

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Suwannee River Water Management
District, Live Oak, Florida

February 16, 2001
9:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Hudson, Chairman
James Aikman
Allen Blanton
Bill Brideson
David Clanton
Bill Coughlin for Dennis Fleetwood
David Donnelly for Steve Abrams
Denise Feiber
Joe Flanagan
Anne Jacob
Paul Kremer
James Locke
Ed Lundy
Murel McDonald
Agustin Olmos
Scott Pate
Charles Pults
Edye Rowell
Tommy Thomas
Steve R. Truluck
Jeff Tucker
Jerry Weinrich

GUESTS PRESENT

Vernon Creede
Mike DeLorenzo
Randy Durden
Andrew E. Frenock
Mike Fuller
Gary Miller

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Barbera
John Barrow
DuWayne Baum
Mike Brimeyer
Roger Brower
Cliff Chapman
Alan Chandler
Hank Everett
Nelson Green
Gracie Kennedy
Rhonda Kent
Donnie Land
David Meurer
John Mousa
Cheryl Murrin
Harvie Nachlinger
Doug Prentiss
Chad Reed
George Scott
Doyle Thomas
Roy Woods

STAFF PRESENT

Dwayne Mundy

I. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Joe Flanagan welcomed everyone to the Suwannee River Water Management District. Mr. Flanagan gave a status report on drought conditions. LEPC Chairman John Hudson welcomed everyone and asked that they introduce themselves. He reported on the last LEPC Chair/staff, State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and Training Task Force meetings. Chairman Hudson reported on HMEP strategic planning for the training program.

II. APPROVAL Of NOVEMBER 17, 2000, MINUTES

ACTION: It was moved by Ed Lundy and seconded by Allan Blanton, to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2000, meeting as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

III. FIRST RESPONDER ISSUES

Mr. Mike DeLorenzo gave a presentation on Florida's Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Domestic Preparedness and Assessment Program. Mr. DeLorenzo answered many questions and helped those in attendance understand how terrorism preparedness is being increased in Florida. The LEPC encouraged that the selection of regional WMD teams not be limited to only one per DEM district to ensure that all areas of north central Florida receive a timely regional response. Mr. DeLorenzo was thanked by the LEPC for his contributions to Florida's WMD program and wished well in his new assignment.

John Hudson reported that the Florida Fire Chiefs Association will not be supporting the District Response Team (DRT) legislation this year. He added that Department of Justice money will be used to support some of the DRT concepts during the year.

Jim Locke encouraged responders to take advantage of the DuPont CAER Car's visit near Starke during the last week of March. He described the hands-on training that would be available at that time. Jeff Tucker discussed IAFF Pesticide classes and a drill scheduled with Clay County on September 19, 2001. A hospital decontamination class being held April 17th in Gainesville was also announced.

Dwayne Mundy discussed the status of the needs assessment survey which is the HMEP planning project for 2000/2001. Mr. Mundy said the survey will be useful in expanding the regional hazmat team, the LEPC's training program, and completing the LEPC's part of the SERC Training Task Force statewide training assessment.

IV. OPERATION CLEANSWEEP

Mr. Jack Price from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection discussed Operation Cleansweep. He explained that the removal of dangerous, unwanted pesticides from rural storage areas is needed to eliminate a very serious risk to many volunteer firefighters as well as to the environment. Volunteers are most likely to respond to a rural fire or spill of a canceled pesticide, and most simply are not prepared to safely handle a potentially unknown and dangerous chemical exposure. Mr. Price noted the importance of LEPC outreach and involvement in making this program a success in LEPC District 7.

The LEPC was very supportive of bringing the program to north central Florida and discussed how various companies, trade groups, counties and other agencies would work together to help support Operation Cleansweep in our area. The group identified a variety of ways that farmers could be notified and encouraged to participate in this program.

V. REGIONAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM

Dwayne Mundy announced that the results of the Emergency Management Competitive Grant should be available any time. Jeff Tucker discussed that the Team had submitted two applications requesting approximately \$275,000. Dwayne Mundy suggested that after the outcome of the grants are decided would be a good time to invite the six remaining counties in the LEPC district to also become members of the Regional Hazmat Team.

VI. PUBLIC INFORMATION ISSUES

February 25 through March 3, 2001, was proclaimed by the LEPC as Hazardous Materials Spill Prevention Week. The week was described as helping raise community and local government awareness as well as promoting spill prevention. Chairman Hudson said that many of our counties, municipalities and school boards also joined the LEPC in proclaiming Hazardous Materials Spill Prevention Week.

ACTION: It was moved by Jeff Tucker and seconded by Edye Rowell, to proclaim the week of February 25 - March 3, 2001, as "Hazardous Materials Spill Prevention Week." The motion carried unanimously.

As part of the week's activities, Dwayne Mundy reported the LEPC distributed a press release informing the public of the new U.S. EPA Vulnerable Zone Indicator System (VZIS) which allows you to find out if an address of interest might be located in a vulnerable zone of a chemical facility that submitted a Risk Management Plan. The VZIS system can be accessed over the Internet at www.ncflepc.org.

Mr. Mundy added the Offsite Consequence Analyses data for our district is available for review, but not photocopying, in the Planning Council office. LEPC members were invited to attend the third annual North Central Florida Hurricane Response Exhibition on April 20-21, 2001, at the Gainesville Airport.

Dwayne Mundy discussed staff recommendations to increase safety at Voltaix in High Springs. Written recommendations were approved by the LEPC to increase coordination with local agencies without requesting that the State Emergency Response Commission name Voltaix as a Section 302 site, as authorized under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.

VII. NOTIFICATIONS, INFORMATION REQUESTS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF 2000 LEPC PLAN

Dwayne Mundy reported on notification, information requests, and distributed copies of the 2000 LEPC Plan.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

John Hudson discussed the State Emergency Response Commission Annual Report and the CHER-CAP exercise held recently in Ocala. Chairman Hudson also invited everyone to the dedication of the hazmat training field at the Florida State Fire College near Ocala on April 11, 2001, at the start of the Florida Transcaer workshop.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

It was decided that the next LEPC meeting would be held on May 18, 2001, at Poe Spring Park, if available. Following the next meeting and lunch, a strategic planning session would be conducted.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Chairman

Date

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