



Ascension Parish

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

RICHARD WEBRE
Director

Crystal Moran
Operations Section Chief

Ami Clouatre-Johnson
Planning & Intel Section Chief

Rachael Baker-Wilkinson
Grants/ Doc Unit Leader

LEPC

Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2010
11:00-1:00
Gonzales Safety Center

Call to Order

- I. Roll Call and Introduction
 - a. Committee Members Present, Quorum met (See attached sign in sheet).
- II. Louisiana Emergency Response Commission Update by Rick Webre.
 - a. Rick Webre serves on the LERC board.
 - b. 2009 was the lowest number of chemical releases since 1998. 2009 we had 7,008 total incident with 3,397 total reportable incidents.
 - c. LERC is working closely with all 64 LEPC's to determine who the active members are and how frequently the parishes have meetings.
- III. Ascension Parish third quarter 2010 chemical release report
 - a. Since the release information is not published until the next year, OEP created a data base with Right to Know Information on releases for Ascension Parish.
 - b. To date in 2010 third quarter, our numbers are: 4 highway tank car accidents, 12 pipeline (8 being natural gas), 34 fixed site releases, 0 Maritime, 0 radioactive and 0 rail car.
- IV. Tier II facility contingency plans by Ami Johnson.
 - a. OEP is sending letters out over the next few weeks request facility contingency plans. Each facility will receive a letter requesting their updated plan. Once current plans are received, each facility will receive a letter stating they are an active LEPC member in Ascension Parish.
- V. LDEQ regulatory update by Ami Johnson.
 - a. The September 2010 quarterly supplement is available. The link is:
<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/LegalAffairs/RulesandRegulations/Title33.aspx#Supplements>
 - b. The LDEQ also posts revised statutes that can be bookmarked. The link is:
<http://doa.louisiana.gov/osr/LAC/lac33.htm>



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- VI. GAMA radio reprogramming by Chuck Cassard.
- Currently APSO and OEP are working together to complete an environmental study for approval of grant funding for communications equipment and make improvements to other equipment.
 - Grant funding is being combined to purchase communications equipment.
 - We are on target for January/February to have the system online. If this timeline changes, Jason Fuselier request that an update be put out to the facilities, Chuck Cassard agreed.
 - Rick Webre asked LCDR Davis suggestions to better communicate with the Coast Guard. LCDR Davis stated the Coast Guard talks on VHF, channel 16.
 - Harold Hebert stated that the Coast Guard has a notification system. He suggested that we look into who is on the notification list. Rick Webre request that he meet with the Coast Guard to discuss protocol and notification for Ascension Parish.
- VII. APSO Hazmat team update by Mike Scott.
- No big changes from the last meeting. As sated during the last LEPC, the fire chiefs were invited to join the hazmat team as an advisor. As of today, the last hazmat incident was on Highway 30 due to an overturned 18 wheeler.
 - All hazmat equipment is up and running as this time.
 - Mike Scott stressed how important the GAMA radio is. Please use the radio to put out any information that is helpful to your neighboring facilities.
- VIII. LSP Hazmat Update by Sgt. Lewis.
- Sgt. Lewis introduced a new responder, Steve Buratt with LSP that is working in the Baton Rouge area.
 - A few changes with the LA1 call/Right to Dig: More pre checks will be complete to test and dig. The system is updated and now open 24 hours. Call in are expected to be made before and no more after the fact calls should be made.
 - LSP is no longer working the coast and everyone will begin to see more road checks, gate checks and more site inspections.
 - The HMEP (Hazardous Material Emergency Planning) Grant is now being handled by LSP, point of contact is Kelly Feet.
 - Rick Webre stated, Ascension Parish is working on conducting a hazardous commodity flow study. Our goal is to run this into a regional study. Homeland Security funding depends on have we identified the critical infrastructure in the parish based on hazardous material.



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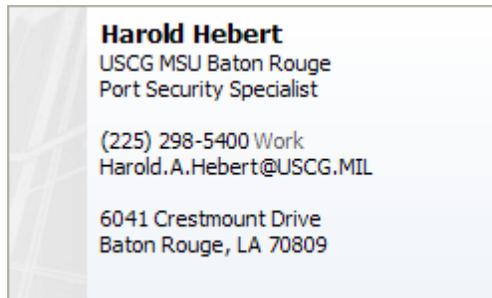
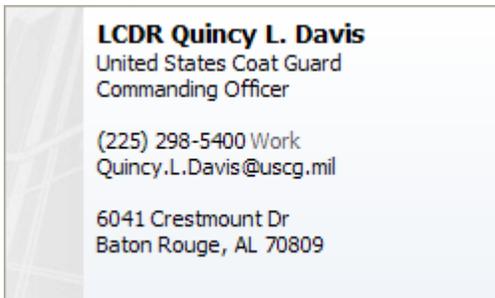
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- f. For the study we will look at river traffic, fixed sites and pipeline. Main concerns are how do these chemicals move around our parish. The results of these findings are critical for future funding.
- g. Sgt. Lewis informed that the Holden Training Center was closed after Katrina. They have moved forward with reopening this facility in Zachary. Anyone can contact Sgt. Kelly Feet (kelly.feet@dps.la.gov) for training.

