

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



Dawson Primes
CHAIRMAN

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 10:00 AM
Over Watch Meeting Room
7667 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

ATTENDEES

Neal Brown, Todd Smith, Lee John, Ashley Beetz, Earl Eues, Todd Derrick, Clay Rives, Dick Gremillion, Rodger McConnell, Christina Dayries, Veronica Sizer, Toni Rochelle, Neal Fudge, Meg DeJean, Lynne Browning, Catesha Williams-Smith, Collin Arnold, Mike Steele, Ashley Beetz, Todd Smith, Darren Guidry, Jared Maze, Matt Hammons, Lennie Lefleur

Call to Order /Welcome

Dawson Primes called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM. Dawson completed the roll call and a quorum was established. Dawson welcomed the group.

Regions	Directors	Meeting Designee	Present	Absent
Region One	Collin Arnold			A
Region Two	Clay Rives		P	
Region Three	Earl Eues		P	
Region Four	Liz Hill			A
Region Five	Dick Gremillion		P	
Region Six	Kenneth Moore	Joey Franks	P	
Region Seven	Robert Jump		P	
Region Eight	Roger McConnell		P	
Region Nine	Dawson Primes		P	
GOHSEP Director	Casey Tingle		P	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from August 2023

Motion by: Joey Franks

Seconded by: Earl Eues

There were no oppositions. August 2023 minutes were approved.

GOHSEP UPDATES/ REPORTS

Casey Tingle, Director

- EMPG
 - GOHSEP is tracking good progress in every region. There have been beneficial discussions concerning how regions can develop regional capabilities.
 - Building these regional capabilities puts each region in a better position during disasters.
- LEMC Education Workshop February 2024
 - LEMC workshop will be collaborating with the Police Jury Association
 - GOHSEP will be participating on the Emergency Management Day
- Staffing updates:
 - Assistant Deputy Director of Homeland Security and Interoperability posting will close this week.
 - Director for the Louisiana Center of Safe Schools posting will closed this week.
 - There will be multiple position postings for School Safety, Cyber State Applicant Liaisons and Grants Specialists.
 - Regional Support is fully staffed with hiring of Region 1& 2 coordinators
- **FY 22 SLCGP:** GOHSEP received 129 local consent documents from entities asking for the state to implement funds on their behalf. These entities should be notified within the week on next steps. There will be two MOUs.
 - 1. Assessment
 - 2. Implement the EDR/detection software component; this is software that the state has purchased. The software can be installed by the state or by the entity.
- GOHSEP can still receive consent documents from entities.
- The third project in the grant is developing a SLCGP plan. GOHSEP is planning on having workshops throughout the state to present the plan and get feedback from partners. This plan is going to govern what projects we can pursue under the grant in the years to come.
- **FY 23 SLCGP:** Application opened on August 7th. The submission deadline is October 6th. GOHSEP is proposing to submit an incomplete application to meet the deadline, then conducting workshops to complete the plan. Once plan is developed, GOHSEP will submit complete application that captures project requests from across the state. Workshops should begin in early Fall and commence in the Spring. The next planning committee meeting is September 21 at 1pm. There are 13 local entities and 12 state entities on this committee.

Cemetery Issues Briefing

Ryan Seidemann, Asst. Attorney General Chief, Lands & Natural Resources

Louisiana Department of Justice

- The Cemetery Response Taskforce is activated during a declared disaster event upon report of extensive cemetery damage. They respond to mostly private cemeteries through the Individual Assistance program. Happy to help with public cemeteries, but this is mostly covered under Public Assistance.
- 2016 floods, there were over 800 disrupted graves, the last of those graves was repaired this year. Actively working on Laura and Delta where they still have unidentified remains, also still working Ida.
- FEMA is trying to shift all cemetery issues to Public Assistance (PA), but the private cemeteries will not be covered under PA by FEMA's rules-this poses a problem. The fear is that these costs incurred in private cemeteries will be pushed back to the locals.
- The Coroner's Office is not responsible for recovering remains.
- Many private cemeteries are not licensed, and do not have insurance. Even those licensed typically do not have insurance.
- Contact for Cemetery Response Taskforce: cemeterytaskforce@ag.louisiana.gov

Public Assistance Updates

Nathan Gary, PA SAL Section Chief

FMAG:

