



# LEPC MEETING RECAP

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## TAMPA BAY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) DISTRICT VIII, MEETING FEBRUARY 26, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER** - Jeff Tobergte chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Following a brief introduction of attendees, everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. With 33 members and/or their Alternates present, it was acknowledged that a quorum was present (nine members constitute a quorum). Chair Tobergte welcomed the LEPC members as well as the 13 attending from the public.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** - The Chair stated that legal counsel for the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council suggested permanently relocating this item to the beginning of each meeting so that the public would not need to wait until the end of the meeting to be recognized. The LEPC will oblige with this request. Upon solicitation of public comments by the Chair, none were provided.

**2013 THOMAS YATABE AWARDS RECOGNITION** - The Chair recognized that there had been a request to move this item up on the Agenda for the benefit of the recipients of recognition.

Mr. John Meyer identified that Chief Scott Ehlers, our former Chair, had attended the SERC meetings in Daytona Beach in January to receive his *Thomas Yatabe Award* in person. The Award signified outstanding contribution(s) made in the implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act.

While Mr. Meyer did not read Chief Ehler's Nomination Form aloud at the meeting, the detailed Agenda materials included the following Nomination Form verbiage:

*Having recently announced his retirement from public service and the LEPC, Chief Scott Ehlers is hereby being formally recognized for his dedication and commitment to the Tampa Bay LEPC since October 2005 and his service as Chair of the Tampa Bay LEPC since May 2007. During his tenure with the LEPC, Chief Ehlers rarely missed a LEPC meeting or any the quarterly meetings of the SERC's Training Task Force, LEPC Staff/Chairs and the State Emergency Response Commission that have been conducted across the State. Chief Ehlers is credited with guiding the LEPC membership through a seemingly countless number of exercises, workshops, presentations, and even annual*



Left-to-Right: SERC Chair/FDEM Director Bryan Koon, Award Recipient for LEPC 8 - Chief Scott Ehlers and LEPC Staff Coordinator John Meyer

*updates to the Tampa Bay LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan over the past 8+ years. Albeit his busy schedule as Chief of Operations for Tampa Fire Rescue (TFR), Chief Ehlers always made time for his duties as LEPC Chair.*

*Following receipt of his hazardous materials certification in May 1990, Chief Ehlers has subsequently taught a considerable number of fire and emergency related courses to fire industry and emergency response personnel during his career which spanned more than 29 years with TFR.*

*His perpetual dedication certainly exemplifies "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."*

*Chief Ehlers will not only be missed and remembered as a great and supportive LEPC Chair, a LEPC member, a colleague but, more notably, a friend of the Tampa Bay LEPC.*

Mr. Meyer did recognize that several other entities or individuals received recognition for their contributions during the last year. Such recognition was in the form of *Certificates of Appreciation* from the State Emergency Response Commission.

The Nomination Forms associated with these parties were read and are presented as follows:

**Thea Dunmire**

Ms. Thea Dunmire is hereby recognized for her countless hours of faithful and continuous dedication towards LEPC District 8's Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee. Ms. Dunmire has been actively involved with the Subcommittee since its inception in 2006 and has participated in numerous Subcommittee initiatives and workshops during her tenure. Over the past year, while serving as Subcommittee Chair, Ms.

Dunmire guided the conduct of the very successful "Keeping Your Head Above Water: Storm Surge Preparedness for Businesses with Hazardous Materials" workshop hosted in the Port of Tampa at Cruise Terminal #3. The workshop drew on the expertise of many from the public- and private-sectors alike. Her perennial dedication exemplifies "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."



Ms. Dunmire is persistently seeking ways to promote and invigorate Subcommittee participation while soliciting new membership.

## Tampa Fire Rescue

*Tampa Fire Rescue's prompt and appropriate actions mitigated two potentially-major incidents, (1) an ethanol train derailment, and (2) sulfur tank fires. TFR's action prevented these incidents from causing great damage and hazard to people and the environment, and enabled the Port of Tampa to regain normal operations promptly.*

*(1) In the very early hours of Thursday, July 25, 2013, 14 railcars of a 88-unit CSX train bound for the Port of Tampa to deliver Ethanol derailed along Maritime Boulevard, blocking the Port's main entrance. Eleven of the derailed railcars had overturned and were lying on their side, three of which were leaking. Tampa Fire Rescue (TFR) responded immediately to the incident, promptly setting up lighting and an ICS structure, and applying large amounts of alcohol-resistant firefighting foam to suppress vapors and successfully prevented ignition of the flammable liquid. TFR worked with CSX and their contractor, SWS Environmental Services, to stop the three rail cars from leaking further. The three-day event ended with the up-righting and removal of the rail cars by CSX. TFR had units present at all times.*

