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GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana First Responder Subcommittee

WILLY MARTIN
CHAIRMAN

COL MICHAEL D. EDMONSON
VICE CHAIRMAN

First Responders Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 07, 2013 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

LA-SAFE (Fusion Center)

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Call to Order

Chair Sheriff Willy Martin called to order the regular meeting of the First Responders Subcommittee at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 07, 2013, in the LA-SAFE (Fusion Center) conference 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 organizations were present: Louisiana Sheriffs Association, DPS/Louisiana State Police, GOHSEP, Louisiana Fire Chief's Association, State Fire Marshall's Office, and Parish OHSEP Director Subcm. Ex-officio members present were Louisiana National Guard and LA Wildlife and Fisheries. Listed as absent from the roll call: Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police.

The following individuals were present: Sheriff Willy Martin, Pat Santos, Christina Dayries, CPT Paul Edmonson, Lt. Chuck McNeal, SGT Len Marie, Col. Stuart Burruss, Tommy Thiebaud, Mark Stewart, LT Chris Carpenter, Brant Thompson, Chris Guilbeaux, Jerry Monier, Chuck Hurst, and Ric Moore.

Approval of Minutes

After review, a motion to approve the minutes of the previous First Responders Subcommittee meeting was made by Tommy Thiebaud and seconded by numerous members. The committee approved the minutes.

Presentations to Committee

GOHSEP – GOISEP Chief of Staff Christina Dayries presented a Homeland Security Grant update. She gave a recap of DHS grant involvement to explain the structure of the grants will remain to be itemized and that the state continues to be looking at reduction of federal funds and we could expect 5% less. Mrs. Dayries explained that investments needed to justify and address risks and capabilities. She also explained the plan that intended to combine most grants into a National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP) that had run into opposition last year and not come to fruition, is again part of the budget proposal as are Fusion Center projects that will be funded as much as possible. She discussed the FEMA Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process and the capability gaps both state and regionally would be the target of funding. Homeland Security applications are pending announcement and that awards should be received by end of September 2013. Mrs. Dayries emphasized the need to have a meeting soon with all the partners to decide on the methodology for awarding grant funding to the Parishes. Tommy Thiebaud suggested that sustainment efforts such as radio batteries and computer update systems should be a priority before new gaps are filled.

LSP/LA-SAFE – Lt. Chuck McNeal gave a threat brief concentrating on the current threat. He discussed the current Boston incident issues in detail. He mentioned the Sovereign Citizen issues that remain in Louisiana and the fact that the numbers may be growing in certain areas due to advertisement and more reporting. The cyber threat was discussed as evidenced by recent denial of service attacks and water sector attacks in Georgia. Lt. McNeal praised GOHSEP's Cyber Security Officer for identifying an attack and alerting national assets to it.

LSP - Cpt. Paul Edmonson briefed the subcommittee on the new SAR initiative of "See Something, Send Something." He said that an all partner press conference to announce it would be soon. This new system with the free iPhone app allows suspicious activity reporting with both text and pictures. It is important because in emergencies, texts go through even when phones do not work and locations are automatic.

GOHSEP – Pat Santos briefed on the "Sandy Effect" that was a result of Katrina's lessons learned whereby more federal assistance in the field happened quickly. There were also more contractors engaged in the immediate repairs of homes to make at least a part livable instead of using separate temporary housing. He also briefed on the possible changes in medical responder training that is expected due to efforts in Boston Bombing. It is anticipated that in the future medical will not wait on LE to clear an area before moving in to perform life and limb saving measures. This may mean that trainers such as EMI would have to change and will have grant implications. Training on other issues such as differences in suspicious packages and unattended packages are also on the horizon.

GOHSEP - Chris Guilbeaux presented information on the initiative to get school floor plans into Virtual Louisiana so that they are available to First Responders. A situational awareness was given of the parishes and school locations that had already placed information on the system. He explained that legislative action would greatly assist if placing plans into system were required. He further explained that Virtual LA was a secure system and that access to plans was controlled and checked by the parish.

LDWF – Lt. Chris Carpenter attended for his agency due to new assignments. LDWF continues to work to ensure preparedness of hurricane season.

LANG – COL Stuart Burrass said that they were ready for hurricane season but continue to update mission readiness.

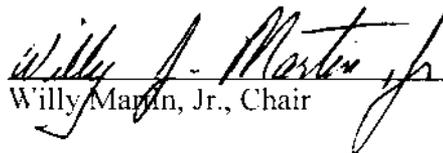
New Business

The current federal DHS and FBI "outreach" program to brief selected schools on security of active shooters was announced. Jefferson and Rapides Parishes were chosen in LA. It was decided that GOHSEP'S Fusion Liaison would accompany the PSAs and ensure that the Sheriffs and OHSFPs were advised. It was determined that the next meeting date would be decided later and confirmed via email. There was no other new business.

Adjournment

Chair Sheriff Willy Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. on a motion from Tommy Thiebaud: seconded by et.al.

Minutes approved by:


Willy Martin, Jr., Chair