FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

RECAP
October 22, 2014 Meeting

Attendees Present - Rick Walker (LEPC Member/Pinellas County Emergency Mgmt.), Ed Kinley (LEPC Member/U.E.S.), Gary Dunmeyer (Harcros Chemicals), Jeff Hargrove (Fiberglass Coatings Inc./“FGCI”), Rishi Vasudeva (FGCI) and John Meyer (LEPC Staff).

Please note that text appearing as red (if and where applicable) symbolizes an item which requires future action. Blue text (if and where applicable) serves as an update or recognition of action which has transpired since the meeting.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR OVERVIEW OF LAST FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE (FDPS) MEETING

Mr. John Meyer acknowledged that a Recap of the July 23, 2014 FDPS meeting was previously transmitted to Subcommittee members via e-mail, posted to the LEPC website and acknowledged that additional handouts were available for all in attendance. Mr. Meyer proceeded to summarize the following items discussed at the last meeting:

- **Quarterly SERC Meeting Recap** (Reappointing Chief Don Sessions TTF Chair, Hazmat Symposium progress, Mary Hartney presentation regarding Fertilizer Industry initiatives, FDEM’s use of GATOR [Geospatial Assessment Tool for Operations & Response], availability of real-time & historic data regarding Type I rail operations, farewell to FDEM staff member Tim Date, and status update of FY 2014-15 HA Contract)

- **Identification of (then) recent LEPC Initiatives** (‘‘Hightide’’ Regional Exercise Chronology/Photos and ‘‘Community Day’’ @ DeSOTO PARK in TAMPA [June 14, 2014])

- **Progress towards County-specific (if applicable) data and resources for All-Hazards Guide for Businesses.**
3. OVERVIEW OF OCTOBER 2-3, 2014 SERC MEETINGS

Mr. Meyer identified the following as highlights to the April 4th SERC meeting:

**Training Task Force**

- Workshop between Coast Guard, Private Industry, Cruise Lines & local Hazmat Teams to allow consolidated response to offshore incident(s) has been scheduled for October 30th at the State EOC.
- All Florida Hazmat teams are responsible for self-assessing their capabilities. Matt Marshall (Cape Coral Fire Department) & Scott Chapell (Florida State Fire College) have offered to assist with conducting the self-assessments. Pinellas County Hazmat Team’s self-assessment was been scheduled for October 30th.
- Chief Mike Murphy identified that there are some newly-proposed fire regulations worthy of watching which would have a significant impact of volunteer fire departments.
- Each year the Florida Association of Hazardous Materials Responders presents a “Hazardous Materials Responder of the Year” in conjunction with the Fire Rescue East Conference. Matt Marshall identified that nominations are currently being solicited
- Hazmat Symposium update and changes (Jan. 21-23, 2015):
LEPC Staff & Chairs

- Hazards Analyses Working Group Recommendations and status. The Hazards Analysis Working Group identified concerns with the initial Hazards Analyses Contracts. The concerns included the lack of payment if submittal included error(s), the lack of time limitations for FDEM to review submittals and provide input or acceptance... It is alleged that these issues have subsequently been resolved.
- HMEP Program Grant. Guidance/clarification was provided regarding expenses which can and cannot not be encumbered under the HMEP grant program.
- FDEM addressed the fact that all of the LEPCs had not received reimbursements/payments regarding the HMEP grant program since January 2014. Payments have subsequently been received since the SERC meetings.
- Promotion/Encouragement of more hazmat teams participating in competition. While last year’s hazmat team competition consisted solely of three teams from the Orlando area, this year’s competition has already received the commitment of nine teams and that is likely to increase. In addition, participation will be from teams across the State.
- Can add “state defined” fields to E-Plan submittals (e.g. Do you have a hazmat team? What are the company’s hours of operation?)

State Emergency Response Commission

- Overview of Hazards Analyses Contracts & Changes (see above).
- Paul Wotherspoon identified that the Center for Effective Government recently completed a Study entitled “Kids in Danger Zones.” The Study assessment surveys the location of Risk Management Plan facilities in proximity to public schools and their corresponding vulnerabilities.

