



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

September 18, 2023

Meeting Host/Location:

Dallas County Homeland Security and Emergency Management EOC; 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:

Nadia Avalos, Erin Buttitta, Samantha Flowers, Sam Friar, Richard Faulkner, Brad Harris, Sarah Haak, CJ Holt, Addison Holmes, Brad Kavanaugh, LaRachel Lacy, Mathew Martin, Jennifer Moreno, Maricarmen Palomares Garcia, Luke Parten, Cathy Riley, Kristi Robson, Elliott Reed, Madison Sims, Laura Sifuentes, Kevin Stiles, Ervin Taylor, Cindy Triplett, Rudy Valles, Colin Willingham

Meeting:

Chair, Denisse Martinez opens the meeting and brings the first order of business. She introduces Secretary, Laura Sifuentes. Laura proceeds to seek approval of the July 17, 2023, meeting minutes. She gives the audience a few minutes to review. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lauren Sanchez and seconded by Maricarmen Palomares Garcia. The minutes were approved as written by unanimous consent of the members present.

Denisse Martinez introduces the LEPC guest speaker, Michael Gooris and Crystal Fernandez from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Michael gives background information on what TCEQ is and what they do for the state of Texas.

TCEQ strives to protect the state's public health as well as the state's natural resources. The organization tries to keep clean air, clean water, and safely manage waste, while encouraging economic development. Tasks are divided into three different sections: air sectional, water sectional, and waste sectional. Othe objective for TCEQ is to provide assistance and resources to jurisdictions while coordinating with the state.

TCEQ also discussed response strategies regarding environmental spills, and cleanup methods. The organization emphasized the importance of reporting spills promptly. In the case of spills that meet the criteria for a reportable quantity, it is crucial to call in the spill within 24 hours. A 24-hour emergency phone line is in place to facilitate the reporting process for spills that require immediate attention. Regarding regulations, TCEQ noted that any relevant state regulations can be found under Title 30 of the TCEQ. Additionally, federal regulations, including those established by the Environmental Protection

Agency (EPA), are typically listed under Title 40. These regulations play a vital role in ensuring environmental compliance and protection.

Chair, Denisse Martinez presented on Reporting to the Dallas County LEPC if there ever is a spill. Facilities have to not only report to TCEQ, but also the County LEPC. The LEPC will provide an Offsite Response Template with the following information via email to any Tier II program facility: Facility information, Notification information template, General information, Emergency notification list, Facility floor plan, Aerial view of the facility, Evacuation reunification center, Determination of release, Equipment, Containment map, Environmental impact, and local contract information.

The LEPC will be meeting with the jurisdictions individually to go over their Tier II reports and answer any questions they may have. The LEPC will also facilitate any exercises or discussions for jurisdictions or key/critical facilities if requested. Questions regarding the template were asked to Denisse. Denisse and Scott Forster emphasize the importance of having the information from the template readily available from the Tier II facilities as it will help speed up the response and recovery efforts.

Scott Forster talked about the Commodity Flow Study. The County applied for a Roadway Transportation Commodity Flow Study; the county was unable to get approval for that study. However, a County wide Railway Commodity Flow Study was approved. More information is to come. Additionally, the county is putting together a Transportation Infrastructure Working Group that is in development for next year.

Public Comments:

Denisse asks for a motion to end the meeting. Maricarmen Palomares Garcia and Luke Parten motion to end the meeting. No comments were made once this presentation had concluded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

Submitted by: Laura Sifuentes (City of Dallas)