

**NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Gainesville Regional Utilities
Eastside Operations Center
4747 N. Main St., Gainesville, Florida

Thursday, 14 February, 2013
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Mills, Chair
Bill Ellis
Michael Heeder for
 Brian Johns
Scott Holowasko
Gracie Kennedy
David Meurer
Shayne Morgan
John Mousa
David Peaton
Dan Smith for
 Donnie Sessions
T.F. Smoak

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Donnelly
Robert Garbett
Scott Garner
Carl Glebowski
Keith Godwin
Sylvia Ifft
Erica Kight (excused)
Paul Kremer
Donnie Land
Jennifer Paris
Edye Rowell
Casey Schmelz
Kimberly Thomas
Steve Truluck
Ed Ward
Megan Wetherington

GUESTS PRESENT

Mike Conner, SCFR
Rick Davis, GRU
Dave Dickers, SRWMD
Robin Gedeon, Buckeye
Brian Gibson, FDEM
Boi Hoang, GRU
Lucas Hodge, SCFR
Ebbin Spellman, ACEM

STAFF PRESENT

Dwayne Mundy

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tim Alexander
Frank Armijo
Mike Brimeyer
Tom Cisco
Clint Daugherty

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

I. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Ron Mills welcomed everyone and asked that they introduce themselves. Chairman Mills thanked Scott Holowasko and Gainesville Regional Utilities for providing a location for today's meeting and workshops. Chairman Mills reported that the LEPC has been busy and attended Training Task Force, LEPC's Chairs and staff and State Emergency Response Commission meetings held in Daytona Beach. He said that a lot of concern was expressed at the LEPC Chairs and SERC meetings opposing the Florida Division of Emergency Management proposal to eliminate Hazard Analyses.

Chairman Mills provided a background on the recent Florida Emergency Preparedness Association annual meeting where he was elected President of the organization. He encouraged people to consider joining FEPA if they are not already a member.

Scott Holowasko from Gainesville Regional Utilities also welcomed everyone to the Gainesville Regional Utilities Eastside Operations Center. He noted that many of the buildings are extremely energy efficient and are recognized with LEEDS certification.

II. APPROVAL OF 15 NOVEMBER 2012, LEPC MEETING MINUTES

Action: It was moved by Shayne Morgan and seconded by Michael Heeder to adopt the minutes of the 15 November 2012, LEPC meeting as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

III. LEPC BUSINESS ITEMS

Chairman Mills reported that today's quarterly meeting represents the 25th Anniversary of the first North Central Florida LEPC meeting. In celebration of this event, Vice Chair of Public Information, Shayne Morgan demonstrated the use of the shelter in place model house. It was noted that the display gathers more attention when accompanied by a plate of cookies. LEPC staff, Dwayne Mundy gave a quiz on former LEPC members, three letter abbreviations, and hazardous materials regulations.

Chairman Ron Mills continued his report on the importance of and need for LEPCs and our local governments to support the continuation of the Hazard Analysis process. It was concluded that the members are very concerned that the current Division proposed action to eliminate site specific Hazards Analyses for facilities is an unnecessary threat to the health and safety of emergency responders and the communities that surround chemical facilities.

It was noted that all of the fees spent on the Hazardous Materials preparedness program are generated by the facilities that have the hazardous materials. The group discussed and concluded that it is critical to keep funding the Hazard Analysis project through the use of these fees. We strongly support maintaining and enhancing the current hazards analyses process.

Chairman Ron Mills said that he was available to attend any County Commission meetings to report on the importance of continuing Hazard Analysis for each county. It was reported that the main job of the LEPC is to prepare Emergency Response Plans for facilities that contain extremely hazardous substances and that a site visit is necessary in order to do a good job of this critical planning effort.

Action: It was moved by Shayne Morgan and seconded by Scott Holowasko to send a letter to the chairman of the State Emergency Response Commission strongly supporting the continuation of the Hazard Analysis. The motion passed unanimously.

Dwayne Mundy reported that the Division of Emergency Management once again has a new electronic data submission system available to facilities that choose to report their Tier II chemical inventories electronically. Dwayne Mundy reported that unlike the systems of the past 12 years, this system appears to work, based on his review of the submission process and facility feedback. He also added that unlike the previous FLHMIS.ORG system, that this system does not corrupt the data which resulted in inaccurate information being provided to the Emergency Responders who try to use it.

A hand out was referenced where on June 17th , 2011, that the State Emergency Response Commission submitted a draft memorandum of understanding that included the acknowledgement that a formal arrangement is necessary where local emergency planning committees and fire departments could share information submitted to one location.

Action: It was moved by Shayne Morgan and seconded by Bill Ellis to resolve that submission of Tier II information to the SERC E-Plan online reporting system also satisfies the requirement that a facility report to the LEPC. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC INFORMATION ISSUES

Rick Davis from Gainesville Regional Utilities was presented his State Emergency Response Commission Certificate of Appreciation for his participation in the Risk Management Program audits conducted last year by the FDEM. The main theme for this year's awards was recognition of facility and FDEM staff that participated in the site audits. It was discussed that Buckeye and City of Perry that also participated in the audits can be nominated next year for certificates of appreciation,

Shayne Morgan reported that we are in the middle of Hazardous Materials Awareness week and that a series of Improving Chemical Safety seminars are being conducted by the LEPC. It was noted that these were held in conjunction with Hazardous Waste Compliance seminars, which are also being conducted during the week. It was reported that work continues on updating the LEPC web pages. Shayne Morgan reported that Erica Knight who is the media representative on the LEPC has recently had a baby and that an additional media person could be used in her absence. No other public information issues were identified.

V. FIRST RESPONDERS ISSUES

The group discussed that all counties are in the process updating their Multiyear Training and Exercise Programs and LEPC training and exercise activities should be included in this process. Area Coordinator Brian Gibson recommended coordinating training and exercise opportunities with adjacent LEPCs. It was decided that a conference call should be held to discuss training and exercise ideas.

It was reported that the SERC Training Task Force is working on a number of issues. One issue of interest to the LEPC is the TRANSCAER Workshop being held at the Florida State Fire College in September 2013. It was noted that Donnie Sessions is the Chair of the State Emergency Response Commission Training Task Force.

Shayne Morgan gave a report on the activities of the Regional Hazmat Team which had a meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 in Gilchrist County. Shayne Morgan reported that the Regional Hazmat Team supported keeping the Hazards Analyses process and is in the process of organizing some technician level refresher class dates in Lake City, Live Oak, and Bell. Work is also being considered on expanding the Hazmat Boot Camp in Bell as a more centralized location with a training class room in Gilchrist County.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS AND INFORMATION REQUESTS

Scott Holowasko invited members to consider attending the Florida Environmental Health and Safety Round Table which is being held in the springtime in Gainesville.

Michael Heeder reported that Bradford County is working on a new Mobile Command Post Trailer that was funded through some de-obligated funds from Homeland Security Grants.

Dwayne Mundy reported that there is interest in facilities, responders and hospitals in participating in a July table top exercise. The scenario would involve coordination with taking contaminated patients from facilities by responders and all the way thru hospitals to ensure a continuity of care of contaminated patients.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting date was discussed and set for Thursday, April 16, 2013 at 10:00 am at the PCS Phosphate Conference Center. The Regional Hazmat Team reported that it had set its next meeting for 11:30 am that same day and location.

It was moved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Chairman

Date