LEPC MEETING RECAP

TAMPA BAY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC) DISTRICT VIII, MEETING August 25, 2010

Vice Chair Jeff Tobergte served as the meeting Chair in the absence of Scott Ehlers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - With no additions or changes identified by the LEPC members, the Chair asked for approval of the May 26, 2010 meeting Minutes. Mr. Jonathan Kemp moved and Mr. Larry Fernald seconded a motion to approve the Minutes. The Minutes were approved unanimously on voice vote.

LEPC DISTRICT 8 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES - Mr. Meyer highlighted numerous changes to the LEPC District 8 membership approved this past quarter. These changes included the addition of Robin Stokes and his Alternate - E. Craig Lynn (Hillsborough County Fire Rescue); Dean Armstrong (Bay Pines VA Healthcare System); Lt. Col Larry Fernald (Civil Air Patrol); Don Hermey as the Alternate to Steve Simpson (Manatee County Emergency Management); Lynne Vadelund as Alan Pratt’s Alternate (CF Industries); and Greg Lindgren as J.J. Johnston’s Alternate (Pasco County Emergency Management).

RECAP OF QUARTERLY SERC MEETINGS - Mr. Meyer stated that a recap of the discussion and/or action items associated with the July 8-9, 2010 SERC Quarterly meetings was provided as part of the Agenda materials e-mailed to LEPC members and posted to the LEPC website.

Mr. Meyer emphasized that significant discussion ensured regarding the following topics: frustration of qualifications necessary to seek reimbursement associated with BP oil spill response efforts; role of the State Emergency Operation Center in oil spill coordination; E-Plan updates and notification of upcoming E-Plan User Conference in Ft. Myers; and theme of “Sheltering In Place” to be emphasized during Hazardous Materials Awareness Week scheduled for mid-February 2011.

HMEP PROGRAM - PLANNING. Subcommittee Chair Alan Pratt indicated that there are no updates and no recent requests for Ammonia Siren briefings. Mr. Pratt recognized that the local Ammonia industry representatives are contemplating the conduct of a tabletop exercise involving a simulated release of Ammonia while transferring between vessels.
FACILITY DISASTER PLANNING PROJECT - Mr. Meyer identified that the Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee met on May 19, 2010 and again on July 15, 2010. Minutes from each of these meetings were included in the members’ detailed Agenda packet. The highlights of the latest meeting included: Chet Klinger’s willingness to accept the Subcommittee Chair position due to the pending relocation of Mr. Bob Westly to the Florida panhandle; initiation of the task to send postcards to Section 302 facilities within the District encouraging their participation in a brief online survey to determine training needs; and need to re-evaluate the Subcommittee’s mission to ensure that we continue to proceed on a desired track.

HMEP PROGRAM - TRAINING - Mr. Meyer stated that a detailed breakdown of 2009-10 HMEP Training expenses was provided in the member’s detailed Agenda packets. The former allotment of dollars has all been spent. The following training courses have all been scheduled and/or conducted for first responders during the fourth and final quarter of the Contract: Hydrogen Cyanide Firefighting Training (Manatee County/July 27-29, 2010); Hazcat Level 1 Training (Pasco County/August 24-27, 2010); and Hazardous Materials Life Safety & Command (Manatee County/September 8-10, 2010).

Mr. Meyer reminded the membership that Mr. Bob Tollise had recently left his post with the Manatee County Hazardous Materials section and his former HMEP Training Subcommittee Chair position for the LEPC. As a result, Mr. Meyer announced the HMEP Training Subcommittee will meet one hour prior to the start of the next scheduled LEPC meeting (November 17, 2010). The intended purpose of this meeting will be to seek nomination(s) for the Subcommittee Chair position as well as strategize training opportunities that may be available with the 2010-11 HMEP funds.

REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASK FORCE (RDSTF) - Mr. Meyer identified that the current RDSTF activities and initiatives are outlined in the detailed Agenda packets as provided by Coordinator Bill Lofgren. Supplemental information was provided regarding the Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan and the need for a Interoperable Communications full-scale exercise prior to “late fall 2011.” The Region 4 RDSTF serves Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties as well as the counties of Hardee, Polk, Hernando, Citrus and Sumter Counties.

CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD (CSB) VIDEO “DANGERS OF HOT WORK” - LEPC staff presented the above-referenced video highlighting the dangers associated with flammable vapor explosions caused by welding and cutting in or around tanks. The video concludes with identification of “seven key lessons” to reduce the risk of death or injury during hot work. The video is available for viewing at the CSB website or on YouTube® under the above-captioned name.

TRAINING/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES - Chair Tobergte recognized that numerous training opportunities were identified within the detailed Agenda materials. These opportunities were:

- SERC’s State Training and Events Schedule - Various FL Locations/Various Times (May - Aug. 2010)
- Comprehensive Data Management Course (E317) - Emmitsburg, MD, September 13-16, 2010
Community Hurricane Preparedness Course (IS-324.a) - Emmitsburg, MD, Ongoing/Independent Study
- Hazcat Level 1 Course - New Port Richey, FL, August 24-27, 2010
- Communicating with the Media during a Hazmat Incident and Other Disasters - Fort Myers, FL, August 25, 2010
- Hazardous Waste/Materials Annual Refresher Course - Naples, FL, August 27, 2010
- Hazardous Materials Life Safety & Command - Palmetto, FL, September 8-10, 2010
- E-Plan Users Group Conference - Ft. Myers, FL, October 21-22, 2010

The only additional Conference opportunity identified by LEPC members was the upcoming Clean Gulf Conference scheduled for October 19-20, 2010 in Tampa. Details regarding this conference are available from www.cleangulf.org.

ELECTIONS - Since no nominations were received for the LEPC Chair and Vice Chair positions prior to the imposed August 6, 2010 deadline and no nominations were accepted from the floor, Ms. Hallie Calig, Membership Subcommittee Chair, sought and accepted a motion from Mr. Larry Fernald and a second from Mr. Doug Wenger to re-elect Scott Ehlers (as Chair) and Jeff Tobergte (as Vice-Chair) to additional two-year terms by acclamation. Such motion was approved unanimously.

TAMPA BAY LEPC HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN UPDATE - Mr. Meyer confirmed that the annual update of the Tampa Bay Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan was completed and submitted to the FDEM, as required. Several minor revisions have recently been requested by FDEM staff. Upon incorporation of this information as received from various LEPC members, the revised Plan will be resubmitted to the FDEM for acceptance. Upon such acceptance, the Plan will be distributed to the required parties.

FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (FDEM)/REGION 4 QUARTERLY MEETING - Mr. Meyer indicated that FDEM Region 4 did not conduct a meeting last quarter due to the Coordinator’s (Paul Sidall) responsibilities associated with the oil spill response. The next meeting has been scheduled for Friday, September 3rd at the new Polk County EOC. A recap or Minutes of the meeting will be included in the November LEPC Agenda packet.

THOMAS YATABE AWARDS NOMINATIONS - Mr. Meyer identified that it is that time of year, once again, where deserving individual(s), agency(ies) and/or organization(s) are recognized for their “outstanding contribution made in the implementation and support of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act through achievement(s), accomplishment(s) or superior participation in hazardous material planning or response.” Such Awards are presented in conjunction with the October SERC meetings. Nomination forms and procedures were mailed to each of the LEPC members on August 24, 2010. Mr. Meyer indicated that all nominations shall be submitted to his attention by August 31, 2010, as instructed in the e-mail.

OTHER LEPC BUSINESS - None was identified.
TAMPA BAY LEPC LOGO SHIRTS - Chair Tobergte indicated that LEPC Logo Shirts are still available. If interested, please contact Mr. John Meyer.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None was identified

NEXT MEETING - Chair Tobergte announced that the next LEPC meeting will be held November 17, 2010 at the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council offices, 4000 Gateway Centre, Suite 100, Pinellas Park, FL 33782. The mailout for this meeting will be done on or before November 8, 2010 and posted to the LEPC website.

ADJOURNMENT - Without objection and upon a motion of Jonathan Kemp and second by Mr. Doug Wenger, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.