

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 11, 2026 at 10:00 am

Tangipahoa OHSEP

114 N. Laurel St.

Amite, LA 70422

ATTENDEES

B.G. Jason Mahfouz, Mark Ward, Melton Gaspard, Sandra Gaspard, Dean Davis, Neal Fudge, Denda Ball, Matt Digby, Jackie Manton, Neal Brown, Dawson Primes, Earl Eues, Brandon Miguez, Darrick Hesson, Rodger McConnell, Clay Rives, Jared Maze, Darren Guidry, Kim Beetz, Meg Dejean, Matt Hammons, Amy Michiels, and Jamie Coley

Call to Order /Welcome

Dawson Primes called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Tangipahoa Parish President, Robby Miller, welcomed the group. Dawson completed the roll call and a quorum was established.

Regions	Directors	Meeting Designee	Present	Absent
Region One	Raymond Guedry	Darrick Hesson	P	
Region Two	Clay Rives		P	
Region Three	Earl Eues		P	
Region Four	Brandon Miguez		P	
Region Five	Jared Maze		P	
Region Six	Joey Frank	Dean Davis	P	
Region Seven	Ian Snellgrove	Dean Davis	P	
Region Eight	Rodger McConnell		P	
Region Nine	Dawson Primes		P	
GOHSEP Director	Brig. Gen. Jason Mahfouz		P	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from July 2026

Motion by: Earl Eues

Seconded by: Darrick Hesson

There were no oppositions. July 2026 minutes were approved.

GOHSEP Updates/ Reports

B.G. Jason Mahfouz, GOHSEP Director

- **Federal and Legislative Updates**
 - Cameron Hamilton confirmed as new FEMA Administrator.
 - Arsany Thomas remains the acting regional administrator for FEMA Region 6.
- **State-level Updates**
 - The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) is set to ratify a ten-year Motorola Master Service Agreement.
 - Projected savings is 40% over the term of the agreement.
 - Rationale offered was that the agreement consolidates multiple state agency contracts and extends economy-of-scale discounts to parishes.
 - DR-4927 (TS Arthur)- Public Assistance (PA) declaration for East Feliciana was received last week.
 - Statewide Exercise- After-Action Report has been published. Anyone needing a copy should contact the Preparedness Division.

Preparedness Division Updates

Matt McKey, Preparedness Division Director

- **Preparedness Grants**
 - All FY26 grant applications (EMPG, HSGP, NSGP, EOC) are fully completed and submitted.
 - FY25 HSGP
 - FY25 funds remain under programmatic holds pending national priority area reviews.
 - Stateholders encouraged not to execute contracts or request drawdowns on held projects until an official amendment appears in FEMA GO. Verbal approval is not sufficient authority to obligate.
 - FEMA Information Bulletin 568- requires all personnel funded through FEMA grants, including EMPG, to undergo annual vetting to verify U.S. citizenship.
 - Parishes should begin identifying EMPG-funded personnel in preparation for compliance but should await state implementation guidance as related litigation continues.
 - The process may require submission of bios and resumes from all grant-funded personnel by December 31, 2026.

- **Plans, Training, and Exercises**

- SWE Planning- planning team presented two possible scenarios for the next Statewide Exercise; asked board to select the scenario out of the two presented.
- **Selection of Scenario 2 (Plaquemine Parish landfall) for 2027 Statewide Exercise**
 - **Motion by: Earl Eues**
 - **Seconded by: Clay Rives**
 - **No oppositions. Scenario 2 selected for 2027 SWE**
- The National Qualification System SOP- finalized and referred to the First Responder Subcommittee for approval.

- **Cyber Security**

- Two parish governments targeted in the last couple of weeks; neither entity was using the cybersecurity resources GOHSEP provides.
- New Cybersecurity annex- under development with SDMI; to be incorporated into parish EOPs as plans are updated.
- Zydeco Project- subcontractor which supports sheriff's office digital infrastructure is being replaced; minimal service interruption is expected.

Response Division Updates

Mark Ward, Response Division Director

- **Logistics**

- No big changes.

- **Operations**

- Monitoring following events/incidents:
 - Area of developing weather activity in the Atlantic.
 - TS Bertha- produced short activation.
 - Five parishes under burn ban.
 - Sulphur salt-domes
 - Monitoring possible saltwater intrusion in Region 1.
- Working to convene the first counter-UAS taskforce meeting with LSP.

- **Intelligence Coordination Center (ICC)**

- Water and wastewater facilities continue to be targeted by cyber threat actors.
 - The Chinese military threat actor **Volt Typhoon** has compromised water-sector systems, including operational technology.
 - Basic cybersecurity measures can significantly reduce risk; however, many smaller operators may not recognize themselves as potential targets.

- Regional Directors were asked to help facilitate engagement with privately owned water systems and reduce barriers to cybersecurity outreach and assistance.
- **Homeland Security & Interoperability**
 - Counter UAS Taskforce- working to convene first meeting with LSP.
- **Regional Support**
 - Continue to support parishes with parish meetings, regional meetings, and trainings.

Recovery Division Updates

Sandra Gaspard, Recovery Division Deputy Director

- **Recovery Operations**
 - DR-4927 (TS Arthur)- all parish declaration requests have been addressed by FEMA, except the request for HMGP for declared parishes; 75/25 cost share.
- **Public Assistance**
 - DR-4927 (TS Arthur)- received PA declaration for East Feliciana at the end of last week; in addition to previously declared parishes (Avoyelles, Pointe Coupee, St. Charles, St. Landry, and Winn)
 - Asked that this DR be State-led for PA.
 - Applicant briefings- will be conducting two in-person briefings for this event on August 18, 2026.
 - Continuing to work with FEMA HQ on the 1603 POP extensions for the subset of PWs determined to be eligible.
 - Debris removal training- 8/20-8/21 at ULL
- **Individual Assistance**
 - DR-4927 (TS Arthur):
 - IA registration deadline has been extended to October 1st for all declared parishes (Avoyelles, Pointe Coupee, St. Landry, Terrebonne, Lafourche, and St. Tammany).
- **Hazard Mitigation**
 - BRIC:
 - Total of 42 sub-applications for \$353M federal share in FEMA GO.
 - FMA:
 - Recently submitted 47 sub-applications to FEMA under FY24 Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA).
 - FMA Swift Current FY26:

- Application period for LA will be open September 14, 2026-February 16, 2027.

OHSEP Directors Updates

- Updates given by the Regional Directors.

Next Meeting

- Date: September 8, 2026
- Time: 10:00 a.m.
- Location: GOHSEP, Overwatch Room

Adjourn

- Motion by: Earl Eues
- Seconded by: Rodger McConnell
- Meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.