HAWAII STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION
MEETING # 104
Friday, September 23, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Department of Health
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 5th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Attendees

Voting: Keith Kawaoka, Dept. of Health; Gerald Kosaki, Hawaii County LEPC; Jade Butay, Dept. of Transportation; Robert Harter, Honolulu LEPC; Valerie Yontz, Public Health Studies, University of Hawaii; Jeff Kihune, Maui County LEPC; Albert Kauai, Kauai County LEPC; Vern Miyagi, State Civil Defense, Dept. of Defense; Mark Want, Energy Analyst, Department of Business Economic Development & Tourism; Tin Shing Chao, OSHD, Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relation; Thomas Matsuda, Dept. of Agriculture, Pesticide Branch

Non-Voting: Sharon Leonida, Fenix Grange, Barbara Brooks, Dept. of Health, HEER Office; Jon Chin, Dept. of Health, DBEDT; Bill Robberson, Dan Meer, Donn Zuroski, U.S. EPA Region 9; William Marhoffer, USCG; Chelsie Sakai, Kauai Civil Defense; Al Bronstein, EMS IPSB, Paul Miguel, Honolulu Fire Dept.; Travis Hiramoto, Dept. of Health, SHWB; Orasa Fernandez, Gilbert Chun, Dept. Of Education

1. Keith called the meeting to order at 9: am.

   1.1 Introduction of Attendees.
   1.2 No revisions to minutes from meeting #103. Motion to accept minutes was moved by Gerald Kosaki, seconded by Albert Kauai.

2. LEPC Updates:

   2.1 Hawaii County: Gerald Kosaki
      2.1.1 The LEPC meeting was held on August 9, 2016, six members attended.
      2.1.2 One member asked for update on School Lab Cleanup.
      2.1.3 Three fire personnel attend Continuing Challenge in early September at Sacramento, CA. LEPC paid for travel, lodging. A grant paid for the $400 registration fees, for each person.
      2.1.4 PGV, Puna Geothermal Venture, is planning a drill for October and November, 2016. The full scale exercise involves a hazardous material
leak. It could be Sulfuric Acid or another chemical stored at the facility. They are working with HazMat and personnel at PGV.

2.1.5 September 22, BEI had a chlorine gas leak. Workers arrived in the morning and noticed the smell. They located the leaking tank and put it into a containment unit called a ‘coffin’. Fire department and ambulance was called and examined the workers. They refused treatment. Adam Tekeel, HEER Office, was contacted and workers did area monitoring for chlorine. Decision was made to put cylinder into a water bath to dilute the gas. Fire advised company to hire contractors to off load gas. This morning, September 23, fire department was called back to BEI. Water was saturated; a worker was exposed and sent to the hospital. Fire department took readings from different areas in the building and around the tank. Gerald explained what was happening at the time HSERC was going on. Dan Meer asked if this was reported to NRC.

2.2 Kauai County: Albert Kauai – Kauai Fire Department

2.2.1 Last LEPC meeting was August 18, 2016.

2.2.2 Discussed sources and allowability of LEPC funds. Members approved the 2016 – 2017 funding. Committee approved travel to Fireshow West Hazmat Conference in Reno. Two personnel will attend in October.

2.2.3 Each Hazmat Battalion had three full days of training with the 93rd CST, Civil Support Team. This took place at the HazMat station. The participants at the August 9th table top were police, Civil Defense, 93th CST, FBI, Red Cross, and Salvation Army. Three hospitals, Wilcox, KVMH, Madeline and Kauai Community College. August 11, was a full scale exercise at KCC involving an active shooter. August 12 was the hot wash.

2.2.4 August 13th, a drum washed up on the east coast of a resort. Coast Guard took control; later drum went above the high water mark. Liz was called and arranged for a contractor to do disposal.

2.3 Maui County: Jeff Kihune – Maui Fire Department

2.3.1 LEPC meeting was on August 23, 2016. We toured the BEI facility before the meeting. Continued meeting at the Fire Prevention Bureau.

