



**Dallas County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Minutes of the General Meeting**

October 29, 2020

Meeting Host/Location:

Dallas County Homeland Security & Emergency Management, 2121 Panoramic Circle, Dallas, TX 75212. A meeting agenda was posted and the proper public notice was given in advance of the meeting.

Meeting Attendees:

Bernardo Salazar, Matthew Miller, Lisa Tatum, Scott Tarzwell, Alexis Snyder, Alisha Gimbel, Andy Medina, Benjamin Korson, Brandon Wright, Chance Huxtable, Cindy Carlo, Chase Wheeler, Damara Winfrey, Daniel Ringhauser, David McCarty, Denisse Martinez, Doug Bass, James Wall, John Patterson, Jon Hall, Jonathan Roddy, Joshua Treistman, Keith Bridges, Kim Stevens, LaShanda Hernandez, Lauren Sanchez, Lauren Trimble, Lisa Brown, Michael Green, Mistie Gardner, M. Lupe Garza, Molly McFadden, Richard Woods, Scott Greeson, Rick Esparza, Rona, Sean Palmer, Steven Bellew, Suzanne Wada, Tim, Will Paiz-Tabash, Zane Kennedy, Ryan, WTwessel and many more attendees who joined us via phone line.

Meeting:

Mr. Bernardo Salazar starts introducing himself as the new Chair for the Dallas County LEPC and called meeting to order at 1:33 p.m., Mr. Salazar started by thanking everyone for participating in the first Virtual Dallas County LEPC meeting. Attendees were given a few minutes to review the minutes from the January 27, 2020 LEPC meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Scott Greeson (City of Richardson) and seconded by Mr. Chase Wheeler (City of Grand Prairie). The minutes were approved as written by unanimous consent of the members present.

Mr. Salazar starts by welcoming Mr. Matthew Miller (Dallas Federal Reserve) who is the new Co-chair for the Dallas County LEPC. Mr. Miller took a moment to introduce himself and express he's excited to start working with everyone. Mr. Salazar thanked Mr. Miller and introduces the first speaker, the new Dallas Fire Hazmat Coordinator, Mr. Ryan Thornton. Mr. Thornton starts by introducing himself and conveyed he is here to help with building and chemical inspections for prevention and to help contain any hazardous material emergency. He also stated he is available for trainings as well. He finalizes by encouraging and reiterated to everyone the importance of site visits.

Mr. Salazar thanked Mr. Thornton, and introduces Mr. Daniel Ringhauser, (City of Grand Prairie)

Mr. Ringhauser starts his presentation about a large fire that occur at the Poly-America building on August 19, 2020. Poly-America is a large plastic facility that makes trash bags, it has been in the City of Grand Prairie for many years. Mr. Ringhauser arrived on the scene and worked on getting more foam to put out the fire. He stated Class B Foam also called AFFF foam works really well to put out these types of fires. He thanked many DFW region and outside partners who were able to provide the extra foam. In addition, he was referred to contact IMAAC (Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center) to provide plume models to determine how toxic the air was for the public and to help determine if evacuations of hundreds of thousands of people were necessary. In order for IMACC to retrieve above ground readings, a plane had to be dispatched and needed permission from DFW airport because it was on a very busy flight path. Finally, the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and DFW Airport coordinated to complete the mission. No evacuations were necessary, nothing severely alarming showed in the readings. Mr. Ringhauser relayed that having mutual aid coordination, establish a command post and establishing consistent and timely communication is very important for the operation to flow.

Mr. Salazar thanked Mr. Ringhauser for his presentation and open up for questions:

FAA – If you ever need assistance from FAA call 817-222-5006 they are available 24-7.

Mr. Bernardo Salazar is working on a strategic plan for the LEPC and will send out a survey. Also, he is working on coordinating the deliver and collection of the ERG books and if you need TIER II information you can email him directly.

Emergency Management Updates:

Ms. Lisa Tatum Brown from Dallas County Emergency Management provided an update: New staff in the HSEM Department - Scott Tarzwell- Planning and Volunteer Coordinator, Melvin Cirilo- Operations Chief, Denisse Martinez & Joshua Treistman, new Interns and the new role for Mr. Colton Goss, Homeland Security Chief. Also, they are not yet conducting in-person training, but online training is available through TEEEX and FEMA. They continue supporting the COVID response and testing sites- helping jurisdictions seek reimbursement, supporting schools and jurisdictions. In addition, they supported recent Hurricane Sheltering response. Ms. Lisa mentioned they are continuing technology projects, Cybersecurity projects with TEEEX to validate County plan and supporting voting efforts as needed (primarily attending meeting for planning purposes at this time). Dallas County is preparing for upcoming winter weather and updating COOP, converting annexes to ESF's.

Subcommittee Briefings: Partners

Emergency, HazMAT and Public Safety: A briefing will be made at next meeting.

Disaster Medical Operations Center: A briefing will be made at next meeting.

Technology & Communications: A briefing will be made at next meeting.

Planning, Training & Exercise: A briefing will be made at next meeting.

Public Comments:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Bernardo Salazar, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:06pm.

Submitted by

Rachel R. Rueda, Administrative Assistant, Dallas County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management.