

CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE



DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, and Polk Counties

CHAIRMAN: Dan Bartle
VICE-CHAIR: Codi Donahoe

Quarterly Meeting Minutes August 3, 2023, at 9:40 a.m.

Virtual at GoToMeeting

In-Person at Florida Polytechnic University, 4400 Polytechnic Circle Lakeland, FL 33868

1. Call to Order

- A. Daniel Bartle called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- B. Those in attendance both online and in person included:

Emergency Management

- Rick Christoff, DeSoto Co. Emergency Management
- Billy Abernathy, Polk County Emergency Management
- Ashley Shive, A-C-T Environmental & Infrastructure Inc.

Facility Owners and Operators

- Gary Doyen, Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC
- Greg Hall, Publix Super Markets, Inc.
- Doug Lillie, Burris Logistics
- Keith Hazzard, Burris Logistics
- Joe Noel, Florikan ESA, LLC

Fire Recue

- Codi Donahoe, Polk County Fire Recue

Education

- Danial Bartle, Florida Polytechnic University

Interested Citizen

- Tim Bennett, RISC-Risk Insurance Consulting

Local Environmental

- Jon Belcher, FL Department of Environmental Protection
- Heidi Hoffman, FL Department of Environmental Protection

Local Option

- Todd Tanner, Private Citizen

Staff

- Curtis Knowles, LEPC Staff
- April Dasilva, LEPC Staff

Public

- Rebecca George, FDEP SE District
- Griselda Duran, Hardee County Emergency Management
- Tim Deese, Burris Logistic

2. Approve Draft February 23, 2023, Central Florida LEPC Meeting Minutes

Actions Requested:	Approve Draft May 3, 2023, Central Florida LEPC Meeting Minutes
Motion	Ashley Shive
Second	Greg Hall
Approved:	Passed

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3. Old Business

- a. None

4. New Business

- a. Dan welcomed the group to the University and briefed the group on the current capacity of the school and some of the architectural features on the campus.
- b. Curtis included the proposed new regions from the Florida Division of Emergency Management in the agenda packet. The FDEM moved to a 10-region which aligns with the current LEPC regions. Our new FDEM region is called "Region 7".
- c. Curtis included the Central Florida Hazardous Materials Plan draft in the meeting agenda packet. The bulk of the changes are minor edits to the region's updated census data i.e. housing, race, income, etc. The Plan includes forms for outreach (press releases, etc.) as well as local emergency response community points of contact. There were no additional changes suggested at the meeting.
- d. No regional incidents were shared among the members during the meeting. Curtis shared a summary of incidents from the FDEM that occurred across the state of FL which included some incidents within our region, mainly traffic incidents within the region.

5. Subcommittee Reports

- a. James Simpson from Hardee County Fire Rescue and Tom West, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (South District Office) applications for alternate members will be received in the upcoming October SERC meeting.
- b. Recap July 2023 SERC, TTF, and LEPC Chairs and Coordinators Meetings
A common discussion topic during the recent SERC meeting focused on Lithium-ion batteries and the disposal of these batteries. When these batteries are disposed of improperly or when damaged, they can catch fire. Part of the problem that has been discovered during the fire investigations is the separator fails which allows the battery to fail. Curtis shared a discussion from the SERC meeting regarding trying to discharge the batteries per USDOT specifications in plastic buckets; however, if the battery catches fire, it burns through the plastic buckets so there is some discussion regarding moving to metal buckets instead of the plastic. Curtis also noted an incident that occurred within a Lithium Batteries storage facility where a fire broke out, and was extinguished; however, other batteries at the facility continued to fail which caused problems and more fires. The responders were active for 3 months at this site, due to battery after battery catching fire.

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Curtis also noted the discussion on Lithium Batteries was via an informative presentation and is hoping to encourage the presenters to attend one of our upcoming LEPC meetings to share this information. Bryan Vasser with EPA gave an excellent presentation about his response to a Lithium Battery incident.

The Florida State Fire College got \$2.5 million dollars to replace their Florida State Fire College Electronic Information Database (FCDICE). It will take 18-24 months to update the system.

