

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee
State of Louisiana

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR



Dawson Primes
CHAIRMAN

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 10:00 AM

Over Watch Meeting Room

7667 Independence Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

ATTENDEES

Neal Fudge, Earl Eues, Clay Rives, Terry Guidry, Rodger McConnell, Kenneth Moore, Jared Maze, Collin Arnold, Melton Gaspard, Mark Fontenot, Denda Ball, Kim Beetz, Todd Smith, Melvin Jackson, Todd Derrick, Darren Guidry, Ashley LeBlanc, Amy Michiels, Matt Hammons, Lynne Browning, Dean Davis, Nathan Gray, Allison Saari, Sandra Gaspard, Laura Beth Lott, Stephen Durel, Neal Brown, Ricky Montet, Kimberly Leep, Troy Barnes, and William Migues

Call to Order /Welcome

Earl Eues called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Earl completed the roll call and a quorum was established. Earl 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			A
GOHSEP Director	Brig. Gen. Jason Mahfouz	Neal Fudge	P	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from June 2025

Motion by: Jared Maze

Seconded by: Clay Rives

There were no oppositions. June 2025 minutes were approved.

GOHSEP Updates/ Reports

Neal Fudge, Deputy Director

- Statewide Interoperability Executive Subcommittee (SIEC)
 - Approved a five year contract with Motorola, saving the State \$7.8M.
 - New LWIN tower for Tangipahoa Parish approved.
 - Waiting on tower for Youngsville.
- Two upcoming exercises with GOHSEP/FEMA:
 - Operations Exercise- Scheduled for 8/13. Will focus on identifying operational changes made by FEMA and evaluating how those changes could impact the State's response efforts.
 - Recovery Exercise- Scheduled for 8/15. Will focus on gaining a clear understanding of changes in FEMA's recovery process, including DRCs.
- FY25 EMPG & SHSP Grants Workshop
 - Commended staff and Directors for their attendance and cooperation during last week's Grants Workshop.
- First amendment auditors
 - Guidance pushed out to OHSEP Directors last week.
- Phase 1 of GOHSEP/LMD merger completed last week.
 - GOHSEP's enabling functions- including Finance, Admin and most Executive staff- were merged into the LMD structure.
 - Identified duplication of 12 positions; those positions will be eliminated.
 - GOHSEP is working with the affected individuals to place them in other vacant positions within GOHSEP.
 - Phase 2 of the merger will begin in October.

Public Assistance Updates

Lynne Browning, Assistant Director of Public Assistance

- PA 101 course was held at ULL on July 8-9; course was well attended, and participants provided positive feedback.
- PA staff will participate in FEMA's Recovery Exercise on 8/15.
 - Primary focus areas: debris, PA fund requirements, PDAs, and SBA coordination.
- Upcoming FEMA training opportunities:
 - 8/26- IA PDA training
 - 8/27- PA PDA training
 - Main topics include concept of operations, PDAs by category of work, and practical application.
 - Both courses will be held at GOHSEP. Registration will be in STEMS.
- Working on Mosquito Abatement SOP.

Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness Updates

Sandra Gaspard, Assistant Director of Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness

- FY25 EMPG & SHSP
 - Thanked all that participated in last week's Grant Workshop.
 - EMPG application submitted in FEMA GO on 8/11.
 - FY25 EMPG State award- \$4.9M, which represents a decrease of \$25,769 from the 2024 award amount. GOHSEP absorbed the decrease in funding, so parish allocations remain the same as FY24.
 - Subcommittee approved FY25 EMPG parish allocations.
 - Motion- Clay Rives
 - Second- Kenneth Moore
 - NSGP grant submitted last week.
 - GOHSEP is working on the HSGP grant, which encompasses SHSP, OPSG, and UASI.
 - HMA Guidance Version 2.1
 - Hurricane Francine funding- applications from the nine, declared parishes are due to GOHSEP by 11/13.

Financial Operations and Administration Updates

Laura Beth Lott, Assistant Director of Financial Operations and Administration

- FY26 budget appropriation of \$2.9B was approved.
- Merger of LMD/GOHSEP Financial Operations and Administration- staff will be divided between one of four sections.
 - Budget & Business Analytics- including Laura Beth & Angelle
 - Fiscal & Finance Services
 - Contracting & Purchasing
 - Logistics & Warehousing

Emergency Management Updates

Melton Gaspard, Executive Office of Emergency Management Division

- Logistics moved under LANG's Unified Logistics Element (ULE).
- Pending award for the Logistics Staging Area.
- Looking into Juvare Crisis Track software for PA & IA purposes.
- Email sent to parishes below I-10 regarding the Flood ID system. Encouraged parishes to participate in testing of the system.
- New Common Operating Picture (COP) in Virtual LA is organized by ESFs and will remain live. Shows current power outages, rainfall amounts, weather conditions, deployed assets, etc.
- P2P meeting held in Ouachita Parish on 7/23 & 7/24.
- 16 parish plans reviewed in the last two months; working with SDMI.
 - Started by reviewing plan that were up for review next year.

- Will continue to work with parishes to review and update their plans as long as funding is available. Hope to review and update all 64 parish plans within the next four years.
- ETHA Waiver due in WebEOC by 9/1.

Security and Interoperability Updates

Mark Fontenot, Director of Protective Intelligence

- Tracking school threats, first amendment audits, and protesting demonstrations across the state.
- 117 out of the 543 schools that applied for a safe school grant were awarded. All 117 schools were first time awardees.
- No estimated date of completion for the Youngsville tower.
- Special Events Data Call- opened August 1st, closes on September 11th.
- Kelly Feet (and possibly Mark) are hoping to attend mutual aid meetings to try to expand the intelligence piece at GOHSEP dealing with critical infrastructure and the private sector.

Cybersecurity Updates

Stephen Durel, Assistant Director of Cybersecurity Incident Response

- Cyber attacks:
 - Significant decrease in cyber attacks in Louisiana.
 - Attacks that do get through are less severe and easier to mitigate and bring agencies back to operational status.
- Continue to see ransomware attacks on K-12 & Parish government
- October is Cybersecurity month
- CrowdStrike endpoint detection software
 - Over 200 agencies participating in program
 - 118K endpoints protected by CrowdStrike
 - CrowdStrike is funded through FY27 right now.
- CTAC (Security Operations Center) is functional.
 - 2 local agencies onboard right now, with 2 more pending.
 - Intent is get 10 onboard this fiscal year
 - Able to share resources and intel as to what agencies in the state have seen regarding cyber attacks.
- Reinitiating an outreach program to go through incident response planning documentation, assessments, etc.

OHSEP Directors Updates

- Updates given by the Regional Directors.
- Shelter Taskforce Discussion

- Next meeting date and time is September 9th at 10:00 am. Meeting will be held at Tangipahoa OHSEP- 114 N Laurel St. Amite, LA.

Adjourn

Motion by: Clay Rives

Seconded by: Jared Maze

Meeting adjourned at 12:19 PM