

City of Corpus Christi / Nueces County
Local Emergency Planning Committee - LEPC
March 1, 2016
Fire Department Training Facility

Attending:

Chief Robert Rocha	Theresa Finch	Nancy Cisneros
Leah Heher	Nell Jones	Chayne Sparagowski
David Cave	Joseph Cantu	Aimee Almara
Michael Clack	Louise Gazan	Philip Woods
Natalie Schoonover	Tony Wood	Randy Paige
Rob Rein	Tony Alejandro	Javier Zapata
Callen Hight	Gretchen Arnold	Chris Garcia
Roger Bennett	RJ Thomas	Ricardo Lopez, Jr
Bill Chidester	Christopher Boyce	Joanne Salge
Loyd Neal	Chief Richie Quintero	Rick Ramos
Danielle Hale	Bobby Canales	Rich Heitzenrater
Roger Smith	Lynn Pearce	Billy Delgado

I. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions: Chief Robert Rocha called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. He welcomed and thanked all for the work they do. He asked that everyone introduce themselves.

II. Acceptance of the Minutes: The January 5, 2016 minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by David Cave to approve the minutes as presented, second by Billy Delgado. Motion passed.

III. New Business/Old Business: Chief Rocha introduced a brief video to the group – U.S. Chemical Safety Board’s “Dangerously Close: Explosion in West, Texas”. This video summarized the events leading up to and during the deadly chemical explosion that killed first responders, volunteers and did enormous property damage in the town of West, TX. Many valuable lessons have been learned from this deadly event.

IV. Upcoming Training in the Community/Conferences: Chayne Sparagowski announced there are several training events scheduled in the near future and to view www.coastalbendcan.org and www.preparingtexas.org for listings. Some events announced were the annual Hurricane Conference May 4-5; NOAA Weather Spotter training on March 3; contact Dr. Wood regarding a spill control class in May at TAMUCC; and NFPA Hazmat training on March 7-11.

V. Coordinator’s Report: Joanne Salge reported that the schedule of LEPC and subcommittee meetings is included in the meeting packet and she asked that anyone having a suggestion for a presentation topic for the general meetings contact her. She reminded everyone the period for submitting Tier II reports is January 1 through March 1. She stated industry visits by Chief Rocha, Chief Paige and Joanne continue and anyone that would like a site visit should contact her to schedule. Joanne continues to attend various advisory and community meetings. LEPC

Materials are being distributed to area apartments and Housing Authority locations. A community table top drill will be conducted at Gibson Elementary on Saturday, April 2, 2016 from 10-12 and lunch is provided.

VI. Subcommittee Reports:

1. Finance Subcommittee: Rick Ramos presented the appropriation expenditure report for the 3 months ending February 29, 2016. He noted that the original budget was amended to include expenditures made in fiscal year 2015 but not paid by the end of that year. He also noted that the budget will be amended once more to include \$14,000 matching funds for the HMEP Grant- Commodity Flow Study. To date, 37.16% of the budgeted funds have been utilized. Ricardo Lopez moved that the report be accepted, Dave Cave second. Motion passed. The subcommittee's next meeting will be May 2, 2016.
2. Risk Awareness Subcommittee: Billy Delgado, interim chair, reported Reverse Alert registrations continue to increase and currently stands at 8,403. In regards to the Industry Education Awareness Communication Committee (IEACC), Billy reported the LEPC received funds in late January to support shelter in place kits for schools, media spots, and the activity book. Those projects/funds were approved in September by IEACC. The funds must now be approved by City Council and be appropriated into the LEPC budget. The first Council reading will be March 29 and second on April 12. The Emergency Management Association of Texas (EMAT) has awarded local radio station KLUX 89.5 FM the Outstanding Media Partner of the Year award. The station was recognized for contributions to the community through education and awareness and by broadcasting official emergency public information when needed. The next meeting of the subcommittee will be April 28, 2016.
3. Pipeline Damage Prevention Subcommittee: Roger Smith reported that April is Safe Digging Month and the subcommittee will be recognized by the city and county with proclamations during the month. In addition, the committee sent out a pipeline safety flyer (97,000 copies) as a utility insert to customers in Corpus Christi and Nueces County. The subcommittee will conduct its third Safe Digging Seminar on October 27. Roger reported that the City's Legal Dept. is working on revisions to the City's Pipeline Ordinance. Rick Ramos reports the annual pipeline filing notice went out to respective companies on February 1, 2016. The next meeting for the subcommittee will be on May 3, 2016 at 9:30a.m.
4. Emergency Response and Communication Subcommittee: Chief Paige announced that CITGO will host the annual drill on September 14, 2016. Chief Paige thanked industry for their support by drills and training. Chief Paige reminded industry that Tier II reports are due to the LEPC and visits will continue at local facilities. Work on the Commodity Flow Study has begun in the industrial areas of the city to evaluate the amount of hazardous materials being transported in the area. The next meeting of the subcommittee will be April 27, 2016 at CC Fire Administration, third floor training room, 2406 Leopard Street.

VII. Presentation: Gretchen Arnold, Corpus Christi Community Advisory Committee- Long Term Health Committee facilitator provided a presentation on Voluntary Air Emission Reduction. The Corpus Christi area must remain in attainment of ozone standards set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. A listing of some voluntary projects or initiatives that can reduce ozone levels such as car pools, alternate modes of transportation, and vehicle emission tests were detailed for both the general public and industry. The presentation is available upon request from the LEPC.

VIII. Public Comment/Announcements: Danielle Hale advised that the annual hurricane guide will not be published for distribution this year. Billy Delgado did note the City's Office of Emergency Management will provide a utility insert to 94,000 utility customers in the June utility billing.

IX. Motion to Adjourn: Ricardo Lopez made the motion to adjourn, second by Rick Ramos. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:35a.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 3, 2016.



Robert Rocha, LEPC Chairperson