

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee
State of Louisiana

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR



Dawson Primes
CHAIRMAN

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 10:00 am

Over Watch Meeting Room

7667 Independence Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

ATTENDEES

Neal Fudge, Melton Gaspard, Matt McKey, Mark Ward, Lynne Browning, Dean Davis, Denda Ball, Jackie Manton, Clay Revere, Neal Brown, Kaneshia Cheatham, Jason Tastet, Brandon Miguez, Kellie McGaha, Rodger McConnell, Joey Frank, Jared Maze, Tiffany Brouillette, Jimmy Williams, Mike Steele, Darren Guidry, Kim Beetz, Meg Dejean, Matt Hammons, Amy Michiels, Teresa Basco, Ashley Leblanc, Todd Derrick, Todd Smith, and Jamie Coley

Call to Order /Welcome

Jason Tastet called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Jason completed the roll call and a quorum was established. Jason welcomed the group.

Regions	Directors	Meeting Designee	Present	Absent
Region One	Raymond Guedry	Meg Dejean	P	
Region Two	Clay Rives	Kellie McGaha	P	
Region Three	Earl Eues	Jason Tastet	P	
Region Four	Brandon Miguez		P	
Region Five	Jared Maze		P	
Region Six	Joey Frank		P	
Region Seven	Ian Snellgrove	Todd Derrick	P	
Region Eight	Rodger McConnell		P	
Region Nine	Dawson Primes	Matt Hammons	P	
GOHSEP Director	Brig. Gen. Jason Mahfouz	Neal Fudge	P	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from August 2026

Motion by: Brandon Miguez

Seconded by: Jared Maze

There were no oppositions. August 2026 minutes were approved.

GOHSEP Updates/ Reports

Neal Fudge, GOHSEP Deputy Director

- **Federal and Legislative Updates**
 - FEMA Region 6 expected to announce a new Regional Administrator soon.
 - GOHSEP and FEMA held a preliminary meeting to discuss a potential Public Assistance (PA) pilot program aimed at improving the current PA process and reducing processing timelines.
- **State-level Updates**
 - GOHSEP leadership attended a seminar in New Orleans through the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security Executive Education Program. The seminar identified several issues and areas for improvement for Region 1 to address moving forward.
 - The 2027 Statewide Exercise is scheduled for April 13-15, 2027.
 - The exercise scenario will involve a hurricane impacting Southeast Louisiana.
 - GOHSEP is working with ESF leads to identify exercise objectives, with a goal of finalizing all objectives by September 18.
 - GOHSEP plans to host a memorial honoring longtime employee Steve Burr, who unexpectedly passed away last month. Additional details regarding memorial will be provided as they become available.

Preparedness Division Updates

Matt McKey, Preparedness Division Director

- **Preparedness Grants**
 - FY25 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)
 - Holds released
 - Parishes should coordinate with their grant specialist regarding questions.
 - Certain border and election security projects remain subject to additional requirements or restrictions.
 - Meeting scheduled with the Secretary of State's office to address election security-related grant hold requirements.
 - FY25 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP)
 - FEMA released hold.
 - Funding agreements are being prepared for approved sub recipients.
 - Information Bulletin (IB) 568
 - A national vetting requirement concerning confirmation that no non-US citizens are funded by FEMA grants.

- GOHSEP team is working on a SOP to comply with IB 568 Policy and Process for Foreign National Vetting in FEMA Non-Disaster Grant Program.
 - Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) expansion
 - GOHSEP sent letter to FEMA requesting guidance regarding UASI working group and Metropolitan statistical area discrepancies.
 - Letter shared with Parish Directors.
 - Response from FEMA pending.
 - GOHSEP interviewed for two vacant Technician positions.
- **Plans, Training, and Exercises**
 - GOHSEP received notification from the EMAP evaluator confirming compliance with 73/73 standards.
 - National Qualification System (NQS) sample packet has been finalized and will be disseminated.
 - **EMPG funded personnel are strongly encouraged to complete the NQS process and obtain certification to main eligibility for EMPG funding.**
 - 2027 Statewide Exercise
 - Initial Planning meeting was on August 27.
 - Design team reorganized to include all ESFs.
 - Currently working on objectives to guide scenario development.
 - GOHSEP is conducting reviews of the SDMI-developed EOPs for St. Bernard and Terrebonne Parishes.
 - The plans will be returned to SDMI for final edits following GOHSEP's review.
 - Tiffany Brouillette selected as the Plans, Training, and Exercise Manager, replacing Justin Gremillion, who has moved on to another opportunity.
- **Cyber Security**
 - CrowdStrike disrupted a cyberattack targeting a state agency on August 19. The attack had the potential to result in a full compromise of the agency's network.
 - **SB 75**
 - Proposed standards were submitted for legal review, and feedback was received.
 - The Cybersecurity team is currently working to incorporate the recommended changes.
 - Stakeholder outreach will be conducted to gather feedback on the proposed standards.
 - Cyber EOP Annex was submitted to SDMI for review and incorporation into ongoing parish EOP rewrites.
 - SLCGP applications approved by FEMA, waiting on CISA review.

