NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Suwannee County Emergency Operations Center
Live Oak, Florida

Thursday, November 20, 2014
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sandi Courson
Scott Garner
Robyn Gedeon
Henry Land
David Peaton
T.F. Smoak
Kimberly Thomas
Ed Ward
Leigh Webb
John Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Robert Garbett
Carl Glebowski
Mitch Harrell
Matt Harris
Scott Holowasko
Jeff Huffman
Sylvia Ifft
Brian Johns
Paul Kremer
Marc Land
David Meurer
Ron Mills, Chair
Mark Milton
Shayne Morgan
John Mousa
Donnie Sessions
Steve Truluck

GUESTS PRESENT

Dwight Boozer, Lake City FD
Brooks Butler, G.P. Foley
Dani Cassell, Taylor F.D
Sam MacDonell, DoH
Bruce Jordan, Madison FR
David Still, Potash Corp

STAFF PRESENT

Dwayne Mundy

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m.

I. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT AND INTRODUCTIONS

Acting Chairman Ed Ward welcomed everyone and asked that they introduce themselves. It was reported that Chairman Ron Mills is out of town and that Vice Chair Shane Morgan was teaching a class. Kimberly Thomas welcomed everyone to the Suwannee County Emergency Operations Center.

II. APPROVAL OF 21 August, 2014, LEPC MEETING MINUTES

Action: It was moved by Scott Garner and seconded by David Peaton to adopt the minutes of the August 21, 2014, LEPC meeting as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

III. LEPC BUSINESS ITEMS

It was announce that is it time for the biannual elections of officers which includes: chair; vice chair, public information; vice chair, first responders. Staff reported that he had spoken with Ron mills and Shane Morgan and they wish to run for reelection. Staff reported that Donnie Sessions was not running for reelection of vice chair, first
responders, however he would like to reappoint as the LEPC training task force representative. Scott Gardner was nominated for the vacant position of vice chair, first responders. Action it was moved by David Penton and seconded by Tim Smoak that the slate of officer was elected. The motion passed unanimously. The appointment of the training path representative was deferred to be completed later by the LEPC chair.

The counties reported on hazardous materials activities and exercise. Columbia County reported on an incident at a bank involving potentially contaminated dirty money which resulted in mutual aid from the city of Gainesville. And incident management class was also recently completed in Columbia County. Gilchrist County reported they also recently held an incident management class and gave an update on the status of their hazards analysis contract. Lafayette said that they are expecting to do an exercise in February or March that may involve hazardous materials. Madison County reported that an operations class was being conducted. Suwannee County reported that they are planning a bioterrorism exercise for February or March of next year. Florida Department of Transportation reported that they are close to completing the cleanup of the Fairbanks hazardous waste dump site in Alachua County. PCS Phosphate reported that the anhydrous ammonia tanks are now empty and that the Suwannee River chemical plant is now closed.

Dwayne Mundy gave a brief update on the status presidential executive order 13650-improving chemical safety and security. He also reported on the status of requesting enforcement action being taken against Farrell gas for their multiple releases which occurred in Trenton and Madison. He reported that the new EPA region 4 liaisons will be attending the next State Emergency Response Commission meeting in January and that he would raise the issue with him.

The group discussed the Hazards Analysis Summary update which is the HMEP planning project being completed for the last fiscal year. Discussion was that the summary information provided is more suitable for emergency management and responders than for dispatchers being able to provide warning at hazardous materials facilities. After a discussion it was decided that a second list of facilities and the hazardous conditions should be put together for emergency management distributed to dispatchers.

IV. PUBLIC INFORMATION ISSUES

Staff reported that how to comply seminars will be scheduled for January or February of next year. It was reported that the staff have been reviewing the database of tanks registered with the Department of Environmental protection. Only fuel tanks at retail gasoline stations which are under ground or are part of a routine agricultural operation are exempt from reporting under EPCRA Section 311/312. Dwayne Mundy reported that only one of 32 above ground tanks that appear to be reportable is actually reported on the tier 2 forms. He said also there are a significant number of tanks at non retail facilities that appeared should be reporting however they are not. It was decided that outreach to this group should be a focus of upcoming compliance assistance workshops.
It was reported that hazardous materials awareness week will not be celebrated early in the year of 2015. The LEPC decided to move those activities to September to coincide with National preparedness month and focus on having shelter in place information available through the county emergency management websites.

It was reported that the LEPC chair nominated, LEPC staff Dwayne Mundy to receive this year’s Thomas Yatabe SERC recognition award. The reason for this in recognition of his efforts in chairing the state hazardous analyzes working group and efforts to improve and streamline the process. Additional certificates of appreciation were awarded for sponsoring LEPC meetings and included Gainesville Regional Utilities, Suwannee County Emergency Management, PCS phosphate, and Madison County Emergency Management. Additional certification of appreciate were given to city Of Madison fire chief Bruce Jordan and the City of Valdosta Fire Department in recognition of their support of the tristate hazardous materials planning projects.

It was reported that LEPC currently has members in all mandated occupational categories. It discussed that there was a new representative for the American Red Cross that should be invited to join the LEPC.

V. FIRST RESPONDERS ISSUES

The group discussed hazardous materials training programs and the training summary contains in the meeting packet. For the recently completed Fiscal year a total of 23 classes were held with 292 students attended for a total of 4,759 hours of training. This represents a soft match of $164,110 dollars. Additional classes to be schedule which was discussed included air monitoring and incident management classes. The LEPC endorsed the concept of conducting a 160 hour technician class early in 2015 at a location to be selected. Additional classes available include the 8 hour and 4 hour awareness level class as well as the 24 hour operations classes. It was reported that additional classes will not be scheduled until a contract is in place to pay for them.

The status of the supplemental projects websites and database was discussed. It was reported that the Florida Division of Emergency Management is preparing a database that can be used for fire departments to enter hazardous materials training and supplies that they are in need of. If a facility is potentially going to be fine for not reporting a release for chemicals this will provide an alternative for them paying a fine by purchasing equipment and supplies from their local fire departments. The group discussed that this would be an option involving Farrell gas following the releases in Trenton and Madison from tanks that were not reported on the Tier 2 forms. It was discussed that the only previous subliminal environmental project in the LEPC district involved a fertilizer supplier in Trenton that had an ongoing release and did not report it while trying to stop the leak by facility operators.

Hazardous materials response agreement between North Florida, South Alabama, and South Georgia. It was discussed that the previous meeting and that the list of recipients and the list of local governments that have join the agreement have been

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identified. It was decided to suggest to Florida LEPC District 2 that they invite those in Alabama to their next meeting and determine their level of interest in perusing this.

It was announced that the state of emergency training task force is taking the lead in organizing the third annual Hazardous material symposium to be held in conjunction with fire rescue in January 2015. It was reported that training money should be available to reimburse responders that which to attend this hazardous materials training.

LEPC members were invited to attend the regional hazardous materials response team policy board meeting at 1 o’clock pm today following this meeting. No other business was discuss.

The next meeting was tentative scheduled for Gainesville at Gainesville Regional Utilities Eastside operations center if available on February 19, 2015. Facility representatives will be invited to the LEPC meeting and all emergency response organizations would be invited to the after lunch Regional Hazardous Material meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS AND INFORMATION REQUESTS

No new business or information requests were discussed.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The tentative date for the next LEPC meeting was February 19, 2015 at the Gainesville Regional Utilities Emergency Operations Center.

It was moved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Chairman

Date

2/19/2015