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GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana First Responder Subcommittee

WILLY MARTIN
CHAIRMAN

COL MICHAEL D. EDMONSON
VICE CHAIRMAN

First Responders Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 30, 2012 – 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 Wednesday, May 30, 2012 in the LA-SAFE (Fusion Center) conference room in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Roll call was taken and a quorum of the statutory members of the subcommittee was present. The following First Responder Subcommittee organizations were present: Louisiana Sheriffs Association, DPS/Louisiana State Police, GOHSEP, Louisiana Sheriff's Association, Louisiana Fire Chief's Association, State Fire Marshall's Office, and Parish OHSEP Director Subcmt. Ex-officio members present were Louisiana National Guard and LA Wildlife and Fisheries. Invited organizations present was: United States Coast Guard

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

The following individuals were present: Sheriff Willy Martin, CPT Paul Edmonson, Director Kevin Davis, Lt. Chuck McNeal, Cpt. Neal Fudge, Tommy Thiebaud, Mark Stewart, Clay Rives, Chuck Hurst, Spencer Cole, Brant Thompson, Chris Guilbeaux, Pat Santos, Jerry Monier, Aaron Marcelle, Charles England, Russ Bowen, and Ric Moore.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made to approve the previous minutes of First Responders Subcommittee meeting. Tommy Thiebaud seconded the motion. The committee approved the minutes.

GOHSEP – Clay Rives presented a Homeland Security Grant update on FY-12. He gave a recap of DHS grant evolution to explain how the structure of the grants will remain to be itemized. We continue to be looking at reduction of funds. Clay then explained the different grants and talked about how all grants have been reduced over past years. Clay pointed out that in 2011 they dropped most and that we are still working off 2008 -2010 years. We also continue to use funds for law enforcement and terror prevention activities. Clay also explained how New Orleans rose to a level to receive UASI funds. GOHSEP wished that the proposal had been adopted to combine future grants to target mission capabilities and needs of the state. This would have assisted in more overall distribution but we can only manage the grants with 80% going to local and 20% for administration. Clays' briefing information centered on the decrease in overall grant funding and the changes in the specific grant programs.

GOHSEP Dep. Dir. Pat Santos covered the plan that GOHSEP has to bring all partners in to plan a means that will effectively use the funds based on capabilities and gaps. He said we needed a holistic approach to capabilities and gaps to consolidate and distribute funds efficiently and incorporate sustainment. Possible regionalizing was discussed along with the important to work together to collect threat and risk information. It is part of the plan to get people together in Aug / Sep 2012 to work on the plan to develop “investment justifications” for 2013 and to prioritize needs

LSP/LA-SAFE – Paul Edmonson and Chuck McNeal gave a threat brief concentrating on the current threat. Chuck identified one of the major threats as Sovereign Citizens and explained who and what they were. He said that we were seeing more reports in the state and it could be due to increase in knowledge and awareness. Chuck also discussed some of the present trends in various crimes, the Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) program, and our Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) training. Paul told committee about the new Fusion Center program of TacTrend that scans Facebook, Twitter, etc. and gave some examples of success.

GOHSEP/LA-SAFE – Ric Moore briefed on committee on the initiatives of the Louisiana Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high yield Explosive (LA-CBRNE) Working Group. He briefed the committee on who the members of the working group were and the workshops agendas that had been held and planned for the future.

OSFM/LFCA – Representatives spoke of the ESF 4 and the Urban Search and Rescue (SAR) 5 year plan. He also discussed the need for continuation of hurricane and wildfire preparation and wanted to incorporate gap analysis in these areas.

LANG - Neal Fudge discussed the hurricane preparation and POD exercises. He also mentioned that LANG was addressing future short falls due to Guard deployments by planning with other states to assist us if needed.

LDWF – Spencer Cole presented updates on the Louisiana BOAT Program; The BOAT Program establishing a 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. The program 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 boat SAR operator to a tactical law enforcement operator. LDWF continues to work to make the training more available and affordable to our partners on the water in Louisiana. La POST has this standardized training curriculum for the states marine law enforcement officers, but is not required. LDWF has received accreditation and the first agency in the country to receive accreditation. LDWF is working towards the adoption and implementation of the BOAT Program for all maritime law enforcement agencies throughout the state utilizing a regionalized approach.

USCG – Representatives discussed Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) and some of the most recent maritime accidents. Drug interdiction programs and incidents of drugs washing ashore in Louisiana were mentioned. Hurricane preparation is also a major endeavor.

New Business

Next meeting will be decided later and confirmed via email.

There was no new business.

Adjournment

Chair Willy Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m. on a motion from Tommy Thiebaud; seconded by et.al.

Minutes approved by:

Willy Martin, Jr., Chair