Response Division Updates

Mark Ward, Response Division Director

- **Logistics**
 - Winter Weather Preparedness
 - Planning efforts are underway to establish a second LSA to help mitigate potential transportation and access issues along the I-20 corridor during winter weather events.
- **Operations**
 - Monitoring following events/incidents:
 - Three named storms have impacted Louisiana so far this season, with no major damage reported.
 - Sulphur salt-domes
 - Mitigation efforts remain ongoing, including plans for a “controlled depressurization”.
 - Monitoring continues for possible saltwater intrusion in Region 1.
- **Intelligence Coordination Center (ICC)**
 - Intelligence summaries continue to be distributed regarding current and emerging issues being monitored.
 - Work continues with LSP and other intelligence partners to develop the ICC governance structure.
 - As the governance structure is established, efforts will focus on developing a Common Intelligence Picture (CIP) to track trends and ensure stakeholders have access to timely and relevant intelligence.
- **Homeland Security & Interoperability**
 - Counter-UAS Taskforce
 - Established during the most recent legislative session, held its first meeting.
 - The initial meeting focused on the requirements of the legislation, the future direction of the taskforce, and coordination with federal partners.
- **Regional Support**
 - Regional Support is coordinating with parishes and ESF partners in Regions 6, 7, and 8 to conduct winter weather preparedness workshops.
 - Dates and locations will be distributed once finalized.
 - Regions outside of 6, 7, and 8 that are interested in hosting a winter weather workshop are encouraged to reach out to their Regional Coordinator.

Recovery Division Updates

Lynne Browning, Recovery Division Director

- **Recovery Operations**

- DR-4927 (TS Arthur)- all parish declaration requests have been addressed by FEMA, except the request for HMGP for declared parishes; 75/25 cost share.
- Crisis Track- build out almost complete; looking at October trainings.

- **Public Assistance**

- DR-4927 (TS Arthur)
 - Applicant briefings have been conducted.
 - NCS was approved; GOHSEP is working on getting a project formulated.
 - FEMA approved request to extend RPA deadline to September 17.
- DR-4900 (Winter Storm Fern)
 - 18 projects remain in Phase II; FEMA looking to resolve either outstanding RFIs or DM/Withdrawals.

- **Individual Assistance**

- DR-4927 (TS Arthur):
 - Received FEMA approval on NCS Mission; GOHSEP needs additional information from FEMA on weekly data reporting requirements approved through December 2026.
 - NCS Mission extension granted through September 15, 2026
 - RVs- 10 contracted, 4 occupied, and 2 Office RVs
 - Hotel rooms- 44 contracted
 - All DRCs are closed.

- **Hazard Mitigation**

- FMA Swift Current FY26:
 - Webinar presentations projected to be presented the week of September 8-11.
 - SALs will follow-up with applicants to provide assistance as needed.
- DR-1786
 - Notification of POP extension went out on September 1.
 - Following deadline established:
 - Complete all project related work and submit all reimbursement requests to GOHSEP by January 9, 2028.
- DR-4263
 - POP extension request was denied; GOHSEP is working on the appeal.

OHSEP Directors Updates

- Updates given by the Regional Directors.

Motion made to host next Regional Directors meeting at LEPA Conference in October.

Motion by: Brandon Miguez

Seconded by: Jared Maze

There were no oppositions; motion carried.

Next Meeting

- Date: October 26, 2026
- Time: 10:00 am
- Location: Crowne Plaza Executive Center- 8550 United Plaza Blvd. #1001 Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Adjourn

- Motion by: Joey Frank
- Seconded by: Rodger McConnell
- Meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.