



Polk County
Traffic Incident Management Team
January 8, 2015
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Bill Fuller	FDOT	Rick Grube	City of Lakeland
Rory Howe	Parsons	Tommie Jackson	Lakeland PD
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering	Aaron McClain Sr.	FHP
Joe Burke	FDOT	Caroline Whigham	Stepps Enviro. Response
David Brewington	Brewington Towing	Harry Whitney	Road Rangers
Bruce Surrency	FDOT	Johnny Adkins	Stapp's Towing
Michael Bissett	Polk Sherriff	Todd Riley	Stapp's Towing
Tom McMullian	Transfield	Mark Kara	Professional Towing
Heather Cullaton	ARC Towing Service		

Call to Order: The Polk TIM Team meeting was held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 10:00 AM at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Procap Room, and 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880. Bill Fuller, and Rory Howe facilitated the meeting.

Mr. Bill Fuller reminded the Team that the goal for the TIM meetings will be "practicing what we preach", by keeping the meetings within 90 minutes!

Introductions: Team members introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

Agency News:

Road Rangers

The Road Ranger Comment Card 1st Quarter Report has been released. To read the full report, please visit the TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>.

Towing and Wrecker News

Bill Fuller informed the team that Stapp's Towing is helping support the Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) program in District 1 around the Skyway Bridge area where it meets I-75. The RISC program was established in an effort to provide the traveling public in the State of Florida with a cost-effective, high-quality transportation infrastructure. The Florida Department of Transportation (Department), in conjunction with the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), adopted and subsequently implemented an Open Roads Policy for quick clearance, safety, and mobility to make travel in Florida safer and more efficient. The Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) program, a highly innovative heavy-duty towing and

recovery program, supports Florida's Open Roads Policy, which establishes a 90-minute goal for clearance of a motor vehicle crash or incident on Florida's roadways. The purpose of the RISC program is to safely and quickly restore highway facilities for safe public use.

Other Agency News

No agency news.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Mr. Rory Howe spoke to the team about safe parking and scene safety for first responders while responding to incidents.

When positioning emergency vehicles at an incident it should be in a manner that attempts to:

- Protect the responders performing their duties
- Protect road users traveling through the incident scene
- Minimize, to the extent practical, disruption of the adjacent traffic flow

Typical vehicle positioning should be set up as the following:

Upstream vehicles include law enforcement, fire, and DOT or safety service patrol vehicle.

Downstream vehicles include ambulance, tow truck, and other support units. Also see the below illustration of typical vehicle positioning.



Additionally, the team participated in a hands on table top exercise. The purpose of tabletop exercise is to educate responders on how to apply the basic principles of traffic control and scene management for various incident scenarios. Training participants explore challenges associated with operations at the scene of a crash. Each participant takes on a different role to understand the challenges from another's perspective. For example, a law enforcement official might play the role of a tow truck operator. To view the full presentation, please visit the TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>.

Bill Fuller informed the team about the upcoming I-4 Ultimate project that will be starting in 2015. The I-4 Ultimate project is an important project for Central Florida. The 21-mile makeover from West of Kirkman Road in Orange County to East of State Road 434 in Seminole County. To learn more about the project, please visit the following website: <http://i4ultimate.com/project-info/#sthash.HlmBRauK.dpuf>

Bill Fuller informed the team about the National Traffic Incident Management Responder Training Web-based Training (WBT). The National Highway Institute (NHI) trainings cover a range of transportation issues and are available in a variety of formats in order to best meet the needs of the transportation community. Additionally, NHI's no-cost Web-conference seminars and Web-based trainings offer valuable training and information at no cost. The series features guest speakers presenting case studies on problems or issues they've faced in the field and what steps were taken to solve the problems. Participants are able to ask questions and receive answers. Select the link below to view detailed information on the course via the NHI Web site: [Course Details- 133126.pdf](#). For further information on registering for NHI courses, please click here: [Register](#).

Bill Fuller briefly spoke to the team about the importance of the “Move Over Law” and also the need to continue pushing public awareness of the law. Additionally, the video called “Drivers Disobey “Move Over Law” For Service Vehicles” was provided to the team. To view the full video, please click on the following link: [Video](#)

Bill Fuller informed the team about the upcoming District 7 TIM team meetings for Pinellas County, February 3rd and also in Hillsborough County, February 17th. Mr. Fuller also informed the team about the upcoming Polk County TIM team meeting taking place on January 8th.

The 2014 Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Self-Assessment Fact Sheets was provided to the team. To read the full report, please visit the TIM team website at: <http://www.swftim.org>.

Bill Fuller briefly spoke to the team about a recent article from the Los Angeles Daily News about distracted responders. There is another category of drivers that most people don't think of when they think about distracted or dangerous drivers - emergency first responders. Police cars, ambulances and other emergency vehicles have several distractions while they are driving such as GPS devices, cell phones, and laptop computers. Unfortunately, using these technologies while attempting to save lives may also put many other people in harm's way. To read the full article, please visit the TIM team website at: <http://www.swftim.org>

FDOT Construction Update

Mr. Bill Fuller requested that all TIM Team members make sure they are receiving the District One Weekly Road Watch Reports and to contact him if there were any concerns.

Active Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Completed Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Anticipated Future Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Additional construction information is available on the FDOT Road Watch website located at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/construc/constmap/d1.shtm>. This resource is updated on a weekly basis.

Future Meetings:

The next Polk County TIM Team will be April 9, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Procap Room, and 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880

As always, please continue to visit the TIM Team website for updates, and also help support our TIM Team by providing the TIM Team website to others that may be interested in joining our team!
<http://www.swftim.org/>

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the District One TIM Team Manager, Mr. Bill Fuller at (239) 225-1915 or via email at william.fuller@dot.state.fl.us