- Update (then) of Florida’s preparedness for Ebola and other viruses.
4. RECENT LEPC INITIATIVES

Mr. Meyer characterized the following recent activities undertaken by LEPC staff:

- **HMEP Planning/Training Grant.**
- **HMEP Training Needs Assessment Survey.**
- **HMEP Planning Project - Commodity Flow Study.** LEPC District 8 staff has elected to conduct a Commodity Flow Study as the annual HMEP planning project for FY 2014-15. Grant language does not specify that such Study must be conducted for the entire District nor does it specify that all modes of transportation shall be assessed. LEPC staff will therefore determine location(s) and mode(s) to transit to be assessed.

5. COUNTY-SPECIFIC “ALL HAZARDS GUIDE FOR BUSINESSES.”

The FDPS embarked on the development of an electronic database of resources and links designed to assist the business community in preparing/improving their Contingency Plans, Continuity of Operations Plans and Disaster Recovery Plans regarding a variety of natural and manmade hazards. Those hazards consist of: Hazardous Materials, Severe Weather (i.e. Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Thunderstorms/ Lightning & Freshwater Flooding), Fires, Terrorism/Violence in Workplace, Cyberterrorism and Civil Disorder.

Following a definition and picture of each of these hazards, working links will be established for each of the referenced resources. Facility plans can be established/bolstered to address such topics as: resource supply chain information, mutually-beneficial pre-coordination between facilities & government in order to establish prioritization; notification of their suppliers, if appropriate, of closed transportation networks so alternate routes can be determined; potential risk posed by adjacent (or nearby) Section 302 facilities; and need to address temporary housing for employees.

The following constitutes the work product at this point:
Hazardous Materials

Public awareness of the potential danger from accidental releases of hazardous substances heightened over the years as serious chemical accidents occurred around the world. The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (“SARA Title III”) in 1986 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA”) in 1988 were enacted to improve chemical safety, protect public health, protect the environment and increase public awareness.

Resource Links:

- EPA List-of-List
- EPCRA/Sara Title III
- LEPC/SERC
- OSHA/HAZWOPER
- National Weather Svc./NOAA
- State Watch Office
- National Response Center
- County Emergency Mgmt.
- Hazardous Waste Disposal
- Local Fire Departments
- Medical Facilities
- Local Media
- Stormwater Departments
- County Emergency Mgmt.

SEVERE WEATHER

Hurricanes

A hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone or severe tropical storm that forms in the southern Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

All Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coastal areas are subject to hurricanes. The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June to November, with the peak season from mid-August to late October.

Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland. Hurricane can produce winds exceeding 155 miles per hour as well as tornados and microbursts. Additionally, hurricanes can create storm surges along the coast and cause extensive damage from heavy rainfall. Floods and flying debris from the excessive winds are often the deadly and destructive results of these weather events.

Tornados

Tornados are nature's most violent storms. Spawned from powerful thunderstorms, tornados can cause fatalities and devastate a neighborhood in seconds. A tornado appears as a rotating, funnel-shaped cloud that extends from a thunderstorm to the ground with whirling winds that can reach 300 miles per hour. Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long. Every state is at some risk from this hazard. Some tornados are clearly visible, while rain or nearby low-hanging clouds obscure others. Occasionally, tornados develop so rapidly that little, if any, advance warning is possible. Before a tornado hits, the wind may die down and the air may become very still. A cloud of debris can mark the location of a tornado even if a funnel is not visible. Tornadoes generally occur near the trailing edge of a thunderstorm. It is not uncommon to see clear, sunny skies behind a tornado.

Thunderstorms/Lightning

The Tampa Bay Region is #1 in lightning strikes in the U.S. Your business should be able to handle the occasional power outages and protect your facility from potential fires and strikes.

All thunderstorms are dangerous. Every thunderstorm produces lightning. While lightning fatalities have decreased over the past 30 years, lightning continues to be one of the top three storm-related killers in the United States. In 2010 there were 29 fatalities and 182 injuries from lightning. Although most lightning victims survive, people struck by lightning often report a variety of long-term, debilitating symptoms.

