NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Levy County Public Safety Complex Bronson, Florida
Thursday, November 19, 2015
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Ron Mills, Chair
Sandi Courson
Chris Gilbert
Mitch Harrell
Scott Holowasko
Bruce Jordan, Madison FR
Shayne Morgan
Gus Olmos
David Peaton
Scott Garner
Capt. Dan Smith
T.F. Smoak
Ebbin Spellman
Ed Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT
Sylvia Ifft
Brian Johns
Paul Kremer
Henry Land
Marc Land
David Meurer
David Still
Kimberly Thomas

GUESTS PRESENT
Erin Miller
Frank DeFrancesco
Lilly Rooks
Ronald Grant
Darian Brown

STAFF PRESENT
Dwayne Mundy

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m.

I. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Ron Mills welcomed everyone and asked that they introduce themselves. He reported on the recent Florida Emergency Preparedness Association activities and welcomed the new members from Marion and Levy Counties. David Knowles welcomed everyone to the Levy County Public Safety Complex and introduced Commissioner Rooks.

The LEPC watched a video of the recently completed full scale exercise “Obscured by Smoke.” On September 10, 2015, the Gainesville Fire Rescue Hazmat Team participated along with hazmat responders from the Northeast District.

II. APPROVAL OF MAY 28, 2105, LEPC MEETING MINUTES

Action: It was moved by Shayne Morgan and seconded by Scott Holowasko to adopt the minutes of the August 20, 2015, LEPC meeting as printed. The motion passed unanimously.
III. LEPC BUSINESS ITEMS

Ron Mills reported that this was his last meeting and he thanked the members for their contributions to increasing public safety. Nominations Committee Chair David Peaton presented the nominations results for the LEPC:

Chair
- Shayne Morgan: 3 Nominations
Vice Chair, Public Information
- David Peaton: 2 Nominations
Vice Chair, First Responder
- David Knowles: 2 Nominations
- Scott Garner: 1 Nomination
- Dan Smith: 1 Nomination

David Knowles declined the nomination. No additional nominations were received from the floor.

Action: The following LEPC members were elected as Officers of the North Central Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee: Chair: Shayne Morgan, Vice Chair, Public Information: David Peaton, and Vice Chair, First Responders: Scott Garner.

Captain Dan Smith, Gainesville Fire Rescue was appointed as Training Task Force representative. Scott Holowasko was appointed as LEPC representative on the Regional Hazmat Team Policy Board.

Each county reported on hazardous materials related activities and exercises that have occurred since the last meeting.

The Committee reviewed possible HMEP planning projects for the fiscal year starting on October 1, 2015. The various options were reviewed and it was decided to conduct a commodity flow study with at least one count location in each county.

Action: It was moved by Shayne Morgan and seconded by Scott Garner to select a Commodity Flow Study as the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness planning project for the year. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. FIRST RESPONDERS ISSUES

Next, the group discussed First Responder issues. The first responders training program and classes were discussed. Additional classes are being scheduled and include using resources from the training trailers. The status of the Supp
Environmental Projects website and database was discussed next. It was reported that the website should be fully functional soon.

The Regional Hazmat Team reported that it was conducting a natural gas pipeline tabletop exercise on December 7, 2015, at the Taylor County Emergency Operations Center. The exercise includes the following three modules: Initial assessments and notifications, Initial response from local responders and facility, and Sustained Regional Operations.

Dwayne Mundy gave an update on the hazards analyses process and said that the first half was due to the state on November 2, 2015. He said he submitted updates for Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, and Taylor Counties. The second half is due on March 2, 2016 and will include Dixie, Levy and Marion Counties. Mr. Mundy encouraged emergency management and fire departments to accompany him on the site visits.

The Committee reviewed the training results for October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015. A total of 19 classes were held which were attended by 270 students whom completed 4,266 hours of training. The soft match value of this training was $170,640. A hazmat training needs survey was reviewed. Additional classes to be added to the survey included: Operations Refresher, Chemistry, and PPE Selection. It was noted that we can no longer offer classes on clandestine drug labs or chemical suicides since these are not transportation related under HMEP Guidelines.

It was reported that the Regional Hazardous Responses Team meeting was being held today at 1:00 p.m. here. The North Central Florida Regional Hazmat Response Team reported that the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration have awarded the Team a $43,600 Pipeline Technical Assistance Grant. The grant will improve preparedness, through enhanced planning, training, and exercising. Milestones include identification of areas and facilities vulnerable to pipeline releases, and conducting three tabletop exercises centered on pipeline compressor stations located in three counties.

Initial milestones in the grant include identifying out of date planning information currently contained in the National Pipeline Mapping System and the Celeritas Identified Site Registry and to provide updated geospatial information. The Team will prepare and distribute to local media outlets a press release advising the public of steps being taken to enhance pipeline safety by emergency responders. This will include information on pipeline hazards and possible protective actions, where additional information is available, as well as contacts for local emergency management agencies.

A gap in the regional hazmat training program has been identified. There is a need for pipeline response training beyond the current awareness level. This should include response to both leaks and the secondary consequences associated with the direct and indirect impacts of a pipeline leak. This will include building natural gas piping leak training props and a purchasing a second training trailer to transport this around the
District. These items will be used in training classes with instructors funded through the existing HMEP training grants.

The group discussed the CSX Rail Respond Online Response Tool available for download at http://csxrailrespond.com. It was reported that this replace the previous app available for smart phones. Dan Smith reported on issues under consideration by the State Emergency Response Team Training Task Force. These include: Online training, memorandum of understanding with the Coast Guard on off-shore hazmat response, Field Operations Guide, tar ball response procedures, foam, and medical procedures. Joe Nelson from Palm Beach County was elected as Chair to replace Donnie Sessions.

V. PUBLIC INFORMATION ISSUES

The LEPC participated with Alachua County Emergency Management on Saturday, September 19, 2015, in “Alachua County Prepares Festival” as part of National Preparedness Month. The focus was on sheltering in-place education and decision making. One goal of the LEPC is to start offering Shelter In-Place Train-the-Trainer classes, with the first class to be held next quarter in Madison.

Annual facility outreach is scheduled for the next LEPC meeting. This supports the goal to increase preparedness between facilities, fire departments, emergency management, hazmat teams and the LEPC. All facility emergency preparedness contacts are being invited to attend the February LEPC meeting which focuses on improving coordination. Emails from E-Plan are being used for invitations.

Also being invited are facilities with large fuel tanks registered with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection that appear to not be exempt from Tier 2 reporting. Reportable facilities include those with aboveground retail tanks and non-retail storage locations which have fuel tanks greater than 2,000 gallons. Exempt facilities not invited include retail gasoline stations with underground tanks and fuel tanks at farms which are considered as routine agricultural use.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS AND INFORMATION REQUESTS

Tim Smoak gave an update on innovative communication system

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

It was decided that the next meeting will tentatively schedule for February 18, 2016 at the Gainesville Regional Utilities Eastside Operations Center. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 p.m.

Chairman

Date

2-18-2016