

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, July 12, 2022 at 10:00 AM  
7667 Independence Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
Over Watch Meeting Room

**ATTENDEES**

Dawson Primes, Kenneth Moore, Patrick Harvey, Neal Brown, Clay Rives, Dick Gremillion, Liz Hill, Jacie Maples, Norman Pineda, Ashley Beetz, Matt Hammons, Chris Guilbeaux, Denda Ball, Kim Humbles, Todd Derrick, Kim Sullivan, Neal Fudge, Todd Smith, Darren Guidry, Lee John, Teresa Basco, Casey Tingle, Christina Dayries, Mike Steele, Trevis Thompson, Jonathan McLemore, Katie Underwood, Veronica Sizer, Steven Burr, Toni Rochelle, and Amy Dawson.

**Call to Order /Welcome**

Dawson Primes called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He completed roll call and a quorum was established. He welcomed everyone.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES from June 2022**

**Motion by:** Kenneth Moore

**Seconded by:** Liz Hill

There were no oppositions. June 2022 minutes approved.

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**GOHSEP UPDATES\ REPORTS**

Casey Tingle, Director

**GOHSEP Updates:**

- **New Hires:**
  - Meg DeJean , Area Manager for Regions 1, 3 and 9
  - Katie Underwood, Individual Assistant Program Manager
  - Mark Bolton, Disaster Case Management, Ida Program Manger
  - Cody Landry, Operations Officer
  
- **Two New Positions in the Budget:**
  - Operations Manager within Operations
  - Business Analyst this position will assist with Financial Data and Reporting with Grants and Administration.

**General Topics**

- The Restore Program has been stood up to facilitate the CDBG funding process for parishes impacted by Laura, Delta or Ida. OCD will use the same Restore.LA.Gov website that was used in 2016. Initial Funding for Laura and Delta should start flowing within the next month.
- Action Plan for Ida funding has been submitted. We are expecting the Ida funding in the fall.

- Congress and the President signed the Infrastructure Bill last spring, which puts new money into older programs in terms of transportation. The state at a State's Level is working along with the Police Jury Association and Municipal Associates to provide contract technical support to the parishes and municipalities for how to access the funding. A lot of the funding will be dedicated to transportation.
- Three things GOHSEP will be tracking:
  - **Broadband:** Currently working to increase connectivity in rural and underserved areas in the state. President Miller on behalf Police Jury Association will be serving as the Parish President Liaison and will be tracking this project.
  - **Improvement to Water Systems:** The State has kicked off an effort with some of the COVID funds. This will be new money going to water systems across the state to make improvements.
  - **Swift current:**  
Mitigation funding totaling \$60 Million in funding that will be nationwide and Louisiana will receive \$40 million of the funding.

#### Legislation Updates:

- **HB 1070/ ACT526**

The bill provides relative to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness pending Governor's signature. If he does not veto or sign, it will become law.

- **LWIN Section** (Letter H. Sec.725.5) New information not previously in State Law. The bill requires GOHSEP to submit a report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the budget each year. Reporting will be required for upgrades to LWIN and other efforts to increase efficiency in Communications. Creation of an Emergency Communications Interoperability Fund, which will go towards LWIN.
- **WebEOC Section** entails WebEOC's intended use and how to improve its functionality. The system needs to be accessible to all 64 parishes in the State. Accessibility to WebEOC to be to parish Government and Legislative Liaisons. August 1, 2022 deadline to complete changes. Melton Gaspard informed the group that the notification piece has been completed and sent out to OHSEP Directors.
- **Annual Training Section** – There will be an annual training requirement on Emergency Management. To provide training to local officials, employees identified by the parish president, and members of the legislature.
  - GOHSEP will be responsible for making available and capturing the reporting through its STEMS program and required to provide a report on who has completed the training to the Regions. The purpose of the training is to help educate key players.
  - Parish Presidents will be responsible for designating who will be taking the training. The training will also be available to municipalities.

- **Housing Section**
  - Intended to make the process quicker
  - Relieve local burdens in terms of permitting
  - Deadline to opt in or opt out of waiver land use and permitting is September 1, 2022
- **Procurement**
  - Annual report on state emergency contracts.
- **Emergency Management Designated Personnel**

Parish president will be able to designate emergency management employees during a declared disaster.
- **Generators**
  - Develop a Detailed Inventory Report of Portable Generators.
- **SB 311 by Senator Barry Milligan**

Requires the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to adopt certain rules

  - Schools were added to the Non-Profit commission
  - It creates a new grant program and dedicated statutory fund similar to a non-profit security grant program. The bill does not appropriate funding to the grant program.
- **HB 701 by Representative Stephanie Hilferty**

Provides relative to the declaration of a state of emergency

  - No state of emergency may continue for longer than 30 days unless extended by the parish president
  - No continuous state of emergency may continue for a period of more than 90 days unless approved by the parish governing authority
- **HB 524/ ACT 706 by Representative Rodney Lyons**

Establishes a program for needs assessment and coordination of services for people with disabilities affected by disasters, Pending Governor's signature.