2.3.2 Hazmat Assisted Safety Officer Training for all Hazmat personnel was August 8 – 10.

2.3.3 Six incidents occurred this quarter. On June 26, eight pounds of Chlorine leaked from the Water Department pump station and well. July 19, Ammonia leak at Maui Ice and Soda. Jeff sent out email about incidents, because of recent Ammonia training. July 20, 35 gallons of hydraulic oil spilled on the highway at Lahaina. July 29, 5 gallons of liquid propane leaked from a 500 gallon filling station in Lahaina and HC&S had a 30 – 50 gallon transformer oil spill. Sept. 19 Contractors, hired by Maui Water Dept. to clean out a section of pipe that was being close down, was exposed to chlorine. No protective equipment was used. Chlorine that was used for cleaning splashed on a person’s face and arms causing burns.
2.3.4 Household Hazardous Waste cleanup was held June 25-26. Cost to County was $77,000. Enviro Services was the contractor. Still trying to complete EOP evaluation with Tetra Tech, in the final stages.

2.3.5 Attempting to setup website with Civil Defense, before completing EOP.

2.3.6 Sent two Hazmat Techs to Continuing Challenge.

2.4 Honolulu City & County: Bob Harter for Alex Adams

2.4.1 LEPC meeting was September 20, 2016, 31 attendees, next meeting is December 13, 2016. Dates for next year’s LEPC meeting were given out.

2.4.2 Two community outreach events, July 30 at Pearl Ridge Center and September 10 at Ewa Beach.

2.4.3 Alex did two pre-plan visits. One was at Pacific Biodiesel and the other was Ideal Construction.

2.4.4 Fire department did training with the 93rd Civil Support Team. They were also preparing for the International Union of Conservation Natural Resources. Also known as Worldwide Conservation Congress.

2.4.5 President Obama visited the state and there were two possible hurricanes in this same week.

2.4.6 There is a new HazMat Truck for Hazmat 2. Pictures were shown, cost was $184,000.

2.4.7 Contractor used a backhoe on South Beretania Street to remove asphalt from a parking lot. They struck a gas line, no one called 811 before digging. Several tenants were evacuated from the building including a pet clinic. Next, the contractor wanted to use a concrete saw on the sidewalk. He was urged to call 811, he did not. Question about who should turn in companies not following the “call before you dig” requirement.

2.4.8 Coast Guard gave a briefing on incidents.

2.4.9 On August 9, a Hawaii Gas transport trailer, coming out of Kapolei plant, flipped on its side. No injuries or spills from the transport. Road was closed for four hours until fuel was off loaded and transport was lifted back on its wheels. HFD is inquiring if this transport could be used as a ‘training aid’ for them.

2.4.10 LEPC sending six fire personnel to Continuing Challenge.

Alex sent pictures of fire hydrates in Japan; this was a vacation trip before Surgery. Bob referred to the Maui Ice and Soda release in July and how training at the June 15 Ammonia Safety Day helped company personnel to deal with release.

3. Dept. of Agriculture Pesticides Response – Interest in Statewide Pesticide Exercise

3.1 Curtis explained how the Dept. of Agriculture is trying to improve the awareness and responsiveness for pesticide releases. He advised the LEPCs to meet Tom Matsuda after HSERC to get the name of the agriculture person on their island and invite them to the LEPC meetings. Slides were shown with information. There are plans for Table Top Exercises on each island in 2017. This would include any personnel that would be responding to “Any Type of Incident”. Examples of possible scenarios were given. Additional agencies that will be part of the exercises include, Dept.of Agriculture Lab for Pesticides, hospitals and
EMS. When the exercises are planned the LEPC and different agencies will be informed. It is important to get everyone’s input and increase awareness that the situation may need to have the Dept. of Agriculture involvement. Fenix gave the background on issues that concern both the DOH and Health Dept. Examples, pesticides that go in to waterways and affect public health. Visits have been made to the different islands to gather information. We are accurately tracking where incidents have occurred and having information is available to other agencies.

