

SUBJECT: Minutes of May 26, 2015 - Hosted by the City of Deer Park

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman James Stokes called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions were given by Christine Gauthier, Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of La Porte, Richie Walker, Site HSSC Manager of Shell Deer Park; and Scott Kubar, Department of Homeland Security.

PRESENTATIONS

Kevin Hare of CenterPoint Energy rescheduled due to weather conditions.

Robert Hemminger presented handouts of CenterPoint's online outage tracker which is open to the public. The website is gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker

PRESENTATION OF APPRECIATION

Outgoing committee members Malcolm Swinney and Tracie Copeland were unable to make the meeting. The presentation will be postponed to a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON LEPC MISSION/FUNCTION (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

No comments.

MINUTES

Motion made by Robert Hemminger and seconded by Chief Grigg to approve the April 28, 2015 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion was made by George Jones and seconded by Jeff Lichon to accept the financial report for the month of May 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jay Stokes, Executive Committee Chair, reported:

Chairperson for Community Awareness Subcommittee

“Upon Sandra Watkin's return, she will temporarily fill the role of Community Awareness Subcommittee Chair leading up to the fall. We are looking for someone permanent to fill the role, preferably someone from the industry instead of someone from the City.”

Robert Hemminger, Communications Subcommittee Chair, reported:

Robert Hemminger, Deer Park Emergency Management Coordinator and Deer Park LEPC Communications Subcommittee Chair, advised the LEPC there was a Level III on May 19, 2015 at Vopak and a Level II on May 19, 2015 at Dow.

Jonathan Merkle, Vopak reported, "It was a Level I only. Our safety individual put the first notification in and following it, before the operations personnel knew of the situation, they put in the notification as a drill on accident. It was clarified, but there was no way to take it out as a drill, so it was canceled as a drill. It was a three quarter inch valve that broke off in the PO line which we fixed by covering with foam to stop the leak. It did not go outside the fence line."

Ray Cook, Dow, reported, "We suspect it was a crack due to the amount of rain. It was declared as a Level II because of the amount of steam going on. The potential release was at a high level. We monitored the situation. We could not determine if it was steam or vapors. Nothing was detected and did not leave the site."

Mr. Hemminger reminded the committee to report vapor releases and to classify them as a Level II until it is determined how to classify the vapor to keep everyone aware.

Robert Hemminger reported on behalf of the Community Awareness Subcommittee Chair:

Robert Hemminger reminded of the Southeast Regional LEPC Community Safety Fair Hurricane Workshop being hosted by the Southeast Regional LEPC and Deer Park on May 30, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for all who are interested to attend and the workshop is free. "The City of Deer Park, City of La Porte and City of Pasadena offices of Emergency Management will have booths with different general safety information and hurricane information for the public. There will also be food and door prizes."

Scott Greene, Emergency Response/Transportation Subcommittee Chair, was absent.

Robert Hemminger stated, "There are plans for a drill in the fall which may be ran in conjunction with the CIMA drill, but has yet to be determined."

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Jay Stokes commented, "We will be co-sponsoring the EPA Houston Regional LEPC training workshop on September 15, 2015 at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center."

Motion was made by Ray Cook and seconded by Robert Hemminger to move the September 22, 2015 meeting to September 15, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Ray Cook and seconded by Robert Hemminger to share the cost of lunch between the Deer Park LEPC, La Porte LEPC and Pasadena LEPC. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on June 23, 2015 (4th Tuesday) at Deer Park City Hall.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Shannon Bennett, TRMC
Acting Secretary/Treasurer

James Stokes
Chairman

