



ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2025

Welcome & Self-Introductions

- Meeting Started at 9:03 a.m. by Elgin Browning
Quorum determined by Elgin Browning
Present Voting members: Acadian Ambulance, Arlanxeo, Baptist Hospital of S.E. Texas, Chem 32, Chevron Phillips, City of Orange, Dow, Golden pass LNG, Honeywell, Industrial Rescue, Invista, Orange County Emergency Management, Orange Co. ESD #2, Orange County Drainage District, Orange County Sheriff Department
Present non-voting members: CERT, Ham Radio/OARC, National Weather Service, Orange County Health Services, SETRPC, Texas GLO, U.S. Coast Guard, Veolia

May 2025 meeting minutes approval:

Motion: Jerry Ziller; Second: Payton Smith; Motion carried.

Approval of May and June Treasurer's Report:

Expenditures; \$9,184.66 Income; \$8,100.00 Balance \$61,156.09
Motion: David Hulsey; Second: Jerry Ziller; Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Communications - Leon George (not present)

Elgin Browning mentioned that Leon was working with the County MIS department on getting the LEPC page updated on the website. Leon is also working on revamping the Facebook page.

Warning Signs/ Warning Signs upgrade - Regius Guillory

All signs were checked. Three of the signs are not operational and the sign company should be enroute to check the signs out. Requested a meeting with the industry partners to be held immediately after this meeting to discuss the location of a new sign and possible relocation of other signs.

CERT - Lori Waldrum

CERT meetings have been moved to every other month to encourage participation. Next meeting will be held on August 5, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

Bylaws - Robert Crane (not present) - No Report

Planning/Programs - Stephen Tew (not present) - No Report

Membership - Elgin Browning

Our current accounting program charges LEPC a fee when processing payments made through the system. We will be exploring alternative software.

Public Health - Sandee White

- Orange County Health Services are open for vaccination for school age and college students on Tuesday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.
Back to School Orange County will be August 2nd from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Lamar State College-Orange. If interested in helping, donating, or volunteering, attend the meeting on Thursday, July 10th at 5:30 pm at LSC-O Student Center.

Industry Group - Jerry Ziller

Industry partners wanting to utilize the LEPC room during disasters, contact Ziller if any changes need to be made or if interested in staying in the room.

TDEM - Lathan Gould (not present)

Deployed to Kirk County.

News/Recent Emergencies:

Joel Ardoin stated now is a great time to push out the STAN registration. Pat Grimes emphasized that you must sign up to receive the alerts.

Old Business:

- Cops -N-Kids was held June 6, 2025. Promotional items were received from Dominion Forms and given out at the event. Special thanks to Lori Waldrum (CERT), Mandy Donnaud, Josie Schoenberg (Orange County EM), Lathan Gould (TDEM) and Rodney Johnson (Vidor PD) for working at the LEPC booth. Sheriff Bobby Smith stated there were approximately 1,000 people in attendance and there was a fantastic turnout.

New Business:

- Donation from Golden Triangle Polymers in the amount of \$5,000 received for warning sign. We will be working on getting the new sign ordered.
- Chief Taylor provided a flyer for the annual Willie Ryman III “War III” golf tournament hosted by Port Arthur Fire Fighters IAFF Local 397 to be held on September 8, 2025. Contact Hunter Spacek (409)782-6177.

Presentation:

David Abundo with the USCG presented regarding the “Area Committee 101.” The Area Committee consists of USCG, TGLO, TCEQ, LOSCO, LSP and other state agencies. The purpose is to develop an area contingency plan adequate to remove a worst-case discharge and to prevent a substantial threat of such a discharge from a vessel, offshore facility, or onshore facility operating in or near the area.

Elgin Browning presented a Hurricane Tabletop: reviewing weather alerts, sharing best practices, coordinating with Industrial Partners and reentry planning.

- Doug Cramer with the National Weather Service stated we should have an average to slightly above average active season, remain in ENSO-neutral, and the predicted number of storms is down from last year. The National Weather Service hosts two conference calls at 10:15 am and 4:15 pm with elected officials, Emergency Managers, and Coast Guard when storms are 72 hours out. The same information is repeated 30 minutes later to anyone who is signed up. Contact Doug Cramer at doug.cramer@noaa.gov to get on the list.
- Gary Stelly with KOGT stated during events, he follows the lead of the EM’s and local law enforcement to get information out to the public. He asked if he calls, please answer. He is just trying to get the correct information out to the public.
- Joel Ardoin said when there is the possibility of an evacuation, emergency managers meet with the Judge and then he would push the information out if/when an evacuation order is enacted.
- Jerry Ziller stated Chevron Phillips plans to bring the plant down in the event of a hurricane.

Announcements/Additional comments:

No comments.

Training:

- Check <https://tdem.geniussis.com/PublicWelcome.aspx> for more training in our area.
- L-956 NIMS ICS All-Hazards Liaison Officer Course in Beaumont on August 5, 2025.
- G-300 Intermediate Incident Command Systems for Expanding Incidents in Beaumont on September 22, 2025.
- G-400 Advanced Incident Command System for Complex Incidents in Beaumont on September 25, 2025.

- AWR-213-Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Awareness on November 18, 2025
- MGT-310-Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment on November 19-20, 2025
- **Phillips 66 Industrial Emergencies for Municipal-Based Responders in College Station on November 8-9, 2025. Deadline to sign up is October 24, 2025. Register at <https://tx.ag/P66NOV2025>**

Meeting adjourned: Motion: Regius Guillory;

Second: Jerry Ziller;

Motion carried.