

TEXAS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 27, 2013

Chairman's Report

Royall reviewed the events from the last meeting, at which a Chair and Vice Chair were selected. It was at Chief Kidd's request that the committee be more formalized, hence the selection of Chairs for one year. He stated his appreciation at the selection as Chair and looks forward to the upcoming year and speaking for the committee. He thanked attendees for their continued participation on the committee.

Applications Review

Members reviewed two prospective applicants' submission to replace a vacancy representing critical infrastructure and key resources. The group voted to recommend Ronnie Bates for appointment to TEMAC to represent CI/KR.

Conference Feedback

Members expressed their appreciation for the new layout, particularly the exhibit hall and alternate State Operations Center. They felt it was a great way to involve the vendors, integrating them into the show. At IAEM, they have presentations, which may be a practice worth considering (AKA "products on parade" or "lunch and learn").

Members requested more information on the training that will be offered, which they felt would improve the ability to bring people, particularly from west Texas. The issues of West Texas are particular to their area and therefore need to be addressed.

This year there were so many sessions from which to choose, which members felt was a positive.

At opening session, announce a county judges only session and invite them to attend. Include the DPS Director and TDEM Chief.

FRAC Update

Chief Coatney briefed the committee about the changing protocols for training and exercises, specifically IMT training and position specific training. It has been seen as cost prohibitive, and TDEM is pursuing options on making this training more accessible. This year, the majority of grant funding for training went to training DDCs. FRAC is asking TDEM to vet instructors and produce a list of competent training vendors.

They will discuss processes and procedures for FRAC membership and TDEM recommendations at the next meeting. They will also discuss outcomes and subcommittees for the future. Establishing work groups (hybrids of multiple committees) for single taskings has been a best practice that yields high quality products.

Eric Epley then briefed TEMAC on the statewide credentialing subcommittee background and current status. The project became the state's movement toward digital identity, garnering attention from multiple agencies involved with information resources. This attention resulted in the project being halted until the

state determines program authority and strategy. The committee expressed concern about the commitment (time and effort) that was paid to this initiative only to have the project halted.

TEMAC members agreed that the entire stakeholder input process is disorganized and nontransparent. There is no clearinghouse for many of the emergency management initiatives and projects currently underway (e.g., TXFRAC, Statewide Mutual Aid Working Group, EMPG, TIFMAS, ESF-9 Working Group, Disability Task Force, State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry, and Public Works Response Team). TEMAC members discussed the need to recommend an organizational chart of the emergency management advisory groups.

The group also discussed the need for a strategic planning session between TEMAC and TDEM senior staff (DADs, Chief of Staff, and Regional SC Supervisor), using GETAC as a model. Meeting Mission: Try and assist in the development of an organizational structure that provides better transparency and coordination between all TDEM committee and stakeholder processes.