



CENTRAL FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, and Polk Counties

CHAIRMAN: Dep Chief Mike Linkins
VICE-CHAIR: Chris Kaelin

SUPERFUND AMMENDMENTS AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT (SARA) TITLE III CENTRAL FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

**August 15, 2019
Hardee County Department of Health
115 K.D. Revell Road | Wauchula, FL 33873
9:30 am**

APPROVED MINUTES

Chairman Mike Linkins called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. All in attendance were asked to sign-in on the attendance record sheet.

Chair Linkins thanked Hardee County for hosting the LEPC meeting at the Hardee County Department of Health.

ATTENDANCE:

Please see attached sign-in roster.

AGENDA ITEM #1 The May 9, 2019 LEPC Minutes were circulated via email on May 20, 2019 for review, comment and approval. Staff received a sufficient number of reviews and recommendations for approval to constitute a quorum. Chairman Linkins reviewed the minutes on June 20, 2019 and signed them on June 27, 2019.

AGENDA ITEM #2 Staff Report

Chuck Carter stated that these items will be addressed in the reports from the members.

AGENDA ITEM #3 Reports from Cities/Counties/Agencies

Tosha Reiss, Highlands County Emergency Manager, reported that a truck hauling 700 lbs of fertilizer rolled over on Hwy 98, which caused a major clean up. Highlands County continues to working on their budget. Their HazMat team

will be pulled out of Emergency Management and placed under Fire Rescue. She also reported that Highlands County conducted a Table Top Exercise. More information will be discussed on the exercise later in the meeting. Ms. Reiss introduced James Wolfhope, Highlands County's new Emergency Management Planner.

Kevin King, Hardee County Health Department, reported on a recent fertilizer spill at a local supplier. They provided assistance along with DEP. Also, the Health Department continues to spray for mosquitos.

James Villarreal, Gulfstream Natural Gas, announced that their annual Paradigm meeting for emergency responders hosted by the Florida Pipeline Operators is coming up. This is a free event and will be held at the Carver Center in Bartow. He also reported that they will be running cleaning pigs through their pipelines starting in Palmetto and will end at the Bowling Green/Polk County line. They will notify both Hardee and Polk County. A smart cleaning pig is scheduled for October 22, 2019. He plans to video the process for anyone who might be interested, which is expected to take about six hours.

Gary Doyen, Mosaic Corporation, stated that they are busy monitoring their water levels to avoid any issues with the abundance of recent rainfall.

Mat Wilkins, Diamond R Fertilizer, stated he was visiting from Hendry County. He typically attends the Lee County LEPC Meetings.

Mat Davis, new General Manager at Diamond R. Fertilizer, introduced himself, and stated that Wayne Prevatte is still there but in a different position.

Joe Walker, Hardee County Fire, reported on a few diesel spills and overturned trucks in Hardee County

Domenic LetoBarone, Tampa DEP Emergency Response, reported that DEP added a Division of Law Enforcement with two special agents working out of the Tampa office. They have been in their positions about a week and have made several arrests. He reported on an individual who picked up two drums of very potent solvent and dumped them in an alleyway. The alley camera captured the vehicle's identity and the individuals were arrested. DEP conducted the cleanup that took many hours since it is a light compound and seeps deep into the ground. The cost to cleanup was over \$10,000. The individuals were charged with illegal dumping for commercial gain and will be required to pay the cost of the cleanup.

Pete Wenner, Tampa DEP Emergency Response, reported on an individual running a biohaz disposal company that dumped eight trailers on a site in Plant City. DEP has worked to come up with a mechanism to dispose of the biohaz waste, which is expected to be an 11-week process. The total cost could be

\$500,000. Mr. Wenner also reported on a construction site in Lakeland where workers unearthed a container of an unknown substance. ACT Environmental, Inc. has been retained to assess and identify the material and determine what the next steps will be. It is the responsibility of the owner of the property to pay for the cleanup, even though they are not responsible for putting the container of material there.

Paul Moore, Hexion in Lakeland, reported that Bill DeVore has transferred to their Chicago plant and they are looking for a replacement for his position.

