

ALACHUA TIM TEAM MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2009

MEETING MINUTES

For the list of attendees, please see the attached sign in sheet.

Donna Danson opened the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves.

Donna then stated the purpose of the meeting, which is to maintain appropriate communications between member agencies and discuss any issues that have been had, so that future incidents can be handled in the most effective manner.

Sandra Mancil gave the Construction update

- State Road 26 is almost complete, and about 15% ahead of schedule.
- SR222, there are still night time lane closures for paving operations and project is still on schedule.
- SR121 in Williston, 2 different projects and have different lane closures and both projects are almost done.
- US441 resurfacing will be getting ready to start; there is an Open House set for June 17th at 1221 NW 13th St. It will be at 2 different times, 11am-1pm and from 4pm-6pm.
- SR26 CSX overpass at US301 set to start July 6th and we are working on an open house around June 30th but it is still to be determined.
- Main St. Project is currently having some lane closures for utility investigation and Construction is set to start after June 24th. Majority of work and lane closures will be done during the night.

Donna passed out a handout of incidents since the last meeting, which is created by Ed Ward. Donna asked everyone to look over the list and see if there were any accidents that had been missed or if anyone had any knowledge of the incidents that were on the list and how the Team may have been able to do a better job of communications or roadway clearance. Donna then asked Bruce Strickland to give the incident update.

- Bruce stated that on I-75 southbound just before the Marion County line there is debris on the side of the road and asked Rick Moore. if this was going to be taken care of. Rick stated he would look into it and have it removed.

- Steve stated that there was an incident on June 3rd on 39th Ave and 34th St. He stated that there was no communication about the incident and the way he found out was because their crews were going out and saw the road closure and detour. When they called the dispatcher to get additional information, the dispatcher did not have accurate information. Donna stated that she will contact someone from GPD and have them contact Steve.

Donna stated that although Ed Ward would not be attending the meeting, he did let Donna know he didn't really have anything to report other than the total number of hurricanes is expected to decrease because of El Niño.

Chris Dolan had no updates for ITS and Traffic Signal work for Gainesville

Donna then gave the Road Ranger update

- Donna hopes that the Road Rangers contract will be able to grow and succeed. The state now has a contract for a sponsorship so we can receive funds from the outside.
- Road Rangers will be starting again on July 1st and because we haven't gotten a big budget we will be working half-staff.
- One of the attendees asked what Road Rangers are and what do they do. The Road Ranger Program is a program funded by FDOT to provide services free of charge to motorists on Interstate Roadways. Road Rangers provide motorists with roadside assistance, but work for incident management and are normally first responders to any minor accidents. They try to remove vehicles from travel lanes or assist with Maintenance of Traffic to help avoid secondary incidents and to help with traffic flow.

Next Donna gave a RISC update

- Donna stated that the contract started on April 1st, but at this point we have not had to use the contract.
- University Towing is getting close to being on the contract and once they are on the contract an announcement will go out to all TIM Team Members.
- A question was asked about what the difference is between a RISC incident and anything else. Donna stated that it depends on FHP on if they see it being a RISC accident, i.e. closing down lanes and right now it is on the main interstates. Basically, a RISC activation will be used to clear large vehicles and debris from Interstate travel lanes when the incident would normally cause a long duration closure or traffic delay.

- A Team Member asked if there was a severe incident on a Roadway such as US 441, would there be a RISC activation even though it wasn't on an Interstate. Donna said that she did not believe that it could be used in this case.

Pete Vega was unable to attend the meeting but asked Donna to give some updates on ITS and 511

- We are offering a lightning training in Jacksonville on June the 17th, 18th and the 19th if interested in attending that training please contact Pete Vega at (904) 360-5463.
- There is also a Tiger Grant, Donna stated that there are several billion dollars in this grant and it ends in September 2009 and to please call Pete if you would like more information on the grant.
- The 511 system is going live with a new software update that will save steps when you use 511. We would like feedback on the 511 system, if you see any kind of obstruction on the Interstate while you are out if you could please call the TMC and lets us know what is going on. If you forget the number you can call *FHP.

Next Donna gave the general announcements:

- There is a new FHP Major, it is Major Anthony Allen for Troop G.
- On June 30th a new seatbelt law goes into affect, everyone in the vehicle who does not have a seatbelt if under the age of 18 will receive a ticket.
- There is going to be a training class on July 21st in Jacksonville by I95 coalition on Incident Command, it is a 1 day 8 hour course. Please contact Donna if you would like to attend this class. Donna to send more information to the Team.
- There were many concerns and a long discussion regarding if the traffic information that is currently being sent out. Is it going to the right place and if everyone was getting what they needed from the other agencies and companies that are giving information on incidents on State Roads.

Donna thanked everyone for their participation in the TIM Team and adjourned the meeting.