*(2) On Thursday August 8, 2013, TFR responded to a fire in a bulk storage tank# 8 containing molten sulfur, at the Gulf Sulphur Services/Savage Sulfur Services facility in the Port of Tampa. Due to holes in the roof, the facility's steam extinguishment system was unable to extinguish the fire. TFR was able to get water into the tank to extinguish the fire, thus minimizing the amount of sulfur dioxide gas released. SO<sub>2</sub> is a corrosive, toxic gas, which could have posed a significant risk to other Port tenants, as well as nearby residential areas. A few days later, the sulfur in the same tank again ignited, and TFR again extinguished the fire, and maintained a presence during the unloading of the tank.*



Receiving the Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of Tampa Fire Rescue were Chiefs Bryan Riley (Left) and Emilio Salabarria (Center).

## SWS Environmental Services

*In the very early hours of Thursday, July 25, 2013, 14 railcars of a 88-unit CSX train bound for the Port of Tampa to deliver Ethanol derailed along Maritime Boulevard, blocking the Port's main entrance. Eleven of the derailed railcars had overturned and were laying on their side, three of which were leaking.*

*SWS personnel assisted Tampa Fire Rescue by clamping the leaking rail car domes, to prevent further leaking of the flammable liquid. SWS used vacuum trucks to remove liquids, which were increased in volume by heavy rains, and also excavated contaminated soils. SWS remained on-scene to respond to any further spills until all rail cars were uprighted and removed.*



Receiving the Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of SWS Environmental Services were Stacie Cooper (Left) and Jim Nardozi (Right).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - The Chair inquired whether there were any suggested additions, subtractions or modification(s) to the *Minutes* of the November 20, 2013 LEPC meeting. Hearing none, the Chair asked for motion to approve the *Minutes*. James Johnston moved and Steve Simpson seconded the motion. The *Minutes* were approved unanimously on voice vote.

**LEPC DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES** - LEPC Staff Coordinator John Meyer advised that there were numerous LEPC member modifications facilitated in conjunction with the January 2014 SERC meetings. Mr. Meyer recognized and welcomed the following new members of LEPC District 8 although a few had previously served on the LEPC in a different capacity:

NAME	AGENCY	Primary	Alternate	NAME	AGENCY	Primary	Alternate
Jeff Patterson	Hillsborough County Fire Rescue	✓		Lloyd Roberts	Southwest Florida Water Management District	✓	
James Markart			✓	David Crane			✓
Emilio Salabarría	Tampa Fire Rescue	✓		Sharon Tarman	Manatee Emergency Mgmt.		✓
Bryan Riley			✓	Rick Caravona	Pasco Emergency Mgmt.		✓
Amanda Shaw	HCFR/Office of Emergency Management	✓		Karen Rider	FL Dept. of Transportation		✓
Marcus Martin			✓	David St. Pierre	Manatee Port Authority		✓
Paul Dolak	Brenntag Mid South	✓		Darlene Powell	Bay Pines VA Healthcare		✓

**RECAP OF QUARTERLY STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (SERC) MEETINGS** - Mr. Meyer identified that a comprehensive summary of the January 21-22, 2014 SERC meetings, held in conjunction with the annual *Fire Rescue East Conference* and the *2014 Hazmat Symposium*, was included in the detailed Agenda materials transmitted to all LEPC members and available on the LEPC website. However, Mr. Meyer identified the following to be the meeting highlights:

- Recognition of the success of the 2014 Hazmat Symposium;
- Presentation of the *Thomas Yatabe Awards*;
- Status update on the Domestic Security Oversight Council’s recommendation to reduce the number of statewide regional hazmat response teams;
- Potential changes to the administration of future Hazards Analysis contracts; and
- FDEM initiatives to promote the filing of Tier II Reports electronically through E-Plan (e.g. postcards & e-mails)

The next SERC meetings are scheduled for April 3-4 in Tallahassee.

**HMEP PROGRAM - PLANNING** - Mr. Meyer stated that Alan Pratt was not able to attend today’s meeting but affirmed that the HMEP/Planning Subcommittee members remain ready, willing and able to conduct Ammonia Siren workshops and Shelter-in-Place presentations at the request of school, community groups or civic associations located in proximity to the Port of Tampa.

**FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE (FDPS)** - Mr. Meyer recognized that the FDPS held the quarterly meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup> and that a Recap of the meeting was also included in the Agenda materials. The highlights of the meeting included the announcement of new Subcommittee Chair (Patricia Krajnyak of HRP Associates), identification of FDEM's implemented strategies for transmitting Tier II reporting reminders to all applicable facilities statewide, as well as discussion of the LEPC's then upcoming How-to-Comply/E-Plan filing and TRANSCAER Workshops. The meeting concluded with discussion of an initiative to compile a single list of various **county-specific** resources and links that could/would assist facilities in planning for a variety of hazards (e.g. hazardous materials, storm surge, hurricane, flooding, tornados...).

**HMEP PROGRAM/TRAINING** - Subcommittee Chair James Johnston identified that the HMEP Training Subcommittee met earlier this morning to discuss final expenditures associated with the FY 2013-14 HMEP Training cycle. The Subcommittee decided to request authorization to fund two Pinellas County Hazmat Team members to attend the 160-hr. Hazmat Technicians course, accounting for the remaining training funds for the year. Mr. Johnston added that it is rewarding to account for all funds four months prior to the end of the contract period (i.e. June 30, 2014) and that the Subcommittee continues to ponder creative ways of maximizing the training opportunities and activities for all, especially in these times of budget reductions and restrictions. Subcommittee Chair Johnston encouraged LEPC members to notify him or LEPC Staff John Meyer of any training needs their departments may have that could qualify for funding under the HMEP/Training contract. As is the case, 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.

The following constitutes the status of the 2013-14 HMEP/Training Contract:

Quarter	Date	Name	Expenses	Cumulative	Remaining
<b>BASE FUNDING UNDER 2013-14 HMEP CONTRACT</b>					<b>\$47,072.00</b>
1	10/7-11/2013 <sup>3</sup>	40-Hr. HazMedic Course, Pinellas County Hazmat	\$11,500.00	\$11,500.00	\$35,572.00
		1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr Admin. Expenses/July - Sept. 2013 <Actual>	\$ 965.00	\$12,465.00	\$34,607.00
2	11/11-15/2013	40-Hr. Marine Firefighting for Land-Based FFs (Ft.L)	\$11,035.00	\$23,500.00	\$23,572.00
	12/17-19/2013	8-Hr. CAMEO, Pinellas County Hazmat	\$ 4,999.00	\$28,499.00	\$18,573.00
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr Admin. Expenses/Oct.-Dec., 2013 <Actual>	\$ 1,308.00	\$29,807.00	\$17,265.00
3	1/23-24/2013	Hazmat Symposium (Lodging for 2), Daytona Beach	\$ 262.96	\$30,069.96	\$17,002.04
	2/18-19/2014	TRANSCAER, City of Tampa (Regionwide Attended)	\$ 544.52	\$30,614.48	\$16,457.52
		3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr Admin. Expenses/Jan. - Mar. 2014 <Estimate <sup>1</sup> >	\$ 1,000.00	\$31,614.48	\$15,457.52
4	3/03-4/11/2014	<i>160-Hr. Hazmat Tech course (for 2), Pinellas Hazmat</i>	\$2,400.42	\$34,014.69	\$13,057.31
	4/07-09/2014	<i>24-Hr. Air Monitoring for Hazmat Technicians (HI/TPA/PA/PI)</i>	\$12,237.00	\$46,251.69	\$ 820.31
		4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr Admin. Expenses/April-June. 2014 <Estimate <sup>1</sup> >	\$ 1,000.00	\$47,251.69	<del>[-\$ 179.69]</del>

**FOOTNOTES:**

- Administrative expenses include indirects, internal service charges, auditing, building occupancy, travel time and small miscellaneous expenses. Please note that the "estimate," signified in **red**, was established at the time of Agenda materials preparation and is presented for informational purposes only. The cost estimate is then revised at the end of each quarter to reflect actual administrative costs once tabulated, as would be appropriate.
- Italicization of course name(s) in **blue**, if applicable, signifies that the course has been committed and approved but not yet conducted.
- The 40-Hr. Hazmedic course was actually conducted one week into the second quarter but the course was prepaid during the first quarter, as authorized, to count towards 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter training funds.

It is presumed that the Subcommittee will next convene one hour prior to the scheduled May 28, 2014 LEPC meeting (i.e. @ 9:30 a.m.) to strategize the training opportunities and desires associated with the anticipated FY 2014-15 HMEP Training contract.

**REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASK FORCE (RDSTF)** - Ms. Betti Johnson summarized the activities and initiatives currently being undertaken or are anticipated for the Regional Domestic Security Task Force/Region 4, including the scheduled conduct of an Interoperable Communications exercise on April 29, 2014. A detailed listing of all program activities and timeframes was included in the LEPC Agenda materials.

