



**TAMPA BAY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
DISTRICT VIII, MEETING
August 26, 2009**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Mr. John Meyer, LEPC Staff Coordinator, recognized two slight, non-substantive, modifications to the May 27, 2009 LEPC Meeting Minutes. With no further additions or changes identified by the LEPC members, the Chair asked for approval of the modified Minutes. Mr. Doug Wenger moved and Mr. Jonathan Kemp seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously on voice vote.

LEPC DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES - The Chair recognized that sole change to the membership during the quarter was the re-appointment of Colonel Bill Lofgren under the Interested Citizen category.

Mr. Meyer further stated that the sole membership changes being requested in association with the next SERC meeting will be the change in appointed members from Tampa General Hospital/Florida Poison Information Center.

RECAP OF QUARTERLY SERC MEETINGS - Mr. Meyer stated a recap of the discussion and/or action items associated with the July 9-10, 2009 SERC Quarterly meetings were provided to the LEPC membership as part of their Agenda packet and posted to the LEPC webpage.

Mr. Meyer elaborated on several of the items, including: an update on the litigation/settlement between GA Foods facility (in Pinellas County) and EPA/FDEM regarding a 2006 Anhydrous Ammonia incident; SERC's concurrence to allow the Elected State/Local Officials, Print/Broadcast Media, and Facility Owners/Operators LEPC Membership categories to be consolidated and allowance of each LEPC to refine their membership based on the needs and characteristics of their districts under a category to be entitled "Local Option"; and acknowledged that this years "Hazardous Materials Awareness Week" initiative will be coordination/communication with the Department of Education and the respective School Boards in effort to bolster science curriculums (i.e. Chemistry) in the high schools in the hopes of promoting additional interest in the hazardous materials industry and the field of emergency response. Mr. Meyer concluded his remarks by recognizing that such a program is being initiated this year at Pinellas Park High School under the "Emergency Responders" program.

The Chair acknowledged that the State Emergency Response Commission was formerly Chaired by the departed State Division of Emergency Management Director Craig Fugate. While the replacement has yet to be named (or determined), the past two meetings were chaired by members of SERC's Subcommittee on Training.

HMEP PLANNING PROGRAM - Subcommittee Chair Alan Pratt acknowledged recent receipt of the Shelter-in-Place Video with Spanish subtitles compliments of Ms. Lilly Gonzalez of Univision in Tampa. Part of the delay involved in the receipt of this video was attributed to the departure of a Univision employee the Subcommittee has been coordinating with. This video will be especially useful considering the large hispanic population residing/working adjacent to the Port and Ammonia terminals. Mr. Pratt reminded the members that the Subcommittee provides presentations at the request of various to civic associations, schools and community groups (or others) in close proximity of these facilities a couple of times per year, most recently to the DeSoto Elementary School and the East Ybor Civic Association.

FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING PROJECT - Mr. John Meyer indicated that the Subcommittee last met on July 16 and will next meet on September 17. The Subcommittee is currently in the process of populating the Florida Business Disaster Survival Kit and the LEPC Webpage with information pertaining to Hazardous Materials which would benefit companies trying to prepare Plans to address this vital component of emergency planning. Recently added links include EPA's List of Lists, CSX's Training Materials for Emergency Responders, and OSHA's Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Activities. Based on the limited amount of funding available, the Subcommittee is currently limited to the addition of links rather than making these websites more interactive. Solicitation of grant funds is being contemplated which could offset the cost of programming the websites, gathering additional hazardous material resources, and conduct future training events.

Mr. Chet Klinger updated the membership on his ongoing efforts to informally survey companies previously receiving training from the Subcommittee in order to determine what information was most beneficial and "lesson learned." Mr. Klinger mentioned that he is past the midway point of contacting the 30 pre-determined companies. He explained that the input received would/could certainly guide future planning and training efforts.

Chair Ehlers thanked Mr. Klinger's for his efforts and the work of the Subcommittee.

