



**TAMPA BAY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
DISTRICT VIII, MEETING
February 24, 2010**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - With no additions or changes identified by the LEPC members, the Chair asked for approval of the November 18, 2009 meeting *Minutes*. Mr. Ed Murphy moved and Mr. Terry Frady seconded a motion to approve the *Minutes*. The *Minutes* were approved unanimously on voice vote.

THOMAS YATABE AWARDS/CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION RECOGNITION - Mr. John Meyer, LEPC Coordinator, indicated that the Thomas Yatabe Awards were presented at the January 8, 2010 meeting of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). Each year, one representative from each District is elected to receive the Thomas Yatabe Award, signifying outstanding contribution(s) made in the implementation and support of the *Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act*. This year's District 8 recipient was Mr. Doug Meyer of Pinellas County Emergency Management. Contributions of other nominees were recognized through the issuance of Certificates of Appreciation by the SERC. Certificates of Appreciation were presented for:

- Chief Michael Gonzalez, Special Operations Chief, Tampa Fire Rescue
- Mr. John Hess, Planning & Preparedness Manager, U.S. Department of Transportation/Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
- Chief Byron Teates, Fire Chief, East Manatee Fire Rescue District

LEPC DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES - Mr. Meyer indicated that the membership changes consisted of changes to the "Alternate" members for Pasco County Emergency Management (to Mr. Paul Latham), Pinellas County Emergency Management (to Mr. Doug Meyer) and Pinellas County Fire & EMS Administration (to Ms. Sandra Brooking).

RECAP OF QUARTERLY SERC MEETINGS - Mr. Meyer stated a recap of the discussion and/or action items associated with the January 7-8, 2010 SERC Quarterly meetings were provided as part of the Agenda materials and posted to the LEPC website.

Chairman Scott Ehlers indicated that Mr. Doug Wolfe has resigned as Chair of the SERC's Subcommittee on Training (SOT). The SOT is now looking to fill the slots for Chair and Vice Chair of this Subcommittee.

HMEP PROGRAM - PLANNING. Subcommittee Chair Alan Pratt indicated that there are no updates and reminded the LEPC of the recent receipt of the "Shelter-in-Place" video with Spanish subtitles prepared by Univision. Mr. Pratt indicated that the Subcommittee may be in contact the Harbor Island Homeowners Association to determine if there is a renewed interest to present the "Shelter-in-Place" video at a future Association meeting considering the proximity of the community to various chemical facilities located within the Port of Tampa.

FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING PROJECT - Mr. Meyer informed the LEPC the Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee last met on January 21, 2010. A copy of the draft Minutes was included in the LEPC Agenda materials and available on the LEPC website. At the meeting, it was decided that the Subcommittee will now meet on a Quarterly basis (third Thursday of January, April, July & October) and that the Subcommittee hopes to submit postcards to the Section 302 facilities within the Region prodding them to complete a short on-line Survey to determine training needs and/or requests. Once the Surveys are completed, it is envisioned that the results could dictate future training to be coordinated and/or provided by the Subcommittee. Potential receipt of grant funds could assist with this endeavor.

HMEP PROGRAM - TRAINING - Subcommittee Chair Bob Tollise indicated that HMEP funds were utilized for the conduct of a "Foam/Ethanol Training" course for Hillsborough County on December 14-16, 2009. In addition, a "Chemical Compatibility and Storage" course is planned for Manatee County on May 3-5, 2010. Vacancies for this course currently exist. The Training Subcommittee will meet 9:30 in the morning of the next scheduled LEPC meeting (i.e. May 26, 2010) to discuss the remainder of the LEPC/HMEP funding and future training opportunities.

Chair Ehlers commended CSX Railroad for availing an on-line course designed for First Responders to railroad incidents. The interactive course takes about an hour to complete. CSX staff Denise Lynch thanked Chair Ehlers for his remarks and added that the E-Course was designed for the convenience of the First Responders and that an advanced on-line course is currently being prepared. Ms. Lynch additionally indicated that any/all comments received regarding the course could/would result in course refinements, as may be appropriate.

REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASK FORCE (RDSTF) - RDSTF Coordinator Erika Wiker indicated that the Agenda included an update of RDSTF activities. Ms. Wiker highlighted the fact that the LEPC, RDSTF, USCG & City of Tampa are currently initiating the planning involved with a full-scale exercise which would meet the objectives of each of these agencies. Once the exercise is complete and an After Action Report is prepared, this would satisfy the LEPC's requirement for the conduct of a biennial exercise. The Region 4 RDSTF serves Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties as well as the counties of Hardee, Polk, Hernando, Citrus and Sumter Counties.

CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD (CSB) VIDEO/"EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: FINDINGS FROM CSB ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS - LEPC staff presented the above-referenced video highlighting the lessons learned by the Chemical Safety Board over the past 10 years. The video emphasized the need for effective communications between Companies, emergency responders and the community, as well as the importance of proper training, planning, exercises and implementation of appropriate procedures in reducing potential loss of life.

TRAINING/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES - Chair Ehlers recognized that numerous training opportunities were identified within backup Agenda materials. These opportunities were:

- SERC's State Training and Events Schedule - Various FL Locations/Variou Times (Feb. - April 2010)
- Emergency Management Institute (EMI) Training Opportunities - Emmitsburg, MD, Various Dates
- USDOT/Emergency Response Guidebook, Placards, Labels, Markings, Packages & Containers Course - Bradenton, FL, June 6-8, 2010
- Chemical Sector Explosive Threat Awareness Training, Tampa International Airport, February 19, 2010

Ms. Wiker added that additional RDSTF training opportunities are identified through E-Sponder.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS WEEK (HMAW) - Mr. Meyer indicated that Proclamations declaring February 14-20, 2010 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week were previously received from the Governor, the State Emergency Response Commission and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. Copies of these Proclamations were included in the LEPC Agenda materials. Mr. Meyer stated that this year's HMAW initiative was to promote science/chemistry in the public high schools. This District is blessed with the fact that the Pinellas Park High School just established a "First Responders" program designed to spur interest in the field of Emergency Response and the chemical industry. In fact, Vice Chair Jeff Tobergte is alumni from this high school, long before this Program was availed. Mr. Tobergte recently spoke to the Program participants at the request of the Program Director, Ms. Jill Dileanis.

FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (FDEM)/REGION 4 QUARTERLY MEETING - Mr. Meyer indicated that FDEM Region 4 Coordinator Mr. Paul Siddall held the Fourth Quarter 2009 FDEM meeting on December 7, 2009 at the Pasco County EOC. *Minutes* from the meeting were included in the current LEPC Agenda materials. Mr. Siddall subsequently held the First Quarter 2010 FDEM meeting at the Hillsborough County EOC on February 19, 2010. Minutes from this meeting were not prepared in time for inclusion in this LEPC Agenda but will alternatively be included in the May 26, 2010 LEPC Agenda materials.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT/OTHER LEPC BUSINESS - Vice Chair Tobergte identified recent receipt of a correspondence indicating Florida Department of Transportation's intentions to increase the registration fee for hazardous material(s) transporters from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for the larger facilities. The additional funds would be applied towards HMEP Training statewide. Mr. Tobergte identified that the comment period ends on March 4th. Significant discussion ensued about the possibility of the LEPC providing a letter in support of the increase. Many LEPC members voiced their displeasure of considering passing additional costs to the private sector in these economic times and these costs could ultimately result in further job losses. A motion was made by Mr. Doug Wenger

and seconded by Mr. Greg Lindgren to “remain silent” (thereby not taking a position) on this matter. The Motion was approved through a majority vote.

NEXT MEETING will be held Wednesday, May 26, 2010 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 May 17, 2010 and posted to the LEPC website.

ADJOURNMENT - Without objection and upon a motion of Mr. Jonathan Kemp and second by Mr. Larry Clark, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:38 a.m.