

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION
MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2014 6:00 p.m.
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
2801 Salzedo Street, Coral Gables, Florida**

MINUTES

Members Present:

Ajit Asrani
Lourdes Cambo
Jose Garrigo
Samuel Martinez
Joan Valdes
David Bolton
Jack Coe
Al Smith
Gaston Alvarez
Barbara Katzen
Oscar A. Lopez
Victor Saizarbitoria
Janice Thomson
Richard DeWitt
Sam Joseph
Danny Rosario
James Smith
Jose Amezaga
Ed Boen
Richard Massa
Hector Rodriguez
Jesse Brooks Wright

Appointed By:

Mayor Jim Cason
Mayor Jim Cason
Mayor Jim Cason
Mayor Jim Cason
Mayor Jim Cason
Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
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Commissioner Frank C. Quesada
Commissioner Patricia Keon
Commissioner Patricia Keon
Commissioner Patricia Keon
Commissioner Patricia Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Vince Lago
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City Staff:

Marcos De La Rosa, Division Chief
Dean James, Division Chief
Robert Lowman, Division Chief
Betty Mendoza, Administrative Assistant

1. Chief James opened the meeting by welcoming all present. A sign-up sheet with phone numbers and addresses was provided for updating.
2. Chief James began with a power point presentation on the history of the Emergency Management Division referencing Florida State Statute (Chapter 22.06) which mandates the appointment of emergency interim successors. He also discussed the City of Coral Gables Resolution 28905 which further reflected the Florida State Statute and defined the role of the division members as emergency interim successors. Chief James presented the appointees as designated by the Commission, who would fill in, in the event that any

member of the City Commission is unavailable to fulfill the duties of the office. The order of succession will be determined by the City Commission at a later date.

3. Chief De La Rosa discussed the goals and objectives of Emergency Management which are to successfully plan, train, and respond to any emergency; to restore critical services expeditiously, and to obtain and train in the latest emergency response technology. He proceeded with an overview of the preparations and various weather advisories for tropical storms and hurricanes.

Chief De La Rosa described the WebEOC Incident Management System and the relationship between the municipalities and Miami-Dade's Office of Emergency Management.

Chief De La Rosa talked about the multi-layered redundant communications systems used within the City during an emergency.

Chief De La Rosa discussed Rescue Recon Teams and their function and goals. This plan has been in place for several years using the Incident Command System. The teams go out immediately after a storm and make an assessment of the damage and begin to clear the major thoroughfares so that Police and Fire can respond to emergencies. The primary mission of the teams is to conduct a rapid assessment in order to prioritize appropriate response actions.

Chief De La Rosa explained the plans in place to pre-position Fire/Emergency Services from other parts of the State prior to a storm, so that they are available immediately after landfall. He also discussed how utility companies' plans mirror the best practices from emergency services to prestage resources prior to a storm.

4. Chief Lowman presented an overview of the Neighborhood Information Center (NICE) responsibilities. Members of the Emergency Management Division may act as liaisons with the community and neighborhoods in times of activation. Chief Lowman provided a list of the NICE Centers throughout the City and asked the Emergency Management Division members to write down their names under their preferred or most convenient zone where they may possibly serve in the event of activation.
5. The importance of emergency training for division members was emphasized by the presenters. The Emergency Management Division members were encouraged to explore the various training opportunities offered. Incident Command System and National Incident Management System courses IS 100a, 200a, 700a, and 800b are specifically recommended and are available at: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp>
6. A question and answer period followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.