

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, June 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM

Over Watch Meeting Room

7667 Independence Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

**ATTENDEES**

Neal Brown, Lee John, Ashley Beetz, Earl Eues, Clay Rives, Rodger McConnell  
Joey Frank, Liz Hill, Casey Tingle, Christina Dayries, Veronica Sizer, Toni Rochelle,  
Neal Fudge, Jeffrey Giering, Meg DeJean, Darren Guidry, Denda Ball, Jared Maze,  
Amy Michiels, Melton Gaspard, Lynne Browning, and Catesha Williams-Smith.

**Call to Order /Welcome**

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES from May 2023**

**Motion by:** Clay Rives

**Seconded by:** Liz Hill

There were no oppositions. May 2023 minutes were approved

**GOHSEP UPDATES\ REPORTS**

Casey Tingle, Director

LEMC

- The LEMC official feedback survey is pending release. Any feedback is appreciated.
- The current conference space has been maxed out; we may need to seek an alternative venue or reconfiguration of the current venue for future conferences.
- Higher education has expressed interest in their own track at the conference.

- Winter Conference had been proposed for October, November, or December 2023 by GOHSEP; LEPA would like to host the winter conference the week of January 24<sup>th</sup> in Lafayette.
  - Regional Directors suggested early November as an option.

#### Restore Survey

- Laura, Delta, Ida Restore Program Surveys are due August 1, 2023.
- Press release contains information on changes in thresholds. Regional Support will be sending out to regions.

#### FEMA

- Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act is similar to opportunity zones tax credits where the government provides incentives to drive investment and economic engagement in areas meeting certain criteria.
- FEMA is going to designate zones across the country and designate benefits that come to these zones, such as increased federal cost shares and increased coordination with other federal agencies that are doing resilience work. This is currently open for public comment.
- Regional Advisory Council for FEMA is seeking a nomination for a local emergency manager to serve on the council (Dick previously served on the council). Discussion was held among the members and they recommended Earl Eues. Mr. Eues accepted the recommendation and will work with GOHSEP to formally submit his name to Region 6.

#### GOHSEP

- Hiring for the Assistant Deputy Director of Grants and Administration and Assistant Deputy Director of Emergency Management is ongoing.
- Region 1 and 2 Regional Coordinator positions are also posted.
- GOHSEP will be doing lots of hiring for school safety and cyber security positions, please share through your social media outlets as vacancies are announced.
- GOHSEP has received feedback on delay in reimbursements and is working to get payments out as quickly as possible.
- The EMPG FY2022 regional allocations (\$275,000 per region) are meant to increase regional capabilities such as emergency protective measures, interoperability, or mass care.
  - GOHSEP would like regional meetings to take place to discuss the funding, determine fiduciary agent, and determine regional projects. GOHSEP will attend and participate in meetings to answer any questions if needed.
  - Notify GOHSEP by August 31, 2023 on who will be the fiduciary agent and a list of the regional project(s).
- GOHSEP has set aside HMPG funding from the state allocation for community safe room projects, particularly for coastal parishes to have in-parish sheltering capabilities. GOHSEP is still working through the details. Community centers, recreational districts, or schools are optimal targets for these projects. This would be a parish asset. As of now, GOHSEP has outlined enough funding for 10-11 parishes. There should not be a match requirement for this funding.

### Legislative Updates

- No issues with the FY24 GOHSEP budget.
- School Safety Act passed which sets up the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools and makes changes to emergency planning at the school level.
- An amendment was made to the nursing home law relative to LDH actions.
- Cybersecurity Commission is formally established in law.
- Rep. Mincey's Bill for Sheriff's Office with a certain population to use WebEOC did not move forward, but resolution was put forward for GOHSEP to study what this would look like.

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### Public Assistance (PA) Updates

Lynne Browning

- PA is looking at their reimbursement process and how they can speed it up. PA division has brought on 10 new hires. They are also looking at process changes, such as federal contract clause expectations. They are also looking at the threshold at which they require cost analysis under exigent circumstances.
- For those under DR-4611, the new FCO is Sandra Eslinger. Jodi Hunter is the new Infrastructure Branch Director.
- Recently closed the PA program for Hurricane Ike. Target to close Rita next as well as other small events by December 31. Working to close Gustav and Isaac, but these will not be closed by the end of the year.
- COVID deadline has passed to complete work; there is still the 90-day period (from 5/11) to demobilize or dispose of assets.

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### Hazard Mitigation Updates

Jeffrey Giering, Hazard Mitigation

- FY 2022 FMA and BRIC applications were due at the end of January. FEMA should announce project selections in July. Requests for Information will follow project selections.
- GOHSEP submitted STORM application to FEMA week prior to LEMC. Expect to hear something by late summer.

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### Grants and Administration Updates

Christina Dayries, Deputy Director

- State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program deadline was May 26 to receive local consent or applications. GOHSEP received 129 consent documents and 3 applications.
    - State Projects for SLCGP: engaging with a contractor to update state cyber security plan, cyber security assessments with the National Guard, and installing end point detection response software.
  - Grants and Administration staff count will be increasing and re-organization of the section will take place. Grant Program Specialist may be assigned to new regions.
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## **Emergency Management Updates Homeland Security & Interoperability Updates**

Neal Fudge, Acting Assistant Deputy Director for Emergency Management

### Critical Information Updates:

- WebEOC trainings continue to grow.
- CIS-200 is now being offered that covers WebEOC, Survey 123, and Virtual LA on Smartphones and Tablets.
- Trained a record number of Users in May there were 203 participants in a total of nine classes.
- Updates are being made to WebEOC. Resource request board projects is currently in the sixth out of twelve weeks. Working on additional boards to be released throughout the summer. Training will follow once new boards are finished. New boards include a sewage and water board, a contact manager board, check in/check out board for time management, and other basic boards. Changes to SitRep board may be coming after hurricane season similar to FEMA lifeline board.
- ETHA Waiver board being released soon on WebEOC and will follow up with an email containing instructions. Deadline is September 30<sup>th</sup> for this submission from parishes.

### **Regional Hurricane Prep Meetings:**

- Highway 90 will be reduced down to one lane in Iberia Parish for the next five years; transportation study requested (funding not available for this request) and meetings are being scheduled to discuss impacts to evacuations.
- Issues have been identified and alternative solutions are being looked into.
- Oklahoma supports the State for point to point shelters for 5 parishes. The Ouachita, meeting was supposed to be held on 6/20 and 6/21. The topics to be discussed was shelter support and plans (Meeting was postponed due to severe weather.)
- GOHSEP has pre-staged commodities at the RSA.
- GOHSEP conducted a contraflow meeting, no significant changes identified. One-pager on contraflow available on GOHSEP website.

### **Starlink:**

- Starlink is no longer a sole-source vendor. Office of State Procurement is working on a bid and will make available on state contract. If something is to happen in the meantime, the state does have a cache of Starlinks available upon request.
- Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshops due June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- School Safety Summit held June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- State temporary housing program still has 4,400 units out. Looking to reduce these numbers.
- GOHSEP continuing to auction RVs.

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### **Regional OHSEP Directors Updates**

- Updates were given by the Regional Directors

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**Open Discussion**

- None

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**Adjourn**

Motion by: Joey Frank

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM