**Regional Parish OHSEP Director’s Subcommittee Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Over Watch Meeting Room

7667 Independence Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

**ATTENDEES**

Amy Michiels, Rodger McConnell, Jared Maze, John Gardner, Clay Rives, Kenneth Moore, Matt Hammons, Todd Smith, Earl Eues, Sandy Gaspard, Collin Arnold, Denda Ball, Brandon Migues, Ashley Beetz, Zephna Douglas, Mark Ward, Melton Gaspard, Neal Brown, Lynne Browning, Stephen Durel, Neal Fudge, Veronica Sizer, Thomas Mule, Euclid Talley, Terry Guidry

**Call to Order /Welcome**

Dawson Primes called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. Dawson completed the roll call and a quorum was established. Dawson welcomed the group.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Regions** | **Directors** | **Meeting Designee** | **Present** | **Absent** |
| Region One | Collin Arnold |  | P |  |
| Region Two | Clay Rives |  | P |  |
| Region Three | Earl Eues |  | P |  |
| Region Four | Terry Guidry |  | P |  |
| Region Five | Jared Maze |  | P |  |
| Region Six | Kenneth Moore |  | P |  |
| Region Seven | Robert Jump |  |  | A |
| Region Eight | Rodger McConnell |  | P |  |
| Region Nine | Dawson Primes |  | P |  |
| GOHSEP Director | Jacques Thibodeaux | Neal Fudge | P |  |

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES from May 2024**

**Motion by**: Earl Eues

**Seconded by**: Terry Guidry

There were no oppositions. May 2024 minutes were approved.

**Cybersecurity Update**

Stephen Durel, Asst. Director Cybersecurity

* The cybersecurity division has several initiatives going on throughout the state; Stephen can provide a complete list of initiatives for tracking purposes.
* End Point Detection Software, Crowdstrike, will be pushed out to agencies; agencies will be receiving an email directly from GOHSEP. The software will be installed on every machine in each agency, and it will help to identify when a cyber-attack happens. It will also help prevent future attacks. An email was sent out from the vendor, but GOHSEP will follow up with official requests and details on how to install the software. The software will be funded for one year; after one year it is $39 per end point device. The intent is to continue to have funding provided through the legislature.
* If assistance is needed from cybersecurity, a request should be put in through WebEOC. The emergency declaration will continue to renew under Governor Landry pending a fix to legislation.

**GOHSEP Updates/ Reports**

Neal Fudge, Deputy Director

* Non-Profit Security Grant ($2.4 million) packets have been completed with 42 applicants.
* EMPG decreased by 8%; to keep parishes at the same amount, the regional allocation will be decreased. $50k base, then population based allocation. 80/20 match will go away. GOHSEP will make 50/50 match off of the state general fund. Total funding $4.9 million, with local allocations at $3.4 million.
* SHSP will have no changes. Base is 25k, then population based allocation; 35% to local law enforcement. Total funding $4.3 (almost $4.4) million, with local allocations at $3.5 million.
* GOHSEP has requested $41 million from the state general fund for supplemental funds that will go toward close outs and LWIN tower sites (7 in total). Waiting on Governor’s signature to move forward.
* Dawson entertained a motion to approve the EMPG allocation:

Motion by: Kenneth Moore

Seconded by: Earl Eues

* Drone detection projects will begin for Tangipahoa and Rapides. Each year 2 parishes will be selected to ensure each region has drone detection capabilities.

**Public Assistance Updates**

Lynne Browning, Asst. Director Public Assistance

* Currently working on a joint outreach with FEMA with Houses of Worship as a target audience. The goal is to set up meetings in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Lafayette, and Lake Charles through June and mid-July. The intent is to ensure these applicants are aware of their eligibility and how to apply for assistance. They will also look into outreach to school systems and hospitals.
* Jim Richard has been serving as the debris specialist, as well as the mosquito abatement specialist. Doug Nagle will be taking over mosquito abatement, and a basic SOP will be put together.
* The division is decreasing the backlog of reimbursement requests and is in the process of making offers to 22 program specialists to improve the movement of reimbursements.