Al Bernstein is the Branch Chief of EMS for Injury and Prevention He explained all the services that his dept is responsible for. He has been working with the HEER Office for many years on projects such as different outbreaks, and running the poison center. He has been asked to help with the tabletop to gather data. With this information, it will benefit the treatment for patients. Barbara Brooks talked about EPA sponsored training for medical doctors on Kauai. This is in response to concerns from the community about pesticides. A contractor will be offering this within the next six months. Training on Oahu will be from the University of California – San Francisco on Environmental Health issues for Children. This includes pesticides.

3.2 Tom Matsuda explained about the duties of his department and events that have been occurring. He has been trying to network with the LEPCs. If the pesticide department is notified, they will respond and check to see if they need to do enforcement action. His department has been working with the HEER office and last year the Department of Agriculture completed an MOU with the Department of Education. Anyone can contact the Pesticide Branch directly.

Keith commented about the chart being simple to understand. We need to look at Protocol and see where we need to improve them. This was prompted from the community because of incidents happening. People where being affected and needed treatment.

Bob asked about neighbors using products and smell drifting. Discussion and question if agriculture has any enforcement happening now. There are routine Inspections to certain companies or farms with regular pesticide use. He explained what they check for, what training was done, if there are any violations. There is a follow up visit. They also regulate pesticides coming into the state to be sold. Importers must pay a license fee. There are nine different types of inspections. They have a “consent agreement” with the EPA. Explanation about training, new requirements in January 2017. The “Good Neighbor Program” is when people are notified that pesticides will be applied to the roadside along their homes. The education person in the pesticide branch is Steve Russo. Discussion on how complaints are handled, if penalties are issued. Manny from HFD tries to educate the public when responding to calls. He would like to work with the pesticides department. Fenix asked if Manny could get data to her about these calls. Tin Shing’s office also has an MOU with pesticides on worker safety. Penalties will be increasing next year from $7700 to $12,000 for each violation. Tom’s phone is 973-9404, direct line.

4. Dept. of Education Update on “New Safety and Inspection Program”, MOU Update on Lab Cleanup – Gilbert Chun, Orasa Fernandaz, DOE

4.1 Four years ago Tom Matsuda approached Gilbert about the Integrated Pest Management Plan, IPM. Robert Pam was hired by Gilbert to do the IPM for
the DOE. He does training and when schools submit a work order he will do an inspection. Using the IPM plan, the school tries to solve the pest problem with help from the department of agriculture. DOE has come out with a mandatory pesticide price list. Gilbert explained the process of inspection then use of price list. Schools are asked to submit reports on results of treatment. DOE works closely with Tom to develop the list and insure that products are allowed in schools and institutions. Training is being done on all four main islands plus Molokai and Lanai. When an inspection is done, a report is sent to the school and kept on file. There are follow up inspections. DOE has trained all the head custodians on Maui, Hawaii, Kauai. They are doing Oahu now and training principals and vice principals also.

4.2 School Safety Inspection Program

Gilbert went over the people involved with this program. Three parts are, Mock HIOSHA inspections, Hazardous Materials Inspections and School Vulnerability Assessment. Mock HIOSHA is done to insure training programs are completed. Mark Behrens does inspections and the follow up report. Any problems are pointed out and schools need to complete the form on how the problem was corrected.

In the Hazard Communication Program, the chemical inventory in the school should be kept current. Pictures of different problems found in schools. An Inspection team includes Mark, principal, head custodians, Admin. Services Assistants from the area complex.

For the Hazardous Material Disposal, schools should be controlling inventory, do documentation, have proper storage, dispose of unwanted or used chemicals. Pictures of chemicals found, lots of mercury thermometers. Request for schools to turn in these thermometers occurred eight to nine years ago. Reviewed the different areas of the school that are inspected.

