



LEPC MEETING RECAP

TAMPA BAY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) DISTRICT VIII, MEETING February 23, 2011

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - With no additions or changes identified by the LEPC members, the Chair asked for approval of the November 17, 2010 meeting *Minutes*. Mr. Ron Kobosky moved and Mr. Doug Wenger seconded a motion to approve the *Minutes*. The *Minutes* were approved unanimously on voice vote.

LEPC DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES - Mr. Meyer highlighted the changes to the LEPC District 8 membership roster approved by SERC this past quarter. Ms. Amanda Shaw (RDSTF/Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council) and Lt. Michael Viles were welcomed as new members.

RECAP OF QUARTERLY SERC MEETINGS - Mr. Meyer stated that a recap of the discussion and/or action items associated with the January 6-7, 2011 SERC Quarterly meetings were provided as part of the Agenda materials and available on the LEPC website.

Mr. Meyer elaborated on several components of the Recap, including:

- Appointment of Mr. Bryan Koons was the new Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management.
- SERC approved the update of the hazardous materials section of the *Field Operations Guide*, which is now available to the hazmat teams and relevant first responders statewide.
- Promotion of SERC's www.FloridaHMIS.org website to allow the electronic filing alternative of Tier 2 Reports.
- 1998 & 1999 USEPA Enforcement Act. SERC is considering engaging USEPA through a potential Memorandum of Understanding which would allow industries found to be in violation to fund local "supplemental" project(s) in lieu of paying fines to USEPA.
- It has been noted that some contractors are claiming that their course(s) are/were being "endorsed" by the SERC. While such endorsement are rarely granted by the SERC, legal counsel is checking into the matter and potential solution(s)
- Summary of Mr. William Wright's presentation. Mr. Wright is a Board Member for the Chemical Safety Board. Although their agency has no enforcement authority, their mission is to provide recommendations through extensive research of incidents at the request of OSHA, EPA, Congress, States, industry and trade organizations. Mr. Wright closed his presentation with the following quote "*if you think safety is expensive, try an accident.*"

HMEP PROGRAM - PLANNING - Subcommittee Chair Alan Pratt indicated "no update."

FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING PROJECT - Mr. Meyer identified that the Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee met on January 20, 2011. A *Recap* of the meeting was included in the Agenda materials and available from the LEPC website. Mr. Meyer thanked Subcommittee Chair

Chet Klinger for assisting with the two EPCRA: How-to-Comply workshops held at the TBRPC offices on February 8-9, 2011. A total of 36 attended these workshops.

Highlights of the Recap included identification of an assessment of the Tier 2 records on file with the SERC with those possessed by the LEPC. While the assessment is not entirely completed, it is apparent that numerous facilities within each County are not common in both databases, as required. This includes many farms, medical facilities, golf courses, car dealers, marinas and oil change facilities in which the LEPC had no prior record. Upon completion of the assessment, each of the variances will be documented and transmitted for FDEM for a response.

Mr. Meyer highlighted some of the common errors in reporting that were observed. Subcommittee Chair Klinger recognized that although electronically filing of facility reports is being strongly promoted, each of these facilities will still need to send copies of the Reports to their LEPC's and local fire departments, at least for this year due to pending federal regulations. Dissemination of the database variances information and response could be formulated into a secondary workshop for entities such as the fire chiefs and emergency management.

HMEP PROGRAM - TRAINING - Subcommittee Chair James Johnston stated that the HMEP Training Subcommittee met an hour prior to the LEPC meeting. Mr. Johnston reminded members that the LEPC was awarded a \$41,969 contract to provide hazardous materials training 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). Mr. Johnston concluded by encouraging LEPC members to identify their training needs over the next year or two.

REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASK FORCE (RDSTF) - Ms. Amanda Shaw provided an update of the RDSTF program, highlighting the upcoming program initiatives. The Region 4 RDSTF serves Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas Counties as well as the counties of Hardee, Polk, Hernando, Citrus and Sumter.

THOMAS YATABE AWARDS PRESENTATION - Chair Ehlers recognized that each year an individual, company or agency is awarded the Thomas Yatabe Award for each District signifying their outstanding contribution(s) made in the implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act within each LEPC District. This year, the award was presented to Mr. Robert Tollise for LEPC District 8. Mr. Tollise attended the January SERC meeting to receive his award in person. Mr. Tollise's accomplishments were described in the Agenda materials.