**Hazard Mitigation Updates**

Sandra Dugas Gaspard, Asst. Director Hazard Mitigation

* The division is working toward reimbursement timeline improvements; there has been a backlog due to increased volume and cost line issues in the system.
* A technical assistance contract has been approved; payment surge staff will be brought in to help work payment backlog down. Additional state applicant liaisons will be brought in as well for applications and amendments.
* Working on HM express pay SOP and associated system updates.
* HM is planning to put together a roadshow, which will be a series of meetings in each region to include any trainings requested, sub-recipient kick off meetings, and any discussions needed on express pay or the new monitoring process. Targeted to begin meetings in July or August in the northern part of the state.
* Currently expecting BRIC FY23 in the summer and FMA FY23 in the fall.

**Financial Operations and Administration Updates**

Neal Fudge, Deputy Director

* Report given by Deputy Director Neal Fudge in GOHSEP updates.

**Emergency Management Updates**

Mark Ward, Asst. Director Emergency Management

* POD contract is out right now and should receive by the 6th. The guard will go in and set up, and then we will backfill them with civilians for distribution. We are up to 30 PODs; once we select a contractor, we will meet and tabletop POD operations. The guard will be the accountant for PODs, but eventually contractors will be conducting the distribution. We are trying to reduce the guard’s need at PODs to allow them to do search and rescue, route clearance, etc.
* Another warehouse contract is pending for solicitation to have equipment on site and ready for deployment.
* Submitting EMPG and SHSP on the 24th. There are still older state EMPG funds that GOHSEP will use to purchase flatbed trucks with forklifts that piggyback; looking to put one per area (Minden, Camp Beauregard, Region 8, Roseland in Tangi, Villere, looking for additional regional warehouse above 1-10 in R4/5).
* Hurricane season is upon us; Emergency Management division will attend as many hurricane preparation meetings as possible.
* Rave/IPAWs training will be on June 18th .
* STEMS website has available trainings posted; training is working on a catalog of courses, so if there is something you want to see let them know.
* Building a GOHSEP Academy in the next 18-24 months and will be looking for instructors. Certifications for instructors will differ depending on what area of training is being provided. If there is something that a consortium has done that parishes want or need we can request the trainings; eventually GOHSEP would like to offer these courses with our own instructors.
* Planning cell is going through parish plans and nursing home plans. If you need any support with preparedness in the field, reach out to the planning section.
* Act 526: August/September will begin pushing out for parishes to opt in/opt out for expedited temporary housing assistance waivers. We need to get the WebEOC board set up for this year. Send forms to RCs if ready, so once the board is up they can upload for you.
* NHC texted Mel, most models are trending for activity in the gulf next week.

**Security and Interoperability Updates**

Euclid Talley, Asst. Director Security and Interoperability

* School and non-profit safety commission meeting June 12th.
* June 13th First responders subcommittee meeting
* DHS hosting Biowatch planning meeting in preparation for super bowl June 14th.
* FEMA hosting IPAWs meeting June 18th.
* Commercial Carrier meeting in preparation for hurricane season, June 26th.
* Act 334: Initiated purchase of bleed kits, no ETA. Pushing out bleed kits to schools, and LERN will conduct trainings. Act also requires anonymous reporting and panic button systems (Rave/Crimestoppers or something equivalent to). 63% public schools have panic buttons; trying to get above 80%. For anonymous reporting schools somewhere between 33-35%.
* Directive from White House to report vulnerability assessments on water treatment and water waste plants that provide service to 3500 citizens and above by June 24th. Surveys sent out statewide. 14-15% responded.

**OHSEP Directors Updates**

* Updates were given by the Regional Directors

**Adjourn**

Motion by: Clay Rives

Seconded by: Jared Maze

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM