



WS138. Working Effectively with Elected Officials During Hurricane Preparedness, Response, and Recovery



Introductions GS0

“Working Effectively with Elected Officials during Hurricane Preparedness, Response, and Recovery”

Friday, May 16
8:30 - 10 am ET



Gary Scronce, Moderator
IEM



David Hazellief
*Chairman, Okeechobee
County Board of County
Commissioners*



Michelle Lincoln
*Commissioner, Monroe
County District 2*



Deborah Manzo
*County Administrator,
Okeechobee County*



Shannon Weiner
*Director, Monroe County
Emergency Management*



Slide 2

GS0

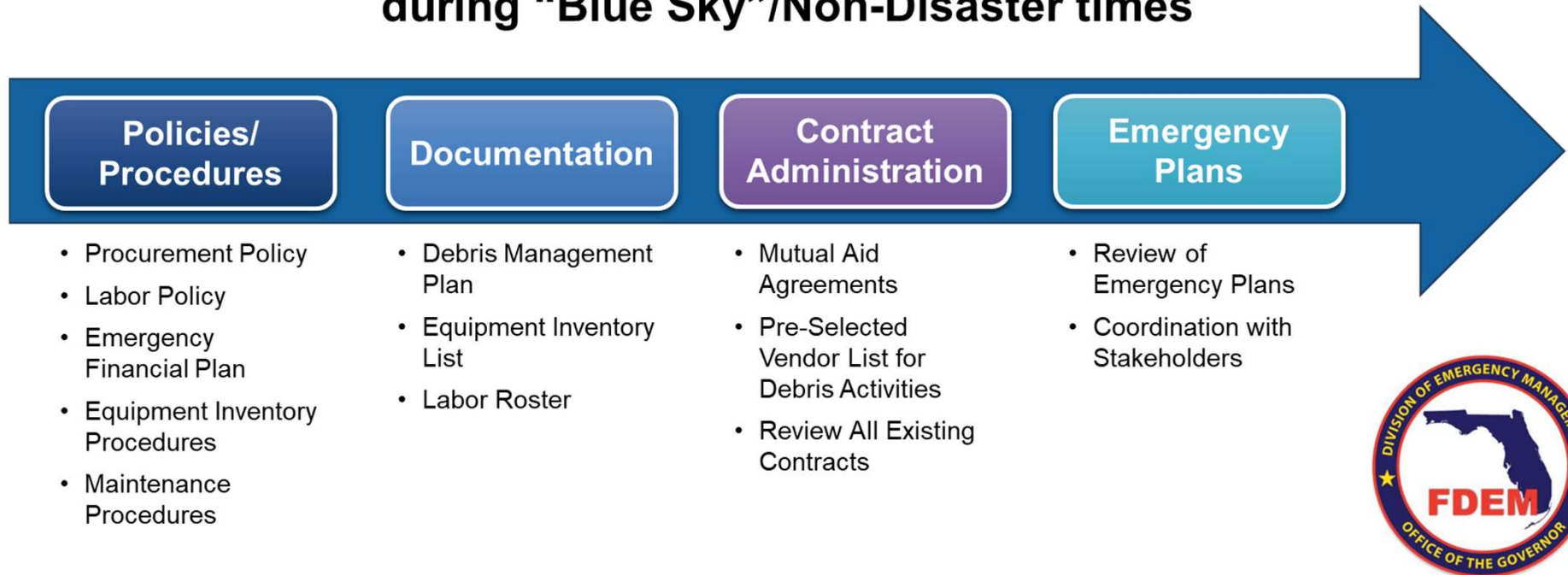
Need to update this slide for panel for this conference

Scronce, Gary, 2025-05-06T20:19:57.066



PREPAREDNESS: PRE-STORM

Information Emergency Managers should provide during “Blue Sky”/Non-Disaster times



Reference: Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) “Blue Sky” Best Practices



PREPAREDNESS: PRE-STORM

➤ DAILY UPDATES/BRIEFINGS TO THE BOARD

- Provide the Board with daily updates or briefings identifying the possibility of impact and what it could look like, including opening shelters, closing schools and county facilities, implementing a curfew, ordering evacuations, etc.

➤ PREPAREDNESS BASED ON LEVEL

- Identify the potential level of the Storm and implement the Emergency Plan – update and track progress (*example on right*)
- Coordinate meetings with the Board, Directors, Constitutional Officers, and partners including Command Staff, Sheriff's Office, Schoolboard, City Manager, DOH, Water Utilities and Districts, Electricity Providers, Solid Waste, and Hospitals
- Secure buildings and grounds (garbage cans/lids, flags, shuttering, etc.)

➤ NOTIFICATION TO COMMUNITY/PRESS RELEASES

- Distribute communication to media, other agencies, PIOs, the Board, Schoolboard, Water Utilities, City Manager and Council, and other partners
- Post communication on website and social media channels

