

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes of May 26, 2022

The Southwest Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met on March 26, 2022, at the Charlotte County EOC, 26571 Airport Road, Punta Gorda, FL, 33982. The following members were present during the proceedings which began at 9:30 a.m.

LEPC Members Present

Dave Rawicz, Cheney Brothers
Nadine Cortez, Cheney Brothers
Scott Davis, Fort Myers Fire Department
Jon Diamond, Lee County Emergency Management
Derek Free, AOTC
Chad Lorenz, Interested Citizen
Rhonda Holtzclaw, FGCU
Dawn Lorenz, Lee Health
Robert Fisher, Lee Health
Greg Pacter, Collier County Fire/EMS
Dan Sieber, San Carlos Park Fire
Jason Wilkins, Sarasota County Fire
John Yanc, FDEP OER
Kenrick Roguska, Charlotte County S.O.
Mat Marshall, Cape Coral Fire

Others Present

Ellen Pinder, Charlotte County CM
Shane Styza, Charlotte County Fire/EMS
Laura Phillips, The Liquid Plant
Amelia Williams, SWFRPC– LEPC Coordinator

**AGENDA ITEM #1-3
Call to Order & Introductions**

There was no member who wished to give an invocation. Chief Marshall called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Each member was asked to introduce themselves. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**AGENDA ITEM #4
Minutes of the February 24, 2022 Meeting**

Chief Marshall entertained a motion to accept the draft LEPC meeting minutes of the February 24, 2022 meeting.

A motion was made by Chief Scott Davis to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2022 LEPC meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Chief Dan Sieber and passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5 LEPC Membership

There was one nomination form submitted for LEPC membership.

- Laura Phillips, Facility Owners and Operators (The Liquid Plant)

A motion was made by Chief Sieber to approve the LEPC membership of Laura Phillips. The motion was seconded by Chief Davis and passed unanimously.

Recertification of Members

Ms. Williams requested a motion authorizing the Chair to request recertification of all current LEPC members for additional two-year terms, sharing that the Florida State Emergency Response Commission Policies for Local Emergency Planning Committees states, in Section 1.E.3, "All members may be re-nominated and re-appointed through the SERC's biennial appointment process."

A motion was made by Chief Davis to authorize the Chair to request recertification by SERC of all present LEPC members for an additional two-years and seconded by Lieutenant Kenrick Roguska. The motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #6 2022 Hazardous Material Emergency Response Plan

Ms. Williams explained that our yearly update to the plan is complete, the final version is linked in the packet and can also be found on the SWFRPC website.

https://www.swfrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/Programs/LEPC/2022-LEPC_Plan_Final_Draft.pdf

A motion was made by Chief Sieber to approve the LEPC Hazardous Material Emergency Response Plan update as presented. The motion was seconded by Chief Davis and passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #7 Presentation

Chief Marshall gave the membership a brief overview of the BUXUS system. BUXUS is an online app designed for gas transmission systems to upload their pipelines so that first responders can log in and see where the pipelines are located to access during emergencies. The state has asked companies to join, with some joining and others not. The system would be great for

places that drill and utilize directional drilling, as it will allow first responders to know where the pipes are, where they lead, and where the leak is located. The app includes major transmission lines, but not small feeder lines.

AGENDA ITEM #8
Meeting Schedule & Locations

The 2021-2022 LEPC meeting schedule is as follows:

- **Thursday, August 25, 2022**
- **Thursday, December 1, 2022**

Ms. Williams requested that anyone who has a meeting location available for our LEPC meeting days, with technology capabilities to please let her know. Mr. Jon Diamond offered the Lee County EOC for the August meeting. Other locations TBD.

AGENDA ITEM #9
SERC Meeting Recap

Ms. Williams attended the April SERC meeting that was held April 14-15, 2022 in Altamonte Springs, FL. A quorum was not present at the SERC meeting. The following items were discussed:

Offshore Hazmat Pilot Program: The status of the U.S. Coast Guard, NOVA Southeastern, and FDEM/SERC Offshore Hazmat Response training initiative was discussed. The first training was scheduled for late April in Fort Lauderdale. This first pilot training delivery will be evaluated by subject matter experts to help the TTF identify potential improvements and finalize the length of the training.

HazMat Working Group: They finalized their “How-To Guide” that will be included in the contracts and posted on FDEM SharePoint.

