

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee
State of Louisiana

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR



Dawson Primes
CHAIRMAN

Regional Parish OHSEP Director's Subcommittee Monthly Meeting

Monday, May 4, 2026 at 3:00 pm

Golden Nugget

2550 Golden Nugget Blvd.

Lake Charles, LA 70601

ATTENDEES

B.G. Jason Mahfouz, Brent Lewis, Mark Ward, Melton Gaspard, Matthew McKey, Neal Brown, Dean Davis, Denda Ball, Sandra Gaspard, Clay Revere, Pat Griffin, Dawson Primes, Earl Eues, Brandon Miguez, Rodger McConnell, Joey Frank, Clay Rives, Raymond Guedry, Ian Snellgrove, Jared Maze, Darren Guidry, Todd Smith, Todd Derrick, Amy Michiels, Meg Dejean, Teresa Basco, Ashley Leblanc, Kim Beetz, Matt Hammons, Leah Tatum, and Jamie Coley

Call to Order /Welcome

Dawson Primes called the meeting to order at 3:13 PM. Dawson completed the roll call and a quorum was established. Dawson welcomed the group.

Regions	Directors	Meeting Designee	Present	Absent
Region One	Raymond Guedry		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		P	
Region Seven	Ian Snellgrove		P	
Region Eight	Rodger McConnell		P	
Region Nine	Dawson Primes		P	
GOHSEP Director	Brig. Gen. Jason Mahfouz		P	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from March 2026

Motion by: Rodger McConnell

Seconded by: Jared Maze

There were no oppositions. March 2026 minutes were approved.

GOHSEP Updates/ Reports

B.G. Jason Mahfouz, GOHSEP Director

- **Legislative Updates-** tracking several bills with potential impacts on emergency operations:
 - **School Safety (HB 821):** proposes moving LA Center for Safe Schools from GOHSEP to LA Commission of Law Enforcement.
 - **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (HB 940):** requires GOHSEP and OTS to serve as principal agencies for technical and procurement coordination of UAS; also proposes a Counter-UAS Joint Taskforce.
 - **Cybersecurity Standards (SB 75)-** requires GOHSEP to establish minimum cybersecurity standards; also allows State to seek reimbursement for non-compliant entities requesting assistance.
 - **Adult Residential Care Providers (SB 145)-** requires facilities to have, or to plan for, emergency power sources (generators) to ensure the health and safety of residents during power losses.
 - **Homeland Security (SB 200):** allows for expropriation of land near military bases owned by foreign adversaries or agents of foreign adversaries when the ownership poses a threat to public health and safety.
 - **Members encouraged to monitor legislative hearings and contact their local legislators to express any concerns.**
- **FEMA Review Council:**
 - Expected to brief final report to DHS Secretary on May 7th.
- **Legislative Committee hearing:**
 - On May 26th, House Select Committee on Homeland Security will convene with several high-priority items:
 - GOHSEP/LANG merger progress
 - Barksdale Drone incursion
 - Induced seismic activity
 - State Hurricane Preparedness

Preparedness Division Updates

Matthew McKey, Preparedness Division Director

- **Preparedness Grants, Denda Ball**
 - Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) updates:
 - FY22 amendment- POP extension to August 31, 2025 but FEMA systems not yet updated. GOHSEP is working with federal partners to fix the issue.
 - FY25 award status:
 - Awards will be issued in accordance with original NOFO.
 - Funding for UASI has been confirmed.
 - Funding allocations (amendment totals)
 - SHSP- \$4,362,750