Mr. James Johnston added that *“Multi-Year Training & Exercise Plan (MYTEP) is not just for first responders, MYTEP tries to train as a ‘community’ rather than a ‘discipline’ in order to better relationships.”*

**WEST FERTILIZER EXPLOSION AND FIRE PRESENTATION** - Mr. Meyer mentioned that the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) has completed their investigation into the April 17, 2013 explosion occurring at the West fertilizer storage and distribution facility in Texas. The event took the lives of 12 volunteer firefighters and two members of the public, while causing hundreds of injuries. While initial videos of the incident were shown at the May 2013 LEPC meeting, that was long before significant research and investigation was conducted by the CSB to determine the probable cause. Two short videos will be shown to illustrate the extensive damage which occurred to the neighboring facilities and to summarize the findings and recommendations of the CSB. The following constitutes more detail regarding the videos and identification of their associated links:

Video Clip/PPT Presentation	Name/Link/Length	Description
	<p><i>“CSB Video Documenting the Blast Damage in West, Texas”</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_NhcbapisE">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_NhcbapisE</a></p> <p>Video Length: ~ 3 Minutes</p>	<p>The U.S. Chemical Safety Board prepared a documentary of the significant damage resulting from the April 17, 2013 explosion at West Fertilizer. Some of the facilities which sustained the most damage were located more than one-half mile away and included public schools, apartment complex, nursing home, playground/tennis courts and numerous single-family residences.</p>

Video Clip/PPT Presentation	Name/Link/Length	Description
	<p data-bbox="613 289 954 436"><i>“CSB Chairperson Rafael Moure-Eraso Calls for Regulatory Coverage of Reactive Chemicals”</i></p> <p data-bbox="613 478 954 552"><a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdsfPkYpRHA">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdsfPkYpRHA</a></p> <p data-bbox="613 590 954 621">Video Length: ~ 5.5 Minutes</p>	<p data-bbox="992 275 1463 642">This video concluded with the Chairman of the Chemical Safety Board’s renewed recommendation for OSHA &amp; EPA to expand their standards to include and regulate reactive chemicals and hazards, such as Ammonium Nitrate. In this instance, Ammonium Nitrate storage and safety requirements need to be evaluated and regulations considered.</p>

**TRAINING/WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES** - Chair Tobergte recognized that several training opportunities were identified within the Agenda materials. Information concerning the following events was provided.

- FDEM’s Training and Events Schedule/**Region 4**, Various FL Locations/Times (Feb. - May 2014)
- FDEM’s Training and Events Schedule/**Region 6**, Various FL Locations/Times (Feb. - May 2014)
- TRANSCAER Workshops, Tampa, February 18 & 19, 2014
- Air Monitoring for Hazardous Materials Technicians, Tampa/Hills./Pasco/Pinellas, April 7-9, 2014

Mr. Meyer added that the TRANSCAER (Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response) training conducted at the TRANSFLO facility in Tampa on February 18-19, 2013 was a tremendous success. The two-day event drew more than 160 attendees that were able to capitalize on five hours of classroom-style and hands-on training regarding Chlorine, Anhydrous Ammonia or Ethanol. In fact, several of the attendees returned on the second day to receive training on another one of the chemicals. The Tampa event was the third of four stops scheduled for the State of Florida in 2014. The event had earlier been conducted in Jacksonville and Ft. Lauderdale and will conclude in Pensacola during the first week in March.

No additional training opportunities or events were identified by the LEPC membership or the public.

**LEPC BUSINESS**

**LEPC HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PLAN UPDATE.** Mr. Meyer identified that LEPC staff is about to embark on updating the LEPC Hazmat Plan for 2014 and will likely enlist the assistance of County and City personnel to confirm their hazardous materials data, resources and equipment. Updated population figures will also be obtained from the Bureau of Economic & Business Research. It is envisioned that LEPC staff will seek a motion to authorize the LEPC Chair to transmit the Plan update to FDEM in conjunction with the next LEPC meeting. The update is required to be submitted to the Florida Division of Emergency Management by June 30, 2014.

## SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Mr. Meyer reminded those in attendance that the Supplemental Environmental Projects program has been discussed at the last several LEPC meetings and is designed to allow a facility found to be in violation of the EPCRA an alternative to the full payment of EPA fines.

The University of South Florida experienced a Sodium Hypochlorite release in May 2013 whereby timely notification was allegedly not provided in accordance with the law. Having been conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regarding the potential imposing of a penalty and not having any concept of a potential fine amount, the University of South Florida subsequently partnered with the Tampa Bay LEPC and Tampa Fire Rescue to propose the establishment of a Supplemental Environmental Projects electronic database and website, similar to that established for the State of Illinois (below). If pursued and acceptable to the USEPA, this initiative would have significantly reduced the potential monetary penalty. It had been mutually agreed that this proposal would be “perfect fit” for the University when considering the expertise of staff and students in the fields of computer programming and website design.