Through the issuance of a *Certificate of Appreciation*, the SERC also recognized the former Hillsborough County Emergency Management Director Mr. Larry Gispert. Mr. Gispert was recognized for his constant advocacy of hazardous materials preparation, planning and response, especially considering the significant quantities of hazardous materials stored within (and adjacent

to) the Port of Tampa. Mr. Gispert accepted his *Certificate* as presented by Chair Scott Ehlers at the LEPC meeting.

CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD (CSB) VIDEO “DEADLY PRACTICES” - LEPC staff presented the above-referenced video highlighting the dangers associated with natural gas in the work place. The video is available from the CSB website (www.csb.gov).

TRAINING/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES - Chair Ehlers recognized that numerous training opportunities were identified within the Agenda, consisting of:

- SERC’s State Training and Events Schedule - Various FL Locations/Times (Nov. ‘10 - Jan. ‘11)
- FEMA/DHS’s *Guardian Accord Workshop* - Raleigh, NC (March 8, 2011)
- FEMA/DHS’s *Mission Essential Functions Workshop* - Raleigh, NC (March 9-10, 2011)
- ACMT’s *Oil & Water: Toxicology in Emergency Response* - Clearwater, FL (March 17, 2011)
- ACMT’s *Update on the Use of Antidotes in the Emergency Department* - Clearwater, FL (March 17)
- ACMT’s *Tots, Teens & Toxicology: Current Drug & Environmental Threats to Children’s Health* - Clearwater, FL (March 18-20, 2011)
- *Public Safety WMD Response - Sampling Techniques & Guidelines* - Longwood, FL (Various Dates)
- *EMI’s Multi-Hazard Emergency Planning for Schools* - Emmitsburg, MD (Various Dates)

TAMPA BAY LEPC HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN UPDATE - Mr. Meyer acknowledged that he will be preparing to update the LEPC’s *Emergency Response Plan* over the next 90-120 days and will be in contact with the various emergency management departments and other organizations to accomplish this task. It is anticipated that the revised Plan will be nearly complete by the May 25, 2011 LEPC meeting and will request a motion to authorize the LEPC Chair to transmit upon full completion prior to the June 30, 2011 deadline.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS WEEK - Mr. Meyer identified that Resolutions from the Governor, from the Florida Division of Emergency Management and from the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council have all been included within the Agenda materials proclaiming February 13-19, 2011 as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week.

FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (FDEM)/REGION 4 QUARTERLY MEETING - Mr. Meyer indicated that a Recap of the November 29, 2010 FDEM Quarterly meeting held at the Sumter County Emergency Operations Center was included in the Agenda materials. The next scheduled FDEM quarterly meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2011 at the Hernando County Emergency Operations Center. A recap of the February meeting will be included with the next LEPC Agenda materials.

PUBLIC COMMENT/OTHER LEPC BUSINESS - Ms. Dorothy Zeviar introduced herself and mentioned that the Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Center will be participating with Hillsborough County College on a joint exercise with the Tampa Police and Fire Departments. The scenario involves the simulated use of a explosive device.

Mr. Chris Russell, USEPA-Florida Outpost, reminded members and attendees that EPA funds currently remain available through the Local Government Reimbursement (LGR) program. These funds can be applied for by local governments seeking reimbursement for expenses they incurred during hazmat responses [more information can be found at www.epa.gov/ceppo/web/content/lgr]. In addition, Local and State response agencies can seek funding for oil spill responses through the National Pollution Funds Center as well as www.uscg.mil/npfc. Responses that may lead to funding from the NPFC should be reported to the National Response Center (800-424-8802) while the response is occurring. Mr. Russell advised that he would be glad to assist any of the LEPC Members with these programs. He can be reached at (850) 275-1575.

Chair Ehlers reminded members that the City of Tampa will be hosting the Republican National Convention in 2012 and that planning processes have been initiated.

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

NEXT MEETING - Chair Ehlers announced that the next LEPC meeting was pre-scheduled for May 25th but understands that this date may be in conflict with the State Hurricane Exercise and that the week prior appears to be occupied by the Governors Hurricane Conference. Chair Ehlers asked members to raise their hands if the members would not be able to attend the LEPC due to their anticipated involvement with the hurricane exercise. No members raised their hands. Therefore, the Chair proceeded to announce that the next meeting date of Wednesday, May 25, 2011 will be maintained at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council offices.

ADJOURNMENT - Without objection and upon a motion of Mr. James Johnston and a second by Mr. Doug Wenger, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.