  - Creates a Disability-Focused Disaster Preparedness and Response Fund.
  - 2% or up to \$500,000 from the gaming proceed from sports wagering will be deposited into fund.
  - GOHSEP to receive up to 3% for grant program administration.
  - GOHSEP to contract with a DACE director to develop statewide plan.
- **HB1052 by Representative Mandie Landry**

Establishes the Hazard Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund

**HB933/ACT522 Representative Joe Stagni**  
Tasheka Dukes and Christina Robertson, LDH

Nursing Homes: Provides relative to emergency preparedness among licensed nursing homes. LDH representatives discussed the issues within the nursing home system and plans on making improvements.

- Legislature wants LDH with the help of other agencies to review and approve nursing home EOPs
- For the 22 parishes under I-10, they must submit EOP to LDH by 9/1/2022 and LDH will email responsible parties (will go to both evacuating and receiving parishes' OEPs)
- 90 days to review and submit back to LDH or it will be deemed as approved; LDH can work with directors for extensions
- LDH will take all comments and either approve or require edits by March 2023; Nursing home must submit changes by May 15, 2023.
- If nursing home does not have to make changes, nursing home can certify to LDH for the next 4 years.
- The nursing homes are not able to appeal denials; they must comply.
- Site inspections of unlicensed shelters to be completed by OEP, State Fire Marshall, and OPH sanitarians (OEP can say no to site selections as well)
- Same process is done 1 year later for remaining parishes in the state
- OHSEPs and other responsible parties have immunity and limitation of liability unless willful misconduct takes place.

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### **Livingston Parish Move from Region 2 to Region 9**

Dawson Primes, Chairman

- Livingston Parish has been approved by GOHSEP to be moved to Region 9. Adjustments to all regional assignments/maps/list servs will be made immediately.

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### **2022 LEMC Fall Educational Workshop**

Christina Dayries

- LEPA and GOHSEP are looking at possible dates in January 2023
  - \$50.00 registration fee
  - \$90.00 per night for room
  - Meals provided (Breakfast/Lunch). On own for dinner as of now.
- Possibly looking to move the Annual May Workshop to the fall. LEPA Board will review at their next scheduled meeting for final decision.

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### **GOHSEPGrants.la.gov**

Christina Dayries, Deputy Director

- Converted LAHM to GOHSEPgrants.la.gov, all 2022 Non Disaster Preparedness grants are now located there. Training with OHSEP Directors ongoing.

### **LWIN Updates**

Christina Dayries, Deputy Director

- Motorola and AT&T are drafting project work schedules for the LWIN Ethernet Project. Project should take approximately 18 months. GOHSEP will issue POs to the vendors upon appropriation of the required funding.

### **School Safety Update**

Neal Fudge, ADD Homeland Security and Interoperability

- Governor tasked GOHSEP with coordinating School Safety Taskforce (first meeting 7/14). Focus on Louisiana Center for Safe Schools.
- HR 218-tasked LDOE with putting together a comprehensive study for school safety
- HR 236- created a special committee to study school safety
- DHS/CISA school assessments ongoing
- LSP partnering with DOE to hold school safety summit August 4<sup>th</sup>
- Rave Panic buttons funded for all K-12 public, private, and charter schools

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### **Communications Assessment**

Neal Fudge, ADD Homeland Security and Interoperability

- Communications Assessment Survey is in the process of being created and will be sent to the OHSEP Directors.
- This will help determine the number of Starlink type devices need for the Parishes.

### **Rave/ IPAWS System**

- In order to use the Rave System, you must get certificates and MOUs from FEMA
- State 100% Operational
- Parishes can request a notification be sent from GOHSEP by entering a WebEOC request with exact verbiage. Rave will also provide backup notifications if systems go down. Agencies should call their 1-800 number for assistance.

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### **Airline Warehouse Distribution Center**

Melton Gaspard, Section Chief Operations

- The warehouse needs to be liquidated. Parishes in need of supplies were asked to submit a request in WebEOC under Coronavirus.

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### **Shelter Summit**

Chris Guilbeaux, ADD Emergency management

Amy Dawson, Planning Branch Manager

- Second version of the Point to Point (P2P) shelter summit took place.
- Discussed the concern over the amount of people in substandard housing and what in-parish sheltering capabilities exist.
- Discussed MOUs between Parishes and Sheriff's Offices/OHSEPs, etc. for reimbursement purposes.

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### **Open Discussion**

- Next Meeting will be on September 13, 2022

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### **Adjournment**

**Motion by:** Dawson Primes

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.