IX. Maritime brief by LCDR Davis.

- a. Please see attached slide presentation attached from LCDR Davis. Contact information is as follows:



- b. Rick Webre expressed concerns of limited access to boat launches in Ascension parish for first responders. Harold Hebert discussed there is grant funding for boat launches, ramps and boat launch improvements. Five locations have been identified and are still in the planning stages. Other locations are being looked at for improvements. Donaldsonville is a planned future site.

X. GAMA radio 911 recordings by Rick Webre

- a. Recordings were pulled from three separate incidents in Ascension Parish. Rick Webre asked that everyone listen and use this as a way to opening discuss what went right, what went wrong and what can be changed. Listening to those recordings runs the full spectrum of response.
 - i. BCS (Basic Chemical Solutions) recording was played from the August 05, 2010 incident. At the time of the incident, BCS did not have a GAMA radio and were unable to communicate.
 - 1. Sgt. Lewis recommended that the research be complete to locate smaller facilities. Then encourage these facilities to join GAMA. GAMA was established years ago and the members should be reviewed.
 - 2. Jason Fulisser, GAMA representative, stated that BCS is a small terminal facility that was over looked. He did state that Jeff Wyenberg, Operations



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Supervisor for BCS, was eager to become a GAMA member and participate in the GAMA process. GAMA is an organization that is made up of surroundings parishes, not just Ascension Parish. Rick Webre agreed that a plan needs to be in place to touch base with the smaller facilities.

3. Rick Webre stated that although he understand that we cannot force by law a facility to become a CAER or GAMA member we all should highly recommend them doing so. Facilities need to understand that CAER pays for the sirens and a lot of our emergency response platform. CAER defrays the cost and all facilities get to take advantage of the services.
4. Rick Webre also stated that other employees from a neighboring facility working along the fence line were injured. It was confirmed that BCS does not have an air monitoring system along the fence.
 - a. Rick requested a motion that BCS submit their emergency operations plan to the planning subcommittee by November 15, 2010 for review, give a status on becoming a GAMA member and putting some type of warning devices along the fence line. Motion made by Charles Stokes and second by James Leblanc, motion passed.
- ii. Lion Copolymer recording was played from the August 10, 2010 incident.
 1. The recordings reflected a shelter in place to neighboring plants. Rick Webre asked if facilities have other procedures in place between them and neighboring plants. A few facilities stated that they do have shared procedures with their neighbors. The GAMA radio and a courtesy call are two other procedures that are used during an incident. Rick Webre recommended that all companies use the GAMA radio to notify neighboring facilities of shelter in place.
- iii. Rubicon recording was played from the August 29, 2010 incident.
 1. Everyone agreed that the response was organized and detailed. The Rubicon representative was detail orientated, used a check list and knew what details to give. A positive comment was that it was easier to understand having only one person speaking on Rubicon behalf. There was no confusion during the incident. He was able to say what he needed and what roads he needed blocked.

- XI. Grants update by Rachael Wilkinson.
 - a. We have combined four grants together 08/09 SHSP and 08/09 UASI for a Public Safety Communications project. We are moving forward to convert from analog to digital and replacing infrastructure.



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- XII. Training status update by Rick Webre.
- a. Training classes offered by Joint Information Services Training Center (JESTC) in Zachary were discussed. A Transcaer training is offered on November 15-17, 2010. All interested parties can register online or contact JESTIC for more information.
www.jestc.org/training.html
- XIII. Old Business.
- a. None noted.
- XIV. New Business.
- a. Randall Zeringue with Shell Pipeline invited everyone to attend a pipeline safety meeting hosted by Pipeline Association of Louisiana on Thursday September 30, 2010. This meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in Gonzales 9-11:45. Training, roll playing and information sharing regarding pipelines will be given out. The same meeting is offered for Excavators 6-7:45pm on September 30, 2010.0
 - b. Joe Williams from American Red Cross he covers Baton Rouge and the surrounded areas. Ascension Parish suffered 5 fires in June, 1 fire in July and 4 fires in August 2010. October is fire prevention month. Please check all heaters, smoke alarms and fire places.
- XV. Adjournment
- a. Motion to adjourn by Gary Ferrari and second by James Leblanc.
Next LEPC meeting is set for **November 16, 2010.**