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## **Heart of Texas Council of Governments**

**Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**9:30 AM, Wednesday, March 2, 2022**  
**Heart of Texas Workforce – 1416 S. New Road, Waco, Texas**

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

*Meeting called to order by Chair, Tom Hemrick, at 9:33AM.*

#### **A. Guest recognition –**

*Cermaene Mathis, Waco – McLennan County Public Health*  
*Heather Wheeler, ESC Region 12*  
*Angela Smith, City of Clifton*  
*Cybil Humphries, City of Clifton*  
*City of Clifton, Richard Spitzer*  
*David Manness, Waco Fire Department*  
*Brent Weatherby, Waco Fire Department*  
*Bryant Clark, Morgan VFD*  
*Brian Moore, Morgan VFD*

#### **B. Member introductions**

*Phillip Cantrell*  
*Nancy Cross*  
*Matt Groveton*  
*Tom Hemrick*  
*Nate Smith*  
*Buffy Waldie*

*Chris Cary*  
*Michael Graham*  
*Danny Guerra*  
*Robert LaFoy*  
*Elizabeth Thomas*

*HOTCOG Staff*  
*Amy Derrick*  
*Lana Gudgel*

*Harold Ferguson*  
*Tim Jeske*

### **II. Determination of Quorum**

*Mr. Hemrick stated that a quorum was present.*

### **III. Proof of Posting**

*Mr. Jeske stated that there was proof of posting.*

### **IV. Public Comment**

*There was no public comment?*

### **V. Sub-Committee Reports**

*Tim gave a brief synopsis of the Communications Subcommittee*

### **VI. Chair's Report**

*Mr. Hemrick welcomed the members and guests and thanked them for being in attendance.*

## **VII. HOTCOG Staff Reports**

### **A. 2022 SHSP Overview**

*Mr. Jeske made a brief introduction to the meeting and gave a quick presentation on how to participate in the scoring meeting. Mr. Jeske spoke about Federal prioritization, Conflict of Interest, Regional Priorities, Scoring Calculations, Funding Decisions, and the Regional Budget Allocation of \$355,000.00.*

### **B. Communications Project Update**

*Mr. Jeske advised that the VHF equipment that was ordered has been shipped from Switzerland on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Timing will be updated.*

### **C. Cybersecurity Committee Discussion**

*Mr. Jeske advised that a Cybersecurity Subcommittee will be formed for our region. This subcommittee will support smaller counties without an IT department. Mr. Hemrick emphasized the importance for this subcommittee, especially with the situation in Russia. Mrs. Cross asked how counties that do not have IT departments will be assisted? Mr. Hemrick advised that buy in from County Judges will be essential and that smaller agencies could possibly be assisted by larger agencies. The counties that do not currently have IT Departments are Bosque, Falls, and Freestone. Mr. Groveton stated that they have been working diligently on Cybersecurity, but that most counties are about 3 years behind.*

## **VIII. New Business - Consideration of and/or Action On**

### **A. Review, Discuss, and Approval of January 12, 2022 - EPAC Meeting Minutes**

*Nancy Cross made a motion to accept the January 12, 2022, EPAC Meeting Minutes as presented. Michael Graham seconded the motion. All approved and the motion passed.*

### **B. EPAC Chair Nominations and Election. Term is through October 31, 2023**

*Mr. Groveton nominated Mr. Hemrick as the EPAC Chair. Nancy Cross seconded the motion. All approved and the motion passed.*

### **C. EPAC Vice-Chair Nominations and Election. Term is through October 31, 2022.**

*Mr. Hemrick nominated Ms. Thomas as the Vice – Chair. Mr. N. Smith seconded the motion. All approved and the motion passed.*

### **D. Presentation and scoring of 2022 SHSP grant applications.**

- 1. HOTCOG ENS Information Sharing – 9:45 am  
Presenter – Tim Jeske*
- 2. AET Waco CBRNE Equipment – 10:00 am  
Presenter – Brent Weatherby, Captain Manness*
- 3. Wastewater Sector Security – 10:15 am  
Presenter – Angela Smith*
- 4. HOTCOG Regional Planning – 10:45 am  
Presenter – Tim Jeske*
- 5. Morgan VFD Emergency Siren – 11:00 am  
Presenter – Brian Moore, Bryant Clark*
- 6. HOTCOG Regional Citizen Corps Program – 11:15 am*

*A Voluntary Association of Local Governments*

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- Presenter – Amy Derrick*  
7. *Limestone County P25 Fire-EMS Radio Project – 11:30 am*  
*Presenter – Matt Groveton*

*COG staff left the room while the committee made decisions on the scoring.  
The EPAC recommendations of funding is as follows:*

- *(1) HOTCOG Regional Planning \$163,640.31*
- *(2) HOTCOG ENS \$68,800.00*
- *(3) AET Waco CBRNE Equipment \$19,950.00*
- *(4) HOTCOG Regional Citizen Corps Program \$23,941.00*
- *(5) Limestone County \$60,918.69*
- *(6) City of Clifton \$17,750.00*
- *(7) Morgan VFD NOT FUNDED*

*Mrs. Cross made a motion to accept the funding as presented and Mr. Guerra seconded the motion. Mr. Groveton voted to abstain and the other 10 approved. The motion passed.*

**IX. Announcements or Future Business Items**

*Mr. Ferguson spoke to the Committee that the HOTCOG TEMAP application is available for citizens in our region. He encouraged the members to share the information to citizens in their committees.*

**X. Next EPAC Meeting**

*Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 9:30 AM at the HOTCOG*

**XI. Adjournment**

*Meeting was adjourned by Ms. Thomas at 12:49PM. Mr. N. Smith seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.*