

CHAIRMAN: GARY WEISS
VICE-CHAIR: TIM BENNETT

**SUPERFUND AMMENDMENTS AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT TITLE III
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE DISTRICT SEVEN**

**THE TURNER EXHIBIT HALL
2260 NORTHEAST ROAN STREET
ARCADIA, FLORIDA**

**AUGUST 18, 2009
9:30 am**

APPROVED MINUTES

Chairman Gary Weiss called the meeting to order, and welcomed everyone in attendance.

There were no Announcements.

Chuck Carter of the Central Florida Regional Planning Council conducted roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**Randall Barfield (P)
Debbie Deriso (A)
Dep Chief Dan Harshburger (P)
Dominic Letobarone (P)
Battalion Chief Dan Bartle (A)
Richard Mancini (P)
Paul Womble (A)
Betsy Negley (P)
Scott Canaday (A)
James Olds (P)
Chris Kaelin (A)
Richard Shepard (P)
Jill Peve (A)
Dan Simpson (P)**

Foster Thorpe (P)
Chairman Gary Weiss (P)
Jeff Wharton (A)

Chuck Carter (LEPC Staff)
Kathy Hall (LEPC Staff)

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Ann Wortman (A)
(Vice Chairman) Tim Bennett (P)
Michael Faulkner (P)
Chief Nick Hopkins (P)
Catherine Furr (P)
Chief Michael Choate (A)
CPT Mike Linkins (P)
Jacalyn McCarthy (P)
Allen Johnson (A)
Pete McNally (P)
Bill Nichols (P)
James Villarreal (P)
Shawn Deutscher (A)
Buddy Kindrick (P)
Doug Jackson (A)
Ken Straub (P)
Tom Moran (P)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Karen Albritton Taylor (P)
Deputy Chief David McCain (A)
Jo Haynes Suhr (P)
Robert Peter (P)
Kent Atkinson (A)
Chief Glenn Prescott (P)
LT Joe Walker (A)
James Nall (A)
Brent Roberts (A)

ALSO ATTENDING

Teresa Zilko-Miller (Visitor from FDEP)

AGENDA ITEM #1 The May 19, 2009 Minutes were circulated via e-mail for review, comment and approval on May 28, 2009. Enough comments and

recommendations for approval to constitute a quorum were received and Chairman Weiss signed the minutes on June 16, 2009.

AGENDA ITEM #2

Staff Reports

- HA Funding and support to member counties

Chuck Carter stated that after the State considered a 60 percent reduction in funding for Hazards Analysis inspections, along with a change in the scope of work, the funding will remain the same as previous years. He expects future funding to be reduced. Mr. Carter stated that DeSoto, Hardee, and Polk Counties conduct their own inspections. LEPC staff conducts inspections for Highlands and Okeechobee Counties. Staff will update the LEPC with the latest information at the next meeting.

MOTION

Paul Womble moved to authorize the Chairman to let the SERC know at its next meeting that this LEPC is not in support of decreasing Hazards Analysis funding unless the Tier II fees were going down as well. Dan Harshburger seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Weiss and Mr. Carter promised to address this at the next SERC meetings (Oct 1st and 2nd).

- Update on the Statewide Evacuation Study

Chuck Carter reported that the Study is moving forward. The Study format, or template, is in its final stages and will soon be ready to accept data. Once he starts to input information, he will call members for information as necessary. Two major issues that affect this region's Study are that the LIDAR has not been completed in the Lake Okeechobee area or in DeSoto County.

Paul Womble stated that their Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) process is almost done. He questioned the need for multiple analyses when they all contain the same information. He felt that was a duplicate effort.

Mr. Carter agreed but said it was a requirement.

AGENDA ITEM #3

Reports from Cities/Counties/Agencies

Chris Kaelin stated that the City of Lakeland will have their Anhydrous Ammonia leak exercise on October 13, 2009. It will include multiple City and County agencies, as well as possibly regional and state assets.

Chuck Carter stated that the After Action Report for this exercise will be completed by the end of the year.

James Olds added that in preparation for this exercise, the City is conducting ICS 300 classes on August 31, 2009 at the Macintosh Power Plant Resource Center.

Paul Womble reported that the EOC was still moving along. It looks like they will not be able to occupy it until late Dec. or early Jan. That will give them about four months to get everything set up and tested before hurricane season.

Dominic Letobarone introduced Teresa Zilko-Miller from DEP Emergency Response. He stated that Ms. Zilko-Miller is a new addition to the DEP Fort Myers office.

AGENDA ITEM #4 Subcommittee Reports

- Membership – Foster Thorpe

Foster Thorpe apologized for missing the last couple of meetings, but stated his alternate Greg Roberts, had attended in his place. He reported that most membership slots were filled. He is currently trying to get media interested in attending LEPC meetings.

Chairman Weiss stated that there was some redundancy in membership categories and they are being reconsidered on a state level and hoped the categories would be updated and finalized soon. Then the LEPC can move forward with getting appropriate membership on the committee.

- Training – Chris Kaelin
 - OSHA Myth vs. Reality Class (?)

Chris Kaelin reported that the OSHA Myth vs. Reality Class had not been confirmed at that time.

Chuck Carter stated that the Myth vs. Reality for Mass Casualty Decon is a class that was held in the Apalachicola Region. It was very well received and highly recommended. If the Committee feels there is a need for it in this district, he has the contact information. He distributed an informational handout and stated that HMEP training dollars could be used for the class.

