

TO: Deer Park CAER/LEPC Team

2-186

SUBJECT: Minutes of June 23, 2015 - Hosted by the City of Deer Park

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman James Stokes called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

PRESENTATION OF APPRECIATION

Chairman Jay Stokes presented Malcolm Swinney with a plaque for serving as Chairman of the Communication Subcommittee.

Malcolm Swinney commented, "The retirement life is good. We have a new granddaughter that was born on May 28, 2015. I have been traveling and golfing. I do appreciate this and thank you for acknowledging me, and I hope everything is going well. You are under good leadership and guidance. Thank you very much."

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

No comments.

MINUTES

Motion made by Ray Cook and seconded by Chuck Wolf to approve the May 26, 2015 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion was made by George Tullgren and seconded by Kevin Rogers to accept the financial report for the month of June 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jay Stokes, Executive Committee Chair, reported:

Chairperson for Community Awareness Subcommittee

Chairman Stokes reported, "We are still without a Community Awareness Subcommittee Chair. We are looking to fill the position by September or October. Sandra Watkins will serve as Interim until a Chair is named."

Robert Hemminger, Communications Subcommittee Chair, reported:

Robert Hemminger, Deer Park Emergency Management Coordinator and Deer Park LEPC Communications Subcommittee Chair, distributed a handout on the E-notify process and gave a reminder on the proper use of the E-notify System and a reminder to the facilities to train their personnel to use the system.

Ron Wilson of Akzo Nobel commented, "Typically, when we activate the sirens, we use the E-Notify System to inform our neighbors that it's a drill."

Shannon Bennett reported on behalf of the Community Awareness Subcommittee:

2016 Calendar – “The theme for the 2106 Calendar will highlight industry. We are in the preliminary stages of compiling information. When Sandra Watkins returns, she will contact you for photos which we will require by August 31st.”

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

Lee Barron stated, “We will be a part of the CEMA drill on August 27, 2015.”

Chairman Stokes asked Chuck Wolf of Media Consultants to give a description of the drill to which Mr. Wolf advised the LEPC the City of La Porte hired him to design the exercise, facilitate the event, provide an action report and an improvement plan.

Chairman Stokes commented, “We will check the date and also with the EOC. If not, we’ll check on another drill opportunity.”

NEW BUSINESS

LEPC Website - ChuckWolf of Media Consultants advised the LEPC of website issues. Mr. Wolf stated, “The website is hosted by National Web Windows. On Memorial Day weekend, they lost connection with the server and the website was down for five days. We found out National Web Window has not backed up the website since 2008. When they restored the website, it was restored to the 2008 website. We republished the current website pages on June 2, 2015 and it’s up and running. I would like to meet with the LEPC to find ways to improve the website.”

Chairman Stokes advised Mr. Wolf he could meet with the Executive Committee on August 3, 2015.

Discussion of Tropical Storm Bill - Robert Hemminger, Deer Park Emergency Management Coordinator and Deer Park LEPC Communications Subcommittee Chair discussed and asked for an open dialogue on Tropical Storm Bill and inquired as to what training resulted, how different agencies prepared for the storm and what, if any needs were identified.

Mr. Hemminger commented, “We received some interesting statistics from the Harris County Flood Control regarding rainfall. It was not only Tropical Storm Bill related, but also to the rainfall we have seen in the area from January to June 16, 2015.”

Chuck Wolf commented, “I want to give a shout out to the Harris County Homeland Security Office of Emergency Management. They operate a Regional Joint Information Center which is designed for all of the cities in Harris County to put out their news releases and news advisories to the media or public. The Harris County JIC has a huge media list. The website is www.ready.harris.org and that is where they post all the news releases that come in from any partners which also includes industry. If you have a tropical storm that may impact your facility, the public or employees, you can email the news releases to oemjic@oem.hctx.net. It will go out to their media list and they will post it to their website. The Houston Galveston PIO Network is having an open round table discussion of all the member agencies (local, state, federal) on Thursday, July 16, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Texas Department of Transportation on lessons learned from the Memorial Day flooding and Tropical Storm Bill. You are welcome to come. It is free.”

Stephen Harrell of Deer Park Independent School District commented, “It was easy for us to shut down school because it’s summer time. If there were 13,000 kids at school, it would have been an earlier morning discussion. The struggle would have been getting our employees to work.”

Richard Nguyen of the Harris County Community Response Team commented, “I want to remind the city to monitor and keep power supply during a storm.”

Ray Cook of Dow commented, “We used the opportunity to activate our EOC and use the event as a full drill.”

Chairman Stokes commented, “I don’t know how many more meetings we’ll have with Johan Zaayman of Shell, so I want to say, ‘Thank you, Johan, for all you have done to help the Deer Park LEPC out these past few years and we are going to miss you.’”

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on August 25, 2015 (4th Tuesday) at Deer Park City Hall.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Shannon Bennett, TRMC
Acting Secretary/Treasurer

James Stokes
Chairman