FOR INFORMATION ONLY
NO QUORUM TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2026

Welcome & Self-Introductions

- Meeting Started at 9:03 a.m. by Elgin Browning
- No Quorum established by Elgin Browning. The meeting proceeded for informational and discussion purposes only. No official business requiring a vote was conducted.
- **Present Voting members:**
  Acadian Ambulance, Arlanxeo, Chevron Phillips, City of Orange, Energy Transfer, Orange County Drainage District, Orange County Emergency Management, TBC Emergency Response Consulting
- **Present non-voting members:**
  CERT, National Weather Service, Orange, County ESD #1, Orange County Health Services, Orangefield ISD, SETRPC, TCEQ, TDEM, US Dept of Homeland Security

September 2026 meeting minutes approval:

Due to the lack of a quorum, approval of the September 2026 meeting minutes was postponed until the next meeting.

Approval of September and October Treasurer's Report:

Due to the lack of a quorum, approval of the September and October Treasurer's Reports was postponed until the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Communications **-** Leon George - Waiting to receive cost from the Comptroller regarding an app for LEPC use.

Warning Signs/ Warning Signs - Regius Guillory – No report
Warning Signs were discussed under New Business.

CERT - Lori Waldrum – No report

Bylaws - Robert Crane (not present)

Programs – Melissa Bland (not present)
Regius Guillory suggested moving the 2027 Tabletop Exercise from the November meeting to September to encourage better attendance. Members present expressed support for the proposed change.

Membership - Elgin Browning – Currently in discussion with a potential new member.

Public Health – Sandee White - As we enter respiratory infection season, there has been a marked increase in Influenza A and RSV, along with two confirmed cases of Pertussis in the county.

Preventive measures are strongly encouraged to help reduce the spread of respiratory illness. Recommended vaccinations include Influenza, RSV, and Tdap (Pertussis).

SETRAC (Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council) is seeking new members and invites interested individuals to attend its December 4 meeting at 10:00 a.m. (See attached agenda).
Presentations will include:

- Jeremy Hansen – Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security.
- Captain Miller, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office – Emergency Detention Order Process.

Industry Group - Jerry Ziller - No Report (presentation to follow)

TDEM - Lathan Gould – Most counties have lifted their burn bans. There are currently a couple of fires burning in Texas, but conditions are not considered too severe.

News/Recent Emergencies - None reported.

Old Business:

- **Tabletop Exercise**: The After-Action Report was emailed to members. Appreciation was expressed to CISA for participating. The next Tabletop Exercise is tentatively scheduled for September 8, 2027.
- **TCEQ Grant Acceptance**: Previously discussed.

New Business:

- **TCEQ Grant Award:** The LEPC was awarded a $29,430 grant. The funds will be used to purchase two warning signs. Potential locations include Burnet Street and Hwy 87-east of FM 1006.
- **STIPRA (Shelter in Place campaign)**: The LEPC has been asked to assist with distributing information about the Shelter-in-Place campaign.
  - Regius Guillory suggested placing the advertisement on the folders distributed to the schoolchildren.
  - Pat Grimes has the Shelter-in-Place handouts available for distribution. Information is also available at www.thestan.com.
  - Brian Ousley suggested sharing the flyer with local school districts so it can be distributed through their messaging systems if needed.
  - Mandy Donnaud stated the flyer could also be attached to the STAN message through a link.
  - Regius Guillory will check with plant manager to determine whether funding is available to print the flyers. Elgin Browning offered to match the plant's contribution. (Match would need to be voted on.)
- **Increased Railroad Traffic**: Increased traffic is anticipated when GTP begins moving cars. Railroad crossings at Burnet and Western could potentially be blocked. A warning system has been implemented at the West Orange Fire Department. When the railroad crossing arms come down, a blinking light will alert the Fire Department.
- **LEPC Laptop Donation**: Elgin Browning made a request to donate the old LEPC laptop to CERT. Request tabled until next meeting.

Presentation:
Jerry Ziller with Chevron Phillips presented information on the Emergency Response Coordination Record for RMP.

Announcements/Additional comments:
Doug Cramer with the National Weather Service advised with Super El Niño we could see an uptick in tornados, hail damage, thunderstorms, and flooding during the winter season. We will have a slightly cooler than average winter but no signal for increased snow.

Training:

- **Check https://tdem.geniussis.com/PublicWelcome.aspx for more training in our area.**
- MGT-482 Disaster Recovery Public Assistance Programs-Intro on December 2-3, 2026 at Beaumont EOC.
- MGT-345 Disaster Mgmt for Water and Wastewater Utilities on January 26-27, 2027 at Beaumont EOC.
- TCEQ Emissions Inventory and Air Fees virtual workshop on February 4, 2027.
- NIMS 300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents on February 22-24, 2027 at Beaumont EOC.
- NIMS 400 Advanced ICS on February 25-26, 2027 at Beaumont EOC.
- L-7969 AHIMT Communications Unit Leader Course on February 22-26, 2027 at Jasper EOC.

Meeting adjourned: *As there was not a quorum present, voting on adjournment was not necessary*.