Dan Simpson talked about wanting to put together a training event combining hospitals and their requirement to have patient decontamination with HAZMAT and decontamination training for Fire/Rescue. He stated that we might be able to use some of the ASPR funding to support this.

- Hardee County Training LT Briefing on the Training Conference

Dep. Chief Harshburger stated that their training Lieutenant who attended the fire training conference could not attend to give the briefing due to having to cut overtime hours. He added that the class didn't certify him as a teacher. The class was mostly informational, which will still need to be shared with the other departments.

Chuck Carter stated that HMEP Training funds were used to send him to the class so he could go to the other counties and share the information.

Chairman Weiss agreed and stated it was a requirement that in order to go to this class he would bring the information back. The LEPC does not have the funds to send someone from each county. After discussion, Chairman Weiss said he would work with Dep. Chief Harshburger to try to find a way to share this information with the other counties.

- Exercise – Paul Womble

Paul reiterated the fact that we will be doing a Table Top Exercise for City of Lakeland and Polk County concerning the possibility of an Anhydrous Ammonia leak at the McIntosh Power Plant near Lake Parker. He said that Chris Kaelin stole most of his thunder concerning this discussion but invited all who had an interest to attend.

AGENDA ITEM #5 Old Business

- FY 2010 LEPC Exercise

Chuck Carter stated that the LEPC would need to conduct an exercise in the next fiscal year. He is trying to collaborate with the City of Lakeland to expand their Anhydrous Ammonia Leak exercise into an exercise to benefit the entire region. However, he was not sure if that would be feasible. The exercise is required to involve some type of hazardous materials. He asked members to give him their ideas regarding the exercise so he could gear it toward their training needs.

Members discussed different types of exercises they might consider.

- LEPC Hazardous Materials Plan

Chuck Carter reported that the LEPC Hazardous Materials Plan was delivered to the State on June 3, 2009, after each county updated their information. It is currently under final review. Once it has been finalized, he will give each county a copy.

AGENDA ITEM #6 New Business

- Electronic Submission of TIER II's

Chuck Carter stated that the Tier II reports starting next year must be submitted electronically with a standardize form to the State. They will not be accepted in any other format. The form can be obtained on the EPA website.

- 2010 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

Chuck Carter stated that the focus of the 2010 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week will be on education, particularly science and chemistry and what kinds of careers those studies can lead to. Some courses have been structured so they can be exported into the classroom. He will have more information at the next LEPC meeting. He asked LEPC members to urge members of their county's school board to attend the next LEPC meeting, particularly someone in the science or chemistry field.

- Tactical Interoperability Communications (TIC) Plan

Chuck Carter reported that the TIC plans are prepared by the Regional Domestic Security Task Forces (RDSTF), and they are being rewritten. Polk and Hardee Counties are included in the Tampa Bay RDSTF and they already have their TIC plan rewritten. DeSoto, Highland, and Okeechobee Counties are included in the Fort Myers RDSTF district and they have said they have their plan prepared as well. He added that he wanted to get the appropriate information from each county to the respective RDSTF so he can be sure it is include in the TIC Plans.

- HMEP Funding
 - Top 5 Training needs and/or priorities

Chuck Carter requested that each Emergency Management Director submit their top five training requirements to him. He will use this information to plan for next year's use of HMEP funding.

Chairman Weiss added that the SERC Subcommittee on Training is working on identifying the top five training needs, statewide. If each county will send their five most needed areas of training to Chuck by the next LEPC meeting, he will compile a list to submit to the SERC Subcommittee.

Chuck Carter announced that he had copies of the State Emergency Response Committee Hazardous Materials Annual Report for anyone who would like to have a copy.

Chuck Carter distributed a flyer on some classes being offered by a private contractor, for their consideration.

AGENDA ITEM #7

Comments from the Members

Dan Simpson, from the Polk County Health Department, reported on the severity of the expected outbreak of the H1N1 Flu virus and the vaccine that will soon be available.

Chairman Weiss asked Mr. Simpson if he would be prepared to give an update on the current status of the H1N1 Flu virus at the next LEPC meeting.

- Yatabe Award

Chuck Carter stated that the LEPC has the opportunity each year to recommend to the SERC a candidate to receive the Thomas Yatabe Award. This award is given for exceptional work and long term commitment in the area of hazardous materials. All members had been given the opportunity to submit names of individuals they felt deserved the award.

Chuck Carter stated that two candidate names were submitted for consideration. He distributed information on each candidate's credentials to members for their review. The nominees were Bill Nichols, Highlands County Emergency Manager, and Jeffery Kincart, Vice President, with ACT, Inc.

After discussion and consideration, a vote was called. Bill Nichols was nominated to receive the Thomas Yatabe Award for 2009 from the LEPC Region Seven. Mr. Kincart will be awarded a certificate of appreciation, and will be eligible for consideration for the Yatabe Award next year.

Chuck Carter asked the emergency managers or their representatives to see him after the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #8

Comments from the Public

There were none.

AGENDA ITEM #9

Chuck Carter stated that the next regular meeting date was November 18, 2009. However, Okeechobee has an exercise scheduled for that day. Therefore, he was considering moving the meeting to the 17th or the 19th. He asked members to reserve those dates and he would let them know. The meeting will be in Hardee or Highlands County.

Next Meeting Date: November 17

Location: 515 Civic Center Drive
Wauchula, FL 33873

Time: 9:30 am

AGENDA ITEM #10

The meeting was Adjourned.

Original Signed

September 22, 2009

Gary Weiss, Chairman

Date