



# LEPC MEETING RECAP

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## TAMPA BAY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) DISTRICT VIII, MEETING November 17, 2010

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - With no additions or changes identified by the LEPC members, the Chair asked for approval of the August 25, 2010 meeting *Minutes*. Mr. Doug Wenger moved and Mr. Steve Simpson seconded a motion to approve the *Minutes*. The *Minutes* were approved unanimously on voice vote.

**LEPC DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES** - Mr. Meyer highlighted numerous changes to the LEPC District 8 membership approved this past quarter. These changes included the addition of Paul Keller and his Alternate - Doug Meyer (Pinellas County Emergency Management); and Jon Tillis as the Alternate to CPL Lance Connors (Hillsborough County Sheriffs Office).

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

Chair Scott Ehlers acknowledged that Ms. Shanti Smith has left the employment of the Florida Division of Emergency Management to accept a position with Collier County Emergency Management. Paul Wotherspoon will be serving in her former capacity as the State's E-Plan Administrator and Tim Date and Lou Ritter will fill in for the Training Task Force Conference calls, at least on an interim basis.

**HMEP PROGRAM - PLANNING** - In the absence of Subcommittee Chair Alan Pratt, Ms. Lynne Vadelund recognized that there are no updates and no recent requests for Ammonia Siren briefings.

**FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING PROJECT** - Mr. Meyer identified that the Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee met on October 27, 2010. *Minutes* from this meeting was included in the members' detailed Agenda packet and available from the LEPC website. The highlights of the latest meeting included discussion of mailing postcards to Section 302 facilities in the Region requesting their participation in a brief on-line survey to determine facility training needs in which the results could be used to refine the mission of the Subcommittee. While only a few participated in the survey, the results were published as part of the Agenda and are available on the LEPC website. The Subcommittee decided to promote the completion of the survey by a larger audience, the Section 312 facilities. Subcommittee members are currently scouring the LEPC hard copy records of prior filings to determine current facility contacts in which to engage in the Survey.

**HMEP PROGRAM - TRAINING** - Mr. Meyer stated that HMEP Training Subcommittee met an hour prior to the LEPC meeting. LEPC Chair Ehlers accepted the nomination of J.J. Johnston as the new Subcommittee Chair. Mr. Meyer further indicated that the LEPC will again receive a HMEP Contract (nearly \$42,000) to provide training to First Responders within the Region for the period of October 1, 2010 - September 30, 2011. A detailed breakdown of current HMEP Training expenses was provided in the member's Agenda packets, including attendance at the *E-Plan Users Conference* (October 21-22, 2010) and the scheduled *Decon Zones & Scene Management* course (January 6, 2011). The former allotment of dollars has all been spent. Discussion ensued about the possibility of merging the training funds with that of other funding sources with the intention of maximizing the training opportunities, the merits and possibility of which is currently being evaluated through discussion with such entities as the Florida Department of Emergency Management and the Regional Domestic Security Task Force.

Mr. Meyer identified that the HMEP training Program has been very successful over the past two years (and before), providing training to hundreds of local Fire Responders annually and providing 4,710 and 5,909 training hours during FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10 respectively.

**REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASK FORCE (RDSTF)** - Ms. Amanda Shaw introduced herself as the new RDSTF staff of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. Ms. Shaw identified that recent RDSTF activities associated with her Region were included in the LEPC Agenda and available on the LEPC website. The Region 4 RDSTF serves Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas Counties as well as the counties of Hardee, Polk, Hernando, Citrus and Sumter.

**DEEPWATER HORIZONS OIL SPILL IN REVIEW** - LEPC members Alain Watson (Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County) and Ed Murphy (Hillsborough County Emergency Management) narrated a brief Powerpoint presentation documenting their trip to the Panhandle of Florida (i.e. Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties) in August 2010. The primary purpose of the trip was to learn about the oil spill response actions which were (and are being) taken by the Counties, the State and other public/private agencies and organizations.

