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Glades Technical Advisory Committee Minutes

Meeting Title: Glades Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Facilitator: Houston Tate, Director
Scribe (recorder): Duane Gainer, Senior Planner
Date/Time: March 28, 2013 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Location: Lake Okeechobee Resort, Pahokee, Fla.

Meeting Attendance:

- 1 Sheila Acevedo, St. George Episcopal
- 2 Deputy Richard Angelo, P.B.C. Sheriff's Office
- 3 Rev. David Broadbent, Canal Point United Methodist Church
- 4 Regina Bohlen, Pahokee Chamber of Commerce
- 5 Larry Caraccio, P.B.C. Code Enforcement
- 6 Meredith Cruz, The Corradino Group
- 7 Limontar Fitzgerald, HASC
- 8 Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
- 9 Jerome Govan, Resident
- 10 Van Johnson, P.B.C. Housing Authority
- 11 Gillian Martin, Consultant
Mr. And Mrs. Miller, Glades Guardian Collaborative
- 12 Derek Moore, City of Pahokee
- 13 Rosalind Murray, P.B.C. Criminal Justice Commission
- 14 Estella Pyfrom, Estellas Brilliant Bus
- 15 Eddie Rhodes, Tri-City Education
- 16 Chief Curtis Rice, P.B.C. Fire Rescue
- 17 Morales St. Hilaire, Workforce Alliance
- 18 Stephen Stokes, Target Engineering Group
- 19 Jeff Tarr, Resident
- 20 Houston Tate, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization
- 21 Veronique Valery, HASC
- 22 Javin Walker, 2SBW & Associates
- 23 Rashonda Warren, City of Pahokee

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Comments: Mr. Tate called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m., and asked for introductions to include the attendee's name, name of their pet (s) and their favorite ice cream flavor. The introduction/ice breaker allows group members to feel more comfortable to relate to each other on a personal level. Getting to know each other and developing a rapport with each other will strengthen their discussions and aid in the exchanging of opinions, brainstorming options, identifying viable solutions and developing an action plan.

2. Special Presentation

LJ Margolis, Glades Area Emergency Operations Coordinator – The Emergency Operating Area – or EOA – program was started in early 2006 by the Palm Beach County Division of Emergency Management under then-director Chuck Tear after Hurricane Wilma breezed through in late 2005.

Palm Beach County is a wide-spread and diverse County, with its County Emergency Operations Center – or EOC – centralized at Southern Boulevard and Military Trail in West Palm Beach. Wilma highlighted the need for eyes and ears and feet on the ground throughout the County. So the EOA program was developed to help to focus and streamline the recovery efforts after an emergency incident. Although “hurricane” is our first thought, the EOAs are all-hazards recovery units.

The County was divided into six different areas, or EOA's. The Glades EOA is referred to as EOA 1.

STRUCTURE

Palm Beach County Parks & Rec Director Eric Call is the EOA Branch Director, working directly within EOC and directing the overall EAO program.

The EOAs are organized in the Incident Command System or ICS system.

Each EOA has a core staff consisting of a Coordinator; one or two Deputy Coordinators; Planning, Operations, Logistics and Finance / Administration Section Chiefs. The Communications Unit reports to the Logistics Section. The Operations Section is the largest, and includes the Emergency Services, Human Services and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Branches, Senior Needs

Coordination and CCRT Area Coordination. In EOA 1, the CCRT Area Coordinator is Houston Tate.

PARTNER AGENCIES

- PBSO
- PBC FR
- Disaster Recovery Coalition
- Red Cross
- Faith based partners
- Others

TRAINING

- Basic EOA Operations – Required for all EOA staff
- ICS – Federally-mandated for anyone involved in disaster recovery. Google ICS 100 and you'll find links to FEMA's site where you can take the on-line training.
- WebEOC – Describe WebEOC...
- Position-specific training – Planning, Operations, Logistics, Finance & Administration, Safety
- Field Exercises – upcoming in EOA 1 for Strike Teams
- Tabletop Exercises – upcoming in EOA 1 for Section Chiefs and other core staff
- Much of the required training is now available on-line, rather than in a classroom setting

ACTIVATION

Post-disaster, the EOAs are activated as needed based on the level of impact the disaster had on their area. For example, after TS Isaac, EOAs 3 & 4 were activated because those areas were most impacted. All the other EOAs provided staffing assistance to EOAs 3 & 4. EOA 1 was activated twice: once in anticipation of Hurricane Ernesto in August 2006 – who remembers that huge disappointment of a hurricane? And once with the tropical storm that put the final touches of destruction on the old Pahokee City hall building.

CURRENT ACTIVATION LOCATION

Pioneer Park Aquatic Center – parking lot & office. EOA trailer. Activation location could change,

based on damage or accessibility to the primary location.

FUNCTION

Now that the EOA is activated, what exactly do all the people DO?

- Planning – continually assess the situation and plan the course of action
- Operations ... Strike Teams made up of Human Services, Senior Services, Head Start and other staff go into the community to assess human service needs. They report back to the EOA via hand-held 2-way radio.
 - What do you think some of those needs might be?
 - Family of 5 stranded without food or water. Home has been destroyed. What response would this require? Food and water? No. Transport to a shelter.

Strike Teams also are deployed out into the community to respond to missions sent us from EOC via WebEOC.

- Data entry staff and scribes document everything that happens, fill out forms required by FEMA, use WebEOC to report needs to EOC and receive missions from EOC
- Cross-training allows people to fill a role when the primary person assigned is unable to fill that role for whatever reason
- Deputy Coordinators Kate Cole & Jamie Duran take turns filling the Coordinator role when I am unable to. For example – upcoming hip surgery.

3. Participant Updates/Comments

Steve Stokes, Target Engineering (DOT), reported on the following:

- SR 15 contract time started on Sunday; contract was awarded asphalt; going to start sidewalk

Rev. David Broadbent – There is a park in Port Mayaca in dire need of repair/maintenance.

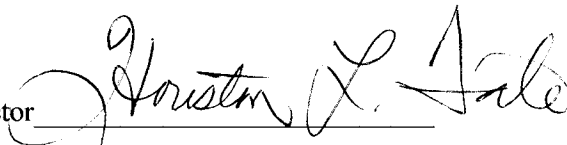
Chief Rice, PBC Fire Rescue, reported on the following:

- Please help get the word out about the new Fire Station locations; an injured person drove themselves to a closed station.

4. Adjournment

Comments: The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. The next meeting will be held on April 25, 2013 in South Bay.

Approved by: Houston L. Tate, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Houston L. Tate", is written over a horizontal line.