Ralph Meder, Florida Department of Health Environmental Manager and Petroleum Cleanup in Polk County, stated that they just started their new fiscal year and have received 245 petroleum impacted sites in Polk, Hardee and Highlands Counties. They are working with the EOC Emergency Preparedness. DOH is also working with special needs shelters in the event of an emergency. Mr. Meder stated that he also works as a liaison with Burt McKee on his Responder Safety Initiative, which he will be presenting later in the agenda.

Rick Mancini, Mancini Packing Company in Zolfo Springs, reported that his facility no longer has a freezing operation, and recently had 4,000 lbs of anhydrous ammonia evacuated from their site. He will update their Tier II Report to reflect that change. They still have natural gas and diesel fuel on site.

Chuck Carter reminded Mr. Mancini to also update his E-Plan.

Jill Newman, Hardee County Emergency Manager, reported on several trucks spilling fuel. Hardee County is working on their budget, and continues to work on their LMS Plan. She stated that with the recent rains, the Peace River has only minor flooding reported, and a few culverts have washed out.

Casey Dasher, Winter Haven Fire, thanked Polk County for involving them in their training. They have begun their walk-thrus, beginning with Borden Milk Plant, who has anhydrous ammonia. The walk-thrus help their guys and law enforcement become familiar. They plan to target Wal-Mart Distribution Center, who has massive amounts of anhydrous ammonia and hydrogen on site.

Todd Tanner, Polk County Fire, reported on multiple gas spills and vehicle crashes. He mentioned the construction site in Lakeland where the container of unknown material was found. It has been turned over to DEP. Live Fire Training was completed with hundreds of students and several cities participating. It was a good exercise for all involved. He reported that five of his team members are leaving next Monday for Pueblo Colorado SERTC Training for railcar flammable liquids. This training is sponsored by the LEPC and he will make a report at the next LEPC meeting. Also, since the last LEPC meeting, the Mosaic Corporation donated a \$37,000 top-of-the-line public safety drone to Polk County Fire along with HazMat training simulation devices. The operator is required to have a

pilot's license. The drone has the ability to have a gas meter attachment to conduct real-time monitoring. It also has a flare camera capable of heat signatures, infrared, etc., which costed approximately \$13,000.

Chairman Linkins stated that it offers excellent training without putting their first responders at risk. He thanked the Mosaic Corporation for their donation and stated it will be put to good use.

Mr. Tanner also announced that Polk County had received the Training Trailer from LEPC.

Chuck Carter suggested that the Training Trailer be taken to and displayed at the next LEPC meeting if possible so members could see it. It can be used throughout the LEPC region as needed.

AGENDA ITEM #4 Subcommittee Reports

- Membership

Chuck Carter instructed members to be sure that had filled out an LEPC registration form. He stated that everyone he was aware of had been approved at the state level, but wanted to be sure. He reminded member to work on designating an alternate member for themselves.

- Training

Domenic LetoBarone reported that the Training Task Force meeting was held in Sarasota on July 18, 2019. He highlighted a few of the main points of discussion. He stated that they discussed the that individuals serving on the LEPC need to fill out a Form One.

Chuck Carter stated that this is an effort to eliminate conflicts of interest if a member has a related business.

Mr. LetoBarone reported that the Training Task Force continues its work on the Standard Operating Guides (SOG) that deal with many types of emergency situations and hazardous materials. The SOGs will be available to members once they are finalized. Mr. LetoBarone discussed biohazard on a roadway, saying that there is a SOG that addresses this scenario and how to handle that situation. The Training Task Force decided to reach out to emergency responders and send them the SOG which will guide and clarify in such an event. Also, a temporary employee has been hired to help with the hazmat team assessments. Mr. LetoBarone reported that the Hazmat expendable component was missing and how would reimbursement be handled to replace equipment. The Task Force also discussed Operation Clean Sweep and responder safety regarding pesticides. The EPA came out with a 2019 List of Lists for Pesticides. It lists common names and brand names of products that contain hazardous

pesticides. The next Training Task Force meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2019 in Sand Destin.

