

North Central Texas Council of Governments • Emergency Preparedness Department

Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC) Meeting Transportation Council Room February 1, 2024 / 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Notes

Opening Remarks Chairs

Roll Call NCTCOG Staff

Approval of August 2023 and November 2023 Meeting Notes

Committee Members

- **Motion:** Chase Wheeler made a motion to approve the August 2023 REPAC meeting notes, the motion was seconded by Michaela Sandefer. The motion carried.
- **Motion:** Sean Hughes made a motion to approve the November 2023 REPAC meeting notes, the motion was seconded by Tonya Hunter. The motion carried.

Business Items

1 SERI Grant Prioritization

- There is \$2 million to apply for SERI grants.
- There is \$20 million available statewide; only 1 project per eligible entity.
- 5% M&A
- Interop SERI Project
 - o Met with 4 applicants:
 - Parker Co., Northeast Tarrant Co. Radio Consortium (NETCO), Johnson Co., and Greenville
 - Parker Co. was selected.
 - Goal of the project is to reconfigure Parker County's existing P25 core and radio system to be part of the North Texas Interoperable Radio Network (NTIRN).
 - We are asking for \$1.9 million for this project.
 - o Set up two microwave backhauls connectivity back to the NTRIN system.
 - o Per OOG, one project per COG.
 - o There will be a 2-year performance period.
 - The OOG's submission deadline is March 14th. They will review the project at that time and notify the COG of allocations at a later date.
- Motion: Jamie Moore made a motion to approve the SERI Grant Prioritized project ranking, and approval to submit the SERI Grant Prioritization application, the motion was seconded by Sean Hughes. The motion carried.

2 REPAC Nominations

- Changes are being made to the REPAC Handbook. The revised REPAC Handbook will be available at the May REPAC meeting.
- Approval of nominations of new REPAC members for the following County and Urban Area Seats per the REPAC Handbook:
 - Erath County
 - o Palo Pinto County Chad Jordan
 - Somervell County
 - City of Dallas Travis Houston
 - City of Fort Worth
- Motion: Sean Hughes made a motion to approve the REPAC Nominations, the motion was seconded by Scott Forster. The motion carried.

Discussion Items

- 2024 SHSP Projects
 - Ranked by REPAC.
 - o Recommended Funding (with M&A), approved by EPPC.

- Total Regional Request: \$2,832,728
- Total Funded: \$1,500,000
- We have certain target areas to look at, Intel and Soft Target, that must be met. We were able to meet all our priority areas with percentages.
- The Domestic Violence Extremism (DVE) and Nexus Security were competitive priority areas that is new. This is something we haven't done before. You can still apply for it. The application is due February 8th. This is a separate process.

- REPAC AARC Meeting

- o April 11, 2024, 10am-12pm; NCTCOG, Regional Forum
- It is recommended that REPAC members attend this meeting to review the 2024 grant process, voice their opinions and make suggestions for improvement.
- Comments and suggestions taken from the REPAC AARC will be used to update the REPAC Handbook and will be presented at the May 9th REPAC meeting.
- This is a very important meeting.

THIRA/SPR/RIP

- All the documents have been completed on time and have been uploaded in the EP COG portal.
- We will need to discuss the process to update these documents in the next couple of years.
- We are in year 2 of 3 of the THIRA. The THIRA is a 3-year document.
- THIRA will be due the same year as Metro-X in 2025. We may not want to have THIRA meetings during exercise planning meetings.
- The plan is to do the big THIRA updates summer of this year.
- A process survey was sent out and included in the SPR.
- We will have in-person meetings for this process.
- o There will be changes in 2025-2026.
- Non-profit Security Grant Program (NSGP) Scoring
 - Need volunteers to score projects.
 - There are 2 sets of NSGP funding stream: Urban and SHSP.
 - Our region received around 50 applications last year.
 - The state is anticipating receiving up to 100 projects this year.
 - Shorter deadline due to Congress still not passing a budget.
 - Please let us know if you are interested in scoring.
 - The state will conduct training on how to score.
 - It will take about a week to score the applications.
- Regional Service Excellence Awards
 - We are bringing back the jalapeno award!
 - Think of individuals, teams, or projects that made a significant impact in Emergency Management for our region last year.
 - We will present it to EPPC on March 21st to look at how we want the process to go.
 - More details to come after the March 21st EPPC meeting.
 - o We will open nominations for the Regional Service Excellence award.
 - The winners will be announced at the June 13th EPPC meeting.
- State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program
 - You can go into Texas egrant's website to look at funding opportunities.
 https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/fundingopp
 - o This is one of the grants that will be listed.
 - It is broken down between 4 objectives:
 - Objective 1 Governance and Planning
 - Objective 2 Assessment and Evaluation
 - Objective 3 Mitigation
 - Objective 4 Workforce Development
 - There are different eligible items listed under each objective. Be sure to look at the guidance so that you will be applying for the correct one.
 - Applications for the Cybersecurity grant is due March 14th.
 - There is a 10% match for this grant.
 - Projects must begin on or after September 1, 2024, and expire on August 31, 2025.
- Grant Dashboard & Project Update

CASA Meeting
Hazmat Working Group Meeting
Emergency Management Working Group Meeting
EMAT Symposium; San Marcos, TX
Active Shooter Response Summit; Dallas, TX
Texas Emergency Management Conference, Fort Worth, TX

February 14, 2024
February 15, 2024
February 22, 2024
March 3-6, 2024
March 6-7, 2024
May 28-31, 2024

NCTCOG Updates

- Introduction to Michael "Mikey" Hernandez, new EP Specialist
- There are a lot of training courses coming up. Be sure to look at the T&E training calendar.
- We received the Department of Energy Enhancing Electric Vehicles Charging grant. This is a 2-year grant.
- TDEM is looking for volunteers for the TEMC conference.
- TDEM is working through the abstract for presenters.
- FIFA will announce this Sunday at 2:00 pm on Fox and Telemundo who host the World Cup for 2026.
- AARC meeting is April 11, 2024.

Committee/Public

Comment Adjournment

Useful Links

Regional Emergency Management Portal Upcoming Regional Training & Exercises Upcoming Meeting Calendar

Next Meeting:

REPAC Meeting May 9, 2024 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM NCTCOG

Mission: Enhancing lasting partnerships and proactive Emergency Preparedness initiatives through advocacy, communication, and collaboration.