Oraa compiled a handout of the schools, amount of hazardous materials picked up and cost of disposal, dated 6/13/16. Enviro Services has been contracted to do removal. Form listed the amount of elementary, middle, high schools and the island where they are located. If a school calls, DOE will do disposal. Some schools will have several visits.

4.3 Vulnerability Assessment

Under this part of the program, DOE checks for proper signs, directions, protocol being follow. If training courses for teachers are being offered.

School Safety Program Goal is to inspect all 256 schools in a three year cycle, 86 schools a year. Gilbert went over what Mark does during an inspection, who accompanies him, what report is filed and what is expected from the schools. A copy of the report is sent to the different officials in the DOE. For the year 2015-2016, all 256 schools where completed. For the 2016-2017, 34 schools were completed as of 9/23/16, state wide. Bill Mihaloff asked if DOE willing to share program. Guam has problems, looking for guidance. Gilbert has the memo that was sent to the schools explaining program. Oraa mentioned that there is a “Draft of the Standard Practice”. They will be given it to Bill. Explanation on the different costs per school. Enviro Services has given them a price list. DOE has an allocation from the Legislature to pay for disposal. Fund is divided between this program and Environmental Service Unit. They Handle asbestos abatement and other related issues.
4.4 Update of HSERC/DOE MOU

He went over the school’s responsibility for keeping current inventory on chemicals and hazardous waste disposal. His office will do training and implementation of the school safety program. They will start notifying the Dept. of Health of the inspections schedule, continue the chemical disposal program and do a report to the HSERC as needed or annually. Question if schools are told about inspection. They have several weeks notice. For the MOU, he has sent a draft memo to his Assistant Superintendent Dan Carlson for review. He will then make a recommendation to the superintendent for her to sign. The superintendent signs all MOUs. Both of them are aware of what has been happening with this program. He thinks there is a good chance that the MOU can be signed at the December meeting. There will be a new Safety Director, Maynard “Max” Mendoza. He starts January 1, 2017. Is there a priority list of what schools will be checked first? Mark wants to do a mixture of high, middle and elementary on all islands. When an inspection is scheduled, DOE will notify Solid and Hazardous Waste. Grace or Travis can get the call. If others are interested, let Grace Simmons and Travis know. They can contact you when there is something scheduled.

Tin Shing gave a website for “Active Shooter” video. Keith reviewed how long the process took to get the MOU. Thanked everyone who helped with the meetings and review of the document.

Tin Shing, HIOSHA has a Consultation and Training Branch, free service. They will go through your business, identify problems, give advice on what to do.

5. Future Dates for HSERC

Calendars were on the table. Schedule meeting for each quarter of 2017. Members agreed on: March 24th, June 23rd, September 22nd and December 15th.

6. Updates on Health Department – Keith Kawaoka

6.1 On the DOH Budget request, media had announced that the state had a BILLION DOLLAR surplus. Most of it has already been spoken for. We have put in for a new State On Scene Coordinator.

6.2 Medical Marijuana, eight licenses given out. Each licensee will each have four parts, cultivation, processing, manufacturing, dispensary. There are 32 possible facilities. Possible problems involves emergency response. Facilities will be enclosed, and heavily secured. What chemicals, materials, solvents will be used? What will the environment be like inside. What type and amount of waste will be Generated. Most facilities will be built in remote agriculture land. Are they exempt from County permits? First responders need to be aware of this situation. DOH is the management for this program. The U.S. government does not Recognize the growing of Medical Marijuana as a legal operation. Owners of facilities can’t use the normal banking system for revenue from this business. How will taxes be paid? Question on what states have been dealing with this, emergency response-wise.
Tom Matsuda looking at what pesticides they would use. Discussion on what pesticide can be used. They would need to go through the registration process first. Many questions have not been answered.

7. Other Business - Fenix Grange
   We will be putting in a bill to the Legislature to raise the Tier II fees’ from $100 to $200.

8. Next HSERC Meeting will be March 24, 2017.

9. Meeting Adjourned

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon L. Leonida
Environmental Health Specialist III