- Exercise

Tasha Reiss, Highlands County Emergency Manager, reported on the recent Table-Top emergency planning exercise held in Highlands County. Their hazmat team, fire, EMS, law enforcement and emergency management all participated in a scenario involving a plane crash with hazardous materials onboard and on the ground. It created a downwind hazard from the airport onto a populated area. The exercise opened up a lot of conversation between Highlands County's combined Fire Rescue staff, since fire and EMS have merged into a new entity. She stated that it was a good learning opportunity for all participants.

Chuck Carter added that he thought it was the best interaction with law enforcement that he had seen in a table-top exercise.

Discussion followed.

- SERC & Membership

Chairman Linkins reported that the 2020 Emergency Responders Guidebooks are coming out. Orders are currently being taken. Polk County will dedicate their loading dock to receive the shipment and distributed from there. Burt McKee, Polk County, was formally recognized for his First Responders Safety Initiative. A presentation was provided at the SERC meeting regarding a study conducted in the State of Nevada of the hazmat supply chain. It was a major study of what hazardous materials are being transported on their major corridors. Chair Linkins stated that he would like to see this study conducted in Florida to see what is being transported on Florida roadways, pipelines and railways. He stated that they have good information on what facilities have on their premises, but do not have good information on what is being transported on the roadways and railcars.

Chair Linkins reported that the Florida Department of Emergency Management has decided that in the case of a major deployment, they will pay all Florida responders, and invoice FEMA for the total amount.

AGENDA ITEM #5

Old Business

- HazMat Training Trailer

Chuck Carter announced that Polk County had received the Training Trailer from the LEPC. Polk County will work on having it available at the next LEPC location for touring by members. The Training Trailer can be used throughout the LEPC region as needed.

- HazMat Symposium

Chuck Carter asked members to let him know if they want to attend the HazMat Symposium by October-November so registration and accommodations can be made.

- Polk Live Fire

Chuck Carter stated that in the past, they have had three different scenarios that have been rotated each year. If members want to do something different let him know and they can work on what is needed. There are two requirements for the Live Fire training, and they are a hazardous materials component and a transportation component.

- Hazmat Plan

Chuck Carter stated that the Hazmat Plan has received approval and the Emergency Manager Directors will be receiving the Plan updates. He understands there may be some changes coming for next year.

AGENDA ITEM #6

New Business

- LEPC Contract

Chuck Carter stated that the LEPC Contract is in Tallahassee for signature. Once the contract is executed, he will email a copy to each Emergency Management Director.

- Training Request

Chuck Carter asked members to let him know what training they need and he will make the necessary arrangements. He explained that there are two contracts that fund training – the LEPC Contract and the HMEP Contract. He described the different types of training covered by each contract.

- Operation Cleansweep

Burt McKee, Polk County, stated that he had handouts available. He presented information on the 2019 Responder Safety Initiative. It is an initiative to improve responder safety and to help prevent cancer and other diseases responders are subjected to. It is an initiative to protect facility representatives, should there be an incident at their location, and to protect the public and the environment. He highlighted several things that can be done to improve safety. He stated that Operation Cleansweep had eliminated 53% of toxic substances that were listed by EPA that were being sold. He discussed how to get the word out and eliminate more toxic chemicals at no cost to the owner. Mr. McKee discussed less-toxic substitutions that could be used in place of highly-toxic chemicals. Mr. McKee stated that showers and decon trailers are good, but elimination of the toxin would eliminate their need. He presented a list of Florida Pesticides Reporting Guidelines. He stated that he would be presenting this information to a group of emergency managers and first responders in Houston Texas.

Discussion followed.

Chuck Carter reminded members that the owner of the chemical is responsible for reporting a release to the State. Even in the case that someone else has already reported it, the owner is still responsible to report it, or he/she will be penalized by law.

AGENDA ITEM #7 Comments from Members

No additional comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM #8 Comments from the Public

No comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM #9 Next Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Location: Highlands County EOC Station
19
Time: 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #10 There being no further business, the meeting
adjourned.



Mike Linkins, LEPC Chairman

9-9-19

Date:

This meeting was duly advertised in the July 29, 2019 issue of the FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER, Issue: 45/146.