Freshwater Flooding

Floods are one of the most common hazards in the United States, however not all floods are alike. Some floods develop slowly, while others such as flash floods, can develop in just a few minutes and without visible signs of rain. Additionally, floods can be local, impacting a neighborhood or community, or very large, affecting entire river basins and multiple states.

Flash floods can occur within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall, a dam or levee failure, or a sudden release of water held by an ice jam. Flash floods often have a dangerous wall of roaring water carrying rocks, mud and other debris. Overland flooding, the most common type of flooding event typically occurs when waterways such as rivers or streams overflow their banks as a result of rainfall and cause flooding in surrounding areas. It can also occur when rainfall exceeds the capacity of underground pipes, or the capacity of streets and drains designed to carry flood water away from urban areas.
**SEVERE WEATHER**

**Resource Links:**

**PLANNING**
- County-Specific Hurricane Maps
- National Hurricane Center
- National Weather Service FloridaDisaster.org
- Ready.gov/Hurricanes
- City websites
- FL11
- Local Media
- FloridaDisaster.org
- WFLA/NOAA
- National Flood Insurance Program

**RECOVERY**
- Local Media
- County GM websites
- Florida Evacuations and FL11
- Medical Facilities
- American Red Cross
- Local Power Companies (Duke, TECO, FPL, Withlacoochee, Peace River)

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**Fires**

Fires are the most frequent hazard affecting businesses. Take steps to protect your facility and your employees. OSHA standards require employers to provide proper exits, fire fighting equipment, emergency plans, and employee training to prevent fire deaths and injuries in the workplace. You can take a few simple precautions which will protect your business and may well preserve the environment you enjoy.

**Links:**

**PLANNING**
- Local Fire Stations
- Firewise Principles
- County websites
- NFPA

**RECOVERY**
- Local Fire Stations
- Local Media

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**Terrorism/Violence In Workplace**

Throughout human history, there have been many threats to the security of nations. These threats have brought about large-scale losses of life, the destruction of property, widespread illness and injury, the displacement of large numbers of people and devastating economic loss. Responding to the psychological impact to employees should be addressed. Recent technological advances and ongoing political unrest are components of the increased risk to national security.

Additionally, businesses can minimize their risk to violence in the workplace by establishing and maintaining strict hiring practices, anti-violence policies and security procedures as well as a host of other measures.

**Links:**

- Employee Assistance Plan
- Dept. of Homeland Security
- FL11

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**Cyberterrorism**

According to Wikipedia, cyberterrorism is defined as the use of Internet based attacks in terrorist activities, including acts of deliberate, large-scale disruption of computer networks, especially of personal computers attached to the Internet, by the means of tools such as computer viruses.

For facilities that produce or store hazardous materials, the following resources can be used to plan for a cyber attack results in a loss of control of the chemical inventories and/or processes.

**Links:**

- US-CERT.gov
- Cyberterrorismcenter.org
- FBI.gov

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**Civil Disorder/Unrest**

According to Wikipedia, civil disorder or civil unrest is a broad term that is typically used by law enforcement to describe one or more forms of unrest caused by a group of people. Civil disturbance is typically a symptom of, and a form of protest against, major socio-political problems. The severity of the action coincides with public expression(s) of displeasure. Examples of civil disorder include, but are not necessarily limited to: illegal parades; sit-ins and other forms of obstruction; riots; sabotage; and other forms of crime. It is intended to be a demonstration to the public and the government, but can escalate into general chaos.

**Links:**

- Local Law Enforcement
- FBI
- Fusion Centers
- Dept. of Homeland Security
- Media
- School Systems (County Specific)
6. **FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE SCHEDULE FOR 2015.** Keeping the trend of meetings scheduled on the third Wednesdays of January, April, July and October from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., the 2015 meeting schedule was announced as: January 21, April 15, July 15 and October 21.

7. **OTHER ISSUES/COMMENTS.**

   No other issues or comments were identified by Subcommittee members.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

   Mr. Meyer reminded attendees that the 2015 FDPS meeting dates have recently been established. *The next meeting of the FDPS will occur on January 21st from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the TBRPC/LEPC offices.*

   The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.