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## State of Louisiana First Responder Subcommittee

WILLY MARTIN  
CHAIRMAN

COL MICHAEL D. EDMONSON  
VICE CHAIRMAN

### First Responders Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 1, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.  
Fusion Center  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

#### Call to Order

Chair Sheriff Willy Martin called to order the regular meeting of the First Responders Subcommittee at 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, September 1, 2011 in the LA-SAFE (Fusion Center) conference room in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

ILO of roll call, using the sign in sheet it was decided that a quorum of the statutory members of the subcommittee were present. The following First Responder Subcommittee organizations were present: State Representative, Louisiana State Police, GOHSEP, Fire Chiefs' Association, Louisiana Sheriff's Association, Louisiana Fire Chief's Association, State Fire Marshall's Office, and Parish OHSEP Director. Invited organizations present: Louisiana National Guard, United States Coast Guard, Wildlife and Fisheries, DHS.

Listed as absent from the roll call: Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police.

The following individuals were present: Willy Martin, Chuck McNeal, Neal Fudge, Tommy Thiebaud, Paul Stocklin, Clay Rives, Chuck Hurst, Spencer Cole, Bodi White, Brant Thompson, Mark Harrell, Melissa Stockstill, and Ric Moore.

#### Approval of Minutes

Clay Rives made a motion to approve the previous minutes of First Responders Subcommittee meeting. Tommy Thiebaud seconded the motion. The committee approved the minutes.

GOHSEP - Melissa Stockstill presented a Homeland Security Grant update on FY-11. She gave a recap of 2010 grants followed by the grants available for 2011. The briefing information centered on the decrease in overall grant funding and the changes in the specific grant programs. A significant decrease, down to 13.9mill for 2011, was announced and its effect certain grants. While grant funding to UASIs and BZPP were zero; Operation Stone Garden was added. She also explained a NEMA, with the Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council (GHSAC), proposal to combine future grants and to target mission capabilities and needs of the state.

Clay Rives presented an explanation of grants; and how to request or use the funds. He pointed out the federal requirement for proposals, with performance measures, on the expenditure of the funds. He emphasized the requirement of a Parish Emergency

Management Advisory Committee (PEMAC) and reinforced the fact that the state's grants were reduced 51% for 2011. He asked for recommendations on the risk formula used to dispense funds from the state to the parishes. An explanation of the baseline the formula gives to the parishes with a designated percentage to law enforcement. He said that there were certain groups that did not spend their grant funds effectively and scrambled to spend unused monies at the end of cycle. He is reviewing process in order to reallocate unused funds to state level where they can be used efficiently.

LFCA – Merrick Tassin announced that funding for Urban Search and Rescue (SAR) might be available from other sources. He also discussed the need for consideration of schools and active shooter training programs.

GOHSEP/LA-SAFE – Ric Moore briefed on committee on the initiatives of listing and prioritization of Louisiana CIKR, and suspicious activity reporting. He explained the process of using HSIN as a site to collect specific site information to determine Risk (with the components of consequence, vulnerability, and threat) of each individual site. Further discussion of how this information, in addition to ACAMS and other assessments would assist GOHSEP in adding to the number of sites accepted by DHS as significant was presented. He explained that the number of sites meeting the Risk criteria established by DHS and accepted at the federal level had a direct effect on the State's grant funding.

On the topic of suspicious activity reporting, he reviewed the "See Something, Say Something" campaign and the plan to introduce it in the near future.

USCG - Paul Stocklin requested that Ric Moore exchange information with USCG on CIKR for list compatibility, and that he attend their future meeting to explain prioritization on Risk. He also explained the USCG was experiencing the same grant reductions.

LANG - Neal Fudge inquired about specifics of ACAMS data input and competitive grant funding to the parishes with Risk as a component. He also briefed on the current LANG projects of potable water and marsh fires. He briefed on the LANG CERF-P that will be operational 2012, explaining team components, missions, and logistics.

LSP/LA-SAFE – Chuck McNeal gave a threat brief concentrating on the current 9/11 threat to large cities and transportation. He explained the major threat as Homegrown Violent Extremists (HVEs).

LWLF – Spencer Cole presented updates on the Louisiana Maritime Special Response Team and the BOAT Program;

LSP SWAT members completed their boat training in grand isle. Members received certifications as Boat Crew Members in the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) PROGRAM.

LDWF/LED MSRT members will complete their training this month in grand isle. Members will receive certifications as Tactical Boat Operators in the NASBLA BOAT Program. The Louisiana MSRT will continue to train together in order to enhance operational capabilities.

Update on the BOAT Program

The BOAT Program establishes a national standard for the training, qualification,

credentialing and typing of maritime law enforcement and rescue personnel that is a standard that is accepted by USCG, DHS and FEMA. As a program of competency, it allows agencies the flexibility to adapt it to their own needs. This is possible because the program provides for baseline and advanced standards of training for all maritime law enforcement and rescue personnel, from a boat crewmember to a tactical operator. Over the last year, LDWF/LED has been working with NASBLA and the USCG Office of Boat Forces on the departments transition to the program and also to make the training more available to our partners on the water in Louisiana. The state has long needed an accepted standardized training curriculum for the states marine law enforcement officers. LDWF/LED has submitted a training plan to NASBLA for accreditation and will become the first agency in the country to receive accreditation. This plan will facilitate the LDWF/LEDs transition and work to provide the training to other marine law enforcement officers. LDWF/LED is working towards the adoption and implementation of the BOAT Program for all maritime law enforcement agencies throughout the state. LDWF/LED is seeking POST recognition for each level of certification in the BOAT Program. LDWF/LED plans to work with GOHSEP, POST, LSA, IACP, Ports and the USCG on statewide adoption and implementation of the program. A standardized training curriculum will enhance the state's maritime law enforcement officers ability to provide safety, security and work with other agencies in Louisiana's maritime domain.

DPS-OSFM - Brant Thompson briefed the group on the threat of arson; more certifications has been done and thanked GOHSEP for their assistance; and promoting more training and partnerships are their aim.

### **New Business**

Next meeting be decided later and confirmed via email.

There was no new business.

### **Adjournment**

Vice Chair Mike Edmondson adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m. on a motion from Tommy Thibaud made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Neal Fudge seconded.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes approved by:

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Willy Martin, Jr., Chair

### **Summary of Action Items**

1.) Input to Clay Rives concerning Risk formula for grant funding to parishes.