed training for FY 2014-15 consist of conduct of: **four** 3-Hr. E-Plan for 1st Responders courses (January 6-7); attendance/lodging of 10 @ Hazmat Symposium (January 21-23); conduct of **one** 40-Hr. Clandestine Lab Certification course for Pasco County & Tampa Bomb Squad (February 2-6); conduct **three** 8-Hr. Hazmat IQ courses (February 24-26); funding of three to attend 160-Hr. Hazmat Technician Certification course and conduct of **three** 8-Hr. Hazmat Spill/Leak Containment course (actual dates TBD but in 3rd Quarter). Course(s) contemplated for the 4th Quarter have yet to be determined but will likely be reflective of the recently-conducted Hazardous Materials Training Needs Assessment Survey discussed above. As is customary, the pre-requisites for all HMEP training is that the course: must be designed for public-sector First Responders; must be pre-approved and deemed "cost effective" by FDEM staff; and, at minimum, must include a transportation component or nexus.
- In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: participated in teleconferences regarding the FY 2014-15 HMEP Program (September 4th & 17th); attended the bi-monthly meeting of the Tampa Bay Spill Committee (September 9th & November 18th); facilitated the nearly monthly meeting of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (September 10th, October 8th & November 12th); facilitated the nearly quarterly meeting of the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Committee (September 11th & November 13th); provided significant backup documentation regarding the 3rd & 4th quarters of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) FY 2013-14 Program (September 19th); attended the nearly monthly Ammonia Handlers/Operators meeting (September 24th & October 21st); attended the State Emergency

Response Committee quarterly meetings in Tallahassee (October 2-3); accompanied FDEM personnel to the Risk Management Plan Audits/Inspections in Hillsborough County - Sunshine State Dairy Farms in Hillsborough County (Oct. 14th), the C.F. Industries Inc./Mosaic Phosphate Complex in Plant City (Oct. 15th) and the Americold Logistics in Plant City (Oct. 16th); attended a half-day Ammonia trailer training workshop conducted by Grammar Industries at the Tampa Fire Rescue Training Facility (October 20th); transmitted a Hazardous Materials Training Needs Assessment Survey to determine future hazmat training needs of public-sector First Responders (October 24th); facilitated a budgetary meeting for the Pinellas Police Standards Council (November 7th); and attended the tri-annual U.S. Coast Guard Area Contingency Plan meeting (November 18th).

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Hazards Analysis Contract Workgroup Report.** Workgroup Spokesman Dwayne Mundy indicated that the Workgroup has had several conference calls. The Hazards Analyses (HAs) Contracts have recently been rendered. Although received late, the HAs still need to be completed by end of June with no request for extension(s). The Geospatial Assessment Tool for Operations and Response (GATOR) program is of great assistance for conducting HAs by availing population demographics within any given radius. Currently working with FDEM staff to determine which critical facilities to include in the analyses. MARPLOT is not powerful for manipulating data. Progress being made with rectifying some of the prior errors within E-Plan. In addition, state defined fields are being contemplated for addition to the E-Plan filing such as “does your facility have their own emergency response team.”
- **HA GIS Update.** Mr. Richard Butgereit deferred his presentation to the fact that Mr. Mundy has covered much of his intended talking points and status update.

COMMENTS & ADJOURNMENT.

- **Next Meeting.** It was announced that the next SERC meeting is expected to be held on April 3, 2015*** in Tallahassee. The following meeting (July 17, 2015) may be held at an alternate location which has yet to be determined. The following meeting (i.e. October 9, 2015) is scheduled to return to Tallahassee.

**** It was subsequently detected that April 3rd is actually the holiday known as “Good Friday” so the meeting date is subject to change upon consensus.*

- **Adjournment.** The SERC meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.