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

- SERC's State Training and Events Schedule - Various FL Locations/Variou s Times (Nov. '10 - Jan. '11)
- National Fire Academy Resident Classes - Emmitsburg, MD (April 1 - September 30, 2011)
- Decon Zones and Scene Management - New Port Richey, FL (January 6, 2011)

The January 24-28, 2011 Florida Emergency Preparedness Association Conference at Lake Buena Vista and an upcoming 80-hour IFF training course in Tampa were additionally announced by LEPC members.

**TAMPA BAY LEPC HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN UPDATE** - Mr. Meyer confirmed that the annual update of the *Tampa Bay Hazardous Materials Emergency*

*Plan* was approved by the FDEM via October 1, 2010 correspondence and by the SERC as part of their October 8, 2010 meeting and will be posted to the LEPC website.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS WEEK** - Mr. Meyer identified that the SERC will encourage Governor-Elect Rick Scott to proclaim February 13-19, 2011 as “Hazardous Materials Awareness Week” within the State of Florida. Each year a theme is invoked by the Local Emergency Planning Committees to be implemented in conjunction with (or prior to) this time period. The theme will be “Shelter in Place,” a topic very familiar to our Region considering the annual outreach efforts already being implemented by the ammonia industries surrounding the Port of Tampa as well as LEPC staff.

**FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (FDEM)/REGION 4 QUARTERLY MEETING** - Mr. Meyer indicated that a recap of the FDEM Region 4 meeting held at the Polk County Emergency Operations Center on September 3, 2010 was included in the LEPC Agenda materials and available from the LEPC website.

**REGULATION 33CFR-155** - Chair Ehlers acknowledged that he volunteered to research provisions of Regulation 33CFR-155 as part of the SERC’s Training Task Force. Chair Ehlers mentioned that the pending Regulation would pertain to a requirement for petroleum bearing vessels entering Florida’s Ports to have marine firefighting qualifications and equipment and, in particular, can private sector entities capitalize on (or enter into Contract with) a public entity’s resources and responsibilities that may already exist.

**TAMPA HAZMAT INCIDENT** - Chair Ehlers mentioned that Tampa Fire Rescue responded to a hazmat incident on November 13, 2010 at a public storage unit in the City. The incident resulted from the processing of Vegetable Oil into Biodiesel. The owner alleged that they are/were in compliance with all rules and regulations for such processing. Various regulatory entities are currently evaluating their assertions and specifically, whether the facility is in compliance with EPCRA requirements which would be applicable for facilities possessing in excess of 10,000 pounds of materials.

**IN MEMORIUM - EUGENE L. OLSON** - Chair Ehlers recognized that LEPC District 8 recently lost a kind and dear friend of our community - Major Eugene Olson. Chair Ehlers mentioned that Major Olson had been a tremendous asset to this LEPC both before and after his appointment more than four short years ago. Col. Bill Lofgren recognized Major Olson’s passion to mentor the under-privileged.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT** - Ms. Erinn Skida introduced herself as the new Learning & Development Facilitator at the University of South Florida Center for Biological Defense (USFCBD). Ms. Skiba

mentioned that USFCBD provides free training in a variety of subjects. If interested, Ms. Skida welcomed the opportunity to be contacted at [eskida@health.usf.edu](mailto:eskida@health.usf.edu).

Captain Chris Atherton also introduced himself. Capt. Atherton is with the 48<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team (CST) of the Florida National Guard based out of the St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport. Florida now has two CSTs, the second is the 44<sup>th</sup> CST based in Starke, FL. Mr. Atherton offered to make a presentation regarding response to chem-bio incidents at a future LEPC meeting.

**NEXT MEETING** - Chair Ehlers announced that the next LEPC meeting will be held February 23, 2011 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 February 14, 2011 and posted to the LEPC website.

**ADJOURNMENT** - Without objection and upon a motion of William Douglass and second by Mr. Doug Wenger, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.