



Judge Linda Grant
President

Judge Jay Elliott
Secretary/Treasurer

Councilmember Jim Holmes
Vice-President

Russell Devorsky
Executive Director

Heart of Texas Council of Governments

Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee Meeting 9:30 AM, Wednesday, July 14th, 2021 Heart of Texas Council of Governments – 1514 S. New Road, Waco, Texas Agenda

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Tom Hemrick called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

A. Guest recognition – *Martin Widtfeltd introduced himself.*

B. Member introductions –

Members present were:

<i>Hon. Terry Townley</i>	<i>Hon. Cindy Vanlandingham</i>	<i>EMC Jeff Watikins</i>
<i>Rodney Hall</i>	<i>Brian Messman</i>	<i>Chris Cary</i>
<i>EMC Tom Hemrick</i>	<i>Phillip Cantrell</i>	<i>Chief Robert LaFoy</i>
<i>EMC Matt Groveton</i>	<i>Michael Graham</i>	<i>Chief Rob Bergerson</i>
<i>Stephanie Alvey</i>	<i>Boyce Wilson</i>	<i>Nancy Cross</i>
<i>DC Martin Widtfeltd</i>		

COG Staff:

<i>Tim Jeske</i>	<i>Amy Derrick</i>	
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Visitors:

<i>Marcy Whiddon</i>	<i>Amy Derrick</i>	
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II. Determination of Quorum

A quorum was present.

III. Proof of Posting

Ms. Derrick verified the meeting was posted according to the Texas Open Meeting Act.

IV. Public Comment

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) District Coordinator (DC) Martin Widtfeltd advised the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) provides emergency funding for eligible local city governments except Waco. The deadline to apply was August 2nd.

V. Sub-Committee Reports

A Voluntary Association of Local Governments

1514 S. New Road • Waco, Texas 76711 • 254-292-1800 • FAX 254-756-0102

There was no report.

VI. Chair's Report

Chairman Hemrick reported activities continue related to COVID, but the numbers are down regionally and local counties are winding down operations with a focus back to normal.

VII. HOTCOG Staff Reports

A. Radio Infrastructure Project Update

Homeland Security Manager Tim Jeske provided an overview of the projects related the Radio Infrastructure Grant program.

- *City of Marlin 180' Self Supporting Tower is under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review by COG vendor Tri-Leaf.*
- *City of Woodway/McLennan County 300' Self Supporting Tower is on hold as the County and Cities of Woodway and Waco work our details related to the project.*
- *McLennan Community College 800 MHz Console has been ordered and is expected for delivery in the coming months by Motorola.*
- *Hill County third dispatch console has been ordered.*
- *Regional VHF P25 Upgrade is progressing as quotes are being prepared for approval.*

B. HOTREADY Preparedness Website Review

HOTCOG's Regional Preparedness website has been migrated to the new HOTCOG website. The preparedness information has been linked to the award winning Know What 2 Do website operated by NCTCOG.

C. Alternate ENS Sign Up Option

Staff has developed an alternative method for citizens to opt-in to the Emergency Notification System (ENS). The new method is built on new capabilities with the website and the data is inputted to the system directly by staff.

D. Special Events Data Call

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Special Events Program (SEP) manages the National Special Events Data Call (NSEDC) which is ongoing for 2022. COG Staff, led by Amy Derrick, is in the process of assembling the data from each community and will send it to each County EMC for additions or corrections.

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

- ### **A. Review, Discuss, and Approval of March 17, 2021 - EPAC Meeting Minutes**
- Motion by and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Motion approved.*

IX. Announcements or Future Business Items

Nancy Cross brought up working with local schools to help spread the word about the Emergency Notification System (ENS) and integrating local Emergency Management into School Planning. She mentioned the local Independent School Districts are required to share their plans with local EMC's and responders. There are tools available through the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University (www.txssc.txstate.edu). The recommendation was made to create a school sub-committee to try to increase collaboration and interest with local schools and Education Service Center Region 12 (ESC-12) in Waco.

Mr. Jeske announced the COG is ready to assist location jurisdictions on the transition to a new Emergency Management (EM) planning approval process. COG Staff is also aware of a transition of existing EM plans to the Emergency Support Function (ESF) model.

Mr. Jeske advised the region can expect a 5% decrease in Homeland Security grant funds next grant cycle due to decreased funding at the Federal level. The region did well this cycle due to Cyber Enhancement projects and National Priorities.

X. Next EPAC Meeting

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 9:30 AM at the HOTCOG

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded – Motion passed, and meeting was adjourned.