An Ammonia release incident occurred at the Coca-Cola facility in Auburndale, and as a result of this incident they had to have a public meeting within 90 days of the incident to talk about the incident and explain what occurred to the surrounding community. They reached out to Curtis for assistance in organizing this public meeting. Curtis brought this to the SERC's Chairs and Coordinators meeting and got some answers that this is a standard public meeting without a required agenda and the LEPC does not need to attend the meeting. This was helpful to know to let the other LEPC coordinators across the State know how to proceed if this happens in their Regions.

The Florida Hazmat Symposium will be at the same location held in January 2023 and will be in the same time frame, around MLK Jr. weekend of 2024.

Jason Marvel with FlowMSP spoke at the SERC meetings about his free (basic version) software to all first responders across the state. Currently there are 461 fire departments across the state of Florida that use FlowMSP. They take the Tier 2 data filed in ePlan for the State of Florida and bring it into their system for response calls. The first responder will be able to conduct their pre-planning and incident response using this system. There was a question: Can the users be individuals or a group, i.e. Engine 1? It can be both; however, if it is an Engine, then it must have an email address at the County/City with that Engine 1 name in it. The City of Coco does have the full version and Curtis encouraged the group to reach out to the Chief there to discuss the software and its functionality. Some questions regarding integration of CAMEO into this system, Curtis said this is something the owners are looking into. Attendees are wondering if you can export the data and Curtis believes that data can be exported and brought into local GIS files. However, this will need to be confirmed with FlowMSP staff.

Appointed new primary members: Elissa Walls, Lineage Logistics and Earl Wooten, Okeechobee County Fire Rescue

The next SERC, TTF, and LEPC Chairs and Coordinators Meetings are as follows:

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- SERC's Training Task Force –October 19 at 0930 tentatively Tallahassee but could change.
- SERC's LEPC Chairs and Coordinators – October 19 at 1300 tentatively Tallahassee but could change.
- SERC – October 20 at 0930 tentatively Tallahassee but could change.

b. Training

Since FDEM has gone to 10 regions, they have not updated the FDEM Training Calendar. Make sure you look at our old Regions 4/6 as well as our new Region 7 for training classes.

- i. Upcoming Florida Division of Emergency Management Training Calendar
<https://trac.floridadisaster.org/trac/trainingcalendar.aspx>. Region 10 has not been populated with training classes at this time.

1. FDEM Region 4

- a. 2019 V G300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents
- b. 2019 V G-400: Advanced Incident Command System Command & General Staff
- c. AWR-310: Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders
- d. FL-FROC-602: Florida Recovery Obligation Calculation (F-ROC): Approach and Overview for Leaders
- e. L-428: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train the Trainer
- f. L-970: Supply Unit Leader
- g. G-191: Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface

2. FDEM Region 6

- a. Florida Recovery Obligation Calculation (F-ROC): Approach and Overview for Leaders
- b. 2019 V G300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents
- c. L-962: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Planning Section Chief
- d. G-108: Community Mass Care Management
- e. 2019 V G-400: Advanced Incident Command System Command & General Staff

ii. TRANSCAER

<https://www.transcaer.com/training/training-events/us-fl>

1. None listed at this time

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6. Comments from Members/Public

Burt updated the group on the new training he is conducting. Some new challenges are coming up. OSHA classes are currently 8 hours and will include a component on CAMEO. After a recent incident in Polk County, there will likely be a new training class at the end of September regarding these batteries and disposal.

Cyber Secure FL awareness flyer was also sent out for attendees to register and attend.

Curtis shared the flyer from the Florida State Fire College, who will be hosting the first Lithium-Ion Battery Symposium at their office in Ocala from September 7-8, 2023. It will cost \$100 to attend and \$125 after August 10.

Curtis received an email from the State regarding funding from DOT for hazardous materials emergency training grant funds. This looks like a broad range of topics that provides funds for private companies, emergency management organizations, community assistance grants, not-for-profit organizations, etc. Curtis will be forwarding this information on to the members to review and apply as they see fit.

7. Next CF-LEPC Meeting

November 16, 2023 at 9:30am, A.C.T. Environmental Inc in Bartow

8. Adjourn

Dan Bartle adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Bartle, LEPC Chairman

This meeting was duly advertised in the July 20, 2023 issue of the FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER, Issue: 49/141.