

North Central Texas Council of Governments 

Emergency Preparedness Department

# Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC) Meeting Notes NCTCOG - Transportation Council Room May 10, 2022 / 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

## **Opening Remarks**

Roll Call

• Quorum was met

### Approval of Notes from Last Meeting

• Motion: Sean Hughes made a motion to approve the March 22, 2022 REPAC notes, Cody Powell seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

#### Administrative Items

- REPAC Seats
  - It is time for seat rotations. There is a roster in your package. Nominees must have 3-year work experience. Nominations must go thru a Working Group Chair. It is a 3-year term with an option to serve another 3-years. Candice will send out nomination forms on May 11<sup>th</sup>. They are due July 11<sup>th</sup>.
    - Urban Area Fort Worth
    - Fire 1 Urban / 1 Rural
    - Police 1 Rural
    - Public Works 1 Urban
    - Communications 1 Urban
    - Education 1 Seats
    - Public Health 1 Seat
    - Emergency Management 1 Urban / 1 Rural
  - REPAC Vice Chair Seat 4-year commitment.
    - Irish seat will become open because he is moving up to Chair. This is a 4-year term. Candice will send out a separate nomination seat for the REPAC Vice Chair seat.
    - Elliott Reep volunteered for REPAC Vice Chair seat.

#### **Discussion Items**

- National Weather Service Update
  - o In 2020 & 2021 there were 120 severe flash flood and tornado warnings each year.
  - We were above average for tornadoes this year with 28 tornados. It has slightly peaked every year for the past 4 years.
  - Lots of hail reports in 2021.
  - Irish wanted to know what happened in 1953 1954 as far as numbers reporting? In 1954 the NWS was established and when it began its documenting and reporting. Everything before 1954 was reported in newspapers. February is the typical month for winter weather.
  - Irish wanted to know why have we had such an active year? We had a couple of winter weather events that led right into spring severe weather. The is the beginning of active weather.
  - We are lining up parallel to 2011 as far as above normal temperatures.
  - Summer will put a damper on severe weather activity; however, we are watching for complex storms which normally starts in early June.
  - Questions regarding formatting. The source is telling us where the information is coming from the warning. This is different from the damage tag at the bottom. We have either Radar Confirmed, Radar Indicated or Source Confirmed. The NWS prefers visual confirmation oppose to radar.
  - Want to do a Fall IWT Workshop.
  - Eric did the NWS recently change the heat advisory? The answer was no.

NCTCOG Staff

**Committee Members** 

Chairs

- Elliott wanted to know what to expect from Hurricane season. Jennifer stated that she is not prepared to answer that question, however, she knows that they are getting their guidance together and will send out an email when it is ready.
- What's going on with getting kicked out of NWS Chat? It is possibly tied to Google chrome so you
  may need to use Edge or the mobile app boogle chat
- New HSGP Guidance
  - There is new HSGP Guidance. The Law Enforcement is increasing from 25% to 30%. We are still required to dedicate 30% of SHSP allocations to National priority areas.
  - National Priority Areas have increased from 5 to 6. Addressing Emerging Threats was eliminated as a National Priority Area. What was submitted this year will not be sent back to us for review.
  - Our target is \$1.2 million, and the state held 15% of that. Funds will still come back to the region.
  - We should get the NOFO by May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- FY22 SHSP Grant Application AAR Meeting Feedback
  - We had a good turn-out at the FY22 SHSP Grant Application AAR Meeting.
  - COG is not able to do everything for every working group such as submitting grant projects. We are trying to see what can be done to assist COG. Possibly establishing a grant project liaison. Maybe all working groups can have a grant project liaison. Cody made a comment that too much is being relied on from too few people. He is curious to know is there a different option? Mariah is all for having a liaison with the working group, to ensure continuity.
  - Samantha wanted to know if there is a benefit for a liaison. It may not be at that level through the year. Someone in the group will know that they are helping with language and things of that level. Accountability is what we would want.
  - Elliott recommends REPAC volunteer to assist with the grant writing and present to REPAC.
     Samantha recommends holding a 1-day workshop and knock it out at that time. Irish would like to have a meeting with the EMs to establish an adequate grant writing process and to see exactly what they need. COG offers workshops. Manny wanted to know does every working group have an EM. Irish wants to allocate REPAC members to attend EPPC sub-committee scoring meetings in their absence. Do we want a liaison?
  - REPAC Handbook discussion. There should be a technical sub-group among the EMWGs to facilitate the process. The next EMWG is June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Irish would like to bring in all the Chairs/Cochairs/EMWG to further discuss. At least one working group need to attend a REPAC meeting.
  - COG funding Maribel provided some very transparent information regarding EP staff salaries among co-workers and colleagues.

#### Other Items

- NCTTRAC Update
  - Tabletop Exercise
    - MCI Joint Task Force is next Thursday
    - Hurricane Training is coming up
    - New EM Command Trailer
    - 131 190 Training
    - Deployments this year
  - New Ambus
- TDEM Update
  - COVID-19 Public Assist deadline is 7/19
  - COVID Resource Center at Redbird is closing in May
  - Military assignment for COVID end May 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Working on the 147
  - Mitigation application
  - o Recommends a Mitigation grant processing workshop
  - Mitigation Action Plan will be reviewed
  - Co-liaisons

Maurice Murray, NCTTRAC

Kevin Starbuck, TDEM

- NCTCOG Update
- Committee / Public Comments

#### **Upcoming Events**

Interop Working Group Meeting, NCTCOG HSEEP Class, NCTCOG Cyber Working Group Meeting, NCTCOG PWERT Meeting, NCTCOG Texas Emergency Management Conference, San Antonio Training & Exercise Working Group Meeting, NCTCOG L-962 Planning Section Chief Course, Decatur EM Working Group Meeting, NCTCOG EPPC Meeting, NCTCOG National Homeland Security Conference, Cleveland, Ohio E/L-975 Finance/ Admin Unit Leader Course, Irving

Adjournment

#### Resources

March Meeting Notes REPAC Roster REPAC Member Nomination Form

# Next Meeting:

August 9, 2022 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM NCTCOG May 11, 2022 May 17-18, 2022 May 19, 2022 May 20, 2022 May 31 – June 4, 2022 May 15, 2022 June 20- 23, 2022 June 22, 2022 June 30, 2022 July 11 – 14, 2022 July 25-27, 2022