LEPC Support Contract: The shortage of funding for the LEPC contracts will remain in place through the 2022 and 2023 contract cycles. FDEM’s proposal to fund the program and state and regional LEPCs was approved for half of the requested budget. LEPCs contract statewide will remain the same for the next year.

Chief Marshall announced that the next SERC meeting will take place on July 14-15 at the Naples Grande Hotel in Naples, FL.

AGENDA ITEM #10
LEPC HazMat Exercise 2021-2022

Chief Styza gave an overview of the Full-Scale Exercise that took place March 8-10 in Charlotte County, with various HazMat teams responding in accordance with the State Emergency Response Plan. The HazMat teams setup operations in a hurricane affected area with simulated potential hazmat leaks and spills at various locations, including Cheyney Brothers, AmeriGas, and the Water Treatment Facility. Three HazMat teams met at a base operation each day, simulated calls for reported spills, left as a rapid assessment team, verified if there was a leak or issue, and reported back to request resources. The major hazards were liquid petroleum gas, anhydrous ammonia, and chlorine. It was very successful exercise.

Chief Davis commented that each team stayed busy and worked well together. Chief Marshall stated that this was the first exercise of the HazMat portion of the newly approved State Emergency Response Plan. The 48th CST evaluated the exercise and provided helpful feedback.

Chief Styza commented the success of bringing together HazMat teams from different areas and how well they were able to work alongside one another.

The After-Action Report will be finalized in June.

AGENDA ITEM #11 Southwest Florida LEPC Training Subcommittee Report

Chief Styza stated that the Charlotte County HazMat Tech course was completed at the end of March and was successful. Chief Marshall commented that there is currently a HazMat tech course happening out of North Collier with 28 students from Collier and Lee Counties.

Chief Marshall asked for suggestions for trainings that would be completed by August 1 to be included in a proposal for FDEM. Chief Styza suggested a one-day Detection and Rapid Analysis of HazMats class repeated three days. Captain Wilkins suggested a one-day Detection and Rapid Analysis of Hazardous Material Technician Course that will run for three days. Chief Marshall suggested a HazMat Tech Course that would finish at the end of July in Fort Myers.

A motion to include the suggested courses on the training funds proposal for FDEM to be submitted on Friday, May 27th, was made by Chief Davis and seconded by Lieutenant Roguska. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Yanc announced free trainings offered by OSHA, with classes including Operations-level Response to HazMat, HazMat Tanker Roll-over Response, and an Anhydrous Ammonia and Chlorine Leak trainings, available to 40 students.

Chief Marshall discussed funding for the next fiscal year, as of October 1. The HazMat Symposium typically utilizes between \$20,000-25,000. Chief Marshall requested a motion for allocating more funding to provide the opportunity to send more people from the local jurisdictions.

A motion to increase the funding allocated for the HazMat Symposium to \$24,000 was

made by Chief Sieber and seconded by Chief Davis. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chief Marshall asked for quotes for classes for next FY, starting October 1, submitted to Ms. Williams for the Training Subcommittee to rank before the August 25th meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #12
Tier II Reporting and E-Plan Update

Chief Marshall stated there are no updates to report.

AGENDA ITEM #13
Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) Trainings and Events

Chief Marshall explained that on the State's website <http://trac.floridadisaster.org/trac/trainingcalendar.aspx> there is the calendar of events and trainings that are available. The events are also listed in the meeting packet.

AGENDA ITEM #14
Hazardous Material Incidents in Southwest Florida

Chief Marshall explained that on the State's website <https://apps.floridadisaster.org/swo/ArchiveNonAdmin.aspx> there is a running list of hazardous materials incidents by county. The incidents are also listed in the meeting packet.

Chief Marshall stated there have been USAR deployments. There was discussion of a recent incident in Sarasota County at the Water Treatment Plant. There was discussion of a tanker rollover in Charlotte County earlier this year, and about contracted clean-up companies and whether they always have the equipment or personnel for successful clean-up.

AGENDA ITEM #15
Topics for Future Meeting

There were no topics discussed.

AGENDA ITEM #16
Members' Comments

There were no topics discussed.

AGENDA ITEM #17
Public Comments

There were no public comments.

AGENDA ITEM #18
Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for August 25, 2022.

AGENDA ITEM #20
Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 10:40 a.m. by Chief Marshall.

Chairman Bruce Porter

Approval Date

The meeting was duly advertised on May 17, 2022, in the Florida Administrative Register, Volume 48, Number 97.