 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency <span style="float: right;">www.epa.state.il.us</span>																																										
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However, at the subsequent “Show Cause” hearing administered by the USEPA, held in Atlanta, GA on November 7, 2013, it was determined that the release did not leave the site and that U.S.F. implemented several key mitigative measure both in response to and following the incident, significantly reducing the assessed fine value to ~\$1,100. Following the significant reduction in potential fine, it was mutually agreed that the establishment of an SEP electronic database/website proposal would be an appropriate alternative to the minimal fine which was ultimately being assessed. As their discretion and acceptable to the USEPA, the USF alternatively agreed to purchase air monitoring equipment for the local Tampa fire station under the Supplemental Environmental Projects program in exchange for a 75% reduction of the \$1,100 fine.

Having coordinated numerous relationships and details with USF staff and their legal counsel regarding this former proposal, this initiative could alternatively be funded by any facility in the State that would otherwise be subject to a large monetary fine if, in fact, this initiative is not accomplished by FDEM staff in the interim.

FDEM & LEPC staffs are continuously looking for potential Supplemental Environmental Projects which can be “shelf-ready” and are quickly implementable at the statewide or local levels. If you have any suggestions, please share them with John Meyer, LEPC District 8 staff.

## **ELECTION FOR LEPC CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Ms. Hallie Calig, LEPC Membership Committee Chair, reminded attendees that the November 20, 2013 LEPC meeting was the final meeting for Chief Scott Ehlers as member and Chair of the LEPC due to his pending retirement from Tampa Fire Rescue. While Vice-Chair Jeff Tobergte agreed to complete his term as Interim Chair for the LEPC, he did indicate reservation about his ability to attend the quarterly SERC meetings as well as the corresponding Training Task Force and LEPC Staff/Chairs meetings, an essential duty for each LEPC Chair statewide. For this reason, it had been determined that election of a new Chair and Vice-Chair would be most advantageous in association with the February 2014 LEPC meeting. Chief Jeff Patterson, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, expressed a desire to succeed Chief Ehlers as Chair for the LEPC. Mr. Jeff Tobergte expressed his willingness to extend his current Vice Chairman responsibility until the next regular election, when he will resume his regular membership status. The length of these terms would coincide with the current biennial reappointment schedule for all LEPC members (expiring in August of 2014).

At the November 20, 2013 LEPC meeting, members interested in nomination for either of these positions were instructed to submit their interest in writing to Mr. John Meyer and/or Ms. Hallie Calig on or before Friday, February 7, 2014 so that a formal election process could be conducted at the February 26, 2014 LEPC meeting. No such nominations were received.

Since it was additionally stated that no nominations would be taken from the floor on the day of the meeting, a motion to elect Chief Jeff Patterson and Jeff Tobergte to the positions of LEPC Chair and LEPC Vice-Chair respectively, by acclamation, is requested. Following a motion by Steve Simpson and a second by James Johnston, these individual were elected unanimously to their respective positions upon voice vote.

Chair Tobergte affirmed that he will be stepping down in the August timeframe as Vice-Chair of the LEPC due to his belief in terms limits of officers and the introduction of new faces and ideas to the position from time-to-time. Chair Tobergte encouraged members to consider serving as officers on the LEPC.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- LEPC member Jeff Stewart (Mosaic) announced that Mosaic acquired the Kinder-Morgan Ammonia Terminal on December 30, 2013 and the facility will be referred to as “Tampa Port Services - Port Sutton.” Mr. Ron Kobosky is now the Terminal Manager.

Mr. Stewart also announced that Mosaic is about to formally acquire C.F. Industries Phosphate and Port Operations with closing expected in March 2014. Name changes regarding this acquisition are to come but not formally announced at this point. The facility continues to welcome working with first responders and the management style will be to apply best management practices from all of their facilities. The C.F. Industries' Warehouse will be referred to “Tampa Marine Terminal” and the Ammonia Terminal will be known as “Tampa Port Services - Hookers Point.”

**TAMPA BAY LEPC LOGO SHIRTS** - Chair Tobergte reminded members that LEPC Logo Shirts will always be made available in a variety of sizes, styles and colors. If interested, please contact Mr. John Meyer.

**NEXT MEETING** - Chair Ehlers advised that the next LEPC meeting date is Wednesday, May 28, 2014 (same time and location).

**ADJOURNMENT** - Without objection, the LEPC meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.