

ARK-LA-TEX EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE MEETING

January 26, 2005

The Ark-La-Tex Emergency Management Alliance meeting was held in Marshall, Texas. Chief Kenneth Snyder welcomed members to Texas State Technical College in Marshall, Texas. Robert Jump called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 26, 2005.

The following members were present: Robert Jump, Caddo-Bossier OHSEP; Lisa Carmack, Caddo-Bossier OHSEP; Tony LeBlanc, SPD; Dwayne Malone, SPD; Tim Beckius, SPD; Richard Carroll, SPD; Ken Hanna, ETCOG; Harold England, Waskom; Ed Brando, Panola County; Martha Whyte, MD, LA OPH; Harold Higgins, NETXPH; Calvin Nicholson, DSHS; Kathryn Jones, DSHS; Jimi Green, MRMC; Cathy Greeson, Claiborne Parish OHSEP; John Stanley, Webster Parish OHSEP; David Kidder, East TX Regional Airport; Richard Lazarus, Longview Fire Department; Mark Frazier, National Weather Service; Kenneth Snyder, Marshall Fire Department; George Kezerle, TSTC Marshall.

Richard Lazarus motioned to approve the minutes and Harold England seconded the motion followed by approval by Alliance members.

Chairman's Report: Robert introduced goals for the FY05 and the need to set long-term goals for the Alliance.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Carmack reported a balance of \$1,975 for the month ending January 26, 2005. Receipts totaling \$50 for members' dues have been deposited since November 23, 2004. A disbursement of \$150 was made to the IRS to file Form 1023 for 501(c)3 status for the Alliance. Members received notice of individual dues renewal dates.

Old Business: Lisa informed members that federal approval of tax exempt status for the Alliance is pending. Members received the initial copy of the Louisiana Regional Bioterrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response Plan. Once approved by Louisiana authorities, the plan will be included in the Regional Emergency Operations Plan, Part VI, Health and Medical. Lisa requested information to add to the Alliance Resource Directory.

New Business: Robert opened discussion on establishment of a membership committee. Richard added that Mutual-Aid should be what pulls members into the Alliance. He motioned to vote for a chairman and members for such a committee during our elections in March. Ed Brando seconded the motion followed by approval from Alliance members. Bob Shelton suggested the development of an Alliance general information document and membership application in digital format that could be distributed via e-mail to a large directory of potential members. Robert proposed to expand the voting membership as stated in the by-laws. Following brief discussion, members agreed that the existing by-laws are acceptable as they are. Richard mentioned that Longview and Gregg County that planning is underway for a full-scale exercise later in the year. Kenneth Snyder stated that Marshall and Harrison County will begin planning for a functional exercise on February 15. Cathy Greeson mentioned that Claiborne Parish will host a functional exercise in April. Robert added that northwest Louisiana is

planning a regional full-scale exercise in October. James Pike suggested that a goal of this organization should be to increase interoperability communication within the Ark-La-Tex. Robert spoke of planning for the 2nd Annual Alliance Workshop and invited any jurisdiction to offer to host the workshop.

Guest Speaker: Mark Frazier, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Shreveport presented the various warning systems in place for the Ark-La-Tex. These include WarnSpot, HUNTV, Weather Radio, conference calls, and more.

Robert Jump adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

Lisa M. Carmack, Secretary/Treasurer
Ark-La-Tex Emergency Management Alliance

Date approved by Alliance