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

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Over Watch Meeting Room

7667 Independence Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

**ATTENDEES**

Denda Ball, Meg Dejean, Ashley Beetz, Nathan Gary, Todd Derrick, Dawson Primes, Clay Rives, Darren Guidry, Todd Smith, Collin Arnold, Lynne Browning, Neal Brown, Joey Frank, Rubby Douglas, Earl Eues, Laura Lott, Matt Hammons, Jacques Thibodeaux, Dick Gremillion, Rodger McConnell, Veronica Sizer, Catesha Smith, Shera Adams, Angella Sanders, Michael Steele, John Gardner, Terry Guidry, Neal Fudge, Teresa Basco, Jeffrey Giering

**Call to Order /Welcome**

Dawson Primes called the meeting to order at 10:09 AM. Dawson completed the roll call and a quorum was established. Dawson welcomed the group.

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| **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 | Dick Gremillion |  | P |  |
| Region Six | Kenneth Moore | Joey Frank | P |  |
| Region Seven | Robert Jump |  |  | A |
| Region Eight | Rodger McConnell |  | P |  |
| Region Nine | Dawson Primes |  | P |  |
| GOHSEP Director | Jacques Thibodeaux |  | P |  |

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES from January 2024**

**Motion by**: Earl Eues

**Seconded by**: Collin Arnold

There were no oppositions. January 2024 minutes were approved.

**Opening Statements**

* Jacques introduced Laura Beth Lott as Assistant Director of Grants and Administration. Her division will likely change names under new administration. Laura Beth comes from LDH-Eastern Louisiana Mental Health Systems.
* GOHSEP welcomes back Teresa Basco, Region 6 Coordinator.

**GOHSEP Updates/ Reports**

Jacques Thibodeaux, Director

* The UCG layout has been re-configured. The Governor added in Commissioner of Insurance and Secretary of State to UCG.
* UCG Exercise took place last week. Statewide Exercise will come next.
* UCG will no longer be an Emergency Management function; it will now be under Homeland Security and Interoperability. Emergency Management will be focused on Parish and Municipal response.
* Battle Rhythm will be: 0600: Shift Change, 0700: Statewide Call, 0900: UCG 1030: Governor in route to affected area, 1300: Legislative Briefing, 1400: Governor returns for press brief and SitRep is released.
* Once Mark Ward assumes Assistant Director of EM position, a new SitRep format will be decided with input from the nine OHSEP Directors.

**Public Assistance Updates**

Lynne Browning, Asst. Director Public Assistance

* PA continues to focus on Ida projects that have been stalled. If there are any concerns with the progress of a project, reach out to Lynne Browning or Nathan Gary.
* There will be a Debris Operations webinar- “Avoiding Critical Areas in your Debris Operations” on March 20 and March 21.

**Hazard Mitigation Updates**

Jeffrey Giering, Executive Officer Hazard Mitigation Assistance

* Submitted FY23 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) applications; FEMA will start reviews in Mid-April.
* There are BRIC and FMA applications and projects from FY22 that are still under review.
* Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Revolving Loan Fund survey is available. Survey is to express interest and potential project ideas.

**Grants and Administration Updates**

Angella Sanders, Executive Officer Grants and Administration

* 90/10 payment process implemented for Public Assistance, first wave has already gone out. Working on second wave which is Laura and Ida projects.
* FEMA monitoring visit will take place next week.

**Emergency Management Updates**

Rubby Douglas, Director of Strategic Engagement

* All parishes requested either an extension or de-obligation of SHSP funds.
* If there are any issues with the grant portal, reach out to your grant specialist.
* Training and Exercise has formed an internal team to deliver the Basic Academy. Next offering will be in Crowley, and there will also be an offering in Jefferson Parish.
* Preparing for the Cajun Kaleidoscope Statewide Exercise focusing on capabilities for hurricane preparedness.
* Parish Annual Report has been modified; the annual report allows GOHSEP to plan proactively for incidents. If you have any issues completing the report, reach out to your regional coordinator or the Planning staff.
* Nursing Home plan reviews in progress; staff almost finished reviewing.
* New WebEOC board being tested; training being conducted.
* Lunch and Learn on changes in policy for FEMA Individual Assistance Webinar being hosted tomorrow. These changes will be discussed at the LEPA Conference.
* Spring Outlook will be a good opportunity to do messaging on flood insurance and home preparations.
* Dean Davis is the new section chief of Emergency Management.

**Homeland Security and Interoperability Updates**

Neal Fudge, Deputy Director

* School Safety pushed out a data call to the Superintendents to establish a baseline for plans, training, and School Resource Officers (SROs). Information will be relayed to OEPs. OEPs will also have access to dashboard that will be used.
* Crimestoppers Anonymous reporting contract extended through May of 2024.
* Working with Secretary of State on election security for November election.
* GOHSEP has a contract with LEPA to provide entry to LEMC for one person per parish.
* School safety hired 8 people. Northern Region and Southeast regional school safety coordinators hired; working on Southwest. Continuing to grow cyber team as well.
* Working closely with FEMA on Superbowl 2025.
* Next steps for School Safety: pushing anonymous reporting and panic buttons, ensure every school has an emergency operations plan, and make sure every school has a bleed kit and training.
* Department of Education will take the lead in ensuring schools are compliant with requirements.
* A $5 million grant for schools (faith based schools and charter schools included) will be coming out within the next two weeks; 100 schools will receive $50k to develop a plan; if they do not need money for a plan, they can use the funding for other school safety endeavors. This grant will be recurring. Applications will be scored at the GOHSEP level. Rubby suggested a planning workshop for the grant recipients.
* Legislative report on School Safety due May 1st.

**OHSEP Directors Updates**

* Updates were given by the Regional Directors

**Adjourn**

Motion by: Clay Rives

Seconded by: Earl Eues

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM