

## **Regional Parish OHSEP Directors Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 1:00 PM

Lincoln Parish – EOC – 161 Road Camp Road, Ruston, LA

### **ATTENDEES**

Earl Eues, Kevin Davis, Chris Guilbeaux, Sandy Davis, James Smith, Vernie McNamee, Mike Steele, Kevin Breaux, Casey Tingle, Lisa Vidrine, Kip Franklin, Joe Stewart, John Stanley, Harry Foster, Jenny Reynolds, Dawson Primes, Collins Simoneaux, Teresa Basco, Lee John and Danny Lavergne.

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### **WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Meeting started at 12:35 PM

Earl Eues called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and completed roll call.

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### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

John Stanley made a motion to accept the August minutes and Lisa Vidrine seconded the motion. The August 12, 2014 minutes were approved.

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### **GOHSEP UPDATE**

#### **Kevin Davis**

Kevin Davis mentioned that the GOHSEP Annual Conference has an issue with the prospective hotels accommodating the dates of the conference. He suggested moving the dates earlier or later in the year. After much discussion, Kevin said he would resend bids out and will notify every one of the new dates.

Kevin advised he met with DOTD regarding the Winter Weather issues and he has asked DOTD to prepare map of regional and statewide priority roadways that could be maintained. He also asked that they maintain and report on the State's assets that would be available. He suggested to the attendees to have a meeting with parishes and local officials regarding the possibility of roads they could maintain during a winter storm event. He will be meeting with the DOTD's Secretary on the December 5<sup>th</sup> to get an update on the map. He also advised that the State has 250 spreaders and 8 million pounds of salt. Dawson Primes stated Region 9 is working with District 62 and has a meeting on the December 11<sup>th</sup> to determine which roads could be handled locally.

Kevin stated he attended the Regional Pet/Livestock Table Top Exercise on November 13<sup>th</sup> in Covington, which was well attended. He suggested doing one in the northern parishes. Sandy Davis added that this exercise is not based on just domestic pets and animals but also livestock in regards to floods or tornados also. He further stated that zoos, chicken farms, horse racetracks, and livestock are in danger of drowning during these events. It was a well-organized event and attended by representatives from the Federal government, US Department of

Agriculture, State Agencies and Parishes. Sandy asked attendees to help push planning an exercise with the northern parishes.

Kevin mentioned that the new Director's Orientation will be on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> for Grant and Plaquemine Parish employees. Kevin advised that he would like to visit with all new Directors and Mayor/Counsel members sometime after December 6<sup>th</sup> for a meet and greet with the new leadership.

Kevin reminded everyone that they are invited to the GOHSEP/FEMA Holiday Luncheon to be held at the JFO in coordination with Regional Director's Meeting scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Kevin reminded the attendees of the IDCE Conference scheduled for February 10-12, 2015.

Kevin stated the State has implemented a mid-year budget cut, but GOHSEP would not lose any personnel. Emily Grainer replaced Arianne Deruise as an Operations Officer. Emily is an internal transfer from the JFO to Operations..

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## **EBOLA UPDATES**

### **Kevin Davis/Chris Guilbeaux**

Kevin referred everyone to GOHSEP's Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Response Plan and asked each to read and get familiar with the procedures. He stated that if there is a "suspect case" in your parish, he would be notifying the Parish Director. The "suspect case" would be quarantined and monitored for twenty-one (21) days. If the "suspect case" is determined to be a person under investigation (PUI), a blood sample would be taken by DHH and transported to the laboratory by the State Police. If Louisiana has a confirmed case of EVD, the patient would be transported by CDC within 72 hours or CDC may bring a team to the Louisiana site for assistance in caring for the patient. Kevin stated that no determination for Ebola funding yet by the Federal government as it is still under consideration by Congress.

Chris Guilbeaux indicated to the Directors that the Ebola information and updates can be found on GOHSEP's website such as PPE, videos, and other pertinent information by clicking the link on the home page.

Earl Eues informed the group that the PER320 Personal Protective Measure for Biological Incidents course taught by LSU was very informative. LSU did not have any information on the call taker's cards, therefore, Earl asked that GOHSEP contact them. The morning session went over Ebola and the types of PPE needed. The afternoon session practiced taking on (donning) and off (doffing) with partners. Earl also stated this could be utilized for any type biological event.

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**Winter Weather OPLN**  
**Chris Guilbeaux**

Chris advised the Winter Weather Operations Plan is available which indicates where the stockpile equipment and salt is located. The only item not attached to the plan is a map of which roads will be kept open. District 62 is coordinating with Region 9 to have meetings with District administrators/personnel in neighboring parishes to outline which local roads are important to keep open utilizing shared equipment and supplies. Chris encouraged Parish OHSEP's to conduct these meetings before hand with adjoining parishes to help each other with local priority roads that DOTD cannot handle.

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**HAZARD MITIGATION ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE**  
**Casey Tingle**

Casey indicated that he is getting increased pressure from FEMA to complete the Rita mitigation grants. Casey announced that FEMA has given new metrics that GOHSEP has to complete 120 projects a month. To meet FEMA's requirements, GOHSEP developed a plan to closeout projects with parishes. The mitigation section was re-organized. Casey reviewed the new organizational structure:

- Tenesha Wilson, Section Chief - Grants administration and reimbursements.
- Sandra Dugas, Closeout Section Chief
- Shontae Davis, SAL Section Chief
- Jeffrey Giering, Technical Section Chief - Hazard Mitigation Plan updates.. Jeff will also help with developing Policies and Program Reporting.

Casey noted that St. Mary's mitigation plan was recently approved.

Casey said he would send out a new organizational chart outlining responsibilities.

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**HAZARD MITIGATION OBLIGATION STRATEGY**  
**Casey Tingle**

Casey stated that utilizing obligation of project dollars by the Hazard Mitigation Phase procedure is where an applicant is awarded 10% of the funding for a design. Then the applicant returns with the design, plan, and completed application for the remaining 90% of the funding award. The challenge is where obstacles can deter the 10% funding amount, which in turn, the 90% is going to be at risk for awarding, especially the drainage projects. Some projects are 3-4 years old and GOHSEP is limited to what the applicant intended to complete and what can be completed.

Casey announced that Technical Staff from GOHSEP's contractors have been hired to complete these projects. They will assess the projects first to determine which documents are missing, needs updating, etc. The Contractors will then schedule meetings with the sub-grantee to go over their project. Casey also announced that FEMA is going to send additional staff resources in January to attend these

meetings. We would like to do a joint review so everyone can be on the same page for completion. FEMA and the State will then review completed applications and obligate funds. Casey also stressed that some projects will not be feasible due to various circumstances, political changes, and budget or finances that have since changed to meet FEMA's deadline. The decisions regarding unfeasible projects will be done in a collaborative way with everyone involved.

Casey stated FEMA is using the Quarterly Reports for timelines, so please turn in these reports in a timely matter.

Earl questioned who can provide him with a list of what needs to be done in his parish. Earl further asked what we can do as Directors to help Casey complete these projects. Casey answered that as GOHSEP pushes projects forward they will include the Directors in the meetings. Casey said he can share the project spreadsheet with the Directors to stay informed. Earl stated that if his neighboring parish is having some difficulty it would be a good idea to offer help to complete their pending projects and the only way he would know is by receiving that spreadsheet.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

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Earl stated his region's DOTD traffic camera fiber was cut for about six months and no one knew about it especially during the hurricane season. Earl suggested that GOHSEP get in contact with Steve Glasscock, Section Manager of ITS System Management/Traffic Management Center, to come to a meeting to discuss how it works, who maintains it, access, and what other services they can provide each parish for the traffic system.

Earl announced he uses the traffic system for his parish to notify residents of accidents or road closures by email. Earl stated that is the biggest compliment he gets from his parishes.

Earl said that the reason the fiber lines get cut is there is no line markers for the fiber, DOTD does not belong to LA One Call so when they go to mark where the lines are, the emergency fiber lines are not marked so they get cut. Earl questioned why the emergency fiber lines are not associated with LA One Call. Director Davis suggested having Steve Glasscock come to the Director's Conference as a speaker.

Sandy Davis wanted to remind everyone of a Shelter Taskforce Meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, in Alexandria from 10 am to 2 pm. Sandy stated the Taskforce is trying to have a draft ready for approval.

Earl reminded attendees about the SHSP Grant and Project Application deadline which is November 28, 2014.

## **REGIONAL UPDATES**

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### **REGION 1**

Nothing to report

### **REGION 2**

Nothing to report

### **REGION 3**

All six parishes in Region 3 conducted Ebola Table Top Exercises discussing Coast Guard Port issues.

Hosted the Protective Equipment Training about 40 attendees.

The sinkhole is approximately 38 acres, the parish is waiting on test results from Texas Brine, may reduce the mandatory evacuation order to voluntary evacuation order on one side of the bayou.

St. John has completed their 60 day chlorine burn for Amoeba, DHH re-testing the water system and will send in results.

On December 9<sup>th</sup> DHH ChemPack Exercise.

### **REGION 4**

ICS 300-400 Training in Opelousas.

Parishes working on EMAC process.

South Louisiana Coast Guard Meeting in Berwick on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

DHH ChemPack meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

5<sup>th</sup> Annual MOC Exercise on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

MPT432 & 433 Courses at LSU in Eunice on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **REGION 5**

Held an Ebola Awareness exercise with First Responders and developed a draft Ebola Plan. Dick conducted the Ebola Exercise.

Region 5 Parishes, especially Cameron are trying to update evacuation process due to the economic growth expected with two new LNG plants and two more new ones expected to be built.

### **REGION 6**

December 11<sup>th</sup> ChemPack Exercise in Alexandria.

December 1<sup>st</sup> Final Planning Business.

Hosting Ebola Training for Regions 6, 7 & 8 on November 21<sup>st</sup> in Alexandria.

## **REGION 7**

All Parishes have completed EMAC process.

In Camp Minden, the M6 repellent - 15 million plus pounds are stored in igloos. Sending out proposals for clean-up and disposal – no selected contractor yet.

A couple of Katrina and Rita projects are still open and some have been re-open for correction after the file was closed.

November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Peaceful Protest march expected in Minden against the Police Department and their interaction with minorities. May have some outside influence involved.

Lake Bistro had a fire a couple of years ago, and had another fire this year due to draining of the lake. At this time the fire is out due to the recent rain, there is still burn ban in effect. There is a dispute on who has jurisdiction on the lake, Wildlife and Fisheries does when the lake is full but when empty no one has jurisdiction. The State did not buy the bottom of the lake but some major oil companies did, mostly Bistino Webster Oil Company for the minerals. So when the lake is empty the oil companies are not interested in cleaning up the trees and growth on the bottom and the islands to stop the fires from spreading so quickly. It burns underground so it's hard to put the fire out with the moss and re-starts even when put out days later. It's been a challenge on who should maintain the bottom of the lake and islands.

Red River and DeSoto working on some LWIN communication projects with their SHSP funding.

The Caddo Parish landfill fire is underground and making some headway on putting it out. Information has been uploaded into WebEOC.

Ebola Training being done regionally.

December 11<sup>th</sup> ChemPack training.

River River Parish has found some packages with KKK graffiti thrown on driveways to some residents.

Follow-up on Bossier Parishwide Active Shooter Drill in October, extremely successful and impressive. They had over 70 moving parts, 150 participants from different Agencies and just completed an After Action Review.

SMDI gave a presentation to Regional Coordinators regarding the recent imagery collected and the status on compressing the images and making available to Parishes. Webster Parish tax assessors questioned when the images would be available. Chris stated that the images would be available sometime in February, but that it was not done statewide, he did not believe Webster was included in this fly-over; it was mostly the metro areas that were covered.

## **REGION 8**

WIPPTRX was successful, and they are working on the AAR for that event. Kip stated that DOE encourages each state to hold this event every other year. He mentioned maybe holding another one around the Louisiana and Mississippi state lines.

December 11<sup>th</sup> ChemPack Exercise.

Ouachita did not get a Major Disaster declaration for the tornado event, but the SBA declaration was approved.

Ebola TTX in Monroe last week and Ebola planning at Regional Airport.

## **REGION 9**

Parish Hazmat Team finalized Ebola Response Plan and they are giving it to the HazMat Techs and they are holding Ebola response drills once a week.

December 13<sup>th</sup> held Pet/Livestock Exercise, all of southeast Parishes attended, FEMA, GOHSEP, LSART, LDWF, DAF and USDA, very impressive exercise.

December 20<sup>th</sup> Region 9 meeting and an Ebola Exercise with DHH.

December 9<sup>th</sup> ChemPack Exercise.

December 11<sup>th</sup> St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and DOTD meeting to get a strategy for which roads to remain open during winter weather issues.

ICS – 400 Exercise on December 17<sup>th</sup> in Tangipahoa with Red Cross.

A motion to adjourn was made by John Stanley  
Motion was seconded by Dawson Primes  
Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

**END OF REPORT**