



# LEPC Agenda

Tampa Bay Local Emergency Planning Committee

Tampa Bay LEPC Meeting

**Official Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.

**\*\*THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC\*\***

**Members Present:**

Robert Bassett  
Mike Bloski  
John Murphy  
Geoffrey Bown  
Steven Castonguay  
Robert Collins  
Lance Conners  
Daniel Deforge  
Christopher Gould  
Jonathan Kemp  
Carleigh Long  
Joe Mastandrea  
David Moravchik  
Wes Moore  
Kevin Pappadouplos  
Charles Rowe  
Steven Smith  
Barbara Tripp  
Richard Walker  
Alain Watson  
Erin Bates  
Bruce Murphy  
Rob Gero

**Guest Present:**

Joe Halle  
Dustin McKay  
Chad De Silva  
Bing Crosby  
Steve Kaluasy  
Henry Greenburg  
Bill Strong  
William Graif  
Daryl Leesworth  
Jim Sergey  
Thomas Layfield  
Cary Epperson  
Michael Storino  
Matt Carie  
Denise Lynert  
Davis Ray  
Jim Elliot  
Jeff Togergte  
Doug Rowe  
Rob Geru

**GENERAL**

1. Call to Order, Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Robert Bassett

Chair Robert Bassett opened the meeting and welcomed the members at 10:30 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance ceremony was then performed.

2. Room Introductions

Chair Robert Bassett

Membership and guest introduced themselves.



8. NOAA -- 2022 Hurricane Season Forecast

Nicole Carlisle

Senior Meteorologist Nicole Carlisle, with the National Weather Service presented on the upcoming 2022 hurricane season forecast. Nicole graduated from Florida State University's meteorology program in 2008. Nicole became a permanent meteorologist with the National Weather Service in 2009 and forecasts the weather for west-central and southwest Florida.

9. Project Phoenix 2.0 – Plausible Worst Case Scenario Direct Hit

Brian Ellis

Mr. Ellis presented the Project Phoenix 2.0: The Recovery project. This project uses a series of videos to add realism to the exercise. The first video simulates Hurricane Phoenix forming in the Gulf of Mexico, small businesses throughout the Tampa Bay region getting prepared, the moment of impact, and the aftermath of the storm. The simulation video ends with an overwhelming sense of damage; in essence, it ends asking, "How do we begin to recover?"

The remaining videos feature true stories from business owners who experienced the devastation of Hurricane Michael in Mexico Beach, Florida (2018). The stories parallel the timeline of the exercise by highlighting the "aftermath" between Module 1 and Module 2, the "digging-out" process in Module 3, and the businesses in "recovery" in Module 4. To wrap up the exercise on a hopeful note, the final video features the same small business owners who share their firsthand suggestions and recommendations on how to prepare now, so that whenever a Hurricane Phoenix does come, the Tampa Bay region is ready.

10. Overview of Hazmat Incident on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in Pinellas Park

Division Chief Thomas Layfield

Division Chief Thomas Layfield from the Pinellas Park Fire Department presented on a hazmat incident that occurred in Pinellas Park on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Introduction: Chief Layfield is the department head for the training division, and coordinates approximately 300 hours of training for his firefighters per year. This includes continuing education as well as specialty training such as Fire Officer and Truck, Engine, and Squad Driver. Chief Layfield also coordinates with neighboring fire departments to offer county-wide drills and multi-jurisdictional training. The Training Division oversees the Apprenticeship Program as well as specialized teams such as Technical Rescue, Hazmat, and Tactical EMS (SWAT).

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11. *Recap of Quarterly SERC Meetings*

Brian Ellis

Mr. Ellis provided an overview of the Training Task Force, LEPC Chair / Coordinators, and the State Emergency Response Commission meeting in April 2022.

The last SERC meeting was held on April 15, 2022, in Altamonte Springs, Florida and the next SERC meeting will be held on July 15, 2022, in Naples, Florida. A quorum was not present. The following items and/or points of discussion from the meeting.

1. **Hazardous Materials Incident Reports - State Watch Office (SWO):** Mr. Robert Dietrich indicated that a detailed listing of Section 304 investigations, fixed facility, and transportation-related hazardous materials incidents, injuries, and deaths was prepared and included with the agenda materials. Tables and graphs provide information on all hazardous materials incident reports received by the State Watch Office (SWO) for the period of January 1, 2002, through February 28, 2022. Incident reports are reviewed by staff daily for compliance with Section 304 and other provisions of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) program. They may be used to identify facilities that have a potential obligation to report under the Risk Management Planning (RMP) program. For an incident to be covered under Section

304, the Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs) and/or a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) chemical must meet or exceed its designated Reportable Quantity (RQ) and have the potential for offsite exposure. The tables and graphs are included in the full agenda packet.

#### **LEPC Statewide Chairs and Coordinators Meeting Update**

**Hazardous Materials (HA) Working Group:** Mr. Tyler Nolen reported the HA Working Group met by conference call to discuss any potential changes to the finalized and approved statewide planner "How to Guide". He noted that the guide will be posted to the FDEM Sharepoint portal for access. He asked that the LEPCs chairs and coordinators gather recommendations on any issues related to E-Plan Tier II reporting software.

**State Training Task Force (TTF) Meeting Update:** The TTF meeting was held on April 14, 2022, in Altamonte Springs, Florida prior to the LEPC Chairs and Coordinators meeting, and the next scheduled meeting is July 14, 2022, in Naples, Florida. The following are points of discussion from the meeting.

A. **Offshore Hazmat Pilot Program:** Mr. Dietrich, FDEM staff discussed the status of the U.S. Coast Guard, NOVA Southeastern, and FDEM/SERC Offshore Hazmat Response training initiative. The first training will take place in late April in Ft. Lauderdale. This first pilot training delivery will be evaluated by subject matter experts to help the TTF identify potential improvements and finalize the length of training.

#### **Contract Activities Update:**

A. **LEPC Support Contract:** Mr. Robert Dietrich notified the LEPC chairs and coordinators that the shortage of funding for the LEPC contracts will remain in place through the 2022 and 2023 contract cycles. He explained his proposal to fund the program and state and regional LEPCs of \$900,000 was funded for \$450,000. He was invited to apply for the remaining funding as soon as possible and has started the process. LEPCs statewide will remain at \$70,000 annually. Staff and Committee responsibilities are outlined in the contract and are available for review upon request.

B. **Hazards Analysis:** Staff completed the Hazards Analysis for Hernando County facilities and is currently working to complete the financial activity on salesforce. Staff will complete the update of the CAMEO Manager database and submitted it to the FDEM for review and comment. Once the final update was approved by FDEM, notification letters were sent to facilities to obtain copies of their specific hazards analysis. Hernando County fire rescue hazardous materials teams will receive the update via email for import into team databases.

C. **HMEP Training:** The 2022 Annual Hazmat Training Symposium was held January 18-21, 2022, in Daytona Beach and the Volusia Fire training grounds. The LEPC sponsored 37 students.

#### 12. Tampa Bay LEPC's HMEP Training Program Update

Mike Bloski

Captain Mike Bloski issued a report on the current status of the HMEP training courses. It was noted that there is a budget surplus of approximately \$8,500 that may be reallocated for additional training recommendations of the Committee in the upcoming HMEP meeting. There is also an opportunity to ask FDEM for an additional \$40,000 to be spent by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### 13. Training, Workshop and Conference Opportunities

Chair Bassett

Chair Bassett announced that a list of upcoming training for regions four and six were found in the agenda materials. The database of training opportunities was obtained from SERTTRAC from February 2022 to May 2022. Chair Bassett then solicited from the membership if there were any additional upcoming trainings to be discussed.

Mr. Ellis advised of training opportunities that were presented to him by LEPC membership and also from the latest Ammonia Handlers meeting.

14. **Update on the LEPC Marine Full Scale Exercise**

Brian Ellis

Mr. Ellis presented on the update of the LEPC full scale marine exercise. TBLEPC staff conducted concepts and objectives meeting, along with the initial planning meeting to develop the scenario for a full-scale marine exercise in or around the Port of Tampa. The exercise would be a simulation of a waterborne release of anhydrous ammonia and be hosted by a local facility operator. There will be two additional planning meetings prior to the September scheduled exercise.



15. **Solicitation of Nominations for LEPC Chair & Vice Chair**

Brian Ellis

Mr. Ellis informed the membership that Chief Robert Bassett (St. Pete Fire Rescue) was elected to serve as Chair of the Tampa Bay LEPC Chair for a two-year term during the August 25, 2020 LEPC meeting. Additionally Frank DeFrancesco was designated to serve as Vice Chair on November 20, 2019. Each of the terms associated with these Officer positions is set to expire following the August 25, 2022 LEPC meeting.

Chief Bassett has expressed a willingness to serve a new term.

Both of these positions are subject to a biennial election process of the Tampa Bay LEPC in association with their August meetings of all even-numbered years. LEPC members additionally wishing to be considered for either of these positions must be nominated and agree to serve through the August 24, 2024 LEPC meeting. Such nominations shall include a prior agreement to serve from the candidate and shall be provided in writing via e-mail to Brian Ellis (LEPC Staff Coordinator-[brian@tbrpc.org](mailto:brian@tbrpc.org)) by July 31, 2022.

If more than a single nomination has been received for either position, a formal election process will be conducted in conjunction with the next LEPC meeting (i.e. August 25, 2022). However, if only a single nomination is received for either position, these individuals will be designated to their respective Officer position for a two-year terms.

It was noted that nominations for these positions will not be accepted on the floor on the day of the meeting.

16. **Recent Hazardous Materials Incidents in the Tampa Bay LEPC District**

Brian Ellis

Mr. Ellis advised of the recent hazardous materials incidents from February to May 2022 were included in the detail agenda and were provided by the states watch office.

**OTHER**

17. **LEPC Member Comments/Other Business**

Chair Bassett

Captain Bloski thanked Tampa Fire Rescue and Hillsborough Fire Rescue for their assistance with a Port Manatee scrap metal fire that recently occurred. Specifically Chief Tripp and Chief Collins were thanked.

18. Adjournment

Chair Bassett

Chair Bassett called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was moved by Jonathan Kemp and seconded by Charles Rowe at 11:30 AM.

**The next meeting is August 24, 2022**

Respectfully submitted and signed on August 24, 2022



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Brian Ellis, Coordinator



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Robert Bassett, Chair