HMEP PROGRAM - TRAINING - Mr. Bob Tollise, Subcommittee Chair, highlighted the HMEP Training courses conducted during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009. The training included the recently-conducted Hazmat IQ® and Confined Space Rescue Operations courses as well as the Clandestine Drug Lab course scheduled for late September. Mr. Tollise encouraged LEPC Members to identify their training needs early in the fiscal year to ensure that the desired courses could be provided. In fact, Mr. Tollise indicated his willingness to arrive an hour before the next scheduled LEPC meeting (i.e. November 18, 2009) to discuss future training opportunities and requests.

The LEPC Member Agendas included an updated listing of FY 2008-09 HMEP Training expenditures and a breakdown of participants attending the two training events conducted last quarter (i.e. Chlorine Safety Training and Air Monitoring Detection & In-Service Training courses).

REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASK FORCE (RDSTF) - Ms. Erika Wiker advised the Committee on recent and current Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) activities and initiatives. The Region 4 RDSTF serves Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties as well as the counties of Hardee, Polk, Hernando, Citrus and Sumter Counties.

The RDSTF training website is routinely updated to be more user friendly and current. The website link is <http://www.tbrpc.org/rdstf/rdstf.shtml>. Please advise Ms. Erika Wiker (erika@tbrpc.org) of any comment(s) or suggestion(s) concerning the website or any training event(s) proposed for inclusion.

Ms. Wiker also mentioned that she will be assisting in the conduct of the LEPC exercise that will be conducted next year. The scenario and type of exercise have yet to be determined.

Mr. Warren Weedon (U.S. Coast Guard/St. Petersburg) briefed the LEPC on the success of the March 31, 2009 Chlorine Workshop conducted in association with the LEPC. Mr. Weedon provided an explanation of the Workshop findings and the intent to coordinate with the Tampa Bay LEPC and surrounding LEPCs to determine a coordinated way-ahead to support progress towards mitigation of identified vulnerabilities.

Lt. Miguel Torrez awarded Ms. Wiker with a "Certificate of Merit" as a token of appreciation for all of her assistance and guidance she has recently provided to the U.S. Coast Guard.

TRAINING/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES - Chair Ehlers recognized that numerous training opportunities were identified within the LEPC Member Agendas and solicited information concerning additional opportunities from the Committee. While no additional training opportunities were identified by LEPC members, the list of opportunities identified in the Agenda were:

- 24/40 Hour OSHA Hazwoper Classes - Various FL Locations, Various Times (February - October 2009)
- Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombing Resident Course - Playas, NM, No date(s) specified
- Emergency Planning for Special Needs Communities - West Virginia University, No date(s) specified
- Industrial Rescue Team Training - Forsyth, GA (Georgia Fire Academy), September 28 - October 2, 2009
- 32 Hour Ammonia Technician/Incident Commander Training - Castroville, CA, September 14-17, 2009
- USDHS Operational Value of Threat, Risk & Vulnerability Assessment - Tampa, FL, October 27-29, 2009
- METRA's Environmental Excellence Day - Orlando, FL (Sea World Adventure Park's Ports of Call), September 30, 2009

TAMPA BAY LEPC LOGO SHIRTS - The Chair indicated that LEPC Logo Shirts are still available. If interested, please contact Mr. John Meyer.

OTHER LEPC BUSINESS - Mr. Ed Murphy, Hillsborough County Emergency Management, briefed the Committee on a recent e-mail he received from Ms. Shanti Smith of the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). The correspondence described the concentrated effort of FDEM to require the filing of all future Tier II forms electronically.

Ms. Hallie Calig encouraged all LEPC members to get involved in at least one Subcommittees and to begin thinking of roles additional Subcommittees may play.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - the Chair asked if there were any Public Comments. No response(s) was received.

NEXT MEETING will be held Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council offices, 4000 Gateway Centre, Suite 100, Pinellas Park, FL 33782. The mailout for this meeting will be done on or before November 9, 2009 and posted on the LEPC webpage.

ADJOURNMENT - Without objection and upon motion of Steve LeCroy and second by Jonathan Kemp, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.