

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee
State of Louisiana

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR



Dawson Primes
CHAIRMAN

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, June 4, 2025 at 2:00 PM
Ouachita Parish Emergency Operations Center
1000 New Natchitoches Road
West Monroe, Louisiana 71291

ATTENDEES

Brig. Gen. Jason Mahfouz, Dawson Primes, Earl Eues, Clay Rives, Terry Guidry, Rodger McConnell, Kenneth Moore, Kim Beetz, Todd Smith, Meg DeJean, Todd Derrick, Matt Hammons, Dean Davis, Todd Smith, Neal Brown, Carla Richard, Jezreel Joseph, Lynne Browning, Noel Bellas, Justin Gremillion, and Matthew McKey

Call to Order /Welcome

Dawson Primes called the meeting to order at 10:00 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	Terry Guidry		P	
Region Five	Jared Maze			A
Region Six	Kenneth Moore		P	
Region Seven	Robert Jump			A
Region Eight	Rodger McConnell		P	
Region Nine	Dawson Primes		P	
GOHSEP Director	Brig. Gen. Jason Mahfouz		P	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from May 2025

Motion by: Terry Guidry

Seconded by: Earl Eues

There were no oppositions. May 2025 minutes were approved.

GOHSEP Updates/ Reports

Brig. Gen. Jason Mahfouz, GOHSEP Director

- Confirmed as Director following his hearing
- HB Bill 274 passed with 9 amendments on behest of various organizations
 - Fiscally, LMD and GOHSEP will be separate agencies thru state FY27
 - Over the course of the next year, GOSHEP personnel will be merged into Military Affairs
- Other important bills regarding water sector changes mostly dealing with limited receiverships for water systems that are in distress (C or lower)
- FEMA is sitting on HSGP NOFO's pending congressional call to action
- FEMA Review Council will meet 8-11 July will be hosted by Louisiana
 - FEMA will probably be rebranded following hurricane season
 - Grant programs and missions will be aligned with other agencies
- Neal Fudge added that grant extensions will probably be a thing of the past
 - Discussion on why extensions are needed
 - Discussion on projects having to be completed within the original period of performance

Public Assistance Updates

Lynne Browning, Assistant Director for Public Assistance

- PA training at ULL on July 8th covering the entire PA process
- Other regional trainings in Iberia Parish (June 26), St. Tammany (July 9), GOHSEP (July 16), and Lafayette Parish (July 30)
- Covid-19 projects
 - Deadline by June 30th if obligated by April 1 excluding Cat Z & management costs which are due by September 30th
 - If obligated after April 1st, most will be partially or totally denied or have 90 days from the date of obligation
- Many upcoming closeouts for multiple disasters (will send out dates to directors)
 - Rita - October 3rd, 2025
 - Isaac – November 28th, 2025
 - March Flooding – December 31st, 2025
 - Louisiana Flooding SWLA – July 31st, 2025
- Justification for every PA payment is being required
- Katrina funding extension will probably be November 12th, 2025
- City of New Orleans is asking for additional extension for a number of projects to 2028

Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness Updates

Jeffrey Giering, Executive Officer, SHMO, Hazard Mitigation Technical Services

- Same issues as PA with payment justification

- Hurricane Katrina HM projects extended to Dec 2026;
- Gustav & Isaac – June 2026 extension
- Dates were sent out and put on the GOHSEP grants website
- BCA calculator changes were made on FEMA website with discount rate
 - could cause issues with previously approved projects

Financial Operations and Administration Updates

Neal Fudge, Deputy Director

- Budget has been approved with almost everything that GOHSEP requested
- Trying to do a LWIN master service agreement extension for a one year due to request for a large price increase by Motorola

Emergency Management Updates

Justin Gremillion, Director of Emergency Management Operations

- Quarterly ESF meeting in Baton Rouge that focused on Katrina/Rita that was very interactive with displays
- ICS 300/400, G191, and G2300 courses are going to be held regionally throughout the upcoming year
- Basic Academy hosted in Baton Rouge running from August to December
- Advanced PIO course in January in Baton Rouge
- Severe Weather prep workshop on June 26th in Region 6 with winter weather workshops possibly later this fall
- All Hurricane Prep workshops have been completed
- Point 2 point shelter planning meeting will be scheduled this summer
- First tropical storm – Andrea – in the middle of the Atlantic
- Discussion regarding pre-disaster declarations that affect preparations due to reimbursements for Cat B
- Discussion surrounding Shelter Task Force will be started back up
- AI training will be hosted again sometime in the future

Security and Interoperability Updates

Noel Bellas, Executive Officer of Security and Interoperability

- School Safety
 - Fy26 grant applications
 - Due June 30th
 - Max of 50k per school with a total of \$5 million for the grant
- Critical Infrastructure
 - Special events data call opens up August 1st with parishes receiving their parish lists to help validate

- SAFE Assessments have been being completed by the team
- Jonathon Buckles is the new CISA rep to work with Phil Constantin
- Started working with water/wastewater facilities to deal with cyber threats to control systems of infrastructure
- Iran crisis could lead to additional cyber incidents, but no confirmed threats as of yet
- Numbers for the special events data call are extremely important so don't just use the permitted number but find out the actual number of attendees
- No thresholds on numbers; ranges from farmers markets to the Super Bowl

Cybersecurity Updates

Matthew McKey, Executive Officer of Cyber and Emerging Threats

- Upward trend in attacks with K12 and parish governments specifically with ransomware
- Business email compromises for fraud
- Report any possible attacks
- Be on the lookout for possible actions from nation states against logistics & military entities
- Louisiana Cyber Assurance Program
 - 200+ entities have CrowdStrike for another year
 - CTAC contractors will be looking to include local entities with threat assessment and monitoring
 - Agreements need to be signed and returned from local agencies
- State and Local Grant Program
 - \$15 million in funds that are available for pass thru to locals with another \$2 million available possibly this fall
 - 1st Year – state used money to pay for CrowdStrike and may push all of it to the parishes for future years
 - Waiting on FEMA to hear about the plan that was submitted

OHSEP Directors Updates

- Updates given by the Regional Directors.
- Next meeting date and time is July 8th at 10:00 am. Meeting will be held at GOHSEP.
- Region 9 will host the September meeting at the Tangipahoa Parish EOC.

Adjourn

Motion by: Earl Eues

Seconded by: unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 11:51 PM