- The FMAG Program and the Public Assistance Program, although similar, are different programs with a different set of rules and guidelines.
 - Categories of Work
 - Cat H - Fire Suppression Activities
 - Cat B - Emergency Protective Measures
 - Cat B – Donated Resources: Includes donated labor, equipment, and materials - (obligated after all emergency Cat H & B have been obligated)
- FEMA provided a web based training on 9/6/23 for RCs and SALs
- Assisting the Applicants and outreach:
 - September 5th – 9th : EMAC from OK, SAL Group Lead and Erin (OK) conducted outreach to potential applicants
 - Had in-person meetings with Beauregard and Vernon
 - Virtual meeting with Rapides and Beauregard
 - Had virtual meetings with State Agencies: LANG, DCFS, LDAF
 - Had in-person meeting with State Agencies: DPS, GOHSEP, LDH
 - Upcoming:
 - SALs and Grants will team up to assist applicants with gathering documentation
 - Applicant briefing (Daniel Crothers)

Public Assistance:

- Immediate needs funding (INF)
 - The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is an appropriation against which FEMA can direct, coordinate, manage and fund eligible response and recovery efforts associated with domestic major disasters and emergencies pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.
- Effective immediately all Categories of Work funding obligations, including most Category A and B, have been put on hold, excluding funding needed for lifesaving and life-sustaining efforts.

Hazard Mitigation Updates

Sandra Dugas-Gaspard, Executive Officer, Hazard Mitigation Assistance

- FMA and BRIC FY22 funding announcements made on 8/28
- FMA FY22: 47 applications for \$148.3m identified for further review
- BRIC FY22: 7 applications \$52.8 million identified for further review, including Louisiana's first 2 successful competitive applications
- BRIC is impacted by the Immediate Needs Funding (INF), will be unable to receive funding until INF is lifted.
- Immediate Needs Funding (INF) will affect HMGP obligations as well.
- FY 23 BRIC and FMA NOFOs have been delayed due to implementation of INF.
- STORM revolving loan fund award announcement was made on 09/12/23, with Louisiana receiving an award of \$6.9 million, the largest in the nation. No details on terms of award have been released yet.
- HMGP application deadline for Ida 11/21/2023.

Administration Updates

Christina Dayries, Deputy Director

- Grants and Administration division is now Administration.
- Renamed two sections under Administration. State Management Costs section is now Financial Services Receivables. Recovery Grants is now Financial Services Payable.
- FY23 awards for SHSP, UASI, OPSG, and Nonprofit all went out last week. Denials received as well.
- FY23 EMPG and EOC grant still has not been received, but anticipated to be released next week.
- FY 22 EMPG Regional Allocations amendment PowerPoint sent out to create new projects.

Emergency Management Updates Homeland Security & Interoperability Updates

Neal Fudge, Deputy Director for Emergency Management

Homeland Security CIKR

- Neal Fudge thanked parishes for contributions to special events lists. Last year had 500 events, this year over 1000 were submitted.

School Safety

- Signing up schools non-stop in programs. 518 schools signed up for anonymous reporting; 1500 schools signed up for Rave Panic Buttons.

Cyber

- Constantly working breaches.

Superbowl 2025

- Neal has Homeland Security section working on training and exercises for Superbowl 2025.

Interoperability

- GOHSEP hand receipted over 120 radios for wildfire response. LWIN seemed to stay up the entire time. Commercial Carrier Group was brought in to ensure constant communications in the event of a communication failure.
- Starlinks are on state contract which has been pushed out.
- IPAWs worked very well during wildfires. Need to make sure everyone stays in compliance for IPAWs (testing and MOUs completed).

Emergency Management Operations

- PPE available in warehouse; if needed, please request.
- Operations officer position being interviewed for currently.
- Fire is 80% contained, but there are still ongoing fires that pop up separate from FMAG events.
- Water issues in Concordia Parish were supported with two different loads of water and are back operational.
- Plaquemines Parish since June has had a salt water wedge coming up the river. The salt water is passing the seal that was placed. There is conversation about raising the seal or adding an additional seal. If this continues to push west to other parishes, it may be difficult to support water needs.
- Red River has had issues stabilizing their water system; hoping this is resolved within the next week or so.
- US HWY 90 meetings taking place to ensure roles and responsibilities are defined in the event of an evacuation.
- Staff are going to ramp up to assist parishes with exercises.
- Training is ongoing.

- SITREPs being re-formatted.
- Next Basic Academy begins September 25.

IA Program

- Currently 3400 households in NCS and Direct Housing.
- 1159 in Ida program; 430 in Delta program.
- Ida Direct Housing is 1800.
- Tornados-12 units out. Steadily trying to recover units.

Regional OHSEP Directors Updates

- Updates were given by the Regional Directors

Open Discussion

- LEMC Winter Conference is set for Mid-February during the Police Jury Association Conference.
- LEMC Annual Conference has been scheduled for the first week of May at the Golden Nugget in Lake Charles. May 5-9, 2024.

Adjourn

Motion by: Clay Rives

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 AM