INCIDENT NOTES – TS/HURRICANE _____	
Revised 10/14/24 dsm	
TASK	COMMENTS
STATE REGION: 7; STATE CALL: 11:15 a.m. & 5:15 p.m. MELBOURNE WEATHER: 11:45am & 5:45 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State Threshold• Okeechobee County PA Threshold	\$40,707,173.45 (2024) \$187,119.68 (2024)
PREPAREDNESS:	
LEVEL 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EM Director and selected PS staff monitor State and Melbourne Calls.• If storm appears to impact the County, then continue with following:• PS Director or EM Director notify County Administrator of potential impact.• IC coordinates with:• County Administrator coordinates with BOCC, Directors, Constitutional Officers.• EM Director to invite partners (Command Staff, S.O., Schoolboard, City Mgr, DOH, OUA, SPWMD, FPL, Glades Electric, Hospital)• Command Staff - Tactics & planning meetings as needed• EPG meeting• EM to set up event in WebEOC• Complete Incident Briefing Form ICS 201	Command Staff @ Conf. Calls;
Notification to Community/Press Releases: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepared by PIO & distributed to media, other PIOs; BOCC, Schoolboard, OUA, City Manager & Council, and directors• PIO: Provides information to Website Administrator (Thomas) for Website• PIO: update FACEBOOK	
Planning Section Chief prepares Incident Briefing Form 201. Provide status to: BOCC, Department Directors, Constitutional Officers, Schoolboard Exec. Director, DOH, City Manager & Council, and other partners. Complete ICS Forms; Incident Status Summary Form 209 (Situation Report) Complete ICS 214 Activity Log Form for time & equipment use	
Project Code (issued by Budget Office) Payroll OT Code (issued by Finance Dept)	121-14-525-00-80____ #37
Facilities to Secure Buildings and grounds: flags, trash can lids, shuttering (takes 2 days), chain cast-iron gates R&B staff clean inlets of debris. Storm Water Systems – Oak Park Eagle, River Oak Estates, Oak Lake Estates	
Sand/Sand bags (limit 10/vehicle)	Consider moving location & prefilling w/equipment
Consider when to host Call Center or provide a message – Library	
Tropical Storm Watch - winds of 39 to 73 mph within 48 hours:	
Obtain potential impact information	
IC requests Administration prepare LSE for Chair's signature	
LEVEL 2 - Partial Activation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Command staff (Section Chiefs & above; Branches: Infrastructure, PS, Human Services, Supply; Units: Situation, Fleet, Maintenance, Communications, Facilities; Others: City)• Section Chiefs to update ICS, name and phone number• Liaison to begin Stakeholder's Conference Calls – list of partners, call on speak	Pre-impact Period
Implementation of County AR 4.04	

Example, Page 1 of 3



RESPONSE: POST STORM

➤ IDENTIFY DAMAGES DURING LOCKDOWN

- Update and maintain maps to report damages, downed powerlines and trees, flooded streets, etc. to Dispatch

➤ RESPONSE EFFORTS – Continue daily updates to BOCC

- Windshield Assessments
- Installation of generators at traffic lights until power is restored
- Inspect public buildings and parks to determine when safe to reopen
- Inspect County buildings/services, schools, etc. when winds are less than 39 MPH and reopen when safe
- Clear inlets and drainage systems of debris
- Distribute supplies at Point of Distribution (POD) and deliver to areas impacted
- Damage Assessment

Recovery



➤ **IDENTIFY RECOVERY TIMEFRAME – Continue daily updates to BOCC**

- Inspect critical infrastructures, make necessary repairs, contact insurance, and request Public Assistance, if needed
- Coordinate Public Assistance (PA) and Individual Assistance (IA), including timeline/expectation for FEMA involvement as well as any other partners facilitating with recovery efforts
- Manage debris removal with coordination of monitors and haulers – typically begins within one (1) week
- Identify unmet needs

➤ **COMMUNICATION**

- Provide an update to the BOCC and Community of location and hours of Disaster Recovery Centers (*see example on next slide for a presentation provided to the BOCC and Community*)

RECOVERY: COMMUNICATION TO BOCC & COMMUNITY



OCTOBER 6, 2024



- 10/05/24 Governor issued an Executive Order listing Okeechobee in State of Emergency
- 10/6/24 Flood Watch was issued & Chairman Hazellief signed a Local State of Emergency effective 1100.
- Impact time for west coast – Tuesday evening/night
- Some models have it reaching a category 4, still forecast as a category 3. Heaviest wind and rain on the North side (left of track) of the storm.
- Storm moving through from coast to coast from sunrise to sunset
- Flood watch continues through Thursday morning
- Track shifted to south. 12–18 hour period for storm to move through.
- Expected time of arrival: Wednesday morning west to east.
- Rainfall 6–8" expected.

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OCTOBER 9, 2024



- Document Damages
- Post storm debris collection: Per FEMA regulations for reimbursement, no collection of debris from commercial or private properties with the exception to eliminate an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety.
- Informing the public regarding safety measures, what to do at traffic intersections with flashing red/yellow lights, and FEMA individual assistance programs.
- Multiple tornadoes reported (2 confirmed) – damages to structures with injuries. Multiple structural damages recorded on map.
- Glades County had tornado in Lakeport; 78 W closed
- 10/11/24 0700 all required EM staff reported to EOC; Office staff will report at their normal time
- 116 Tornado Warnings Statewide
- FPL 2700 out 6180 affected/ 3400 restored; Glades 318 outages

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DAMAGES



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RESPONSE

- Over 6,000 sandbags were distributed leading up to the storm
- 12,067 residents lost power during the event
- Over 2,500 families were given supplies (MREs, water and tarps) through two pods, one community distribution and three neighborhood drop locations.



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RESPONSE

- 8 Press Releases issued as of 10/12/24
- 30 Interactions with media including television, radio and newspaper
- 12 calls with the National Weather Service
- 14 Calls with the State EOC (as of 10/12/24)
- 40 posts on Facebook reaching over 40,000 individuals



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RESOURCES

OPERATION BLUE ROOF PROGRAM

FREE TEMPORARY ROOF TARPING

Visit
BlueRoof.gov

Call
888-ROOF-BLU
(888-766-3258)

Available in: Brevard, Citrus, Charlotte, DeSoto, Flagler, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Manatee, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Lucie, Sumter and Volusia counties.

Eligible residents can now apply through Tuesday, November 5

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Reference: An example presentation provided to the Okeechobee County BOCC and Community during Post-Storm/Recovery after Hurricane Milton 2024.
Representation above contains a few slides – not the full presentation.

GOVERNOR'S HURRICANE CONFERENCE®

Questions?



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