- UASI- \$4,546,754
 - OPSG- \$810,000
 - Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) updates:
 - FY25- RFI process completed; program is currently awaiting removal of federal financial hold before obligations and awards can proceed.
 - Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP)
 - Minimum expected processing time is 75 days for outstanding reviews due to 75-day DHS shutdown.
- **Plans, Training, and Exercises**
 - Statewide Exercise Improvement plan being worked by GOHSEP and partner agencies.
 - Partners encouraged to view training opportunities in STEMS, including ICS, PA, Critical Infrastructure courses.
 - Parish EOPs updates will continue next week with the next 16 parishes that are due; cyber annex will be included.
- **School Safety**
 - School Safety transition continues with Jackie Manton covering both the role of LCSS Director and Preparedness Grants Manager until LCLE selects a new director.
 - School Safety Summit- scheduled for July 7th and 8th
- **Cyber Security**
 - Some attackers have shifted tactics but nation state adversaries still pose a great risk to our state.
 - SLCGP
 - SLCGP recipients selected and being prepared for submission to FEMA; agencies selected have been notified by email.
 - SLCGP FY23 & FY24 have been reopened until June 30, 2026.
 - FY23 remaining balance is \$3,681,016.60
 - FY24 remaining balance is \$2,698,359.75
 - FY25 remaining balance is \$6,006.60 and is closed.

Response Division Updates

Mark Ward, Response Division Director

- **Logistics**
 - LSU analytics project underway
 - PODCast, PowerCast, and GenCast will use previous storm data in predictive models to identify where potential power outages may occur, estimate generator usage based on past events, and determine potential POD locations for hurricanes or all-hazard incidents.
 - Major contract updates:

- LSA contract solicitation has closed; received 13 bids.
 - Office of State Procurement is reviewing submissions and plans to award the contract before June 1st.
- Base camp contract is currently in blackout period.
- **Operations**
 - Monitoring following events/incidents:
 - Saltwater intrusion (Region 1)
 - Sulphur Salt Domes (Calcasieu)
 - Earthquakes- increased activity in North LA; Tulane and LSU have deployed additional monitoring equipment in the affected areas. Both institutions will continue to actively monitor seismic patterns.
 - Pipeline leak- St. Martin Parish
 - Mass shootings- monitored incidents in Shreveport and Baton Rouge
 - World Cup 2026
- **Intelligence Coordination Center (ICC)**
 - Increased cyber activity tied to international conflict.
 - Drone threats to military facilities and petrochemical sectors remain active.
 - Building statewide ICC governance charter; aiming for UCG subcommittee integration.
- **Homeland Security & Interoperability**
 - LWIN upgrades approaching 2030 end-of-support.
 - Motorola consoles (legacy models) expect to lose support; P25-compliant systems should continue functioning.
- **Regional Support**
 - Parish and Regional Hurricane Workshops scheduled across the state.

Recovery Division Updates

Lynne Browning, Recovery Division Director

- **Recovery Operations/Individual Assistance**
 - Crisis Track- working to move PDA processes (IA & PA) into Crisis Track electronic system.
 - Internal testing planned before June; legacy methods used until transition complete.
 - SBA:
 - SBA Rural Declaration add-on consideration for 8 parishes
- **Public Assistance**
 - Winter Weather (Fern):

- EM-3638- state-led operational model used for the first time and was approved by FEMA on 4/9/2026. Feedback requested from parishes.
 - DR-4900:
 - FEMA denied request for 100% cost share and HMGP funding under the major disaster declaration.
 - PA obligations:
 - Approximately \$33M in PA funds recently obligated
 - Debris tabletop exercises ongoing statewide.
- **Hazard Mitigation**, Sandra Gaspard
 - BRIC is back; “Office hours” held every day from 8:00 am-9:00 am to assist applicants.
 - FMA FY24 Application period is open.
 - Key Details for FY24 FMA announcement:
 - Submission deadline to GOHSEP through FEMA GO is July 3, 2026.
 - FMA application period closes on August 6, 2026.
 - Total FY24 FMA available funding nationwide: \$600,000,000
 - FMA Swift Current- clarifying allocation and timeline with FEMA after amended NOFO.
 - Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) selections announced for Town of Lake Arthur and Ouachita Parish Police Jury.

OHSEP Directors Updates

- Updates given by the Regional Directors.

Consideration for LEMC Fall Conference

- Discussion on timing and location; want to preserve director-focused training format.

Business EOC representation, Jimmy Williams

Next Meeting

- Date: June 9, 2026
- Time: 10:00 a.m.
- Location: GOHSEP (Overwatch Room)

Adjourn

- Motion by: Dawson Primes
- Seconded by: Ian Snellgrove
- Meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.