



SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

TRAINING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

**Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority
3200 Overseas Highway
(33rd St. Gulf @ MM48.7)
Marathon, FL 33050
(305)289-6161**

- 1. Welcome and Opening Remarks**
SoFlaLEPC Coordinator Manny Cela opened the meeting at 10:13 am for Training Subcommittee Chair Bob Marton.
- 2. Introductions**
In attendance were SoFlaLEPC Members Charlie Boyd, Bob Christensen, Ron Khawly, Craig Marston and Coordinator Manny Cela. Also in attendance were Jim Callahan, Anthony Hopper, David Johnson, Jolynn Raynolds, Pete Tyson, Lisa Watson and David Zalanka.
- 3. Training Courses Offered Last Year in the Region**
Manny Cela described the role the SoFlaLEPC plays in bringing free hazmat training courses to public and private personnel engaged in hazmat activities. The intent of the training is to augment or refresh rather than for certification purposes. Mr. Cela then described the courses offered last fiscal year and their attendance.
- 4. Training Offered Last Year in Monroe County**
Manny Cela stated that the only class offered in Monroe County last year was the Chemical Compatibility and Storage Course on October 30, 2008 in Key West. The greatest challenge in bringing courses to the Keys lies in the difficulty of registering enough persons to fill a room. It is not cost effective to offer a class for only five or ten individuals. However, with only 80,000 permanent residents spread over 120 miles, it is very difficult to accomplish just that in Monroe County.
- 5. Courses Authorized for this Fiscal Year**
Manny Cela described the process the Committee followed to choose and authorize courses for this year, including requesting comments from members and others, open discussion at the September 2008 Training Subcommittee meeting and approval at the December 2008 SoFlaLEPC meeting.



6. **Training Needs in Monroe County**

Tony Hopper stated that the Navy maintains a full 21-person hazmat team at the Boca Chica NAS, many of which would be able to attend training off base. Craig Marston indicated that Key West has the training, personnel and equipment to respond to Type I and Type II incidents. Some of those personnel may be available to attend training as well. Lisa Watson indicated that Marathon is starting its own SERT team and would welcome additional training.

Craig Marston indicated that the Chemical Compatibility course with an emphasis on pesticides would be of particular interest to them. Air monitoring and confined-spaces training would also be useful. Pete Tyson agreed on the need for confined-spaces training. Charlie Boyd offered that perhaps some kind of confined-spaces awareness training might broaden its appeal and draw more attendance.

Manny Cela was asked to describe the CAMEO course, which he indicated to be the 8-hour refresher version open to anyone engaged in hazmat activities.

Pete Tyson indicated the FCAA has conference rooms in Key West, Marathon, Key Largo and Florida City wired for videoconferencing. Although the individual rooms are modest in size, they would be willing to explore offering a class simultaneously at more than one location. As far as available locations, the Navy offered a large 60-seat room and smaller 20-seat conference room with video conferencing capability. Jim Callahan offered Monroe County's Fire Department training facility in Big Coppitt Key.

There was a question regarding Ethanol and Biodiesel training. Charlie Boyd described how the Committee had explored that training last year and found difficulties in setting open fires for foam spraying. In response to whether additional courses were available, Manny Cela indicated the Committee might be persuaded to do so if there was enough demand.

7. **Additional Comments**

Bob Christensen indicated other groups in the Keys might also be interested in training, specifically, the National Park Service and Everglades National Park. Lisa Watson stated that Marathon Fire Rescue enjoys a good working relationship with the Border Patrol and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and would reach out to them.

8. **Next Meeting**

Manny Cela thanked the participants for attending the meeting and asked they respond within two weeks with class attendance estimates from their respective agencies. This information is crucial before any classes can be scheduled.

9. **Adjourn**

Manny Cela adjourned the meeting at 11 am.