

**TO:** Deer Park CAER/LEPC Team

13-157

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of June 28, 2016 - 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 Garth Williams of Kinder Morgan and Tyler Deardorff of Texas Parks & Wildlife at San Jacinto Battleground.

### **PRESENTATION**

Chris Hext of Lubrizol advised that the members of the East Harris County Manufacturer Association (EHCMA) at their yearly meetings with East Harris County leaders, gathered information on their number one legislative issue going into the current session. He expounded on the communities needing industry backing in the area of coastal spine. He then presented a video on the 'Ike Dike', a Coastal Barrier which will protect the Texas coastline during a hurricane storm surge.

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

There were no comments.

### **MINUTES**

Motion was made by Robert Hemminger and seconded by Norma Hysler to accept the minutes for May 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Motion was made by Norma Hysler and seconded by Stephen Greco to accept the financial report for May 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Jay Stokes, Executive Committee Chair, reported:**

“We’ll have some meetings coming up and report back in August at the next LEPC meeting.”

#### **Robert Hemminger, Communications Subcommittee Chair, reported:**

“This is an opportunity for any facility that had a Level II, Level III release or incident since our last meeting to report. Unfortunately, I didn’t get to print the report out of Emerge. If any facilities know they have something to report, I’d like to give them the opportunity.”

Chris Meeks of ITC reported, “It was brought to our attention by our dock that a sheen was coming from the Vopak area. We verified with Vopak and it was confirmed not to be ITC’s dock. ITC is all clear on that incident.”

Robert commented, “The City is going to be making a change in the vendor of our telephone notifications. Currently, we use Blackboard Connect and we’re going to transition to Code Red. They are fully integrated with the Emerge System and E-Notify. It will be a good improvement and we will keep you updated as that moves forward.”

The EPA Region 6 Workshop was good information. They recapped on the EPCRA law and why we have the LEPC. One thing to note is the new grant program that’s been created under TCEQ, specifically for LEPC’s. We’re going to be looking at that. If you have any ideas of what you’d like to see our LEPC do, please share them with us. I know several of us that have started brainstorming to see what we could do. They are talking about 4.5 million dollars just for Texas LEPC’s this first year. In subsequent years, they estimate that it will be approximately \$200,000.00 in annual funding. The Executive Committee will discuss this at their next meeting.”

**Norma Hysler, Community Awareness Subcommittee Chair, reported:**

“We had a meeting previous to this meeting regarding our 2017 Calendar. We did come up with a theme. Next year, the City of Deer Park is going to celebrate 125 years. Each month we will focus on different historical events of Deer Park, such as when the LEPC and Wally began, industry, our police and fire departments. What I want to stress today is at our August meeting, we will be taking a group picture. I would appreciate if you could all attend to represent your company, or send someone that can. That picture will be going in our calendar.”

**Stephen Greco, Emergency Response/Transportation Subcommittee Chair, reported:**

“The Subcommittee submitted a questionnaire to get everyone’s feedback from all training, drills and EOC’s. We’ve got the Survey Monkey survey out to everybody and so far, we’ve received eight responses. It has gone out to hundreds of industries and various agencies. If you haven’t responded to it, please respond to the survey. We’ve already started graphing and putting the surveys all together, but I’d like a little more responses. So far, the responses are positive that people want the EOC drills. I am going to call a meeting with the Subcommittee, now that I have some data and we’ll start analyzing it and move forward from there.”

Chairman Stokes advised Shannon Bennett, Acting Secretary/Treasurer will send out the survey to the LEPC Members.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Stokes commented, “There’s been a series of articles that the Chronicle has ran. It predominantly featured what it’s like living in an area where you have so many chemicals around. This article, if you remember, last month there was a photographer that came and introduced himself from the Chronicle. This story is all about LEPC’s and quite frankly, was not very glowing toward LEPC’s. They went to some smaller LEPC’s in our area that aren’t as well organized and don’t function as well as perhaps we do and La Porte and Southeast. He then visited Judge Emmett’s office. Our LEPC made it in the paper with a picture only. No one is quoted in the article. It looks like there will be another future article. You can go online to the Houston Chronicle to view the article or you’re welcome to see this hard copy. It wasn’t as favorable toward LEPC’s as you would hope, but we didn’t make any negative press out of this. Shannon will send the article to the members.”

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Stokes asked that Sandra Watkins be kept in thoughts and prayer. She is absent due to medical issues.

**NEXT MEETING**

There will be no meeting in July, the next meeting will be on August 23, 2016 (4th Tuesday) at Deer Park City Hall.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shannon Bennett, TRMC  
Acting Secretary/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Stokes  
Chairman

