

**Governor's Office of Homeland Security
and Emergency Preparedness
State of Louisiana**

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



WILLIE MARTIN
CHAIRMAN

First Responders Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 6, 2016 - 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
GOHSEP Overwatch
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Call to Order

Chairman Sheriff Willy Martin called to order the regular meeting of the First Responders Subcommittee (FRSC) at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, in the GOHSEP Overwatch room in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

After a roll call it was determined a quorum of the statutory members of the subcommittee was present.

The following First Responder Subcommittee members were represented: Louisiana Sheriffs Association - Sheriff Willy Martin, DPS/Louisiana State Police – MAJ Paul Edmonson, GOHSEP –Director James Waskom, Louisiana Fire Chief's Association - Mark Stewart,. Also present were Ex-officio member from the Louisiana National Guard – MAJ Neal Fudge.

Listed as absent from the roll call: Member Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police Office of State Fire Marshal, Regional Parish OHSEP Director Subcommittee and Ex-officio member Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries.

The following additional individuals were present: GOHSEP Christina Dayries, David Schultz, B. Ric Moore; LSA Chuck Hurst, LRAA Eric Miller, and LSP/LA-SAFE CPT Chuck McNeal and LT Lamar Davis.

Chairman Martin Introduction of Director Waskom

Sheriff Martin introduced new GOHSEP Director James Waskom. Director Waskom told subcommittee about his resume', his first few days in office with the recent disasters, and that he looking forward to the future.

Approval of Minutes

After review of last meetings minutes, motion was made to approve the minutes of the previous First Responders Subcommittee meeting. Other members seconded motion. The minutes were adopted.

Presentations to Committee

GOHSEP - GOHSEP Chief of Staff, Christina Dayries presented an update on 2016 SHSP Project and Grant Allocations. She explained the dedicated funds and options and asked the FRSC to committee to consider the FRSC Grant Allocation Committees recommendations how to share the 2016 SHSP grants. The FRSC unanimously approved the recommendation of having a base for each parish and sharing the remainder based on parish population.

GOHSEP - GOHSEP Chief of Staff, Christina Dayries presented the issues of the 2015 SHSP Grant Deobligations to the committee that recommend to GOHSEP on how to dispense the deobligated funds. Issues of using it to purchase response items such as sand bags, super sacks, LWIN, etc. All members voted in the affirmative to return the deobligated funds to GOHSEP for purchase of response items as deemed necessary.

LA-SAFE – CPT Chuck McNeal gave a threat brief on the current threat issues. He discussed the nationwide issue on the threats from Islamic Terror groups such as ISIS and their locations in the homeland. He then discussed the increase of suspicious activities received that have been entered into FBI Guardian system. CPT McNeal then talked about the number of persons leaving the U.S. to become foreign fighters and th concern that this brings to the table. The increase in Arian Brotherhood gangs with their involvement with female members and Black or Hispanic gangs. He also reported on the use of heroin on the drug scene. He answered the question of Sovereign Citizens in the state, how they are identified, and the recent increase in their numbers. He then spoke on the growing interests of Syrian refugees being allowed to come to Louisiana. The ever-growing Cyber threat was brought up for discussion. CPT McNeal discussed the method of recent ransomware attacks and our response.

GOHSEP Intel Officer/Fusion Center Liaison – B. Ric Moore gave brief on the 2016 DHS relative risk assessment and the changes from 2015. He also gave an update on the 2015 Louisiana Risk Survey and the analytical findings that can be used to rank the parishes, regions, and specific incidents by risk, consequence, vulnerability, and threat. He discussed the contiuieing analytics that indicate the lack of understanding of available prevention and response entities and the effect on the relationships of threat, preparedness, and vulnerability particularly in the area of Cyber. In order to address this issue all LA-SAFE partners have developed a extensive briefing to be delivered regionally. In addition, the LA CBRNE and Louisiana Food/Agriculture and Water Working Groups are continueing their efforts.

OTHER AGENCY UPDATES:

LANG – MAJ Neal Fudge discussed the upcoming Vigilant Guard response exercise that will run for 5 days across the state.

LRAA – New attendee Eric Miller introduced himself and the Louisiana Ambulance Alliance organization.

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New Business

None discussed.

Adjournment

Chair Sheriff Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. on a motion from Mark Stewart; seconded by Paul Edmonson.

NOTE: Minutes will be presented for approval at next FRSC meeting TBD.