

**ROAD RANGER PROJECT MANAGER'S MEETING
STATEWIDE MEETING
MEETING NOTES
December 3-5, 2003**

The fifth statewide meeting of the Road Ranger's Project Managers was held at the Regional Traffic Management Center in Orlando.

List of Attendees:

Statewide Coordinator:

Buddy Cloud, FDOT, Tallahassee Central Office

Road Rangers Project Managers:

Rick Marino, District 1
Donna Shannahan, District 2
Ann Pettis, District 3
Guy Francese, District 4
Jennifer Heller, District 5
Angel Reanos, District 6
Michael Jackson, District 7
Chris Brown, Tpk (Not Present)

Guests:

Elizabeth Birriel, Traffic Operations – Tallahassee
Janet Degner, University of Florida
Nina Barker, University of Florida
Earl Jacobs, Safety Office-District 4- Ft. Lauderdale
Robert Frick, Safety Office-District 4-Ft. Lauderdale
Steve Corbin, DMJM/Harris

Contractor Guests:

Tony Wilson, Lynx of Orlando
B. J. Kirby Coastland Auto
Lynn Radi, Coastland Auto
Stewart MacFarlane, Coastland Auto
Monica and Chris Savits, Anchor Towing, Inc.
David Elmore, Rainbow Towing
Len Levin, Arrow Towing
Alexis and Maggie Ramos, Sunshine Towing
Marion Graham, Jr., Logistical Trans.
Kimberly Graham, Logistical Trans.
Gilbert De Armas, District 6
Gary Purcell, Deyo Corporation
George C. Williams, Lakeland. Polk Co.

Presenters:

Charlie Dann, LiteSys, Inc.
Jerry Almond, Quick Desk

Welcome and Introduction. (12/3/03)

Buddy Cloud, opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made and the meeting commenced.

Buddy told all this would not be a typical meeting; it was more for the presentation of a Pilot Training Course to be given statewide to all the Road Rangers. The course was designed to address some of the everyday issues encountered by the contractors and Road Rangers. The contractors were asked to save all comments until the course was presented and input to the course would be welcomed.

The first day commenced with presentation of all modules of the course.

Welcome Back. (12/4/03)

Buddy Cloud welcomed all back and introductions were made.

Contractors Meeting.

Buddy asked for input from the group concerning each of the modules. The response was very helpful and was greatly appreciated by the Project Managers.

Ms. Nina Barker and Ms. Janet Degner, of the University of Florida made the statement that the Team of Project manager had done a very good job in developing this course and had very good course content. In fact the compliment was that "a five star effort" was done. They went on to provide and discuss some of the techniques we could use to further enhance the course.

The list of tips is as follows:

1. Always list course objectives
2. Include what you have learned as part of the training
3. Provide interactivity, such as role-playing, etc.
4. & Line rule, no more than 7 lines on a slide
5. Putting movement in the slide is good, but should stop after it is shown
6. Changing speakers is good.
7. Allowing time for questions
8. At the end of the module, repeat the training objectivities and ask questions.
9. Use different techniques to maintain interest.
10. War stories are good information.

B.J. Kirby mentioned his concern about the extra work that has to be done during incidents and equipment needed to do this extra work, workman's compensation payments. Etc.

Buddy informed the group that his concerns were also concerns of the team and while we "feel his pain" these issues are being looked into. A further statement was that the Traffic Incident Management Teams are looking into some of these issues.

Buddy told all that he said he would put the Road Rangers on the state map and he passed out the 2003 maps to all and on the inside, the map makes a statement about the Road Ranger Service.

Buddy said The Road Ranger website is dynamic and a page to share the success stories of the Road Rangers has been added.

Buddy passed out for review the cover of the Basic Training notebook and all accepted it. **Nina Barker** did mention that it should be dated.

Buddy stated that the training schedule would be as follows:
2nd District-Jacksonville area- Last week of January
7th District-Tampa area- Last week of February
1st District- Bartow, Sarasota, AA area- Last week of March
6th District- Miami area- Last week of April

4th District- Ft. Lauderdale- Last week of May
Tpk. –Last week of June
5th District- Orlando area- Last week of July
3rd District- Chipley, Pensacola area- sometime in August

Buddy indicated that we would try and combine districts if possible and thus shortening the length of training time. District Project Managers should work out that schedule.

Afternoon Presentations.

Presentations were given by:

Mr. Charlie Dann of LiteSys, Inc. who presented the only DOT approved Message Board for the Road Ranger vehicle

Mr. Jerry Almond of Quick Desk who presented a desk that can be place on the steering wheel to provide a surface for doing paper work or reports for the Road Ranger.

Mr. Dann and Mr. Almond passed out literature and exchanged cards and can be contacted as needed.

Road Ranger Project Managers Meeting (12/5/03)

A recap of the past two days was given.

According to comments from the contractors and Ms. Janet Degner and Ms. Nina Barker, this course was both timely and put together very well.

Thanks to Janet and Nina, who present us with helpful tips in preparing our course modules to make them clear and easier to present.

Specific Issues:

Light Bars-Red/white lights vs. amber

The discussion is that while the target value is needed the red light implies an emergency vehicle and the Road Rangers are not classified as emergency. We will need to investigated this issue in more detail and have something to relay to the team at the next meeting.

Rest Area Servicing

The decision to not service rest areas, unless called, was decided at our last meeting; however, it appears that the Wackenhut Service is calling. They need to be notified that the call should be made to others and not the Road Rangers. We will discuss this further and determine the contact person for this.

Better Law Enforcement Education

It appears that the Road Rangers are being asked by law enforcement to perform duties that not within the scope of their activities. We need to visit the FHP and others to discuss our duties.

Motor Club Calls

We need to **be** advised where this is happening and contact the motor clubs that we are not their personal service patrol.

Road Ranger Sign

If this sign is something we would like to see on the interstate we need to pass the request through Gail Holley of my office for approval to use.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be determined as we complete our training schedule.