

**Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee
State of Louisiana**

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR



Dawson Primes
CHAIRMAN

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 10:00 AM

Over Watch Meeting Room

7667 Independence Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

ATTENDEES

Rodger McConnell, Todd Smith, Teresa Basco, Matt Hammons, Melton Gaspard, Kenneth Moore, Clay Rives, Todd Derrick, Melvin Jackson, John Gardner, Darren Guidry, Ashley Beetz, Laura Beth Lott, Neal Brown, Mike Steele, Sandra Gaspard, Lynne Browning, Amy Michiels, Earl Eues, Jacques Thibodeaux, Euclid Talley, Thomas Mule, Stephen Durel, Jared Maze, Ashley Leblanc, Dean Davis, Meg Dejean, Neal Fudge, Carla Richard

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			A
Region Two	Clay Rives		P	
Region Three	Earl Eues		P	
Region Four	Terry Guidry			A
Region Five	Jared Maze		P	
Region Six	Kenneth Moore		P	
Region Seven	Robert Jump			A
Region Eight	Rodger McConnell		P	
Region Nine	Dawson Primes			A
GOHSEP Director	Jacques Thibodeaux		P	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from January 2025

Motion by: Jared Maze

Seconded by: Rodger McConnell

There were no oppositions. January 2025 minutes were approved.

Public Assistance Updates

Lynne Browning, Asst. Director Public Assistance

- Expediting FMAG; if it is obligated, and there is a signed MOU, you should be seeing payment within the next two weeks. Once paid, the project will be closed.
- FEMA wants the COVID-19 disaster closed by September 30, 2025. GOHSEP must submit all Cat B projects to FEMA by June 30th. FEMA has not obligated 135 projects, so their goal is to obligate or do eligibility determination memos on those projects by April 1st. If not done by April 1st, deadlines will be moved. If it is done, then they will begin to administratively close projects not sent to them by June 30th.
- COVID-19 and Ida projects are top priority right now. Contract staff is working on other disasters.
- PDAs for winter weather are ongoing. Originally, there were 45 requests for PDAs, but due to threshold concerns, it has dropped to 22. Even if you do not think that you will meet your threshold, send any easy costs to GOHSEP (rentals, mutual aid, etc.). This will help the state meet the threshold.

Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness Updates

Sandra Dugas Gaspard, Asst. Director Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness

- FY 24 BRIC and FMA application period is open; sub applications due March 18th.
- FEMA has indicated that there may be some impacts on future decisions regarding IHA funding that have equity initiatives included, but for now there are no changes.
- FMA Swift Current sub applications are due March 16th.
- FY24 EMPG fiscal hold is estimated to be resolved this week, same with FY23 EOC grant.
- Requested extensions for FY24 NSGP to August 30th, FY22 EMPG to September 30th, and FY21 HSGP to August 31st.
- FEMA will be training preparedness staff this week. There are two areas without a specialist currently.
- FY24 NSG supplemental was submitted January 24th. (58 applications for \$10.5 million)
- Begin visiting parishes in the spring to do trainings and provide technical assistance.
- There will be a preparedness grants training at ULL in April.
- Shera to return March 24th.

Financial Operations and Administration Updates

Laura Beth Lott, Asst. Director Financial Operations and Administration

- The estimated cost for the combined Bourbon Street terrorist attack, Super Bowl, and Mardi Gras events is about \$60 million.
- FY26 budget request \$1.8 million for LWIN. Also requesting funding for extra positions, drones, and artificial intelligence.

- There will be a separate purchasing section added to the division.
- Working with Dawson on the Roseland warehouse space.

Emergency Management Updates

Melton Gaspard, Executive Officer Emergency Management

- AAR released for Bourbon Street terrorist attack.
- Winter weather event AAR will be Wednesday, February 19th.
- There will be a Super Bowl and Mardi Gras AAR after Mardi Gras.
- MACC activated for the Super Bowl. No major issues; a few suspicious packages, some cyber incidents, and drones in the TFR.
- Super Bowl hot wash sent out to capture information.
- Preparing for Mardi Gras activation.
- Counterterrorism guide sent out for wide dissemination.
- ULL weather class being held this week; next class will be an artificial intelligence class February 25th and 26th.

Homeland Security and Interoperability Updates

Euclid Talley, Asst. Director Homeland Security and Interoperability

- Division is coordinating with Entergy to install permanent multilevel UAS detection for both nuclear facilities.
- Working on the execution of FY24 and FY25 Safe School grants.
- 62 physical assessments requested by schools. Teams are going out to complete these assessments.
- Ongoing planning for Mardi Gras for all parades.
- SIEC meeting will be February 19th.

Cybersecurity Updates

Stephen Durel, Asst. Director of Cybersecurity

- Cyber team embedded with New Orleans CIO office prior to the Super Bowl and throughout the event. The CTAC was on full alert. This was the first event that the state was able to have eyes on events as they unfolded. Over 600 events were actioned throughout the weekend. The teams were able to quickly mitigate threats in real time. These actions will be mirrored for Mardi Gras.
- Zydeco projects for sheriff's offices is at 87% completion. Goal is to be complete by end of fiscal year.
- EDR roll outs are at 92% completion. Goal is to be complete by end of fiscal year.
- 93 assessments have been completed, which brings completion to 26%.
- CTAC received kudos from NFL for Super Bowl operations.
- Wrapping up two incidents in Lake Charles and Ouachita.
- First artificial intelligence course at the end of this month, looking forward to expanding upon these courses.

GOHSEP Updates

Jacques Thibodeaux, Director

- There is an updated set of the Governor's critical information requirements. Once fully vetted, ESFs and parishes will be briefed on the requirements.
- There will be seven operational regions based on the cities with major civilian airports.

OHSEP Directors Updates

- The March meeting will be at the Terrebonne Parish EOC. A headcount is required for this meeting.
- Updates were given by the Regional Directors

Adjourn

Motion by: Clay Rives

Seconded by: Jared Maze

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM